The Golf Association of Philadelphia announced the creation of a Hall of Fame in the last issue of the Magazine. This month, the Golf Association of Philadelphia is honored to announce its first inductee, R. Jay Sigel of Berwyn, Pa.

Sigel, 64, a long-time Aronimink Golf Club member, is arguably the greatest male amateur golfer even born and raised in both the Philadelphia region and state of Pennsylvania. He holds the record for Golf Association of Philadelphia Open Championship victories with six and, in all, was a 19-time major winner (including Silver Crosses).

On the national and international level, Sigel was just as dominant a force, winning five titles in a six-year span. From 1982-87, he took two U.S. Amateur Championships and three U.S. Middle-Amateur Championships. In fact, Sigel’s 1982 U.S. Amateur victory made him just the 13th individual to win both the U.S. and British Amateur championships. He took the British in 1979. He also represented the United States on nine straight Walker Cup teams from 1977-93.

Upon turning 50, Sigel joined the Champions Tour (then named Senior Tour) where he has won eight times, to date. This year, unfortunately, left shoulder surgery has Sigel sidelined. He is expected back on Tour either later this year or next season.

An inaugural Hall of Fame class will be inducted at the Player’s Dinner on Oct. 7 at Torresdale-Frankford Country Club.

Jay Sigel

Golf Association of Philadelphia accomplishments
Amateur Championship (2 – 1973, 1987)
Silver Cross (6 – 1969-70, 1972-75)

United States Golf Association accomplishments
U.S. Amateur Championships
1983 – defeated Chris Perry, 8&7, at North Shore CC in Glenview, Ill.

U.S. Middle-Amateur Championships
1983 – defeated Randy Sonnier, 1-up, at Cherry Hills CC, Englewood, Colo.
1985 – defeated O. Gordon Brewer, Jr., 3&2, at the Vintage Club in Indian Wells, Calif.
1987 – defeated David Lind, 20 holes, at Brook Hollow GC in Dallas, Texas
*He was also a three-time qualifying medalist (1981-82, 1988)

*Sigel holds the record for most U.S. Matches played at 33 and most U.S. victories at 18

Pennsylvania Golf Association accomplishments
Junior Champion (2 – 1960-61)

Other notable Amateur accomplishments (in alphabetical order)
British Amateur Championship (1979)
British Open Championship low amateur (1980)
Ben Hogan Award (1984)
Bob Jones Award (1984)
College Golf Coaches of America Hall of Fame (1988)
Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation’s Athlete of the Year Award (1984)
Masters Tournament low-amateur (3 – 1981-82, 1988)
Pennsylvania’s Sports Hall of Fame (1993)