



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**GOLF ASSOCIATION OF PHILADELPHIA**

**118th BMW PHILADELPHIA AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP**

**FACT SHEET**

June 12-14 & 16, 2018

Whitemarsh Valley Country Club & Green Valley Country Club (Qualifying only)

**Par/Yardage** – Whitemarsh Valley: Par 72/6,886 yards.

Green Valley: Par 72/7,012 yards.

**Architect/Founded** – Whitemarsh Valley: G.C. Thomas, 1899.

Green Valley: William S. Flynn, 1919.

**2017 champion** – Gregor Orlando of Philadelphia Cricket Club defeated Grant Skyllas of LedgeRock Golf Club, 9&8 at Philadelphia Cricket Club (Wissahickon).

**Format** – A 36-hole qualifier, 18 holes at each course, on Tuesday, to determine the 32 players who will advance to match play. Match play will take place at Whitemarsh Valley on Wednesday and Thursday with a 36-hole final on Saturday.

**Time** – Tee times begin at 7 a.m. Day One and at 7:30 a.m. for the remainder of the championship.

**Beginnings** – The BMW Philadelphia Amateur Championship began in 1897. That year, Alfred H. Smith of Philadelphia Cricket Club defeated J.D. Winsor of Merion in the Individual Championship Tournament at Philadelphia Country Club, which was the event's name until 1900. BMW returns for a fourth year as a presenting sponsor.

**Past Amateur Champions at Whitemarsh Valley** – Hugh L. Willoughby (1915), Cameron B. Buxton (1917), Lucious F. Deming (1921), William J. Platt (1926), J. Griffith Boardman (1932), J. Wood Platt (1938, 1942), Lincoln Roden, III (1950), Samuel Penecale (1952), William Hyndman, III (1958), John Dyniewski (1962), Gary Deerscreek (1981), Jim Spagnolo (1992) and Michael McDermott (2008).

**Eligibility** – Open to male Member Club golfers with a USGA Handicap Index of 7.0 or lower.

**Field** – The field will consist of 134 of the best amateur golfers in Philadelphia. Of that total, 74 earned berths into the Amateur Championship by way of stroke-play

qualifiers held at the Country Club at Woodloch Springs on May 9, Makefield Highlands Golf Club on May 14, Golden Oaks Golf Club on May 21 and Wild Quail Golf & Country Club on June 2. There were two qualifying positions plus ties (3) available at the Country Club at Woodloch Springs, 30 plus ties (34) at Makefield Highlands, 23 plus ties (25) at Golden Oaks and 12 plus ties (12) at Wild Quail. The remainder of the field was exempt based on specific criteria.

**Tough act to follow** – J. Wood Platt of the home club captured the BMW Philadelphia Amateur a record seven times (1920, 1922, 1924, 1928, 1938-39, 1942).

**Three's a crowd**– Only eight players have won the BMW Philadelphia Amateur three times. Michael McDermott of Merion Golf Club was the last to do so (2008, 2013 and 2016). Gregor Orlando was also the last person to win the BMW Philadelphia Amateur at his home club by claiming the 2017 title at Philadelphia Cricket Club (Wissahickon).

**Past Champions** – Former Champions in the field include Gregor Orlando of Philadelphia Cricket Club (2017); Michael McDermott of Merion Golf Club (2008, 2013, 2016); Cole Berman of Philadelphia Cricket Club (2015); Jeff Osberg of Huntingdon Valley Country Club (2014); Conrad Von Borsig of Philadelphia Cricket Club (2009); Scott Ehrlich of White Manor Country Club (2004) and Brian Gillespie of St. Davids Golf Club (2001).

**History** – The BMW Philadelphia Amateur wasn't played in 1918 (World War I), 1943, 1944 or 1945 (World War II). It is the oldest state or regional Amateur Championship in the nation. It also has been played 117 times, the same number as the U.S. Amateur and the U.S. Open.

### **Course hole-by-hole – Holes 1-9**

**Whitemarsh Valley:** No. 1, 354-yard, par 4; No. 2, 433-yard, par 4; No. 3, 568-yard, par 5; No. 4, 241-yard, par 3; No. 5, 507-yard, par 5; No. 6, 373-yard, par 4; No. 7, 438-yard, par 4; No. 8, 484-yard, par 4; No. 9, 126-yard, par 3. Totals: 3,524 yards/par 36.

**Green Valley:** No. 1, 433-yard, par 4; No. 2, 584-yard, par 5; No. 3, 217-yard, par 3; No. 4, 400-yard, par 4; No. 5, 375-yard, par 4; No. 6, 517-yard, par 5; No. 7, 358-yard, par 4; No. 8, 213-yard, par 3; No. 9, 414-yard, par 4. Totals: 3,511 yards/par 36.

### **Holes 10-18**

**Whitemarsh Valley:** No. 10, 381-yard, par 4; No. 11, 515-yard, par 5; No. 12, 193-yard, par 3; No. 13, 370-yard, par 4; No. 14, 378-yard, par 4; No. 15, 424-yard, par 4; No. 16, 145-yard, par 3; No. 17, 490-yard, par 5; No. 18, 466-yard, par 4. Totals: 3,362 yards/par 36.

**Green Valley:** No. 10, 419-yard, par 4; No. 11, 436-yard, par 4; No. 12, 432-yard, par 4; No. 13, 552-yard, par 5; No. 14, 182-yard, par 3; No. 15, 367-yard, par 4; No. 16,

555-yard, par 5; No. 17, 154-yard, par 3; No. 18, 404-yard, par 4. Totals: 3,501 yards/par 36.

**Postseason awards** – This is a William Hyndman, III Player of the Year event.

**Prizes** – Crystal for low qualifier, quarterfinalists, semifinalists and finalists. The champion receives crystal and his name engraved on the J. Wood Platt Trophy as well as a replica J. Wood Platt Trophy.

**Club phone number** – Whitemarsh Valley: Club Phone 215-233-3901.

Green Valley: Club Phone 610-828-3000.

**Addresses** – Whitemarsh Valley: 815 Thomas Road Lafayette Hill, PA 19444.

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