



WOMEN'S METROPOLITAN GOLF ASSOCIATION Junior Inter-City Team Matches

July 13, 2016

TEE TALKS

Previous Winners:

- 2015 - Philadelphia
- 2014 - New York
- 2013 - New York
- 2012 - New York
- 2011 - New York

The Enos Cup is back in the hands of the WMGA after a highly contested, but spirited two days of golf by junior girls from all over the Northeast region. This year's competition was held at the Commonwealth National Golf Club in Horsham, Pennsylvania, an exceptional course designed by Arnold Palmer, about which he has said, "All that I know and love about golf is in this course."

The first Junior-Intercity match took place between the WMGA and the WGAP in 1934 thanks to incredible efforts of Junior Girls chairman, Mrs. Robert Ackerman. Mrs. Frank Enos, the "mother" of WMGA junior golf, donated the trophy, which bears her name for the competition. In 1955, Boston [WGAM] fielded a team and the three-city rotation commenced. Today, the Enos Cup is considered to be a revered event as it brings some of the very best in junior girl's golf together "to meet, compete, win and lose gracefully." Day one of the event is a sweepstakes round to introduce the girls to the golf course and help determine order of play for the singles matches. Ami Gianchandani, selected as the WMGA Captain by her fellow teammates, posted a score of 76 to earn second low gross honors. Our "New York" team won the putting skills competition before being treated to a truly motivational dinner highlighted by guest speaker, Noreen Mohler, 1968 US Girls Junior Champion, 1978 Curtis Cup player, LPGA tour player and 2010 US Curtis Cup Team Captain. On day two, like the Griscom Cup, the girls play in threesomes in a match play format with Nassau scoring.



Pictured L to R: Eunice Kim, Ami Gianchandani, Caroline Hodge, Diane Mock, Alexis Steffen and Malini Rudra.

The level of play was so competitive that birdies were required by many players to simply halve the hole. At the finish of the fourth match, Philadelphia had the lead with 15 points, New York 12½ points, Massachusetts 8½ points. So, it all came down to the final match, with everyone watching and waiting by the 18th green. Captain Ami landed her approach shot in the green side bunker, but, as there was no live scoring, no one knew the status of their match. Imagine the utter joy of the New York players when Ami announced that she had captured 5½ points. The WMGA prevailed with a total of 18 points to Philadelphia's 16 and Massachusetts's 11. A big shout out to Eunice Kim, who despite a disappointing practice round, was one of only two players to win all 6 points of her match. Under the experienced but gentle guidance of WMGA Junior Girls Chair, Diane Mock, these individual players who, did not even know each other prior to the event, became a team overnight. For match day, the girls had tied purple ribbons in their hair and on their golf bags, which, for Captain Ami, served as inspiration to play her absolute best because she was constantly reminded that she wasn't simply playing for herself but for her team. The instant camaraderie amongst these girls was fantastic; they will always remember and cherish this experience. They even rejoiced in their win by participating in the traditional "Gatorade shower." The WMGA wants to thank the WGAP for their gracious hosting and everyone that attended, volunteered, and supported this exciting championship. We look forward to next summer's Junior Inter-City Team Match, hosted by Massachusetts, and encourage all junior girls to keep their swings soaring as we seek out next year's talented team.



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