



Match Play Championships

JUNE 27 - 30, 2017 - OLD WESTBURY COUNTRY CLUB, OLD WESTBURY, NY



Above: Liliana Ruiz-Munoz, Match Play Champion



Above: Stephanie Harris, Sanford Cup Champion

Below: Wendy Dominick, B Match Play Champion



The 114th Match Play Championship and the Inaugural "B" Match Play Championship were held June 27th through June 30th at the beautiful but challenging courses of the Old Westbury Golf and Country Club on Long Island.

For the "A" division, forty-five players competed in a qualifying round on day one to determine who would earn the right to play in the Championship flight for which there were 15 open spots [Michelle Stelben Murphy as the 2016 Match Play Champion automatically received the top seed] and who would play in the Sanford Cup flight for which there were 16 spots. Only four players shot in the 70's, with the cut between the Championship and Sanford Cup flights set at 91. While there were six people on the border of the flights, Gina Louie earned the final Championship spot and Misoon Kim was the first seed in the Sanford Cup flight. Low medalist of the day was Liliana Ruiz-Munoz with a 76 securing her position as the second seed.



Above: Adrienne MacLean



Above: Misoon Kim and Stephanie Harris

Day two: a very busy and competitive day as 2 rounds of 18 holes are played; fields in each flight were narrowed from 16 to 4. In the Championship brackets, the seeds proved to be accurate as the semi-finalists were: Michelle Stelben Murphy [#1], Adrienne MacLean [#4], Lilianna Ruiz-Munoz [#2], and Phoebe Timpson [#3]. In the Sanford Cup flight: Misoon Kim, Stephanie Harris, Sharon Hoffman and Kee Baek remained.

Day three: Stelben Murphy secured her place in the finals but only after a tight match against MacLean which extended to 19

holes; Ruiz-Munoz also had a battle against Timpson but secured a win with a 2 & 1 finish. In the Sanford Cup, Harris had an interesting journey to her finals position as she had to beat not one but two recent Old Westbury Club Champions: Cathy Miller in the quarter finals and then Misoon Kim in the semi-finals. Kee Baek earned her right to play in the finals after some solid playing against Sharon Hoffman.



Above: Phoebe Timpson



Above: Michelle Stelben Murphy

To earn the title in the Championship flight, the match is best of 36 holes. While Stelben Murphy would have cherished a back to back to win, Ruiz-Munoz, a match play enthusiast, employed her strategy of simply playing one hole at a time



Above: Liliana Ruiz-Munoz



Above: Stephanie Harris

to capture the win and the title for the second time [previous win in 2015] with a 2 & 1 finish. Meanwhile, Stephanie Harris, a relative new comer to WMGA competition, was grateful for the Match Play format as it allowed her to rebound from a “not so spectacular” qualifying round to playing in the finals. The layout of Old West-

bury brought out the best in her game from short finesse shots to long drives. She remained continually challenged, however, by her competitors’ steady short games but, in the end, succeeded in beating Kee Baek 1 up. Congratulations!



Above: Kathy Ohashi

And now, to our first winner of the first “B” Match Play Championship: Wendy Dominick. While Wendy has played in WMGA events for many years, this was her first Cham-

pionship title. Like the “A” division, a qualifying round was played on Tuesday amongst 14 players to determine the brackets. Wendy was seeded third. Wendy’s road to victory continued on day 2 with two required wins to move on. Her first match was against Martha Stansbury which she won 2 & 1 and then she battled Joan DiMenna whom she beat 5 & 4. On day three, Wendy had another fabulous round as she defeated Deborah Brooks 7 & 6. And finally, on Friday, Wendy challenged Kathy Ohashi and, again, her shot by shot hole by hole

strategy blew away the competition as she won 5 & 4. She loved playing in this inaugural event and maintains that “winning was icing on the cake!” Another worthy first worth sharing: Wendy tried sushi. Salutations to our new Queen B.



Above: Kee Baek
Below: Sharon Hoffman



Above: Wendy Dominick



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