

Noble 77 takes WMGA medal

Karen Noble of Morris County, the 1987 New Jersey State Amateur Women's golf champion, fired a 77 to capture the qualifying medal yesterday in the Women's Metropolitan Golf Association Match-Play championship tournament at the Somerset Hills Country Club in Bernardsville.

Noble, a 20-year-old from Mendham who plays No. 1 at Wake Forest University, was joined by 31 other golfers out of a starting field of 62 who shot 90 or better at the the 5,643-yard, par 72 course. Noble will play Shelia Soloman of Alpine, who qualified by defeating two other golfers with par on the first playoff hole.

Match play begins today and runs through Friday when a 36-hole final will be contested.

Noble wins qualifier

By **BLAIR HOLLEY**

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BERNARDSVILLE — Karen Noble closed with a birdie on each nine yesterday at Somerset Hills Country Club and earned the medal in the qualifying round for the Women's Metropolitan Golf Association Match Play Championship.

Noble, from the Morris County Golf Club, birdied on the 9th and 18th holes en route to a 39-38-77 which topped Derby Campbell of Canoe Brook by one. Campbell shot 40-38-78.

A senior at Wake Forest University where she played number one on the women's golf team, the 20-year-old Noble is the current New Jersey State Women's Amateur champion. She finished runnerup in this Women's Met tournament last year.

Twelve more Daily Record area women made the championship flight which begins match play today, with a second round this afternoon. One of them is Karen Noble's mother, Rie, who got in at 88, along with Kay Perrotty of Morris County and Helen Aitken of Montclair and Boonton Township.

Susan Bleiweiss of Brooklake was alone at 81, following a trio at 80 which included Sybil Whitman of Mountain Ridge and New Yorkers Lee Ann Vogel of Southward Ho and Reggie Hawes of Westchester.

Ginnie Dillon of the host club and Paula Yeager of Brooklake qualified with 85s. And a group at 86 included Ann Probert, Evie Pyne and Brigid Lamb, all of Somerset Hills and Ann Lanyi of Roxiticus.

Probert, a former WMET match play champion among many area golf titles, was penalized four strokes when she discovered, on the third tee, that someone had mistakenly placed a left-handed club in her bag, putting her over the 14-club limit. It got her a tough opponent for today's first round.

That opponent is Maura Waters of Raritan Valley, who won the Garden State Women's Golf Association 36-hole Stroke Play crown last week with a blistering second-round of 71 at Morris County GC. Waters is a former Rutgers all-stater.

Joining Waters at 87 were Beanie Kelly of Somerset Hills and Mary McCurdy of Baltusrol. There was a three-way playoff at 90 for the final spot, with Sheila Solomon of Alpine earning the berth.

This tournament will be a real test for Waters, who missed competing against many of the top players in the GSWGGA tourney last week because they had been committed to another event. Probert and her experience will be the first to test the youngster's mettle.