

WMGA MATCH PLAY CHAMPIONSHIP COLLEEN BINKIEWICZ 1983 CHAMPION

The Century Country Club in Purchase, New York, was the site of the 80th WMGA Match Play Championship. Eighty-seven players teed off on Monday, June 13, in the qualifying round. The 5,988-yard par 74 course was in top-notch condition. Barbara Jones, the defending champion, was not competing as she had turned professional.

Ann Probert was medalist with 44-34-78 making birdie putts on three of the last four holes. Susan Wise was one stroke off the pace with 42-37-79, while Colleen Binkiewicz had 40-40-80.

The field of 32 was narrowed to 16 after the Tuesday morning round. There were two 19-hole matches. Dana Aydelotte defeated Barbara Israel and Barbara Finkelstein topped Susan Wise. The day was extraordinarily hot but the afternoon matches were not generally close except that of Linda Schnoll defeating Eleanor Siebert 2 and 1.

In the quarterfinals on Wednesday Ann Probert beat Barbara Young, Colleen Binkiewicz won over Sarah Koepfel and Mary Cabriele defeated Gwen Fisher. However, Linda Schnoll scored a stunning upset over Hatsy Hart former LPGA pro and 1970 WMGA Match Play Champion, by a mere 1 up on the 18th hole.

Thursday's semifinals saw Mary Cabriele edge Linda Schnoll by 2 and 1, while Colleen scored an astounding, record breaking 69 to defeat Ann Probert by 6 and 5. Not only was this the best for Century's women's course, but it was also Colleen's personal best.

The two survivors of this long hot week were two of the under-25 set — Colleen with imminent plans to turn pro and Mary, a week long escapee from the Quaker Ridge Golf shop! Colleen took an early lead of 4 up after 9 holes and survived the back nine while Mary threw 8 pars her way. They finished 18 with Colleen 3 up, having shot 75, and Mary a 79.



Top Row L to R: Mary Cabriele, runner-up Match Play Championship; Barbara Israel; Tournament Chairman, Yvonne Thiel, Sanford Cup Winner. Bottom L to R: Lois McTurk, WMGA President, Colleen Binkiewicz, Mary McCurdy, Sanford Cup runner-up.

After lunch Mary dug in her heels and got it to 2 down until Colleen settled down to a one-under par front nine. At that point Mary was 7 down but she held on until the 30th hole where Colleen made a par 4 and became the 80th WMGA Match Play Champion. Her putting had been phenomenally good and the ease with which she handled the course an inspiration to all.

The Sanford Cup finals were between the one and only WMGA 1st V.P., Mary McCurdy, and a most powerful opponent, Yvonne Thiel. Mary's long week of work and play came to an end as they tied with pars on the 15th hole and Yvonne won the Sanford Cup by a 4 and 3 margin.

Many thanks are in order to all those who made this tournament a success. Special mention goes to Jim Fulwider, our genius Green Superintendent, who had the course in the most wonderful condition imaginable. All the employees at Century were so willing and helpful and thanks to the Century tournament committee for their long hours and good natures. To Lois McTurk and Mary McCurdy, a special thank you for being so generous with your time and advice. Pictures courtesy of Alice Walter and J. Tiso.

BARBARA ISRAEL
1983 WMGA Match Play
Chairman
Century Country Club