



WMSGA 2017

Junior Golf

I think this has been the year of the “Junior Golfer.” We have been very lucky to have had ten juniors competing with WMSGA and SMWGA this summer. Not only do these girls compete in our weekly tournaments, they also compete in Drive, Chip, and Putt competitions, weekly MSGA junior tournaments, and various other tournaments around the country. Three of our juniors have now headed off to college, and all are playing golf. Bailey Plourde is at Centre College in Kentucky. Bailey loves Kentucky and the people. She says it feels like home. She is shooting consistently in the 70s. She is currently playing the number two spot for her team. She will be spending the next few weeks traveling with her team. They have two trips coming up in Florida. Lauren Schonewolf is a freshman at Holy Cross. She just played her first collegiate invitational at Bucknell and came in 30th. Erin Holmes is a freshman at Bucknell. Both of these schools are Division 1 in the Patriot League. Erin was just named Maine Golf Hall of Fame junior golfer of the year. She won the MSGA Junior Golf Championship this summer.

Junior Day was held again this year at Turner Highlands. We had a fabulous turnout of junior golfers. We welcomed first-timers Morgan Dutil, Jade Haylock, and Molly Whelan. We also had Ruby Haylock, Bailey Plourde, Mia Hornberger, Stephanie Rodrigue, Jordan LaPlume, and Rachel Smith.

The Maine Women’s Amateur was held at Martindale Country Club this year. The girls competing were Mia Hornberger, Ruby Haylock, Bailey Plourde, Elizabeth Lacognata, Stephanie Rodrigue, Jordan LaPlume, Janelle Bryant, Erin Holmes, and Rachel Smith. The juniors led the way with many impressive scores for three days of golf. Bailey was the Junior Champion and Runner-up. In Flight One Jordan LaPlume was 1st, Elizabeth Lacognata was 2nd, and Erin Holmes was 3rd. In Flight Three Ruby Haylock was 1st Net. And... in Flight Four Mia Hornberger was 1st Net.

We had four juniors competing in the Janet Drouin Memorial Championship in August. Bailey was the champion with a two day score of 150. She was also crowned as the Junior Champ again. Ruby Haylock won 2nd Net in Flight One with a score of 132. Mia Hornberger was first in Flight Two with a score of 164. And... little Jade Haylock won 2nd Net in Flight Four with a score of 136.

Mia, Ruby, and Jade continue to compete in and out of state. Ruby is going to the state USGA team championship in New Mexico September 26. Jade has qualified for the regional for Drive, Chip, and Putt and will be heading to Winged Foot in New York October 1. Mia played some MSGA junior events this summer. She also played in her first U.S. Kids Golf World Championship at Pinehurst Number 5 Golf Club in North Carolina. Wow!!!

Many of our girls are now in the middle of their high school seasons. Jordan just had a wonderful article written about her and her twin brother Jacob in the Portland paper. Jordan was named captain of her team. She plays for Thornton Academy. Stephanie Rodrigue is tearing it up for Lewiston High School. Rachel Smith is leading her team at Greely High School. Elizabeth Lacognata is also leading her team at Scarborough High School. Janelle Bryant is thoroughly enjoying her season at St. Dom’s.

We should have all of these girls back next season as juniors. The USGA considers a player a junior until she reaches her 19th birthday. That is exciting for us.

Respectfully submitted

Sue Wootton