

120TH SCGA AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP

LAKESIDE GOLF CLUB JULY 11-14, 2019



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SCGA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

DEAR COMPETITORS,

Welcome to the 120th playing of the SCGA Amateur Championship. Great times and unforgettable moments have defined Lakeside GC since its inception. So rich is Lakeside in characters and lore that the superb quality of its golf course has perhaps been overlooked. A recent renovation by architect Todd Eckenrode and his Origins Golf Design team and the hosting of Southern California's most prestigious amateur event should help solidify Lakeside among the Los Angeles giants.

The original architect, Max Behr, crafted a one-of-a-kind design, featuring man-made dunes on sandy soils along the urban Los Angeles River. Behr cleared wide fairways, allowing for multiple choices off the tee and an emphasis on angles into the large, mostly open greens, leading to a maximum variety of shot options that you'll play over the four days of competition.

Hosting this prestigious competition is a true privilege for the Lakeside GC's Board of Directors and its membership. Lakeside has



hosted the Amateur six times during the history of the championship. Those winners are forever draped in the lore of the SCGA Amateur (1927 – George Von Elm, 1940 – Smiley Quick, 1944 – John Dawson, 1957 – Verne Callison, 1968 – Barry Jaeckel, 1997 – Craig Steinberg.)

The list of SCGA Amateur Champions includes many of the legendary names of golf. In 1933, Charlie Seaver (Father of Baseball Hall of Fame pitcher Tom Seaver) won the California State Amateur and the NCGA Amateur – followed by winning the SCGA Amateur in 1934. Tiger Woods in 1994 won the SCGA Amateur at Hacienda GC. Other current PGA Tour members who have won the Championship are Patrick Cantlay (2011) and Beau Hossler, who won back-to-back titles in 2013 and 2014. Current superstars such as Xander Schauffele, Rickie Fowler and Phil Mickelson have also competed.

We wish you all the best and expect an exciting week of outstanding competition in Hollywood's backyard.

Play well,

whe

Chris Wilson



FROM LAKESIDE GOLF CLUB

GREETINGS PARTICIPANTS,

Congratulations on qualifying to compete in this year's prestigious field of the 120th SCGA Amateur Champion-ship.

On behalf of the Lakeside Golf Club and staff, we welcome you to our Club. It is an honor to host this elite event at Lakeside Golf Club for the seventh time.



Golf at Lakeside began back on November 14th 1925.

Lakeside is widely known as architect Max Behr's crowning achievement. Famed architect Dr. Alister McKenzie was quoted as saying, "In Southern California, there are many good golf courses. By far the best of these is Max Behr's course at Lakeside. In Lakeside's 95 year history, it has hosted a variety of players including the world's top professionals and amateurs.

The experience you will enjoy here at Lakeside promises to be special and unique. Known as the "friendly club, in the Los Angeles area, the membership and staff take great pride in making all guests feel welcome and at home. We look forward to making your time with us memorable and if there is anything we can help you with please let us know.

Lakeside Golf Club strives to uphold the traditions, values and camaraderie associated with the game of golf. With a rich history and old school charm, Lakeside is a place you will not soon forget. We welcome the part icipants of this storied championship and wish you the best.

Kever S. Bailey

Kevin Bailey PGA Head Profeesional





COURSE OVERVIEW

CLUB ESTABLISHED: 1924 ARCHITECT: Max Behr GREENS: Poa Annua FAIRWAYS: Hybrid Bermuda ROUGH: Ryegrass COURSE RATING: 73.7 SLOPE: 130 YARDAGE: 6,840





GENERAL MANAGER: Lance Sabella HEAD GOLF PROFESSIONAL: Kevin Bailey SUPERINTENDENT: Robert Hertzing



COURSE MAP





HOLE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	OUT
YARDAGE	4	5	3	5	4	3	4	4	3	35
PAR	388	522	190	583	465	166	450	446	245	3455

HOLE	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	IN	TOTAL
YARDAGE	4	4	4	4	4	3	4	4	4	35	70
PAR	438	411	325	302	417	¹⁶⁸ /94	415	442	466	3385	6840



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS AND FORMAT

THURSDAY, JULY 11:

ROUND 1 Tee times from 7:30 – 9:40 a.m. off Holes 1 & 10.

FRIDAY, JULY 12:

ROUND 2 Tee times from 7:30 – 9:40 a.m. off Holes 1 & 10.

Following the second round, the field will be cut to the low 42 scores (plus ties).

SATURDAY, JULY 13:

ROUND 3 Tee times starting at 7:30 a.m. off Hole 1.

SUNDAY, JULY 14:

ROUND 4 Tee times starting at 7:30 a.m. off Hole 1.

MEALS

Breakfast will be available for players and officials in the Dining Room starting at 6:15 a.m. on each day of the championship. Lunch will be served outdoors near the scoreboard following play each day.

AWARDS

Awards will be presented immediately following the final round. In the event of a tie for first place only, a three-hole aggregate playoff will commence following the conclusion of regular play to determine the champion.





PLAYER INFORMATION

STARTING TIMES AND PAIRINGS

Starting times and pairings will be e-mailed to players and posted online at <u>scga.org</u>. Players are encouraged to arrive at their assigned tee well in advance of their starting time, as the SCGA starter will have information to discuss and distribute to each player in the group. Furthermore, players arriving late will be penalized under Rule 5.3a of the *Rules of Golf*. For example, the 9:00 a.m. starting time is defined as 9:00:00, and players arriving after that time are considered late. Lead groups should plan to be at their assigned tee 10 minutes in advance of their starting time. Subsequent groups are encouraged to arrive in time to watch the group in front of them tee off.

PRACTICE ROUNDS

One complimentary practice round will be issued to each championship contestant. Reservations will be accepted beginning on Saturday, June 15. Players wishing to schedule a practice round must contact Lakeside GC at (818) 985-3335.

Please note, practice rounds are for players only. Neither spectators nor caddies will be permitted at practice rounds.

TEES AND HOLE YARDAGES

Play will predominantly be from the course's tournament yardages; however, there will be significant variety throughout the championship. Course Rating: 73.7 / Slope: 130 / Maximum Yardage: 6,840.

PARKING AND REGISTRATION

Ample parking is available at the club. All participants must check in at the SCGA registration table located in the breezeway on either Wednesday or Thursday.

DRIVING RANGE

The driving range will be open by 6:30 a.m. on each day of the championship.

LOCKER ROOM

Players will have access to the club's locker room facilities throughout the championship. The locker room will be open by 6:30 a.m. daily.

DRESS CODE

Players and caddies must be properly attired in golf shirts, slacks, Bermuda-length dress or golf shorts and soft spike shoes. Jeans (any color or any kind), cargo shorts, cargo pants, T-shirts, and tank tops will not be permitted. Shirts must be tucked in and hats are to be worn forward at all times.

Prohibiting Use of Certain Types of Shoes: Model Local Rule G-7 is in effect.





FOOD SERVICE – PLAYERS

The SCGA will host a complimentary buffet breakfast and lunch for players each day of the championship. Breakfast will be served in the Dining Room and lunch will be served outdoors near the scoreboard. The snack bar, located on the course, will be open and available for players to purchase items with cash.

FOOD SERVICE – CADDIES AND SPECTATORS

Caddies and spectators may purchase lunch from the buffet or miscellaneous items from the snack bar with cash.

GOLF SHOP PURCHASES

Credit cards will be accepted for purchases made in the golf shop. Cash will only be accepted at the snack bar and lunch buffet.

ADDITIONAL SPECTATOR INFORMATION

Spectators are welcome and encouraged to attend the SCGA Amateur Championship. Spectators must adhere to the dress code listed within this document and must walk. If spectators have any questions leading up to the event, please contact the SCGA Rules and Competitions Department at (818) 980-3630.

CELL PHONE POLICY

Players, caddies, and spectators should turn cell phones off or to silent mode while on the property and limit calls to the club's parking lot. Hole-by-hole scoring will be available throughout the championship at scga.org.

PHOTO GALLERY

Professional photos will be taken throughout the championship. Photos will be available online and are available for download and purchase at scga.pixieset.com.

CLUB CONTACT INFORMATION

Lakeside GC 4500 Lakeside Drive Burbank, CA 91505 (818) 985-3335 lakesidegolfclub.com

LODGING

The SCGA has partnered with Affinity Travel to secure discounted lodging rates surrounding SCGA championships. <u>Click here</u> for more information and hotel options near Lakeside GC.





RULES OF PLAY

- The Rules of Golf as approved by the USGA and the R&A govern play;
- Local Rules and Terms of the Competition can be found on the <u>SCGA Hard Card</u> and the Notice to Players addendum that will be distributed on site.
- **Prohibiting Use of Motorized Transportation:** Model Local Rule G-6 is in effect. During a round, a player or caddie must not ride on any form of motorized transportation except as authorized or later approved by the Committee. A player who will play, or has played, under penalty of stroke and distance is always authorized to ride on motorized transportation by a SCGA official.
- Click here to review the <u>SCGA Pace of Play Policy</u>.

AUTOMOTIVE TRANSPORTATION

Automotive transportation is not permitted for players, caddies or spectators. Any player seeking a golf cart due to a disability must contact the SCGA Rules and Competitions Department at (818) 980-3630 to obtain information on the procedure for submitting such a request.

PULL OR PUSH CARTS

Pull or push carts will be permitted throughout the championship proper, but not during practice rounds.

CANCELLATION POLICY

To withdraw for any reason prior to the start of an SCGA competition, a player must notify the SCGA Rules and Competitions Department at (818) 980-3630, or by <u>clicking here</u>. If a player needs to withdraw on the morning of the event, notify the SCGA staff person through the golf shop staff at the host venue. Failure to notify the SCGA will subject the player to suspension from future SCGA competitions. Requests for refunds prior to the entry closing date will be honored less a \$10 administrative fee. Requests received after the entry closing date and 48 hours prior to the event will be honored less 50% of the entry fee. No refunds will be honored within 48 hours of the event.

For a complete listing of SCGA tournament policies and procedures, <u>click here</u>.

CADDIES

Players may bring their own caddie to the championship; however, caddies are not allowed to accompany their player during the practice round. All caddies must adhere to the dress code listed in this document. Caddies will be issued an official SCGA caddie bib at the tee prior to each round which may be worn during the round and returned each day. Players bringing their own caddie are responsible for their conduct at all times while on Lakeside GC's property.

Players interested in using one of the club's caddies, either during the practice round or championship, must contact the golf shop to make arrangements.





PACE OF PLAY POLICY

The Tournament Committee at each competition will determine the maximum allowable time each group is permitted to play the round. This time will be posted on each player's scorecard and each player is expected to maintain a pace faster than the maximum allowable time. The round ends when all players in the group have holed out at the final hole. In four-ball stroke play, the round ends when all sides complete the final hole, either by both partners holing out or by one partner holing out on the final hole and the other partner choosing not to do so.

LEAD GROUP(S):

The lead group(s) must finish their round within the maximum allowable time established by the committee. If they finish over the maximum allowable time, **each player will be assessed a penalty of two strokes** to their score for the final hole.

• Exception: If the lead group is held up by play that was sent out before them, or play that began on another starting hole, they will be exempt from penalty if they finish over their maximum allowable time but within 14 minutes of the group in front of them.

SUBSEQUENT GROUPS:

Subsequent groups must finish their round within the maximum allowable time established by the committee. If they finish over the maximum allowable time, they must finish within 14 minutes of the group in front of them. If they finish over the maximum allowable time and more than 14 minutes behind the group in front of them, each player will be assessed a penalty of two strokes to their score for the final hole.

EXEMPTIONS FROM PENALTY:

If a group does not finish within their maximum allowable time due to circumstances beyond their control (such as a ruling or a ball search on the final hole, or any other circumstances which the Committee deems to be exceptional) but was otherwise in position during the play of the final four holes, the Committee **may** be justified in waiving the penalty. Being in position means to be at a point on the course within 14 minutes of when the group in front of you was at that same point.

Any group that has a slow, deliberate, or non-responsive player may report the player to SCGA officials at any time during the round and the player will be monitored. If the tournament committee identifies that a player (or players) in the group is the cause of the group failing to maintain pace of play and determines other players are playing within the requirements of this policy, those meeting the requirements of this policy may be absolved from penalty while others may not.



THE SCGA TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REVIEW ALL PENALTY SITUATIONS.



LOCAL RULES AND TERMS

OF THE COMPETITION

The Rules of Golf as approved by the United States Golf Association and The R&A govern play. These Local Rules and Terms of the Competition are in effect at all SCGA championships and qualifying rounds. See applicable championship or qualifying round Notice to Players and Entry Application for modifications or additions to these Local Rules and Terms of the Competition. Complete text of the Rules and Local Rules may be found in the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf, effective January 2019.

Unless otherwise noted, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule is the general penalty.

LOCAL RULES

OUT OF BOUNDS — Defined by the line between the course-side points, at ground level, of white stakes and fence posts.

PENALTY AREAS — When a penalty area is defined on only one side, it extends to infinity. When a penalty area is connected to the out-of-bounds edge, the penalty area extends to and coincides with out of bounds.

GROUND UNDER REPAIR – Defined by white lines. French drains are ground under repair.

RELIEF FROM SEAMS OF CUT TURF (SOD SEAMS) (D) — Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. Model Local Rule F-7.

AERATION HOLES (1) – Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. Model Local Rule E-4.

EDGING GROOVES (1) – Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. Model Local Rule F-19.

WHITE-LINED AREAS TYING INTO ARTIFICIALLY SURFACED ROADS AND PATHS —White-lined areas of ground under repair and the artificially surfaced roads, paths or other identified obstructions that they are connected to are a single abnormal course condition when taking relief under Rule 16.1.

WOOD CHIPS AND MULCH - Are loose impediments.

INTEGRAL OBJECTS – Include artificial walls and pilings when located in penalty areas and bunkers.

LIST OF CONFORMING DRIVER HEADS () – Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. Model Local Rule G-1.

REPLACEMENT OF A BROKEN CLUB () – Model Local Rule G-9 is in effect.

BACK-ON-THE-LINE-RELIEF 🕧 – Model Local Rule E-12 is in effect.

PRACTICE — Prior to and after a round in stroke play, a player may practice on the designated practice areas. Rule 5.2b covering practice in stroke play is modified in this way: A player may not practice on the competition course before or between rounds. Penalty for breach of Local Rule, see Rule 5.2.

PACE OF PLAY – See separate memorandum to players for pace of play policy.

STOPPING AND RESUMING PLAY (1) – Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. Model Local Rule J-1.

All practice areas are closed during an immediate suspension for a dangerous situation until the Committee has declared them open. Players who practice on closed practice areas will be asked to stop practicing; failure to stop practicing might result in disqualification.

An immediate suspension will be signaled by one prolonged air horn note. All other types of suspension will be signaled by three consecutive air horn notes. Resumption of play will be signaled by two short air horn notes.

CODE OF CONDUCT* – By submitting an entry for any SCGA-administered competition, the contestant understands that his/her participation is at the sole discretion of the SCGA. A contestant may be removed from any competition at the discretion of the SCGA staff or Rules and Competitions Committee at any time before or during the competition. Incidents of unbecoming conduct or actions deemed to be detrimental to the image of the SCGA or the "Spirit of the Game" are grounds for such removal and suspension from future SCGA-administered competitions. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Willful damage of the golf course or golf course property
- Club throwing or unnecessary club tossing
- Offensive or unbecoming language
- Public criticism of golf course or verbal abuse of SCGA staff, officials, volunteers, host club staff or other contestants
- Potential endangerment of others
- Conduct deemed unbecoming
- Failure to post scores for handicapping purposes
- Manipulation of scores posted for handicapping purposes

PENALTY FOR BREACH OF CODE OF CONDUCT FIRST OFFENSE: Warning SECOND OFFENSE: Disgualification

*The Committee may disqualify a player for serious misconduct in failing to meet the Code's standards.

TERMS OF THE COMPETITION

WHEN COMPETITION IS FINAL — A competition is deemed to have closed when the result (including the result of a playoff, if applicable) has been officially announced or, in stroke play qualifying followed by match play, when the player has teed off in his/her first match.

For a complete listing of SCGA Tournament Policies and Procedures, click here.



ABOUT THE SCGA AMATEUR

CHAMPIONSHIP

The SCGA Amateur is one of the nation's oldest continuously contested amateur golf championships. The first SCGA Amateur was held less than one year after the Southern California Golf Association was formed on July 29, 1899. Only the Utah Amateur, begun in 1899, has a longer consecutive string (the U.S. Open and U.S. Amateur both predate the SCGA Amateur, but both USGA events were suspended during war years).

A match play format was used for the first 58 years of the tournament. In 1957, the format was changed to 72 holes of stroke play. In 1973, increasing interest and the number of entries resulted in regional qualifying with a 36-hole finale. The 72-hole stroke play format was reinstituted in 1974. In addition to the championship itself, for many years the tournament also had net competition in flights. However, due to the increasing popularity of this portion of the tournament, a separate SCGA Amateur Net Championship was created in 1993.



The list of SCGA Amateur champions includes many of the legendary names of golf. Charles E. Orr, who won the first title with a 6 and 4 win over SCGA President Charles Maud, was de-



Johnny Dawson (1942, 1944, 1945, 1952)

scribed as a "crack player from the Pasadena Country Club." Another Pasadena resident, Dr. Paul Hunter, won a record five SCGA Amateur titles from 1912 to 1929. In 1925, George Von Elm became the only player ever to win the SCGA Amateur, NCGA Amateur and California Amateur in the same year (a year later, he became the first Southern Californian to win the U.S. Amateur).

In 1933, another legendary amateur, Charles Seaver (who was also the father of baseball Hall of Fame pitcher Tom Seaver), won the California Amateur and NCGA Amateur. When he won the SCGA Amateur in 1934, he held all three titles at the same time for a few weeks; only Von Elm has equaled that feat.

The '40s were a golden age of golf in Southern California, with the likes of Johnny Dawson, Bobby Gardner and Bruce McCormick — all eventual Walker Cuppers — capturing SCGA Amateur titles. Notable winners in the 1950s included future PGA Champion Al Geiberger (in 1956 and 1959) and car dealer Fletcher Jones, while future PGA Tour members



George von Elm (1922, 1925, 1927)

Barry Jaeckel, John Jacobs, Mark Pfeil, Tony Sills, Jeff Hart, Greg Twiggs, Dave Sheff, David Hobby, Paul Stankowski, Todd Demsey, Charlie Wi and John Merrick have won in subsequent decades.

In recent years, Craig Steinberg has won four SCGA Amateur titles (1988, 1991, 1992, 1997), just the third person to accomplish that feat, joining Dawson, who won four times, and Hunter, who won five titles. Scott McGihon joined the list of three-time winners when he won back-to-back titles in 2005-06, in addition to his 2000 win. In 1994, Tiger Woods, the most celebrated golfer of the current generation, won the SCGA Amateur at Hacienda GC, setting a four-round scoring record of 270, helped in large measure by a single-round record 62 in the third round. Woods scoring record held up until 2010 when Scott Travers finished the championship in a record setting 16-under-par. Patrick Cantlay capped off one of the great amateur golf summers by winning the SCGA Amateur in 2011 and Beau Hossler won back-to-back titles in 2013 and 2014.

Among those who have tried to win the SCGA Amateur and failed are Craig Stadler, Scott Simpson, Corey Pavin, Mark O'Meara, Phil Mickelson, Duffy Waldorf, Jason Gore, Rickie Fowler, Xander Schauffele, and Aaron Wise.



Beau Hossler (2013, 2014)



Patrick Cantlay (2011)



Tiger Woods (1994)



SCGA AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP

EXEMPTIONS

- The past 10 SCGA Amateur Champions (2009 2018)
- 2018 SCGA Amateur Championship (Top-10 finishers)
- 2019 SCGA Mid-Amateur Championship (Top-5 finishers)
- 2019 California Amateur Champion
- The past 10 California Amateur Champions (2009-2018)
- 2018 California Amateur Championship Match Play Qualifiers
- 2018 SCGA Senior Amateur Champion
- 2018 California Senior Amateur Champion
- 2018 SCGA Match Play Champion
- 2018-2019 SCGA Public Links Champions
- 2018 Southern California Junior Amateur Boys Champion
- 2018 Winner of the SCGA Tournament of Club Champions Championship Flight
- 2018 SCGA Points List (Top-10 finishers)
- 2018 U.S. Amateur and U.S. Mid-Amateur Match Play Qualifiers
- 2019 CIF-SCGA High School Champion
- 2019 CIF-CGA State High School Champion
- SCGA members who qualified for the 2019 U.S. Open Championship
- SCGA members listed on the top 500 on the WAGR as of May 15, 2018
- Special Exemptions as selected by the Rules and Competitions Committee



JOE FRYER 2018 SCGA AMATEUR CHAMPION



2018 CHAMPIONSHIP RECAP

Joe Fryer seemingly never broke a sweat until the back nine of the final round at the 119th SCGA Amateur Championship at La Jolla CC. The brilliant ball-striker logged three straight rounds in the 60s before carding a final round 2-over 73 to hang on for a three-shot victory, leading the championship wire-to-wire.

"I've been working really hard to get here," said Fryer. "I've had my eye on this championship all season. To set out with a goal and to be the champion at the end, it feels beyond good."

Fresh off a top-10 finish at the Big West Championships in May, the Long Beach State senior kept momentum rolling at La Jolla CC. Born in Bristol, England, Fryer tore up the front-nine of this William P. Bell design, carding 14 birdies on the opening nine for the week.

"I hit a lot of drivers on the short par-4s on the front, so I was being really aggressive," said Fryer. "That led to a lot of good looks at birdie and was able to convert a few over the course of four rounds."



During Sunday's final round, under perfect blue skies and a hint of Pacific Ocean breeze, Fryer got things cooking early with a perfect drive on the short par-4 first hole. A crafty wedge to five feet led to an opening birdie and a quick four-shot lead.

Fryer gave the birdie right back on the par-3 second hole after being unable to get up-and-down from behind the green and began to show slight signs of wear. He flared a drive on No. 3 and hooked a tee ball on No. 4, but was able to scramble magnificently for par on both occasions.



"I just tried to stay patient when I wasn't hitting the ball that great," said Fryer. "I kept to my game plan which was to keep the ball below the hole and I was able to hang on."

Throughout the final round, it was clear that Fryer didn't have the patented superior ball striking that afforded him a commanding lead. However, he found a way to grind his way around the golf course, using a superb short game and a strong mental approach.

Making the turn at 1-under par, Fryer held a five-shot advantage and hoped to coast into the clubhouse as SCGA Amateur Champion. But it's never that easy.



Fryer bogeyed four straight holes beginning on No. 11. His once reliable short game betrayed him during a nervous stretch for both Joe and his cast of family and friends that came out to watch.

"I found the beach three times in a row," said Fryer. "My bunker play is normally pretty good but I wasn't able to get them up-and-down so I had to just continue to play my game until the 18th where I sealed it."

Sitting on a two-stroke lead, Fryer found the fairway on the uphill dogleg par-4. From 168 yards out, the champion flushed an 8-iron with a tight draw that never left the flagstick. His approach nearly flew in the hole and spun to three feet for a kick-in birdie on the closing hole.

"I really like this place [La Jolla CC]," said Fryer. "Reminds me a lot of SeaCliff CC in Huntington Beach where I play a lot. The poa annua greens are quick and sloped so there's some strategy with where to leave your approach shots. I just felt really comfortable out there."



Stanford sophomore Ashwin Arasu placed second in the championship with a 6-under total for the week. Arasu climbed to within two shots of the lead but took a triple-bogey on No. 13 after his tee ball found



the brush on the right side of the fairway. Arasu bounced right back with consecutive birdies on the next two holes but it was too little, too late.

2016 SCGA Mid-Amateur Champion Corby Segal turned in the score of the final round with a 4-under 67 that catapulted the SCGA veteran into the top-3. With four birdies in a six-hole stretch, Segal put the leaders on notice, posting a score and waiting in the clubhouse to see how things would shape up. Fryer's laser on 18 ending any chance of a brilliant comeback.

With the victory, Fryer is exempted into next year's SCGA Amateur Championship, which will be held at Lakeside GC, as well as the 2019 California Amateur Championship, which will head to Monterey Peninsula CC.



AS SEEN IN FORE MAGAZINE

HOLLYWOOD STAR LAKESIDE GOLF CLUB SET TO HOST SCGA AM

By Joe Passov

Great times and unforgettable moments have definedLakeside GC since its inception. As the 95-year-old Toluca Lakelandmark readies itself to host the 120th SCGA Amateur Championship(July 11–14), an anecdote from its opening day, November 14, 1924, perfectly illuminates the spirit of the club.

As writer D. Scott Chisholm described it at the time, "The eighteenthgreen is located near to the menagerie where the wild animals used in Universal Picturesare housed or



caged. It was near feeding time when George Von Elm went up to make a twenty-foot putt. Just at that very moment one huge African lion realized he washungry and let out the most terrific roar imaginable. That started a chorus in which morelions, tigers, elephants, hyenas, giraffes and even mules joined. It was the most awfulconglomeration of hideous noises ever heard thereabouts. Of course Von Elm missed-his putt but greatly enjoyed the unusual incident."

Enjoyment. Camaraderie. Adventure. Fun. Each has been paramount at Lakeside from the start. Bing Crosby, who joined in 1930 and would win five club championships, said of his favorite stomping grounds: "This is no ordinary golf club. Raillery, gags, ribs, frameups, put-ons and put-downs are incessant, and often hilarious — and no one is immune."

The A-list of Hollywood celebrity members was long then, and remains so today. Still, no one waved the Lakeside flag more proudly than Bob Hope. Golf's greatest ambassadorjoined in 1937 and made it his home club for the rest of his life. His stories of matchesat Lakeside with the likes of Crosby, Ben Hogan and Humphrey Bogart, and of happy, later-in-life, nine-hole loops with wife Dolores continue to resonate today, threads thatare indelibly woven into the fabric of the club.

Yet, so rich is Lakeside in characters and lore that the superb quality of its golf coursehas perhaps been overlooked. A recent renovation by architect Todd Eckenrode andhis Origins Golf Design team and the hosting of Southern California's most prestigiousamateur event should help change that perception.

"ONE OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST"

The original architect, Max Behr, crafted a one-of-a-kind design, featuring man-made dunes on sandy soils along the urban Los Angeles River. Behr cleared wide fairways, allowing for multiple choices off the tee and an emphasis on angles into the large, mostly open greens, leading to a maximum variety of shot options. He draped a minimum of formal bunkers atop the layout, and those that he placed were strategic, rather than penal.





Behr eschewed the use of rough. Instead, he advanced the notion that the property's bold contouring would supply the bulk of the challenge, precisely the ideology that Alister MacKenzie and Bobby Jones — two early Lakeside supporters — embraced when they later designed Augusta National. Handsome presentation, few lost balls, lots of fun.

One of history's preeminent architects, MacKenzie was especially impressed with Lakeside. The man responsible for designing Cypress Point and Royal Melbourne, as well as co-designing Augusta National, gushed about Behr and Lakeside in his book, The Spirit of St. Andrews. "In Southern California, there are many good courses. By far the best of these is Max Behr's course at Lakeside GC," wrote MacKenzie.

"It has been so admirably designed and constructed that it compares favorably to any inland course. The interest of the course is entirely due to the undulating character of the land and not due to



the bunkers, which at many of the holes are non-existent ... "It was originally a flattish orchard. Now the whole ground has been made undulating and the undulations have such a natural appearance that they have a close resemblance to linksland ... In a word, Lakeside is one of the world's greatest courses."

CHANGES AFOOT

Over the years, however, as with many classic courses, Lakeside's maintenance practices and philosophies shifted. Rough sprouted and trees were planted to provide additional definition and challenge. Greens and fairways shrank significantly. Eventually, much of the character that Behr had brilliantly coaxed from the terrain disappeared. Fortunately, change was afoot.

Lakeside turned to a concerned group of members, who enlisted Eckenrode and his Origins Golf Design team to restore the course to its Golden Age glory. Ably assisted by club superintendent Robert Hertzing, and a host of talented builders, Eckenrode turned back the clock.

Former Lakeside, SCGA and SCGA Junior Golf Foundation president Jim Vernon, who first set foot on the property in 1962 (and who later served as president of the USGA), articulated the intent of the project. "We knew we had to address the golf course infrastructure," said Vernon. "The irrigation, drainage, bunkers, grasses — they all had to be redone. Once we started in on that, and saw the success, it became an easier sell to the membership to remove more and more trees. Not only did tree clearing enhance the health of the turf, but it led to restoring aspects of strategy and playability that had been lost from Behr's original vision."

Phase one of the renovation commenced in 2011. Fairways were carpeted in hybrid Bermuda, and approaches to the greens were opened and firmed up, reinstating the ground game as an option. Reducing water use helped the course play firmer and faster. Yanking out trees increased the sun and air circulation that not only improved turf quality, but also brought back handsome views that hadn't been seen in decades.

Eckenrode's phase two renovation project





wrapped up in 2018, with the focus on restoring as much of Behr's original creation as possible, while also adapting Behr's design principles for modern play. Eckenrode, Hertzing and the design team utilized old aerial and ground photos to expand green perimeters to resemble their Golden Age versions, eliminated nonoriginal bunkers, repositioned others and widened fairway corridors — at times by removing even more trees — to conjure up the width and subsequent accompanying strategic options that Behr originally furnished. As it was in the beginning, it's all about the land.



"The terrain is the highlight of the course," said Eckenrode. "We really strived to showcase it and have it influence play as it was intended. There are so many more opportunities now for the golfer to use the incredible contours that Behr built."

Perhaps the most striking difference in the restored Lakeside layout is around the greens, most of which now feature closely mown turf that characterized the course in its infancy.

Hertzing illustrates the point emphatically: "When I arrived here nine years ago, every green was a circle surrounded by deep rough. You'd miss the green, grab your 60-degree wedge and you knew there was no other option. Now, adding some short-cut around the greens, widening some hole locations, you don't know what shot you're going to play until you get up there. It's options, playability, more fun for everybody."

SWEET SURPRISES

There are at least a dozen candidates in the "most improved hole" category, a testament to the thoroughness and success of the renovation. Kevin Bailey, who started working at Lakeside in the bag room as a teenager and who is now at age 48 the head professional, identifies the 166-yard, par-3 sixth. "You used to hit a flop shot from two feet off the green. Today, with the bunkers reshaped, trees removed and the closely mown areas reestablished on some great contours, it's so much better. They hit a home run."

For its strategic shot values, Vernon favors one of the toughest holes, the 465- yard, par-4 fifth, an uphill dogleg-left, which sports a wildly rolling fairway; and also the 417-yard, par-4 14th, with its infinity green restored.

Peter Barsocchini, a member since 1980, vouches for the 450-yard, par-4 seventh, a dogleg-right that plays uphill into the prevailing wind and generally calls for a cut off the tee and a draw into the green.

Without question, however, the tiny, unique par-3 15th is the showstopper. A mere 90 yards or so and surrounded by sand in its original incarnation (as the sixth hole), it was lauded by MacKenzie. However, another green appeared in the 1960s, stretching the shot to 160 yards, and eventually the short green was rendered basically useless, half of its putting surface blocked by a 50-foot cedar tree.

The current version recaptures the magic. Eckenrode felled the tree, expanded the green by nearly three times its size, reintroduced "wing" hole locations to the sides, and a backstop in the middle, and surrounded the green with sand, as it was originally. As Eckenrode acknowledges, "It's so difficult not to play directly at the hole when it's under 100 yards! Therein lies the danger, as it can be extremely challenging with certain hole locations and if the golfer chooses to play boldly for birdie."

Toss in sweet surprises such as the drivable par-4, 302-yard 13th, with its superb "go-for-the-best-angle"



or "gofor- the-green" risk/reward choice; or tall orders such as the 245-yard, reverse-Redan par-3 ninth, which is the consensus pick as toughest hole to par, and it's clear that variety is king at Lakeside — in tandem with its amazing setting.

Barsocchini crystalizes the essence of Lakeside's indelible sense of place. "When you stand on the seventh tee, your back to the Universal building, and you look up and say, 'I'm in the middle of one of the most densely populated areas in the United States and all I can see is mountains and beautiful natural terrain' — it's pretty spectacular."

Still, SCGA Amateur competitors can't let themselves be distracted by aesthetics. From the scorecard alone, Lakeside wouldn't appear to intimidate. It checks in at 6,840 yards, short by modern standards, with a quirky 35-35 par sequencing. There are only two par-5s on the entire layout, the second and fourth holes, precisely like fabled Merion (East) in Philadelphia. Don't be fooled, however. Short-siding yourself to the modestly sized greens will punch your ticket to a ride on the bogey train. Vernon predicts that the short-iron maestro, the player who controls his distances best, will likely emerge as champion.

In the late 1920s, legendary Walter Hagen labeled Lakeside the finest, most enjoyable golf test in the West. He added further, "Lakeside does not appear severe but when arranged for championship competition it is one of the most interesting and testing courses in America." Look for The Haig's words to ring true this July.





YEAR	CHAMPION	SITE
2018	Joe Fryer	La Jolla CC
2017	Sam Choi	Mission Hills CC
2016	Rico Hoey	Barona Creek GC
2015	Nathan Celusta	Oakmont CC
2014	Beau Hossler	Rancho Santa Fe GC
2013	Beau Hossler	San Diego CC
2012	Bhavik Patel	Big Canyon CC
2011	Patrick Cantlay	San Gabriel CC
2010	Scott Travers	La Cumbre CC
2009	Austin Graham	Wilshire CC
2008	Kevin Marsh	Saticoy CC
2007	Brett Kanda	Victoria Club
2006	Scott McGihon	Bakersfield CC
2005	Scott McGihon	Tijeras Creek
2004	Tim Hogarth	Hillcrest CC
2003	Roy Moon	Torrey Pines GC
2002	Nico Bollini	El Caballero CC
2001	John Merrick	La Jolla CC
2000	Scott McGihon	Rancho Santa Fe GC
1999	John Pate	Industry Hills GC
1998	Greg Padilla	The SCGA Members' Club
1997	Craig Steinberg	Lakeside GC
1996	Kevin Marsh	Santa Maria CC
1995	Charlie Wi	Santa Ana CC
1994	Tiger Woods	Hacienda GC
1993	Todd Demsey	Brentwood CC
1992	Craig Steinberg	Fairbanks Ranch CC
1991	Craig Steinberg	Bel-Air CC
1990	Pat Duncan	Wilshire CC
1989	Paul Stankowski	Glendora CC

YEAR	CHAMPION	SITE
1988	Craig Steinberg	Annandale GC
1987	Greg Starkman	Braemar CC
1986	Dave Sheff	Hillcrest CC
1985	Brad Greer	Virginia CC
1984	Brad Greer	San Gabriel CC
1983	David Hobby	Santa Maria CC
1982	Mark Blakely	Stockdale CC
1981	Greg Twiggs	Stardust CC
1980	Jon (Bud) Ardell	Oakmont CC
1979	Jeff Hart	Hacienda GC
1978	Brian Gaddy	Bel-Air CC
1977	Doug Clarke	La Jolla CC
1976	Tony Sills	California CC
1975	Lee Davis	Wilshire CC
1974	Jim Porter	Brentwood CC
1973	John Richardson	El Niguel CC
1972	Mark Pfeil	Hillcrest CC
1971	John Beetham	Virginia CC
1970	Gary Sanders	Oakmont CC
1969	U.T. Thompson III	Hacienda GC
1968	Barry Jaeckel	Lakeside GC
1967	Greg Pitzer	Riviera CC
1966	John A. Jacobs	Victoria Club
1965	Richard Davies	Annandale GC
1964	Larry Brown	San Gabriel GC
1963	Bruce McCormick	Hillcrest CC
1962	Larry Bouchey	Virginia CC
1961	Ted Richards, Jr.	Los Angeles CC
1960	Ben Alyea	Brentwood CC
1959	Al Geiberger	Oakmont CC



YEAR	CHAMPION	SITE
1958	Frank Hixon	Wilshire CC
1957	Verne Callison	Lakeside GC
1956	Al Geiberger	Santa Ana CC
1955	Jerry Steelsmith	Annandale GC
1954	Ted Richards, Jr.	San Gabriel CC
1953	Fletcher Jones	Los Angeles CC
1952	John Dawson	Hillcrest CC
1951	Jim Ferrie	Virginia CC
1950	Jim Ferrie	Oakmont CC
1949	Jerry Douglas	Victoria Club
1948	Bruce McCormick	Wilshire CC
1947	Bruce McCormick	Los Angeles CC
1946	Bobby Gardner	Virginia CC
1945	John Dawson	San Gabriel CC
1944	John Dawson	Lakeside GC
1943	Smiley Quick	Hillcrest CC
1942	John Dawson	Los Angeles CC
1941	Pat Abbott	Oakmont CC
1940	Smiley Quick	Lakeside GC
1939	Frank Hixon	Annandale GC
1938	Pat Abbott	California CC
1937	Jack Gaines	Riviera CC
1936	Roger Kelly	San Diego CC
1935	Harry Wesbrook	Los Angeles CC
1934	Charles Seaver	Bel-Air CC
1933	Harold Thompson	Brentwood CC
1932	Jack Gaines	San Gabriel CC
1931	David Martin	Los Angeles CC
1930	Fay Coleman	Midwick CC
1929	Gibson Dunlap	Bel-Air CC

YEAR	CHAMPION	SITE
1928	Fay Coleman	Midwick CC
1927	George Von Elm	Lakeside GC
1926	Paul Hunter	California CC/ Brentwood CC
1925	George Von Elm	Los Angeles CC
1924	Paul Hunter	Annandale GC
1923	Willie Hunter	Midwick CC
1922	George Von Elm	Flintridge CC/ Pasadena GC
1921	Paul Hunter	Los Angeles CC
1920	E.H. Seaver	Los Angeles CC
1919	Douglas Grant	Los Angeles CC
1918	R.J. Cash, Jr.	Los Angeles CC
1917	Windsor B. Walton	Midwick CC
1916	Harold B. Lamb	Los Angeles CC
1915	E.S. Armstrong	Midwick CC
1914	Carleton Wright	San Gabriel CC
1913	Norman Macbeth	Los Angeles CC
1912	E.S. Armstrong	Los Angeles CC
1911	Norman Macbeth	Los Angeles CC
1910	Wm. Frederickson	Annandale GC
1909	Paul Hunter	Annandale GC
1908	Paul Hunter	Los Angeles CC
1907	Sterling Liness	Los Angeles CC
1906	Wm. Frederickson	Los Angeles CC
1905	Walter Fairbanks	Los Angeles CC
1904	W.K. Jewett	Los Angeles CC
1903	Walter Fairbanks	Los Angeles CC
1902	H.M. Sears	Pasadena CC
1901	Walter Fairbanks	Los Angeles CC
1900	Charles E. Orr	Los Angeles CC





WHO'S NEXT?









For a list of all champions, visit scga.org/amateur

