

Club Turf Internship
Program Update

Jeff New Breaks
Through for
Trans-Miss Senior
Championship



Morikawa Wins
112th Trans-Miss
Championship

Field and Majors Claim
Trans-Miss Four-Ball
Title

The Trans-Miss. Transcript

Serving Golf for More than 100 Years



Dear Fellow Golfers:

With 2015 coming to a close and another golf season behind us, I wanted to take a moment and reflect on the activities of the Trans-Miss this year.

Despite some challenging weather conditions at our first two championships of the season, we are proud to have a first-class group of champions emerge from each of our championships. Detailed recaps and stories from each championship are included in this Fall/Winter issue of the Transcript. While much of the coverage from the championships focuses on our competitors, we would be remiss if we didn't thank our member clubs once again for hosting these championships. Without their support in hosting, conducting these championships simply wouldn't be possible. Kudos to our host clubs, their memberships, staff and countless volunteers.

While conducting championships remain a focus for the association, they are not to be outdone by the contributions of our directors, donors and member clubs whose ongoing support of our association contribute annually to the Trans-Miss Turf Scholarship Fund. This past year, the Turf Scholarship Fund shifted focus to award grants directly to member clubs to hire an intern to work on their agronomy staff. This opportunity was provided again this season and communicated to both current and past member clubs, which in its second season, has received favorable reviews from both clubs and agronomy students alike. We look forward to announcing the Club Turf Internship Grants recipients in the near future and following the success of these future leaders in golf course agronomy.

As the year comes to a close and we shift our focus to next season, thank you once again to all those who made 2015 a success for the Trans-Mississippi Golf Association, we look forward to seeing you on the golf course in 2016.

Truly,

William McBee, III
President
Trans-Mississippi Golf Association



Will Misenhimer, Assistant Golf Course Superintendent - The Honors Course
2005 Turf Scholarship Recipient

Club Turf Internship Program

PROGRAM OFFERS GREATER OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS AND FACILITIES

For over 50 years the Trans-Miss Scholarship Fund has supported men and women pursuing careers in turf management. In 2014, Trans-Miss leadership created the Club Turf Internship Program. The Club Turf Internship Program was developed in 2014 and has become an integral part of the promotion of aspiring agronomy students. Trans-Miss member clubs are selected to receive a grant in which students intern at some of the top clubs in the country gaining hands on experience from some of the industry's most respected superintendents. With the Trans-Miss grants offsetting that expense to the club, this past year the Trans-Miss helped provide internship opportunities to over 15 member clubs totaling \$82,000 in grants.

The program allows agronomy students the opportunity to work with some of the best superintendents in the business at

some of the country's finest golf courses. Initial feedback from clubs and students alike has been very favorable. John Goode, chairman of the Scholarship Committee stated "This new program has been widely supported and allows for a win-win situation for students and facilities, while continuing the tradition on which the Trans-Miss was founded. We are excited about growing this program with additional clubs and funding at a higher level in the future."

The facilities awarded grants will be posted on December 2nd on the Trans-Miss website for students to apply for positions directly with the participating member clubs.

The Process

Applications for the 2016 Club Turf Internships increased over the previous year. The internship grants range in amount from

\$3,500 to \$5,000. Member clubs that will receive a grant will be determined by their application and course projects interns would gain exposure to during their internship. Once the member clubs are selected and notified, the club can choose a student (from their own pool of applicants) or recent graduate of a turf management program from an accredited university. Potential intern resumes have to be submitted and approved by the Scholarship Committee at akolb@txga.org. Once the intern is approved, the club and intern will be obligated to follow-up with the Trans-Miss on a consistent basis to inform us of their progress.

"The Trans-Mississippi Scholarship led to a major career change. The financial aid and assistance was invaluable."

- Jay Morrish, noted Architect

event



Trans-Miss President Billy McBee presents Senior Champion Jeff New with trophy.

TRANS-MISS SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

JEFF NEW BREAKS THROUGH FOR TRANS-MISS SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

DALLAS — Jeff New figures he played in almost 200 Texas Golf Association events during the 38 years he lived in Houston. He never won an individual TGA Championship. He still hasn't, but you can't convince New that his impressive three-shot victory at the 2015 Trans-Mississippi Senior Championship doesn't feel like he broke through for the elusive victory he always wanted.

“The Trans-Miss is run by the TGA and we're here playing at Brook Hollow, one of the absolute best courses in Texas,” said New, a 58-year-old retired investments manager who moved with his family to Scottsdale, Ariz., in 2013. “It's a thrill to win a Trans-Miss event, and to do it here at one of my favorite courses makes it even better.”

Steady all week, New held a two-shot lead headed into Thursday's final round, but he and the rest of the field had to wait a little longer than anticipated before striking a shot. After a two-hour weather delay for storms and lightning in the area, the Senior (ages 55 and older) and Super Senior (ages 65 and older) Division leaders teed off just before noon. Temperatures that started in the mid-50s felt chillier with the accompanying 10 mph winds. The mercury, however, eventually rose to the low 60s in the mid-

afternoon and presented much more agreeable playing conditions.

“It's a thrill to win a Trans-Miss event, and to do it here at one of my favorite courses makes it even better.”

- Jeff New

As for the challenge at hand, A.W. Tillinghast's timeless and thought-provoking design might have been softened a tad with the nearly 3 inches of rain Brook Hollow Golf Club absorbed in the previous seven days, but the 95-year-old parkland course perched six miles from downtown Dallas still had plenty of bite. Only one player broke par Thursday: Chris Maletis, who was crowned champion of the Super Senior Division.

New used a pair of birdies in the middle of his round to steady himself after two early bogeys. After a

bogey and double-bogey on the 11th and 12th holes, New said he dug deep. He finished strong to post a final round 74 and finished at 6-over 219 for the championship. Bryan Norton from Mission Hills, Kan., took second place at 9-over 222. Houston's Bob Kearney placed third at 10-over 223.

"I parred the final six holes and hit every green coming in," New said. "I really felt good about that."

Maletis, too, was feeling more than fine after his Super Senior Division victory. The 66-year-old from Portland made five birdies to shoot 1-under 70 in the final round. His 54-hole score of 8-over 221 was seven shots better than Frank Brame from Alexandria, La., who finished second at 15-over 228. Denny Alexander from Fort Worth took third at 16-over 229.

"A lot of guys have given me crap—rightfully so—about playing in this (age) division," Maletis said. "But your age is your age, and I promise you I feel every year (of my age). Plus I wanted to try for a victory in this category."

This was the second Trans-Miss Senior win for Maletis at Brook Hollow. He also won the 2011 Trans-Miss Senior when the format was match play; Maletis defeated Robert Polk from Parker, Colo., 2 and 1, the finals.

"I rolled the ball well today," Maletis said. "And you have to on this course."

Jim Martin from Dallas won the 36-hole Legends Division championship Wednesday. The former Trans-Miss Four-Ball winner (1987) shot rounds of 81-73 to post 12-over 154, which was good for a nine-shot victory in the division for players aged 70 and older.

"This is absolutely thrilling," Martin said. "I've finished fourth, third and fifth in this event the last three years. To win this is pretty outstanding for me."

The Trans-Miss Golf Association extends its most sincere gratitude to Brook Hollow Golf Club, its staff and our volunteers for their hospitality and generosity.

Senior Division Top-10

Jeff D New, Scottsdale, Ariz. - 69-76-74--219
Bryan Norton, Mission Hills, Kan. - 76-73-73--222
Bob Kearney, Houston, Texas - 74-74-75--223
Chuck Palmer, Dallas, Texas - 77-74-73--224
Murphy Mitchell, Scottsdale, Ariz. - 71-76-77--224
George Zahringer, New York, N.Y. - 76-73-76--225
John Grace, Fort Worth, Texas - 79-74-72--225
Lee Sandlin, Dallas, Texas - 75-74-77--226
Mike Peck, Irving, Texas - 74-74-79--227
Wayne Wright, Aledo, Texas - 79-70-78--227

Super Senior Division Top-10

Chris Maletis, Portland, Ore. - 79-72-70--221
Frank Brame, Alexandria, La. - 72-77-79--228
Denny Alexander, Fort Worth, Texas - 75-77-77--229
Richard Hubbard, Scottsdale, Ariz. - 77-76-78--231
David Moore, Marana, Ariz. - 81-79-78--238
Mickey McDonald, Shreveport, La. - 76-82-80--238
Michael Arnold, San Antonio, Texas - 81-77-81--239
Chris Larsen, Houston, Texas - 79-85-77--241
Pat Hare, Fort Worth, Texas - 83-78-81--242
Greg Lynn, Edmond, Okla. - 79-79-87--245

Legends Division

Jim Martin, Dallas, Texas - 81-73--154
Christie Flanagan, Dallas, Texas - 83-80--163
Jerry Cundari, Portland, Ore. - 84-79--163
Phil Lobstein, Fort Worth, Texas - 87-86--173
Marshall Gleason, Tucson, Ariz. - 92-87--179
Bob Twaddell, Houston, Texas - 90-91--181
Herb Durham, Dallas, Texas - 95-87--182
Bill Gribble, Dallas, Texas - 95-91--186



Trans-Miss President Billy McBee with Super-Senior Champion Chris Maletis



Trans-Miss President Billy McBee, 112th Trans-Miss Champion Collin Morikawa and Championship Chairman Mike McCoy

112th TRANS-MISS CHAMPIONSHIP

COLLIN MORIKAWA FROM CALIFORNIA WINS 112TH TRANS-MISS CHAMPIONSHIP

ANDOVER, Kan.—Collin Morikawa from La Cañada Flintridge, Calif., played a scintillating brand of golf in runaway, seven-shot victory over Philip Barbaree from Shreveport, La., on Thursday at the 112th Trans-Mississippi Championship, played over 72 holes at the enchanting Flint Hills National Golf Club.

It was a taste of sweet revenge for the 18-year-old Morikawa, who two weeks ago at the AJGA Rolex Tournament of Champions in Sunriver, Ore., watched Barbaree peel away from the pack for a 14-shot victory in one of that tour's most prominent events. Morikawa finished fourth there, a distant 18 strokes behind Barbaree, who set an AJGA scoring record.

"I might have been thinking about that a tad, but not really," said Morikawa, who posted 18-under-par 262 to win the Trans-Miss Championship in a romp. "Philip is a great player and a great competitor. It's always fun playing with him. I guess I felt like he did two weeks ago seeing all those putts go in."

The putts fell in bunches for Morikawa, who began his week Tuesday morning with an even-par 70 played in a downpour. Once the skies cleared, Morikawa hit the afterburners and turned Flint Hills National into

his personal playground with rounds of 64-64-64. In Thursday's 36-hole finale he carded 14 birdies against just two bogeys.

At one point in the second round, Morikawa, an incoming freshman at California-Berkeley, had picked apart Flint Hills National to the tune of 8-under through 12 holes, on pace to shoot golf's immortal score of 59. It wasn't to be, however, after a late bogey and a three-putt from 5 feet on the 18th hole that turned what could have been an 8-under 62 into his first 64 of the week.

That score, incidentally, set the competitive course record at Flint Hills National, a sublime Tom Fazio design that hosted the 2001 U.S. Women's Amateur and 2007 U.S. Senior Amateur.

Barbaree, a 17-year-old junior at Shreveport's Byrd High School, took runner-up honors at 11-under 269. He shot 68-66 in the final two rounds.

"I guess Collin wanted to give it back to me after the Rolex," Barbaree said. "I'm happy for him, but it was a good week for me, too."

After a Barbaree birdie on the fourth hole and a Morikawa bogey on the sixth, Barbaree got the closest of anyone to the lead on the final day. At that moment, Barbaree was within five strokes of the lead. But that's when Morikawa stepped on the gas again with birdies on the seventh and eighth holes to stretch out ahead.

"Putting has been holding me back for so many years, but it was nice to see the putts go in this week," Morikawa said. "Everything kind of came together for me these past three days. It's some of the best golf I've ever played."

KK Limbhasut, who is Morikawa's teammate at Cal-Berkeley, took third place at 9-under 271. Fort Worth's Andrew Presley claimed fourth place at 8-under 272.

Grady Brame from Hammond, La., made an impressive run in the final round with a front nine 29 that featured seven birdies. Brame got to 7-under overall before a bogey on No. 12 halted

"Everything kind of came together for me these past three days. It's some of the best golf I've ever played."

- Collin Morikawa

his momentum. He ultimately finished in a tie for fifth place at 5-under 275 with Max McGreevy from Edmond, Okla., and Rylee Reinerston from Gibbon, Neb.

The top 30 finishers earned exemptions into the 2016 Trans-Miss Championship, to be played next July at famed Olympic Club in San Francisco. Sam Johnston from Edmond, Okla., was the low mid-amateur with a total score of 2-under 278. He finished in a tie for 12th place.

Winning big golf tournaments by wide margins is nothing new for Morikawa. In March he won a prestigious high school event called the Champions Invitational by 14 shots, setting a tournament scoring record along way with 19-under 197 for 54 holes. It's

the same event won in 2014 by last year's Trans-Miss Championship winner Will Zalatoris, who outraced the field by 11 shots the year prior.

Morikawa in 2013 also won the Western Junior by five shots, posting all four rounds in the 60s. As a junior at La Cañada High School, Morikawa was voted All-Area Boys Golfer of the Year, the first underclassman to do so in six years. He won medalist honors in 11 matches and led his team to league title.

One of Golf Digest's Top 100 Courses, Flint Hills National was the vision of local businessman Tom Devlin, who as a 25 year old in 1973 co-founded Rent-A-Center and built the company into the country's largest rent-to-own business. A longtime Trans-Miss Golf Association Director, Devlin said the club was his gift back to the Wichita community that embraced him so warmly throughout his years.

One of the premier championship tracks in the U.S., Flint Hills National's devotion to amateur golf – particularly the high-level competitive variety such as the Trans-Miss Championship – underscores Devlin's original vision.

"Tom has made a huge commitment to amateur golf, and so has the club," club General Manager Bobby Conner said. "Our motto around here is 'Respect the Game,' and I think amateur golf respects the game. That's what Flint Hills National is all about."

In addition to the pair of USGA national championship contested on the picturesque course, Flint Hills National has twice before opened its doors for Trans-Miss Championships in 2003 and 2009. In 2017, the course will provide the thorough examination to identify the country's best young golfer at the U.S. Junior Amateur Championship.

The Trans-Miss Golf Association extends its sincerest gratitude to Flint Hills National, its staff, members and all the volunteers who helped make the 112th Trans-Miss Championship such a memorable event.

event



TRANS-MISS FOUR-BALL CHAMPIONSHIP

FIELD AND MAJORS WIN PLAYOFF AND CLAIM TRANS-MISS FOUR-BALL TITLE

OOLETEWAH, Tenn. – Lawrence Field and Draegen Majors of Tulsa, OK won the 35th Trans-Mississippi Four-Ball Championship at The Honors Course, in Ooltewah, TN Thursday afternoon after defeating Ben Blundell and Jordan Cook of Oklahoma City in a two-hole playoff.

After starting the day one shot back of the lead, Field and Majors stayed consistent in their ways and continued to play solid golf on their way to a 54-hole total of 10-under-par 206. But frankly, they were both more worried about enjoying their time with each other, their fellow competitors, and the overall tournament itself, than they were about their final score.

“We really weren’t focused on the end result as much as we were enjoying our time together,” said Field. “We really wanted to dwell on the camaraderie and enjoy the spirit that team golf brings with it.”

Sporting matching “unis” in the final round, the team from Tulsa fired a final round score of 4-under 68 thanks to a clutch birdie putt on 54th hole from Majors, making them the new clubhouse leader.

However, more excitement quickly followed.

Shortly after the new leaders finished, Ben Blundell managed to make an impressive par save on 18 by draining a twelve-foot putt to put himself and partner Jordan Cook in a tie for first and into a playoff.

The first playoff hole saw Majors barely leave a birdie chance short and giving Cook the chance to win it for his team. Unfortunately, Cook ran his birdie attempt by, continuing the playoff. Once again, Majors came in the clutch.

After putting himself in familiar territory off the tee, Majors hit his approach from the middle of the fairway to just over two feet from the hole for birdie. Blundell and Cook went on to make their par while Majors tapped in for birdie, winning the playoff and the Championship.

“I don’t know if we really expected to be here by any means,” said Majors, the former SMU player. “I knew we had a chance and then we figured we’d go play well and see what happens.”

This is the duo's first Trans-Mississippi Championship.

Finishing behind Blundell and Cook in a tie for third were Randy Lance from Lufkin, TX and Brad Kropp from Edmond, OK and Scott Tridle from Lincoln, NE and Will Andersen from Dakota City, NE with a three round total of 9-under 207.

***“We really wanted
to dwell on the
camaraderie and enjoy
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brings with it.”
- Lawrence Field***

In the Senior Division, the teams of Mike Ameen of Shreveport, LA and Randy King of Kilgore, TX and John Pigg of Bee Cave, TX and Eddie Lyons of Shreveport, LA were crowned Co-Champions after a series of playoff holes, finishing with a 54-hole total of 10-under 206. Also finishing with a total of 10-under 206, but coming in third, were Kip Estep and Bob

Baker from Rockwall, TX. Baker and Estep were eliminated after the first playoff hole after making an unfortunate bogey.

Second round co-leaders Lee Sandlin and Warren Huddleston from Dallas, TX finished the tournament tied for fourth with Tim Gamso from Dallas, TX and Randy Yoder from Chattanooga, TN at 7-under 209.

Finishing the tournament with the lowest total of the entire field, Sam Boyd of Horseshoe Bay, TX and Ken Redfern of Austin, TX ran away with the title in the Super-Senior Division finishing a wire-to-wire win with a final round 2-under, rounding out the week with an exceptional score of 16-under 200.

Jim Lipe Jr. and Mickey McDonald from Shreveport, LA finished second at 7-under 206, with Steve Dallas and Edward Smith from Mesa, AZ finished third at 4-under 211.

The Trans-Mississippi Golf Association would like to send its sincerest appreciation to The Honors Course, its staff, and all of the volunteers for helping to make this Championship a success.

TRANSMISS

2016 Championships



**17th Trans-Miss Senior
Championship**
Houston Country Club
Houston, Texas
May 23-26

**113th Trans-Miss
Championship**
The Olympic Club
San Francisco, California
July 11-14

**36th Trans-Miss Four-Ball
Championship**
Forest Highlands Golf Club
Flagstaff, Arizona
September 26-29

TRANS-MISSISSIPPI

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The endeavors and success of the Trans-Mississippi Golf Association wouldn't be possible without the leadership, participation and support of our Board of Directors. We thank these gentlemen for their time, efforts and resources in contributing to our missions.

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