

2024 NVGA Match Play Tournament Summary

At The Piedmont Club in Haymarket, VA --- The inaugural Northern Virginia Golf Association (NVGA) Match Play Tournament was held on Monday and Tuesday 3&4 June. The field consisted of 40 players: 8 in the Amateur Division, 16 in the Senior Division (age 55+), and 16 in the Super-Senior Division (age 65+). The format allowed two individual matches for each player on Monday. Those who won in the morning continued in their bracket and if they won their second match advanced to the elimination matches on Tuesday. Players who lost their first-round match on Monday morning played a consolation match in the afternoon for gift card for merchandise in the pro shop.

Amateur Division Summary

The amateur division received a small number of entries (10 total) and was limited to 8 players to avoid the need for byes in the first round. Players were seeded in the bracket by the tournament committee using handicap indexes. Play for the Amateur division was from the Member tees at about 6500 yards which made most par 5s reachable in 2 shots and some short par 4s nearly reachable. #4 seed Dave Dustin (Ft. Belvoir GC) breezed through his first two matches defeating Jacob Smith (Bull Run GC) 8&6 in the first round Monday morning, and defeated Brooks Carpenter (VSGA e-club) 6&5 in the second round on Monday afternoon. #2 seed Connor Hassan (Bull Run GC) also advanced to the finals match by defeating Nathan Wallenfelsz (Blue Ridge Shadows) 5&4 in the first round and Sawyer Davis (Piedmont Club) 4&3 in the second round.



L-R -- Dave Dustin (Ft. Belvoir GC) and Connor Hassan (Bull Run GC)

Amateur finals match summary: On Tuesday morning Dave Dustin and Connor Hassan played a spirited finals match. Dave took control of the match on the front nine with birdies on #2 and #3 both from about 4 feet, reached the par-5 #8 green in two shots for a 2-putt birdie, and hit his approach on #9 to about 5 feet to make his 4th birdie on the front nine and take a commanding 4-up lead at the turn. Connor fought back on the back nine winning the par-3 13th hole with a birdie and winning the 431 yard 15th hole with a par to close the gap to 2-down. Dave responded with an excellent approach shot to a difficult front pin on the par-3 16th hole and sank his 12-ft birdie putt to close out the match 3&2.



Tournament Co-Chairman Jon Zampedro presenting the winner trophy to Dave Dustin

2024 NVGA Match Play Amateur Division

1 - Rua Kimotho - 9:00 am #1			
8 - Brooks Carpenter - 9:00 am #1	CARPENTER 5+4		
4 - David Dustin - 9:00 am #1	130p #10	DUSTIN 6+5	
5 - Jacob Smith - 9:00 am #1	DUSTIN 8+6		
3 - Sawyer Davis - 9:10 am #1	DAVIS 4+3	821a #1	DUSTIN 3+2
6 - Aaron Snow - 9:10 am #1		TUES, 4 JUNE	Championship
2 - Connor Hassan - 9:10 am #1	140p #10	HASSAN 4+3	
7 - Nathan Wallenfelsz - 9:10 am #1	HASSAN 5+4		

Amateur Division Scoreboard

Congratulations to Amateur Division winner Dave Dustin!

Senior Division Summary

The Senior Division had a field of 16 players that were seeded in the bracket by the committee using handicap indexes and VSGA players rankings, and adjusted so players from the same club did not have to play each other in the first round. Play for the Senior Division was from the Blue-White combination tees at about 6200 yards. #5 seed Somsak (Sak) Chivavibul (River Bend Club) advanced to the finals match by defeating Dave Knorr (Army Navy CC) 3&2 in the first round Monday morning, defeating Michael Smallcorn (1757 Club) 1-up in the second round Monday afternoon, and defeating Mike Juliano (Reston National) 6&5 in the third round Tuesday morning. #7 seed John Lombardozi advanced to the finals match by defeating Chong (LC) Yi (Evergreen CC) 1-up in the first round, Stu Brown (Army Navy CC) 5&4 in the second round, and Stephen Hetey (Bull Run GC) 5&4 in the 3rd round.



L-R: Somsak Chivavibul (River Bend Club) and John Lombardozi (Trump National)

Senior Division finals match summary: This was a close match with some lead changes and tie after 18 holes resulting in a sudden-death playoff. John jumped out to an early lead winning #1 with a par, went 2-up on #5 with a par but Sak rallied with a win on #7 with birdie and on #8 with par and the match was tied at the turn. Sak won #10 with par to take the lead but John fought back to tie up the match with a win on the 415 yd par-4 14th hole with a par. John missed an opportunity to grab the lead with a 3-putt bogey for a tie on the 400 yd 15th hole and the last 3 holes were tied forcing a sudden-death playoff after completing 18 holes. Sak hit a wayward drive into the penalty area to the right of #1 fairway and John won the match with a par on the first extra hole.



L-R: Senior Division Champion John Lombardozzi with tournament co-chairman Jon Zampedro



Senior Division Scoreboard

Congratulations to Senior Division Champion John Lombardozzi!

Super-Senior Division Summary

The Super-Senior Division had a field of 16 players that were seeded in the bracket by the committee using handicap indexes and VSGA players rankings, and adjusted so players from the same club did not have to play each other in the first round. Play for the Super-Senior division was from the White tees at about 6000 yards. #2 seed Rob Keith (Chantilly National) advanced to the finals match by defeating Doug Banks (Trump National) 3&2 in the first round on Monday morning, defeating Dave Prokop (Evergreen CC) 2&1 in the second round Monday afternoon, and Keith Morgan (Evergreen CC) 3&2 in the 3rd round Tuesday morning. #8 seed Richard Lion (Springfield G&CC) advanced to the finals match by defeating Ron Clatterbuck (Evergreen CC) 3&2 in the first round, Bob Gardiner (South Riding GC) 3&2 in the second round, and Mike Johnston (Evergreen CC) 4&3 in the third round.

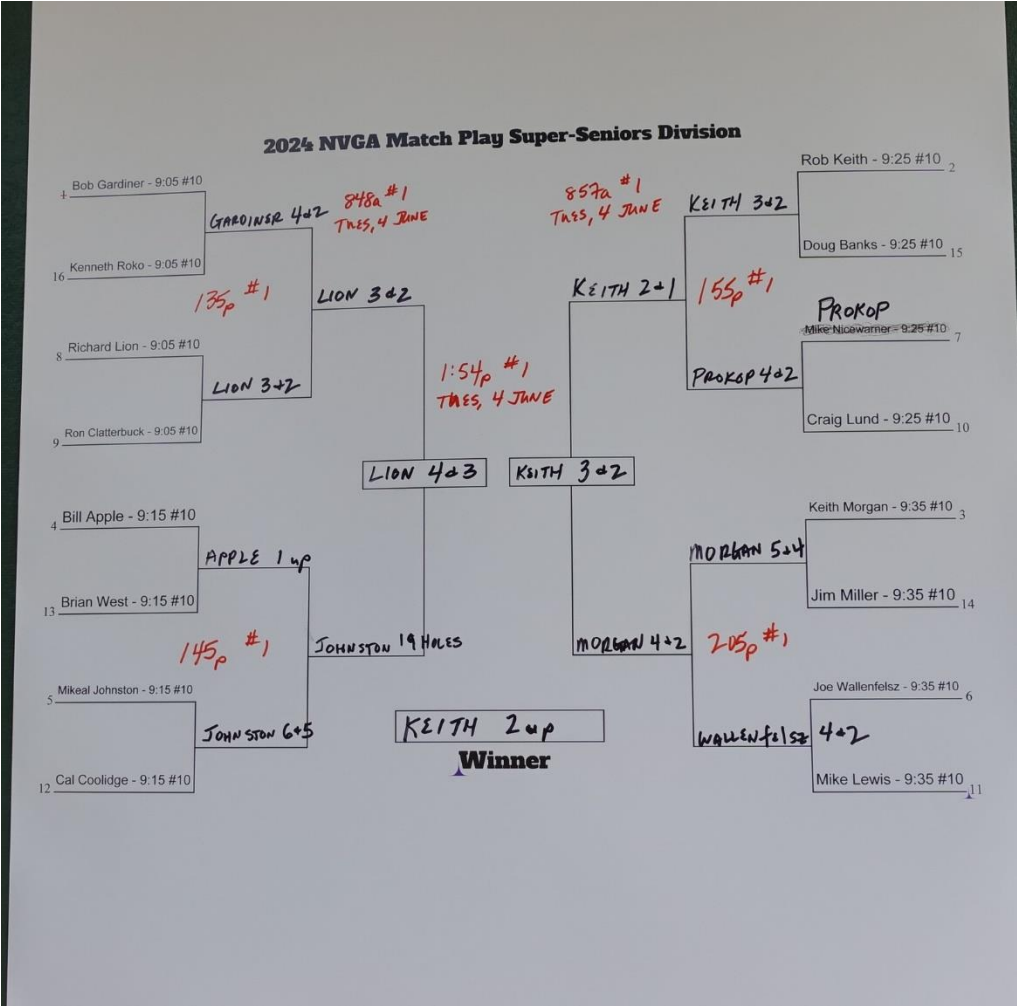


L-R – Rob Keith (Chantilly National) and Richard Lion (Springfield G&CC)

Super-Senior Division Finals match summary: Rob lost his ball after his tee shot on #1 in the right penalty area, put his 3rd shot in the front right greenside bunker and after getting on the green lying 4 conceded Richard's birdie putt from about 6 feet. Rob went on to win holes #3 and #6 with pars to go 1-up. Richard had trouble on #9 and after reaching the green in 3 shots and missing his par and bogey putts conceded Rob's short-range birdie putt to put Rob 2-up at the turn. Rob birdied #10 to go 3-up but Richard rallied to win #11 and #13 to get back to 1 down. Holes #14-#17 were tied leaving Rob 1-up coming to the 18th hole. Rob hit a tremendous drive on the par-5 18th hole about 300 yards long (a little downhill), then hit an excellent 8-iron approach from 145 yards to about 30 feet from the hole. Richard had about 20 feet for birdie and needed to win the hole to continue the match. Rob putted first and barely missed his eagle putt for a tap-in birdie and Richard congratulated Rob on his win.



Super-Senior Division winner Rob Keith (left) with tournament Co-Chairman Jon Zampedro



Super-Senior Division Scoreboard

Congratulations to Super-Senior Champion Rob Keith!

Prize payouts:

2024 Northern VA Match Play Prizes					
Amateur 1st flight - 8 players		Senior Division - 16 Players		Super-Senior Division - 16 Players	
Champion	\$150	Champion	\$250	Champion	\$250
Runner-up	\$100	Runner-up	\$150	Runner-up	\$150
		2x semi-finalist @ \$100	\$200	2x semi-finalist @ \$100	\$200
4 x 1-1 winners @ \$50	\$200	8x 1-1 winners @ \$50	\$400	8x 1-1 winners @ \$50	\$400
Total	\$450	Total	\$1,000	Total	\$1,000
Prize Pool total	\$2,450				

We would like to thank all those players who participated in this inaugural match play tournament for the Northern Virginia Golf Association (NVGA). The feedback received to date is very positive and we will try to continue this type of event in future years.

Thanks very much to the members and staff at the Piedmont Club for hosting this event. In particular, we would like to thank General Manager Robert Brock, Head Golf Professional Brian Logue, PGA, and Assistant Golf Professional Jackson Beacham, PGA for their assistance in setting up this tournament. The golf course was in excellent condition and the players enjoyed very much the course and hospitality of the club staff and members.

Jon Zampedro, Lynn Wessman, and Richard Lion
 Northern Virginia Golf Association (NVGA)

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