

West Virginia Year by Year History

1950s

1950: Bill Campbell won five of the first six holes and rolled to an 8 and 7 victory over Ernie Hoffer of Wheeling in clinching his second Amateur title. Campbell fired a 69 in the morning round, with six holes played in a thunderstorm. Campbell, who hit three drives estimated at 300 yards, was one over par for the 27 holes while Hoffer was 10 over. Semifinalists: Campbell def. Ed Tutwiler, 3 and 2; Hoffer def. Jack Peck, 3 and 2. Medalist: Campbell, 69-65—134 (qualifying record).

1951: Bill Campbell made it three in a row but had to go 39 holes to defeat Frank Harned of Huntington in the title match. Campbell parred the 220-yard 39th hole while Harned missed a short putt of about a foot for bogey. Campbell took an early four-up lead in the match but Harned caught him on the 30th hole. Big Bill was 16 under par for 137 holes in the tourney. Semifinals: Campbell def. Bill Loving, White Sulphur Springs, 1 up; Harned def. Clyde Sarver, Jr., Bluefield, 3 and 2. Medalist: Campbell: 69-68—137.

1952: Ed Tutwiler claimed his fourth Amateur crown with a 5 and 4 victory over Bill Campbell. Tutwiler shot a 67 to Campbell's 70 in the morning round for a three-up lead. Campbell had putting troubles and never led. Semifinals: Tutwiler def. Arman Fletcher, Bluefield, 21st hole; Campbell def. Bill Rendleman, Huntington, 1 up. Medalist: Jack Peck, 72-67—139.

1953: Ed Tutwiler, now living in Charleston, again defeated Bill Campbell in the title match, this time by 2 and 1. Both golfers played well, with Tutwiler four under par and Campbell two under. Tut had 11 birdies and Campbell seven birdies. Tut, who often joked with the gallery of several hundred fans, highlighted the match by sinking a 60-foot chip shot on the 27th hole. Semifinals: Tutwiler def. Bill Miller, Moundsville, 7 and 5; Campbell def. Bill Rendleman, 5 and 4. Medalist: Tutwiler, 69-69—138.

1954: For the third straight year, Ed Tutwiler defeated Bill Campbell in the finals and raised his Amateur title total to six. Tut won the match, 4 and 3, and closed it out by knocking in a 40-foot birdie putt on the 33rd hole. Tut had eight birdies on the day. Semifinals: Tutwiler def. Buddy Cook, Man, 1 up; Campbell def. Tom Stolling, Charleston, 7 and 6. Medalist: Cook, 66 (qualifying changed to 18 holes).

1955: Bill Campbell returned to the winner's circle with a 10 and 9 thrashing of Parkersburg's Dave Clovis in the finals. Campbell assured his fourth Amateur title by shooting a sizzling 63 medal score in the morning round for an eight-hole lead. He had six birdies and sank a 60-foot eagle putt on the 535-yard 12th hole. Campbell ran in a 10-foot birdie putt on the 27th hole to close out Clovis, a senior at Yale. Semifinals: Clovis def. Ed Tutwiler, 20th hole; Campbell def. Tom Bloch, 4 and 2. Medalist: Clovis, 68.

1956: Ed Tutwiler and Bill Campbell met for the fifth time in the finals and King Tut came out on top for the fourth time. Tutwiler downed Campbell, 3 and 2, to gain his seventh crown. Both players agreed that it was a good match but neither played his best. Tutwiler was two over par and Campbell four over for the 34 holes. Semifinals: Tutwiler def. Herman Hall, Milton, 5 and 4; Campbell def. Jack Freeman, Huntington, 6 and 5. Medalists: Tutwiler 66, and Campbell, 66.

1957: Bill Campbell downed Dave Clovis, 6 and 5, in a rematch of the 1955 finals. It was the fifth title for Campbell. He fired a 66 in the morning for a 5-up lead and played par golf in the afternoon. A shoulder injury kept Ed Tutwiler from competing. Semifinals: Campbell def. Dick Foutche, Charleston, 1 up; Clovis def. Lou Cuffaro, Wheeling, 2 up. Medalists: Bob Teyro, Huntington, 69; John Haner, Madison, 69, and Campbell, 69.

1958: Ed Tutwiler and Bill Campbell staged one of their closest title matches with Tut winning a titanic 1 up struggle to earn his eighth Amateur title. Tutwiler rammed in an 18-foot birdie putt on the final green to preserve his lead with Campbell just two feet from the cup for a birdie. Campbell played the first nine holes in 30 strokes for a 4-up lead before Tutwiler fought back. Tut finished with a 136 medal score and Campbell with 137, both below par, 140. Tutwiler had a record 29 on the front nine in a semifinal match. Semifinals: Tutwiler def. Dick Foutche, Charleston, 7 and 6; Campbell def. Ned Payne, Beckley, 3 and 2. Medalist: Dave Clovis, 68.

1959: Bill Campbell steamed to his sixth title with a 3 and 2 victory in the finals over West Virginia University golf captain Adolph Popp of Morgantown. Campbell sank successive putts of 15, 28, 4 and 22 feet early in the afternoon round to go four up. Ed Tutwiler, bothered by a sore arm and side muscles, had an 80 in qualifying and withdrew. Co-medalist Pete Byer of White Sulphur Springs was disqualified because he had worked as a caddie when over 21. There was a record 156 entries. Semifinals: Campbell def. P.T. Taylor, Huntington, 7 and 5; Popp def. Lou Cuffaro, 1 up. Medalists: Byer, 69, and Jim Ward, Huntington, 69.