

2010-Current

2010: The 91st West Virginia Amateur saw a change in dates, as the long standing early August date had to be moved due to the PGA Tour's inaugural Greenbrier Classic, which was set to take place the last week of July. "The Greenbrier has been a terrific partner with the WVGA. We know what a positive impact The Greenbrier Classic will have on The Greenbrier and the entire state. By making the adjustment in dates, we are able to continue the great tradition of holding our West Virginia Amateur Championship there and we couldn't be happier. I am sure the Amateur competitors will be excited to play The Old White just weeks before the Classic, knowing that the world's greatest golfers will be following in their footsteps," said Ken Tackett, executive director of the WVGA. Also to add to the drama filled week, the owner of The Greenbrier, Jim Justice, announced the winner of the West Virginia Amateur would receive an exemption to play in the Greenbrier Classic just a few weeks later. The best players now had extra incentive on this week, but it was a new face to West Virginia golf, Johnathan Bartlett, a reinstated amateur real estate salesman at The Greenbrier Sporting Club who came from behind on the final nine holes to defeat 3-time champion Tim Fisher by one shot and become the Amateur champion and earn an exemption into the first ever Greenbrier Classic. Bartlett and Fisher made the turn on the final round with Fisher holding a 4 shot advantage, but birdies at the 11th and 14th for Bartlett and bogeys at the 11th and 13th for Fisher made it a one shot advantage. Fisher then bogeyed the 16th to tie the championship up and then followed with a wayward tee shot into Howards Creek on the 17th hole, which led to a bogey 6 and Bartlett made par on the 18th to seal the championship Leaders by round: Carson Schambach, 68, second, Tim Fisher, 138, Third, Tim Fisher 207.

Johnathan Bartlett, White Sulphur Springs	71-70-68-69—278
Tim Fisher, Statts Millw	72-66-69-72—279
Trent Roush, Mason	71-75-68-70—282
Michael Veres, Chapmanville	71-75-68-71—285
Bosten Miller, Charleston	70-69-70-77—286
Hop White, Hurricane	74-70-70-73—287
JR Jones, Parkersburg	74-74-73-70—291
Bryan Myers, Wheeling	72-73-72-75—292
Ryan Mason, Bridgeport	78-69-74-73—294
Carson Schambach, Glen Dale	68-74-75-77—294

2011: This year's West Virginia Amateur was not short on drama. From day one the Amateur's 100 participants knew about the special prize that awaited this year's winner: a spot in the Greenbrier Classic. Like last year, West Virginia's top amateur golfer gets the dream opportunity to play in a PGA TOUR, FedEx Cup event. After day one, it was Nathan Begley and Sam O'Dell that had the lead, each shooting rounds of 69.

On day two Christian Brand's name found its way to the leader board after he shot a tournament low round of 67. Brand's two-day total of 138 was tied for the lead with O'Dell. At the end of day two, 43 golfers made it past this year's cut of 153.

The Remaining players were given some exciting news before the start of their third round. Owner of The Greenbrier, Jim Justice, announced that a spot in the 2012 Greenbrier Classic would also be given to the player who finished second in this years amateur.

After day three, Christian Brand looked comfortably on his way to receiving his first ever State Amateur title and a ticket to play in the 2011 Greenbrier classic. His three-day total of 209 had him five shots ahead of second place Sam O'Dell and nine shots ahead of third place Jess Ferrell.

On the final day, O'Dell went seven over through his first six holes and found himself in a fierce battle for second place with Ferrell. When the final group arrived on the par five, 18th Ferrell had a one stroke lead over O'Dell. Both made it on the green in two. Ferrell missed a long eagle putt by a few feet, leaving O'Dell an opening which he quickly took advantage of, sinking a twelve footer for eagle. Ferrell made his birdie putt and the two went to a sudden death playoff. The playoff only lasted one hole. Ferrell won the hole and the honor of playing in the 2012 Greenbrier Classic. Before he gets that chance, he will get to watch Brand play in this year's event. Brand parred 18, but still finished the tournament with a nine stroke lead, making him the 2011 WV Amateur champion.

Christian Brand, Charleston	71-67-71-71--280
Sam O'Dell, Hurricane	69-69-76-75--289
Jess Ferrell, Fairmont	74-71-73-71--289
Joey Seabright, Wheeling	76-75-72-68--291
Bryan Myers, Wheeling	76-73-71-71--291
Brian Anania, Hurricane	80-69-73-71--293
Jay Woodward, Bridgeport	75-73-73-73--294
Blake S Davis, Huntington	76-75-70-73--294
Trent Roush, Mason	76-74-75-72--297
Ryan Mason, Bridgeport	71-79-72-75—297

2012: Huntington's Pat Carter won his 13th West Virginia Amateur Championship at America's Resort, The Greenbrier. With this title, he received a special exemption into the 2013 PGA Tour FedEx Cup event, The Greenbrier Classic. With victories spanning four decades, Carter is the second most decorated West Virginia Amateur Champion, just behind the pin-ultimate amateur, William C. Campbell. Carter won his first Amateur Championship while he was a member of the Marshall University golf team, at the age of 21, and edged out Wheeling native, Floyd Shuler. From 1994 to 2004, he won an astounding 10 consecutive titles. Prior to this week he last won the Championship in 2006. Trent Roush held the round one lead and as the second round of play moved to the Old White TPC course where the weather did not cooperate, with four lightning delays. The weather did not affect Oak Hill's Winston Canada, who shot the low round of the day at 3-under-par 67. As a result of the many delays, second round play was suspended until Wednesday morning, where five groups had yet to complete their round.

The third round began following the completion of the second round, as Hurricane's Brian Anania catapulted himself into the top five, following a round of 6-under-par 66 on the Greenbrier course. The Marshall University golfer made two eagles on the par-5 5th hole, as well as the par-4 10th, followed by four birdies and just two bogeys. The third round had just two inclement delays, a blessing from the previous, but the wet course provided a 76.7 stroke average—a vast improvement from round one. As the round concluded, Carter, Woodward and Buckhannon's Jeremy Rogers were each tied for the lead at 1-over-par 215, as Canada sat two strokes back, Anania two back. Winston Canada held the lead for a short stretch on the back nine, but a double hit of the golf ball on the 12th hole led to a double bogey 7 and gave Carter the lead which he would not let go of. Leaders by Round: First, Roush 69, Second, Winston Canada and Jay Woodward 143, Third, Jeremy Rogers, Jay Woodward and Pat Carter 215.

Pat Carter, Huntington	71-73-71-73—288
Winston Canada, Beckley	76-67-74-73—290
Jeremy Rogers, Buckhannon	73-72-70-76—291
Brian Anania, Hurricane	78-74-66-74—292
Sam O'Dell, Hurricane	74-72-74-72—292
Jay Woodward, Bridgeport	70-73-72-79—294
Chris Williams, Scott Depot	71-73-75-75—294
Tad Tomblin, Alum Creek	76-71-75-72—294
Bosten Miller, Charleston	77-75-72-71—295
Thadd Obecnny, Wheeling	72-76-74-74—296

2013: Sam O'Dell has a special place in West Virginia golf's history books after this week, as he won the 94th West Virginia Amateur Championship. The Hurricane native went 68-66-69-76 to win the Championship at 5-under-par.

After the first round concluded, it was evident O'Dell was out to claim the victory, shooting a 68 on the Old White TPC's par 70 course. He was the only player to post an under-par score that day. As the field moved to The Greenbrier's Greenbrier course for the second round, he scored two strokes better than the day before. Staying on the Greenbrier course the third day, he shot 3-under 69. For his final round today, he slacked off a bit, posting a 4-over-par score, but was still able to seal the Championship by six strokes. O'Dell defeated Fairmont's Woody Woodward and Hurricane's Brian Anania, who tied for second at 1-over-par 285.

Earlier in the week, three-time Champion, Tim Fisher was disqualified from the Championship under rule 15-3, playing a wrong ball. This was the first event Fisher had played in since his three-year suspension in 2010. Leaders by round: First, Sam O'Dell 68, second, O'Dell 134, third, O'Dell 203. O'Dell becomes first wire to wire victor since Pat Carter in 2003.

Sam O'Dell, Hurricane	68-66-69-76—279
Brian Anania, Hurricane	73-72-70-70—285
Woody Woodward, Bridgeport	73-75-70-67—285
Nick Dent, White Sulphur Springs	73-71-69-74—287
Thadd Obecnny, Wheeling	70-71-76-72—289
Alan Cooke, Vienna	71-67-74-78—290
Bosten Miller, Charleston	73-79-67-73—292
Harry Howell, Madison	76-70-71-76—293
Phillip Reale, Charleston	73-75-73-72—293
Jeremy Rogers, Buckhannon	71-74-77-73—295

2014: It was a great couple of weeks for Brian Anania. The Marshall University graduate started off his 2014 championship season with a victory at the State Four-Ball Championship with partner Chris Williams just a few short weeks ago. Now, after finishing runner-up in last year's State Amateur Championship, Anania found himself hoisting the coveted Greenbrier trophy as the 95th West Virginia Amateur Champion as well as an exemption into the 2014 Greenbrier

Classic. In what was a back and forth day atop the leaderboard, Anania's steady play paid off as he was able to hold on to a two-stroke victory over Pineville's Evan Muscari during the final round. The week had great weather and another gorgeous day at The Greenbrier Resort, The Old White, TPC once again challenged players as it held players to a final round scoring average of 75.1. Anania entered the final round with a two-stroke lead over Bridgeport's Woody Woodward. After making a bogey on the par-3 third hole, Anania erased it with a birdie on the following. He added to his birdie total after carding a birdie, three, on the par-4 ninth and added another on the par-5, twelfth. His closing round of even par, 70, included three bogeys and three birdies and was all that was needed to secure the title of West Virginia Amateur champion. Leaders by Round: first, Woody Woodward 67, second, Josh Holmes 141, Anania 211.

Brian Anania, Hurricane	72-72-67-70—281
Evan Muscari, Pineville	72-73-69-69—283
Woody Woodward, Bridgeport	67-75-71-72—285
Sam O'Dell, Hurricane	73-76-67-71—287
Tad Tomblin, Alum Creek	73-72-72-70—287
Jess Ferrell, Fairmont	75-72-68-74—289
Thadd Obecnycy, Wheeling	69-74-73-73—289
Trent Roush, Mason	73-75-71-70—289
Pat Carter, Huntington	71-76-68-76—291
Joey Seabright, Wheeling	70-75-73-73—291
Davey Jude, Kermit	76-77-71-67—291

2015: It was a wire to wire victory again for Hurricane's Sam O'Dell as he captured the 96th West Virginia Amateur Championship by a five shot margin of victory. Weather conditions could not have been more favorable; creating a backdrop worthy of a final round for the state's premier amateur championship. Competing on the 7,042 yard Old White TPC Course players took charge at the 54-hole leader and managed to get within one shot of the lead before O'Dell caught fire on his closing holes and solidified his second West Virginia Amateur Championship (2013 & 2015).

Opening his final round with a birdie on the par-4 first hole, O'Dell looked to be running away with the tournament title before finding trouble on the fourth which resulted in a double-bogey. A bogey on the par-4 fifth and another double-bogey on the par-4 seventh brought several members of the field right back into the mix. After making birdie on the ninth hole, O'Dell started his back nine with a string of five straight pars but felt the pressure of fellow-competitor Christian Casingal as Casingal found himself within one of the lead after making birdies on holes eleven and twelve. After a Casingal bogey on the drivable par-4, fourteenth, O'Dell took control and proceeded to birdie three consecutive holes (15, 16, 17) increasing his lead back to five shots. On fifteen, O'Dell drained a speedy downhill 37 foot putt for birdie which began the streak. On sixteen, after a well-placed drive, O'Dell hit his approach to 8 feet and calmly rolled it in. Then on the par-5, seventeenth, O'Dell found himself in the left greenside bunker in two and got up and down for birdie to get him back to one-under par for the championship. After a par on the eighteenth, O'Dell officially claimed his second West Virginia Amateur Championship and an exemption into this year's 2015 Greenbrier Classic.

Sam O' Dell, Hurricane	66-70-77-70—283
Christian Casingal, Charleston	72-71-75-70—288
Thadd Obecnny, Wheeling	71-72-76-70—289
Davey Jude, Kermit	73-71-74-72—290
Philip Reale, Charleston	78-71-72-72—293
Alan Cooke, Vienna	67-75-77-74—293
Alasdair Forsythe, Elkins	74-72-74-76—296
Pat Carter, Huntington	76-73-75-73—297
Jess Ferrell, Fairmont	78-71-74-74—297
Chris Boyd, Charles Town	74-73-78-73—298

2016: Vienna's Alan Cooke managed to achieve something in the final round that he failed to master in the first three of the 97th West Virginia Amateur Presented by Mercedes-Benz – play the par 3s better than even par. As a result, the rising senior at West Virginia University became the fifth first-time winner of the Amateur since 2007 with a steady Thursday on the Old White TPC. He was 4-over par on the par 3s at the Greenbrier course (first and third rounds) and even on the Old White TPC in the second.

“I didn't know I did that,” said Cooke, a 2012 graduate of Parkersburg High School who earns an exemption into the seventh Greenbrier Classic July 7-0 at the Old White TPC. “I was just going a shot at a time, hoping to stay level headed.”

He birdied No. 18 where there was parked a 2016 Mercedes-Benz that would have been rewarded to Thursday's first ace – but there wasn't one. He got up and down from a bunker on No. 15 and was 2-under on par 3s in two rounds on the Old White TPC.

Huntington's Pat Carter dominated the Amateur from 1995-2006, winning 11 times, including a national-record 10 consecutive (1995-2004). “Deserving win for Alan,” Carter said. “That's what you have to do. You have to play well on the tough course and lapped the field, really.”

While Hurricane's Sam O'Dell claimed the championship in 2013 (his first) and 2015, and Tim Fisher finished on top three times from 2005-09, there has been a range of newcomers topping the leaderboard since Carter seemingly owned the position.

Jonathan Bartlett, a native of Ocala, Fla., who was a real estate salesman at The Sporting Club in 2010, won the Amateur that year when the championship offered the first of six exemptions into the Greenbrier Classic. The former University of Mississippi player turned professional shortly thereafter.

Anthony Reale, a native of Gilmer County who resides in North Carolina while pursuing his law degree, won in 2007. His older brother Philip, looking to join Anthony as the first brothers to win the championship, was runner-up, eight strokes back.

“I would've had to shoot 64 to keep up (with Cooke),” Reale said. “It was fun to watch. He was in a zone all day.” Finishing in a tie for 9th place was 61 year old Harold Payne of Hurricane.

Leaders by Round: first, Cole Moore 70, second, Alan Cooke 140, Alan Cooke 216.

Alan Cooke, Vienna	72-68-76-67—283
Philip Reale, Charleston	73-72-73-73—291
Will Evans, Charleston	74-67-77-74—292
Sam O'Dell, Hurricane	73-71-74-75—293
Joey Seabright, Wheeling	71-75-79-70—295
Pat Carter, Huntington	76-70-75-75—296

Davey Jude, Kermit	74-76-76-72—298
Thadd Obecnny, Wheeling	79-75-73-71—298
Jeff McGraw, Princeton	73-68-80-78—299
Harold Payne, Hurricane	72-75-78-74—299

2017: This year, the Amateur left the Greenbrier for just the fifth time in the 98 years it has been contested, putting all four rounds on the same course for only the second time since 1997. The Resort at Glade Springs' Cobb Course played host due to the devastating floods of June 2016 that wreaked havoc at The Greenbrier.

Sam O'Dell's steady hand served him well at the 98th West Virginia Amateur Presented by Mercedes-Benz. O'Dell shot a final-round even par 72 to win his third State Amateur, holding off Scott Depot's Chris Williams at The Resort at Glade Springs' Cobb Course. His first title came in 2013, his second in 2015, and his third this week. "When you get the opportunity to win a golf tournament like this, you have to take advantage of it," O'Dell said. "If I didn't win it again, it would've been two years, then it would've been three ... if it keeps going you wonder (if it'll happen again), especially with the kids knocking it by me."

O'Dell had to fight off West Virginia University graduate Chris Williams, who didn't play in 2016 while attending classes. He finished 11th in 2015. Williams' run was brief, but palpable. The former Winfield High School standout had five birdies and two bogeys through 12 holes, but bogeyed three of the next four to fall out of contention. His only hope on No. 18 was to get a birdie and for O'Dell to double bogey, something he hadn't done the previous 71 holes. "On 14, I hit it a little in the trees and had a punch shot but didn't hit a good chip," Williams said. "I hit a really good shot on 15, but three-putted for bogey from about 12 feet. On 17, I hit another good chip shot and missed a 3-footer. Just some putts today."

The talk of the tournament was 16-year-old Washington High School junior-to-be Christian Boyd. Boyd was in the final group with O'Dell and Hurricane's Brian Anania, who won the 2014 championship. He trailed by two shots after the third round and closed the gap with a birdie on the par 3 No. 13. However, four consecutive bogeys brought him back toward the field. Number 13 was a 180-yard hole that included a Mercedes-Benz at the tee box. No players could win a car, which was to be awarded to every competitor who aced the hole during the final round. Boyd came within 10 feet on his tee shot, but that proved to be his final birdie before one on 18, which came too late. Leaders by round: first, Tad Tomblin 69, Christian Boyd 138, third Sam O'Dell 210.

Sam O'Dell, Hurricane	71-68-71-73—283
Chris Williams, Scott Depot	70-70-73-72—285
Christian Boyd, Charles Town	70-68-74-74—286
Brian Anania, Hurricane	72-69-72-74—287
Philip Reale, Charleston	74-74-70-70—288
Will Evans, Charleston	72-68-77-72—289
Joshua Arbaugh, Morgantown	74-72-72-72—290
Jeff McGraw, Princeton	74-73-70-73—290
Thadd Obecnny, Wheeling	71-75-71-73—290
Tyler Hillyer, Princeton	77-71-73-70—291

2018: The 2001 State Amateur Championship was a long time ago, but the memories stick with Hurricane's Sam O'Dell. As he won the 99th West Virginia Amateur Presented by Mercedes-Benz on Thursday, O'Dell reflected on the time before he won his first – he now has four – and the lost opportunity to play with Pat Carter. "I never played in the final group with Pat," said O'Dell, who birdied No. 17 to break a tie and earn a two-stroke victory on the Old White TPC at the Greenbrier. On August 8, 2001, prior to the final round of the Amateur, O'Dell was in an all-terrain vehicle accident with friends Jeff Whitman and Michael Veres. O'Dell was tied for second and would have played in the final group with Carter on Thursday, but he remained in critical condition for three days, finally being moved from the intensive care unit the Saturday after. Meanwhile, Carter was winning the seventh of his national record 10th consecutive Amateur title. O'Dell recovered, completed dental school at West Virginia University, and has a successful practice in Hurricane a little more than a stone's throw from his home course of Sleepy Hollow Golf Club.

O'Dell held the lead the entire day until a costly double bogey 6 on the par 4 16th hole put him into a day with Carter with just two holes to play. On 17 O'dell birdied and Carter made a bogey 6. Carter said, "(On 17), the pin was front left and I want to be to the right and after I hit it I thought it should be good, then Nick said, 'I think it's in the bunker.' I said, 'Bunker? I didn't even know it was there.' That left me with one of the toughest shots in golf, but I still should've made par." On 18. O'Dell hit his tee shot to the front of the green and two-putted for par to complete the round and his title.

Christian Boyd of Charles Town once again had a strong showing as he won low junior award for the 2nd year in a row, tying this year with Mason Williams of Bridgeport. The pair finished in a tie for 5th place. Leaders by Round: first, Pat Carter 67, Sam O'Dell 139, O'Dell 209.

Sam O'Dell, Hurricane	72-67-70-73—282
Pat Carter, Huntington	67-77-67-73—284
Nick Biesecker, Charleston	77-70-68-70—285
Nick Dent, White Sulphur Springs	77-71-66-76—290
Mason Williams, Bridgeport	74-74-73-71—292
Christian Boyd, Charles Town	70-79-71-72—292
Mark Johnson, Morgantown	72-75-69-76—292
Cam Roam, Huntington	75-78-67-74—294
Phillip Reale, Charleston	75-76-71-73—295
Jess Ferrell, Fairmont	78-72-70-77—297