

2020-Current

2020: The 87th playing of the West Virginia Open was one for the record book as multiple players had a chance to win the title. But when the dust settled after 54 holes it was Kenny Hess of Parkersburg who prevailed after shooting a 6-under par 66 in the final round to beat Thadd Obecnycy of Wheeling by 1. Hess entered the final round at even par, 3 strokes back of 36 hole leader Obecnycy but Hess came out hot early getting to 2-under par at the turn and only 1 back of Obecnycy. It was at the 15th hole where Hess made his move, his wedge shot from 100 yards lipped out and he tapped in for birdie to tie Obecnycy for the lead. Then on 16 after watching Obecnycy hit it to 15 feet, Hess followed with his approach to inside of 3 feet and it was needed as Obecnycy rolled in his putt for a three so they remained tied going to the 17th. After both players made pars on hole 16 they both were forced to lay-up on the par 5 18th hole and after Obecnycy missed the green with his 3rd, Hess hit his to 5 feet. Obecnycy got his up and down for a par 5, and it was Hess who rolled in the winning putt in front of many spectators on the 18th green to become the winner of the 87th West Virginia Open Championship. Hess becomes the 32nd different player to win the West Virginia Open championship. 11 time champion David Bradshaw and 2 time champion Christian Brand both made charges in the middle of the round, but faltered coming in. Will Evans of Charleston shot the low round of the tournament in the final round with a 7-under par 65 to get to 2-under par for the championship. Evans' score looked like it might hold but Obecnycy and Hess both got hot late to pull away. On the amateur side, Nick Fleming of Cabins shot even par for the championship to claim the Low Amateur award. Pat Carter of Huntington won the low senior award with a 1-over par tournament total.

Leaders by Round: 1st: Kenny Hess-69, 2nd: Thadd Obecnycy 141

Kenny Hess, Parkersburg	69-75-66—210
Thadd Obecnycy, Wheeling	71-70-70—211
Will Evans, Charleston	78-71-65—214
David Bradshaw, Bakerton	75-73-67—215
Christian Brand, Scott Depot	72-74-69—215
a-Nick Fleming, Cabins	71-73-72—216
a-David Scragg, Poca	76-70-71—217
a-Cole Moore, Spencer	72-72-73—217
a-Owen Elliott, Hedgesville	72-74-71—217
a-Pat Carter, Huntington	71-74-72—217

2021: Pete Dye Golf Club in Bridgeport had not hosted a West Virginia Open since 2000, but that all changed in 2021 when the 88th playing of the states biggest event came to the beautiful Pete Dye layout. Familiar faces were at the top or near the top of the leaderboard during the week but it was David Bradshaw who did everything he needed to on the final day to hoist the Joe Taylor trophy for the 12th time. After beginning the round with a 3 stroke victory over Grant county native and current Wingate sophomore, Nick Fleming, Bradshaw was only seriously tested by hometown player, Woody Woodward, when Woodward's birdie on the 1st hole (All players started the Final Round started on #10) fell he was only one stroke back of the lead but a wayward tee shot right on #2 ended up being a lost ball and led to a double bogey 6 for Woodward and he never got any closer than that. Another hometown favorite, Mason Williams, never seriously challenged the lead during the final round but shot the low round of the day to secure solo runner up and Low Amateur. Pat Carter of Huntington won the low senior award with his T9 finish.

Leaders by Round: 1st: Mason Williams and Nick Fleming-71, 2nd: David Bradshaw 140

David Bradshaw, Bakerton	72-68-71—211
a-Mason Williams, Bridgeport	71-74-69—214
a- Woody Woodward, Bridgeport	74-72-72—218
Kenny Hess, Parkersburg	73-73-73—219
a-Nick Fleming, Cabins	71-72-77—220
a-Chris Williams, Morgantown	75-70-77—222
a-Trent Tipton, Orient (oh)	79-70-74—223
a-Joseph Kalaskey, South Charleston	76-75-72—223
Sam Berry, Morgantown	73-76-75—224
a-Pat Carter, Huntington	74-73-77—224

2022: This was a West Virginia Open of many firsts, including the first time ever in the 89th playing of the West Virginia Open it was hosted at Stonewall Resort in Roanoke. Christian Brand of Scott Depot made another first in tournament history as the first pending amateur to win the coveted Joe Taylor trophy. Brand, the 2014 and 2015 champion, played professionally for 10 years prior to applying for his amateur status which will not come until December of 2022, was allowed to play in the Open but could not accept any gift certificates or prize money, just the trophy, but that's all that mattered to Brand who let the state know he was back with his -10 par showing to win by three strokes over long time rival David Bradshaw. Brand and Bradshaw began the final round tied for the lead, but Brand went out in 33 to take a two stroke lead, which grew to four when Bradshaw double bogeyed the par 4 11th hole. Brand gave Bradshaw a glimmer of hope when he had a lost ball on the par 4 13th hole and Bradshaw made a birdie, but Brand quickly rallied with birdies on the 14th and 15th to pad his lead then finished with a closing birdie to shoot -10 and win by three strokes. Nick Fleming of Cabins and current college golfer at Wingate finished in a tie with Sam O'Dell of Hurricane for Low Amateur, this is Fleming's 2nd low amateur in the last 3 Opens. Shepherd University golfer and Charles Town resident, Mason Kidwell along with Marshall University player and fellow Charles Town resident, Christian Boyd shared low round of the week honors with Kidwell's coming in round 1 and Boyd's in the final round to catapult him into the top 10.

Leaders by Round: 1st: Mason Kidwell 67, 2nd: David Bradshaw and David Bradshaw 138

Christian Brand, Scott Depot	69-69-68—206
David Bradshaw, Bakerton	69-69-71—209
Thadd Obecny, Wheeling	68-73-72—213
a-Sam O'Dell, Hurricane	73-71-71—215
a-Nick Fleming, Cabins	71-75-69—215
a-Brian Anania, Hurricane	75-75-69—219
a-Howie Peterson, Weirton	72-74-73—219
a-Cam Roam, Huntington	75-70-74—219
Kenny Hess, Parkersburg	76-72-72—220
a-Christian Boyd, Charles Town	72-81-67—220