



WEST VIRGINIA GOLF ASSOCIATION THE MOUNTAIN STATE OF GOLF

2026
SPRING



2025 WV Open Champion
Christian Brand

Highlights In This Issue...

- A letter from our President, Tim McNeely
- 2026 Season
- Ike Grainger Award Recipient, Dave Pope
- USGA Core Services
- What's New at First Tee
- 2026 Membership



2025 Ike Grainger Award Recipient

Dave Pope received the prestigious Ike Grainger Award at the USGA Annual Meeting in New York at the end of February 2026 for his service as a USGA Committeeman.



107TH West Virginia Amateur

The 2026 West Virginia Amateur will take place at The Greenbrier Resort May 24th - 27th. There are 6 qualifying sites across West Virginia. Participants must register by April 29th.




William C. Campbell Scholarship

Each year the West Virginia Golf Association, awards this scholarship based on the student's merit and exemplifies exceptional quality in their involvement, not only in the game of golf, but their community. The scholarship, named after Mr. Campbell, continues to live on through his legacy of what it means to be a true lady and gentleman. **(Page 11)**



 www.wvga.org

 (304)391-5000

A WELCOME LETTER

FROM WVGA PRESIDENT TIM MCNEELY



It's hard to believe that it has already been a year since taking over as the West Virginia Golf Association President. What an incredible experience it has been. As I reflect on what has happened over the last year, I am struck by what a wonderful game we share in our state.

As I look a little closer, it becomes even more clear that golf is as healthy as it has ever been in our state. WVGA membership is quickly approaching 11,000 golfers, which is the largest number of members on record. Another number that is on the rise is our female membership at 10%, and growing, thanks in large part to WVGA team members - Sarah Cole and Alyssa Scragg, and our Ladies' Clinic Series and Women's Series that sell out routinely. This is a phenomenal trend, and we look forward to continued growth on this front!

Our Championships - Parent / Child, Two Man Scramble, and Four Ball also continue to sell out every year. The WV Open has hosted the three largest purses in our history over the last three years. Our Junior Tour is also at record membership levels as well as the number of total rounds played. The First Tee continues to make a significant impact in our state. Jeff Preast and Alyssa Scragg do an incredible job with our First Tee program.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention what an incredible event Bridgeport Country Club hosted for the American Junior Golf Association last July. As we know, the AJGA is most certainly the premiere world-wide tour for competitive junior golfers between the ages of 12 and 19. BCC Head Golf Professional - Mike Gervais, and the entire Bridgeport Country Club hosted an incredible showcase for West Virginia. Ten West Virginian juniors teed it up in this prestigious tournament as we got to watch national and international golf stars of tomorrow.

I would also like to thank a couple of Executive Committee members whose terms expired at the end of 2025 - David McCormick and Lisa Younis. Their service to the WVGA has been outstanding and we thank them for their dedication. Lisa will continue to serve on the WVGA Competitions Committee, and congratulations are certainly in order, as she is the newest member of the USGA National Committee and will officiate multiple USGA Championships in 2026. This is a major accomplishment for her and shows her commitment to the game of golf. Lisa, in addition to being an accomplished player, has become an expert in the Rules of Golf and we will likely see Lisa working multiple USGA Championships as a Rules official in 2026 and beyond. Congratulations, Lisa! With that, we also welcome Sarah Yost and Marshall University Head Men's Golf Coach - Matt Grobe, to the Executive Committee. They both bring extensive and impressive golf resumes to the WVGA.

Speaking of the USGA, WVGA team member - Lucas Ware was part of the USGA Setup team as well as an official at the 2025 US Women's Senior Amateur. He will also officiate the 2026 US Junior Amateur Championship. As well, Executive Committee Member - Dave Pope recently received the prestigious Ike Grainger award at the USGA Annual Meeting which is presented annually to those who have served 25 years with the USGA as a volunteer. Dave is currently in his 30th year with the WVGA. Congratulations, Dave!

Lastly, congratulations to our newest 2025 Hall of Fame Members - Mike Krak, David Bradshaw, and Sam O'Dell. What wonderful careers these gentlemen have had, and we are very proud of these Hall of Fame inductees; very much deserved!

As you can see, golf in West Virginia is in a wonderful and healthy place, perhaps the best ever. But, we have more to do and more to accomplish. We can only do so with your help. Please continue to support golf in our state and, thank you for the honor of serving as your WVGA President!

Tim McNeely

WHAT'S IN STORE FOR THE 2026 SEASON

The West Virginia Golf Association is excited to announce the 2026 championship season, featuring a full lineup of competitive tournaments, and one day events for men, women, seniors, and junior golfers.

The 2026 season includes the Callaway Junior Tour, Rookie League and High School Series, the widely supported Senior Series, WV Amateur Series, Women's Series, and Ladies Golf Clinics.

2026 Championships

Headlining the 2026 season are the WVGA's signature championships, each hosted at some of West Virginia's premier courses including:

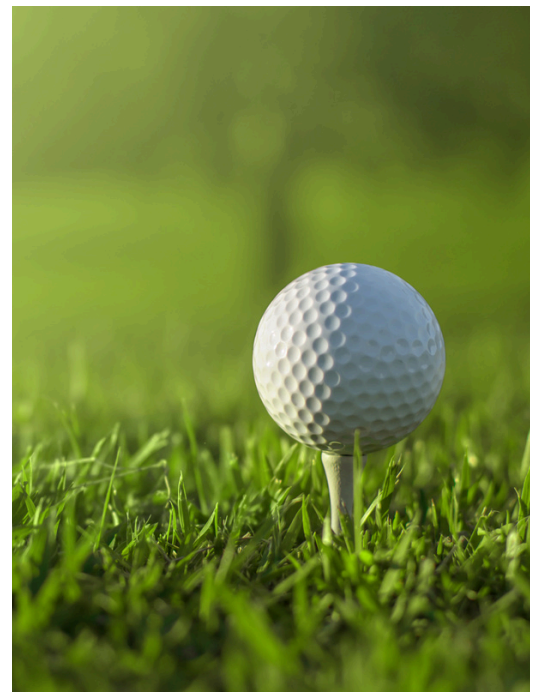
- **[May 24-27] - West Virginia Amateur - The Greenbrier**
- **[June 14-16] - WV Women's Amateur - Oglebay-Palmer**
- **[June 29-30] - WV Senior Open - Edgewood CC**
- **[July 18-19] Parent Child - Glade Springs - Cobb/Stonehaven**
- **[July 21-22] Women's Senior Amateur - Fincastle**
- **[July 29-31] West Virginia Open - Glade Springs - Cobb/Stonehaven**

These championships reflect the WVGA's continued commitment to excellence, integrity, and the advancement of amateur golf throughout West Virginia.

"We are very excited to kick off our 2026 season at the end of this month as we begin another year of providing competitive amateur golf here in West Virginia. We saw multiple Championships and One Day events sell out within a week of registration opening and we will continue to see more as we get closer to summer. We encourage anyone interested to reach out to our office to learn more, as we offer One Day events for men, women, seniors and juniors in every corner of West Virginia." said **Executive Director of the WVGA, Chris Slack.**

Senior Series

The Senior Series remains a popular addition to our 2026 season, providing competitive opportunities for players aged 50 and over. There are 26 events hosted at a variety of courses across the state from April to October that offer friendly competition and sportsmanship. These events are sponsored by Little General Stores and are sell out events each year.



Continued...

2026 SEASON CONTINUED

Women's Series

The 2026 season will again feature the Women's Series, perfect for seasoned golfers or golfers just starting out. The Women's Series is designed to foster a fun, supportive environment, where women of all skill levels can enjoy the game of golf.

The Women's Series offers competitive tournaments throughout West Virginia with plenty of opportunities to socialize and connect with others. Each tournament players will participate in a different format- whether it's partner or team formats- with Gross and Net winners announced. Join us for an unforgettable golfing experience April to September.



Sarah Cole



Alyssa Scragg



Ladies Clinics



The Ladies Clinics returns to the 2026 season for Spring and Summer sessions. Each Clinic will focus on a specific club and skill to familiarize each golfer before hitting the course!

The West Virginia Golf Association is dedicated to making an impact in women's lives through the game of golf by creating a space that is inclusive, educational, fun, uplifting, and non-judgmental. The WVGA is offering Ladies Golf Clinics at the Coonskin Park Driving Range for women of all ages and skill levels. Clubs, tees, and balls are provided for any participant in need. A safe space, like the WVGA has created in their Ladies Golf Clinics, is a great place to begin building confidence.

Golf is a lot harder than it looks so, surround yourself with uplifting women who will get excited about your good shots! Confidence is gained one step at a time, on and off the course. Clinics are instructed by **WVGA Director of Women's Golf, Sarah Cole, and First Tee – West Virginia Program Director, Alyssa Scragg.**

Continued....

2026 SEASON CONTINUED



The 2026 Callaway Junior Tour has 22 statewide tournaments scheduled across West Virginia. The Championship will take place August 13th, 2026, at one of West Virginia's most elite courses, The Greenbrier Sporting Club.

The Callaway Junior Tour, sponsored by Tri-State Roofing and Sheet Metal, provides structured competitive opportunities for golfers aged 9 to 18 and has divisions for girls 10-14 and 15-18 and for boys 12 and under, 13-14, 15-16 and 17-18.

The tour is designed to support player development while providing meaningful competition in a professional organized environment.



The 2026 Rookie League Season features 9 events across the state April through July.

The Callaway Junior Tour Rookie League is an accessible, affordable entry point for young golfers in West Virginia who are new to the game or looking to gain experience, offering a fun, less-intense competitive environment with modified rules like double-par maximums and caddie/pull cart allowances, perfect for kids as young as 5 to learn the ropes before potentially joining the main CJRT.

It features skill-based divisions (AAA, AA, A), focuses on core values, and is run by the WV Golf Association in partnership with Callaway Golf.



107TH WV AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP

MAY 24TH - 27TH

Presented By:

Astorg Auto
of Parkersburg EST 1967

LAND ROVER
CHARLESTON

The West Virginia Amateur Championship

is an annual golf tournament held at The Greenbrier Resort in White Sulphur Springs, W.V.

The Old White and The Meadows Course are both played during the 4 day championship.

The Championship brings together male amateur golfers from across West Virginia to compete and determine the best amateur golfer in the state.

Over 300 golfers attempt to qualify annually at one of the multiple qualifying sites across the state. This year 30 golfers were exempt leaving 90 qualifying spots to complete a field of 120 golfers.

The crowned state Amateur Champion receives an exemption into the United States Amateur.



2026 Qualifiers

Registration Ends April 29th

[Register Online](#)

May 4th: WV Bridgeport Country Club

May 7th: Edgewood Country Club

May 11th: The Resort at Glade Springs

May 14th: Locust Hill Golf Course, WV

May 18th: Guyan Golf and Country Club

May 20th: Stonewall Resort

Eligibility

Entries are open to male amateur golfers who are active members of the WVGA AND must reside in West Virginia. Please Reference WVGA Policies and Procedures for further details.

LEARN MORE



CHRIS SLACK (304) 391-5000 | CSLACK@WVGA.ORG

2025 IKE GRAINGER AWARD RECIPIENT

USGA

Dave Pope received the prestigious Ike Grainger Award at the USGA Annual Meeting in New York at the end of February 2026 for his service as a USGA Committeeman.

The Ike Grainger Award is presented annually to those who have served 25 years with the USGA as a volunteer.

It is named for Isaac B. "Ike" Grainger, a pivotal leader who served as USGA president from 1954 to 1955 and played a crucial role in shaping the game's global governance. A steadfast advocate for the integrity of golf, Grainger was instrumental in fostering collaboration between the USGA and The R&A, helping to establish a unified set of Rules of Golf in 1952, a milestone moment for the sport's international consistency.

Dave is currently serving his 30th year with the West Virginia Golf Association as Championship Chairman.



DAVE POPE



Rules of Golf Certified

The USGA offers a 100 question test to establish a widely recognized Rules Certification program across the golf Industry. To be eligible to officiate at USGA Open Championships as well as the U.S. Amateur and U.S. Women's Amateur officials must earn Expert status. To officiate all other USGA Championships officials must earn Advanced status.

Expert Rules Certification is given to individuals who achieve a 90 or higher on the 100-question exam. **Advanced Rules Certification** is given to individuals who achieve 75 or higher on the 100-question exam.

The West Virginia Golf Association is proud to recognize both Expert and Advanced Rules Certified Staff and Committee Members.



Chris Slack

Executive Director

Expert Certificate in the Rules of Golf



Lucas Ware

Director of Junior Golf & Core Services

Expert Certificate in the Rules of Golf



Sarah Cole

Director of Women's Golf & One Day Events

Advanced Certificate in the Rules of Golf



Matt Grobe

WVGA Executive Committee Member

Expert Certificate in the Rules of Golf



Lisa Younis

Previous, WVGA Executive Committee Member

Current USGA Committee Member

Advanced Certificate in the Rules of Golf

WHS Certification

WEST VIRGINIA GOLF ASSOCIATION STAFF

The West Virginia Golf Association is proud to recognize Lucas Ware and Sarah Cole for being Certified under the World Handicap System Course Rating Certification Program.

When you look at a scorecard or post a score, you'll often see Course Rating™ and Slope Rating – two key terms that help ensure fair play across different skill levels. The Course Rating reflects how difficult a course is for a scratch player (Handicap Index of 0.0) under normal conditions. A Course Rating of 71.2, for example, means a scratch player can expect to shoot around 71 when they play well.

A less-known term is Bogey Rating™, and it is simply the indication of the difficulty of a golf course for the bogey player.

The Slope Rating, on the other hand, represents the relative difficulty of the course for non-scratch players compared to scratch players. The greater the difference between the Course Rating and the Bogey Rating, the higher the Slope Rating. This helps ensure that higher-handicap players receive the appropriate number of strokes.

Together, these Ratings allow every golfer with a Handicap Index to compete equitably – whether you're playing a shorter length municipal course or a championship layout. Understanding how they work helps you get the strokes you need to play on a level playing field.



Lucas Ware
Director of Junior Golf & Core Services



Sarah Cole
Director of Women's Golf & One Day Events



2026 VIP Card Program

What is the VIP Card

The VIP Card program provides access to private, public and resort courses at exclusive VIP pricing. The purpose of the program is to make golf affordable to all golfers of all skill level.

We have included the VIP Card as a benefit for all regular members since 2006. A WVGA Member receives an Official USGA Handicap Index and WV VIP Card with their membership purchase.

The 2026 VIP Card features 65 West Virginia Courses. [View Full Listing](#). Card holders have access to some of the states most beautiful resort courses like The Greenbrier Resort, Glade Springs Resort and Stonewall Resort.

Parkersburg Country Club, Berry Hills Country Club, and Edgewood Country club are a few of the private courses card holders have access to.



West Virginia | Virginia Combo

The West Virginia Golf Association has partnered with the Virginia State Golf Association to provide our members with the opportunity to enjoy the benefits of the Virginia VIP Card program. This addition provides access to over 120 Virginia Courses and 53 additional West Virginia Courses listed in the VA VIP Card.



What's Included!

WVGA Membership | USGA GHIN Handicap Index | VIP Card

How to Renew

- Call our office Monday - Friday 8:30-4:30 (304) 391-5000
- Order Online: www.wvga.org
- Office: Pick-up at our Charleston Office located at, 1 Frances P. Jordon Way, Charleston, WV 25302

Purchase as a Gift

Choose one of the above options. Have the golfers email address and date of birth at time of purchase.



THE WILLIAM C. CAMPBELL SCHOLARSHIP

The William C. Campbell Scholarship was established in 1999 by the West Virginia Golf Association. Formed in the honor of Mr. Campbell for his international accomplishments as an amateur golfer and volunteer. Mr. Campbell is one of the greatest golfers to ever play the game. His winning record includes the U.S. Amateur, U.S. Senior Amateur, three titles on the West Virginia Open, as well as 15 West Virginia Amateur titles. Campbell was also a runner-up in both the U.S. Senior Open and British Amateur. He has been a member of eight Walker Cup teams, where he was undefeated in eight singles matches (7-0-1).

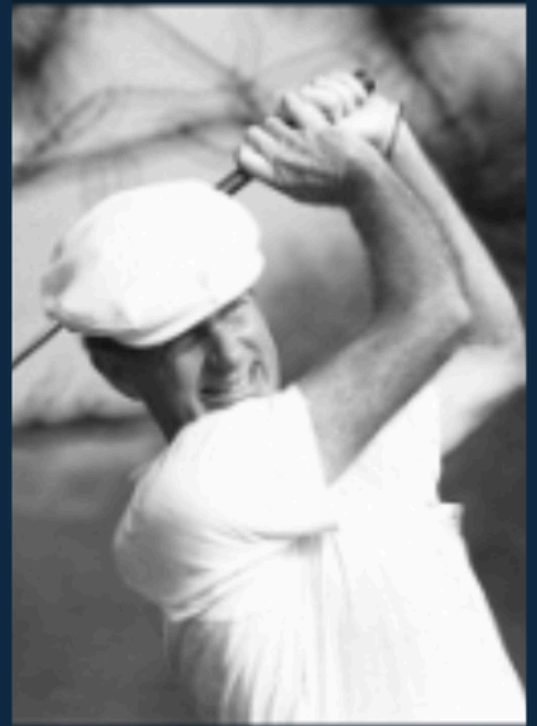
As an ambassador and volunteer to the game, Mr. Campbell was the only person to serve as both President of the United States Golf Association and Captain of the Royal & Ancient Club at St. Andrews, the two primary governing bodies of golf in the world.

In 1990, Campbell was inducted into the World Golf Hall of Fame; and in 2009, was inducted into the inaugural class of the West Virginia Golf Hall of Fame. Mr. Campbell passed away August 30, 2013 but his legend will not be forgotten. William C. Campbell Scholarships are awarded each year to graduating students based on their merit and involvement in the game of golf.

Funds for the Campbell Scholarship are generated by generous donors and through the annual William C. Campbell Classic.

The William C. Campbell Classic takes place on the Old White course at The Greenbrier Resort. We invite all golfers, with the initiative to support the scholarship, to register. All proceeds from the event go towards the William C. Campbell Scholarship.

Each year the West Virginia Golf Association, awards this scholarship based on the student's merit and exemplifies exceptional quality in their involvement, not only in the game of golf, but their community. The scholarship, named after Mr. Campbell, continues to live on through his legacy of what it means to be a true lady and gentleman.



[Learn More
and Donate Here](#)

2025 Scholarship
Recipient

**Cooper
Holland**

Hurricane, High School



8 PROGRAM LOCATIONS

- BECKLEY
- CHARLES TOWN
- CHARLESTON
- HEDGESVILLE
- LEWISBURG
- MORGANTOWN
- PARKERSBURG
- WHEELING



The focus of First Tee – West Virginia is to give young people, ages 5-18, of all backgrounds an opportunity to develop life-enhancing values such as honesty, integrity and sportsmanship through the game of golf.

These life values are taught through a variety of golf-related activities designed with the primary goal of having fun. Participants learn about themselves and others through a range of experiences enhancing their golf skills as well as their fundamental values for life. As their opportunities on the golf course expand, so do the opportunities for their futures.



ANNOUNCING A NEW PROGRAM LOCATION LATER THIS SEASON



SCHOOL PROGRAM

The First Tee School Program gives physical educators all of the tools to get started. We provide the training, equipment, and lesson plans that integrate life skills and values with the game of golf and motor skills.



This program aligns with national physical education standards developed by the Society of Health and Physical Educators (SHAPE) and is designed to allow physical educators the ability to adjust lessons to fit their specific teaching situations in terms of class size, time, and facility type.

27 NEW SCHOOLS ADDED IN 2025!

- Cabell County: 1
- Fayette County: 1
- Kanawha County: 1
- Lincoln County: 5
- Marion County: 1
- Putnam County: 2
- Raleigh County: 4
- Wood County: 12



7

ADDED IN 2026

FIRSTTEEWESTVIRGINIA.ORG



- Register your kids
- Become a Coach or Volunteer
- Get the program at your school
- Become a Sponsor
- Other ways to get involved

JEFF PREAST (304) 391-5000 | JPREAST@WVGA.ORG

LOOKING AHEAD

2026 Events

JUNE
1ST, 2026

BEYOND THE FAIRWAYS
STONEWALL RESORT

JUNE
22ND, 2026

FIRST TEE CLASSIC
EDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB

AUGUST
24TH, 2026

**MOUNTAIN DREAMS MEDIA
CHARITY GOLF CLASSIC**
BERRY HILLS COUNTRY CLUB

NEW

OCTOBER
2ND, 2026

"THE" BEN MCGRAW
GLADE SPRINGS - COBB COURSE

NOVEMBER
7TH, 2026

4TH ANNUAL PAR-TEE
EMBASSY SUITES

OFFICIAL SPIRIT SPONSOR

OF THE WEST VIRGINIA GOLF ASSOCIATION



Tito's
HANDMADE  VODKA



Scan for Recipes,
Merch & More!



Thank You!

2026 Sponsors



LAND ROVER
CHARLESTON



Roofing & Sheet Metal Company



AT&T



WEST VIRGINIA GOLF ASSOCIATION STAFF



Chris Slack
Executive Director



Danielle Monk
Director of Finance and
Administration



Jeff Preast
Executive Director, First Tee



Lucas Ware
Director of Junior Golf
and Core Services



Sarah Cole
Director of Women's Golf
and One-Day Events



Alyssa Scragg
Program Director, First Tee



WEST VIRGINIA GOLF ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE

President

Tim McNeely
Pete Dye Golf Club

Matt Grobe
Guyan Golf and Country Club

Vice President

Andrew Jordon
The Greenbrier Sporting Club

Brian McPherson
Parkersburg Country Club

Sam O'Dell
Sleepy Hollow Golf Club

Directors

Chris Brumley
Edgewood Country Club

Dave Pope
Edgewood County Club

Herman Deprospero
The Pines Country Club

Bart Willis
Logan Country Club

Raymond Downes
Locust Hill Golf Course

Sarah Yost
Fairmont Field Club