For Immediate Release
Durham, North Carolina
July 14, 2015

Tess Hackworthy shoots 69 to claim Medalist Title at WWGA Junior Championship

Although there were threats of storms in the area, play commenced and was concluded at the Women’s Western Golf Association’s 89th National Junior Championship at Hope Valley Country Club in Durham, North Carolina. Tess Hackworthy, a Madison, Wisconsin native who will enter the University of Wisconsin next month, was the Medalist while shooting a 3 under par 69 today. Yesterday she shot a 74 which gave her a two day total of 143. Emilia Migliaccio, Cary, North Carolina, was 2nd with a two day total of 145. Tied with a 2 day total of 146 were Haeley Wotnosky, Wake Forest, North Carolina, and Annika Bovender, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina.

Hackworthy is playing in this tournament for the third time. Last year she made the Championship Flight and lost in the Quarterfinals. Back in Wisconsin, she was the State Girls High School Champion earlier this year and was named the Girls High School Player of the Year in 2015. She has been named to the All State High School First Team for the last two years.

A playoff for the 32nd place in Championship Flight was necessary. Hannah Walker, Cumming, Georgia, parred the 10th hole to win the playoff. Alex Voight-Shelley, State College, Pennsylvania, and Morgan Brown, Lafayette, Indiana, both bogeyed the hole to take the top spots in First Flight. Voight-Shelley will turn 14 in August which makes her one of the youngest players in the Championship. She will enter 8th Grade this fall.

Tomorrow the tournament starts the Match Play portion. The low 32 players will compete for the title of Champion. Other players will play in subsequent flights based on their qualifying scores. Winners of tomorrow’s matches will advance in their flights while the losers in all matches will be placed in Consolation Flights. Those players who win their Thursday morning match will play a second round on Thursday afternoon. Weather permitting, 8 players in Championship Flight and Championship Consolation Flight will play Friday morning and the 4 winners will compete for the title of those Flights on Friday afternoon. The public is welcome to attend at no charge throughout the championship.

Along with the competition of naming a Champion on Friday, the WWGA offers some side events which were concluded on Tuesday. The Marion Miley Bracelet is awarded to the contestant who has the lowest combined total from the Qualifying Rounds of both the 115th National Amateur Tournament and the 89th National Junior Championship. The Amateur was held in June at Nashville, Golf & Athletic Club in Brentwood, Tennessee. This year’s Marion Miley winner is Annika Bovender of Mount Pleasant, South Carolina. Bovender has been the South Carolina High School 2A Player of the Year from 2012 to 2015. She won last year’s WWGA 88th National Junior Championship at Knollwood Country Club in Granger, Indiana, and will enter Furman University next month.
On Sunday, the Putting Contest was held. The field was divided into three classes based on the handicap indexes. The winner of Class A was Sarah Fite, Maysville, Kentucky; Class B winner was Gypsie Hutchinson, Lexington, Kentucky; and the Class C winner was Lauren Freyvogel, Gibsonia, Pennsylvania. On Monday, the Longest Drive Contest was held on the 11th hole. Emilia Migliaccio, Cary, North Carolina, won Class A; Lillian Klekner-Alt, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, won Class B; and Mackenzie McGrath, Franklin, Tennessee, won Class C.

For more information, please visit our website at www.WWGA.org.