

Three Players 1-under Par at Women's Western Amateur

ELMHURST, Ill. – Three players scored 1-under-par 71 on Monday in the first qualifying round of the 117th Women's Western National Amateur Championship at River Forest Country Club.

Sophia Schubert of Oak Ridge, Tenn., Hannah Kim of Chula Vista, Calif. and Emily White of Saline, Mich., scored the 71s in steamy conditions that reached 95 degrees with a matching heat index.

Schubert stated, "I started off well with a birdie on the first hole and had a double on the 6th hole. On the back, I birdied 10 and 11 and the rest of the holes were pars." She continued, "The course is in wonderful condition, I found the bunkers to be tough." Schubert will be a Senior at the University of Texas/Austin in the fall and although used to the heat, she said it can take its toll especially with the prevailing 12 to 15 mph winds during her round.

Through the 4th hole, Hannah Kim was even par then bogeyed the 5th followed up with a birdie on the 6th hole. On the back nine she birdied the 11th and parred in. Kim will be a senior at Northwestern majoring in Communications. The Wildcats finished second in the NCAA Championship recently held at Rich Harvest Farms in Sugar Grove, Ill.

Following the NCAA finals Kim said, "I didn't practice for 1-1/2 weeks and then had to fly back to California, then to Georgia for an Open qualifier and back to Evanston to study for finals."

"The course is playing great, the bunkers are fluffy with new sand," she added. After a couple rounds it will get easier. This course reminds me of the University of Miami course, Biltmore Golf Club with lots of doglegs and bunkers."

Six of the ten Northwestern Team are entered in the tournament. Asked how she felt if in match play she would meet up with a team member, she replied, "We are very supportive of each other!"

The third 71 of the day was shot by Emily White.

"I got off to a good start with a birdie on the first hole then an up and down on the 3rd, birdied the 5th and a bogey on the 8th for a 35 on the front," White said. "I bogeyed the 11th then made a 3-foot putt for birdie on the 12th. I bogeyed the 16th and made a 25-foot putt on the 18th. It was hot, but the heat didn't really bother me because there's so many shade trees and the breeze felt great. I only hit my driver once today because I have been having back issues."

White will be a senior at the University of Michigan majoring in Political Science. No stranger to the WWGA, she has played in three WWGA Junior tournaments and the 2012 and 2014 Amateur," she said. "I'm happy to be playing as this is one of my favorite tournaments."

Several players shot even par 72 including Jaclyn Lee, Calgary, Alberta, Canada; Mary Parsons who resides in Delta, British Columbia, Canada and Dylan Kim, Sachse, Tex.

"I had a solid round, made four birdies; the back nine I started struggling off the tee. This is a great, tough course, the fairways are narrow and if you get in the rough you can get penalized. The bunkers are well placed, overall it's a good test and challenge," Kim said.

After a 16-year absence from the Chicago area, the 117th Women's Western National Amateur Championship returns to the 91-year-old River Forest Country Club in Elmhurst, Ill. Players representing 24 states and 10 countries including Canada, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Mexico, Myanmar, New Zealand, Philippines and Thailand are entered in the tournament. The course is being played at 36-36-72, 6,310 yards.

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Tournament Format: Two-day stroke play qualifier beginning on Monday, June 12. Match Play will begin on Wednesday, June 14 with the low 64 qualifiers going into Championship Flight – all other players will be placed into Flights of 16. **Second Round Match Play Thursday, June 15** with **Third Round Match Play Thursday** afternoon for Championship Flight only. **Quarterfinals – Championship Flight Friday morning June 16;** all other Flights Semifinals. **Friday afternoon Championship Flight Semifinals;** all other Flights Finals. **Championship Final – 36 holes on Saturday, June 17.**

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