

# 2015 Jacksonville Junior Open

## Elite Tour Boys 13-15

In the Elite Tour Boys 13-15 Division the battle was between four players as Davis Lee, Patrick Tucker, Arden Brake and Charles Collings would all manage to shoot an under par nine during the course of play. Lee and Collings would top the field with three and four birdies apiece, respectively shooting 34, 35 to lead at the turn, but neither could make another on their final nine needing to manage the game to the very end. As they say "Mr. Par can be your friend".

On the final nine it was Brake (35) and Tucker (34) who would begin the push to the top as both would have two birdies on the nine. For Brake a lone bogey on the 11<sup>th</sup> would be the tale of the tape, but a birdie, birdie finish is a great way to end the round and what champions are made of.

When it was all said and done, two would stand alone tied for the lead and a sudden death would leave Lee wearing the Gold once again as he birdied the first play-off hole. Tucker would be our Runner-up and finishing in the third spot would be Collings who bogeyed three of the last four holes coming in.

## Elite Tour Boys 16-18

In the Boys 16-18 it was a battle between all eleven of the players in the field. It was anyone's victory to be achieved as the field was very evenly matched in talent and skill level. Jordan Dewitt shined at the end of his round with a much needed birdie on the par-5 16<sup>th</sup> hole to nip Andrew Roundtree who concurred three birdies on the front nine to take a three shot lead along with Jairus Perry, who opened his round with a bird, but couldn't coral another throughout the day.

On this day the back nine would prove the tougher as only a few managed to take on the challenge. One player was Will Radford who opened his front nine with 49, but turned things around with a 38 on the inward side. Great turn-around Will! In the end it would be Dewitt, Roundtree and Perry, 1-2 & 3.

## Rising Tour Girls 13-18

In the Girls 13-18 Division another great battle was heating up and the early fireworks were being displayed as the field of eleven girls knew they had to step up their game with Celeste Valinho of JGC&C joining the Summer Tour. Welcome back Celeste!

Starting on the back nine it would be Hailey D'Olimpio who would make the early charge to the front of the pack as she opened her nine with seven pars firing an opening nine 39. Following right behind would be the home field advantage of Celeste Valinho who would double her second hole of play (the 11<sup>th</sup>), but would bounce back to shoot a 40, just one back. Katherine Jakeway (41) would have a solid nine

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with the exception of hole #15 which resulted in a triple bogey and Sara McKevitt (41) would have a rough start with a double at the first hole of play, but come back with an impressive birdie on the second hole (11<sup>th</sup>).

Olivia Whitten would also have a rough start battling for control of her ball flight shooting a nine over par 45 to be well behind the field of leaders, but it would be the walk from the 18<sup>th</sup> green, past the scoring area with a look of "Look out now", to the walk through the tunnel to get to #1 tee. That time alone would be the time needed to refocus and the difference as an assault and battery on the JGC&C course was about to be unleashed and that she did, changing a sloppy and uncontrollable nine into a two under 34 back nine. Three birdies and a lone bogey on the final hole would catch the steady play of Jakeway and McKevitt and tie both for the lead when the round was complete. Double and triple bogey's would be the killer for D'Olimpio and Valinho, but spurts of great play would keep them in contention.

Three tied at the lead meant a three way tie to determine the champion, runner up and third place finisher. Going back to hole #9 allowed all the players and spectators to watch a great play-off unfold as all three players hit great drives and all hit the green on their approaches. McKevitt had the toughest as her ball rolled to the back of the green, just off the green, in the fringe with the flag near the front. A talent chip ran by the hole skirting the cup leaving an eight footer to tie the other two who already managed par, but it was not to be. Back to the tee went Jakeway and Whitten, while McKevitt ended her day, saying "I went for the win, I gave it my best and it wasn't meant to be".

While at the tee it was the same-same, right down the middle, right on the green, both would manage par again. With storms approaching the contest would be determined from the 150 yard marker. Jakeway would hit a great shot, but a release would take the ball to the back of the green while Whitten would stick it to 15 feet. Jakeway, with the long putt previously had by McKevitt would also have the same result with the tough putt to get close, bogeying the hole while Whitten lagged for the win with par. Great job Ladies!

## Rising Tour Boys 13-15

The Rising Tour Boys 13-15 Division saw 20 players take the challenge in the Jacksonville Open. These young up and comers are working hard on their games as some are nearing ready to make the move to the Elite Tour. Jason Duff one the strong contenders for moving soon to the Elite Tour took the early lead along with Nick Brumme with a pair of 40's followed by Nevyn Yang one back with 41. The back nine would be much of the same, managing to save par or stay away from the BIG number, but it was Eric Poehlman coming back from three strokes down to catch the leaders as he shot a steady 38 with a birdie on the 16<sup>th</sup> to catch Duff for a share of the lead at 81 each. Another play off ensued and Poehlman would come out on top as this week's Champion. Duff would finish in the Runner-up spot and Nick Brumme would round out the medal winners.

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## Boys 10-12

The Boys 10-12 Division would have a previous champion at the top. Lucas Slayden would open his round with a wonderful two over par 38 with bogey's on the tough 4th and the 8th holes. Two back with a nice birdie on the 8<sup>th</sup> was Charles Lonsdale and Alexander Lymus at 40 each. Andrew Davis and Derek Sanderson were right there three back the leaders with 41.

On the tighter backside Slayden would slip a little with a bogey, bogey, double making way for the field to catch up and that they did as Andrew Davis strung three straight pars to catch the leader, but it didn't take Slayden long to bounce back as he pared four of the next six holes to edge out Davis by two strokes. Charles Lonsdale would hang in there to take the Silver one shot ahead of hard charging Jackson Klauk.

## Foundation Girls

In the Foundation Girls we only had two in the field once again, but this duo is a competition in itself and they're liking the friendly rivalry and personal friendship. At the San Jose Classic it was Kylie Turner taking the Gold and Julia Wallace taking the Silver, but this week it would be a neck-to-neck finish and the roles would be reversed with Julia Wallace taking the Gold finishing one stroke ahead of Turner 47 to 48

## Foundation Boys

In our Foundation Boys Phillip Dunham continues to display his great play as he shot a very nice three over par 39. Jack Brophy who has been working on his game took the early lead with a fantastic birdie on his opening hole (the 10<sup>th</sup>) followed by a par on the 11<sup>th</sup>, but a quadruple bogey at the tough par-4 13<sup>th</sup> opened the lead for Dunham as he strung three straight pars and a great birdie on the eight hole of play (his 17<sup>th</sup>). Andrew Riley is back in the medal circle as he takes home the Silver.