

2026 STATE OPEN OF VIRGINIA



July 17-19



[Independence GC](#)



[Event home](#)



KEY FACTS

FORMAT: 54 holes of stroke play, with the field cut to the low 60 players and ties for Sunday's third and final round.

STARTING TIMES: From 7:30-9:30 a.m. and 12:30-2:30 p.m. off holes #1 and #10 Friday and Saturday. Starting at 7:30 a.m. off holes #1 and #10 on Sunday.

CLUB ADDRESS: 600 Founders Bridge Blvd., Midlothian, 23113

PHONE: (804) 601-8600

CLUB PERSONNEL: Giff Breed (president); Cal Williams (director of golf); Dan Taylor (director of agronomy); Megan Kidd (director of dining and events)

COURSE OPENED: 2001

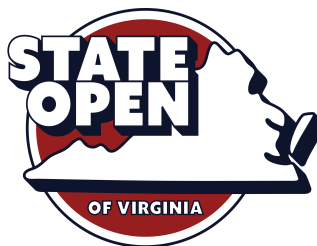
STATE OPENS HOSTED: 13 (2007-13; 2021-26)

ABOUT INDEPENDENCE

Simply put, Independence is synonymous with State Open golf in Virginia. The club is hosting its 13th State Open, was the site for three of the first four Women's Opens of Virginia, and has hosted the Senior Open of Virginia six times.

Opened in 2001 and renovated by Lester George in 2014, Independence is centrally located just west of Richmond and is regarded as one of the top daily-fee courses in Virginia. It also features a 9-hole short course, The Bear.

ABOUT THE STATE OPEN OF VIRGINIA



The State Open of Virginia is conducted jointly by the Virginia State Golf Association and Middle Atlantic PGA. and features a field of 144 players, split evenly between amateurs and professionals.

LIVE STREAMING FOR ROUNDS 2 & 3



The VSGA and Middle Atlantic PGA are proud to partner with Championship Golf Network (CGN) to provide live streaming of the second and third rounds. Join Taft Gantt (pxp) and Mike Morrone, PGA (color) for four hours of streaming coverage beginning at approximately 2:10 p.m. on Saturday and at 9:20 a.m. on Sunday.

Streaming links

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kuurzuj5E3s> (R2)

<https://www.youtube.com/live/zjm3M2b16gM> (R3)

Follow:

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Media Contact: Chris Lang, VSGA Communications

vsga.org | (804) 378-2300 (o) | (804) 489-6606 (c) | clang@vsga.org

RECENT WINNERS



2025: INDEPENDENCE GC

Larkin Gross (Center Cross)
63-64-67--194*

*-Independence State Open record



2024: INDEPENDENCE GC

a-Logan Reilly (Lovettsville)
65-69-67--201*

*won with birdie on 1st playoff hole



2023: INDEPENDENCE GC

Connor Burgess (Richmond)
70-67-66--203



2022: INDEPENDENCE GC

a-Nick Taliaferro (Midlothian)
65-66-72--203



2021: INDEPENDENCE GC

a-Evan Beck (Virginia Beach)
66-67-68--201



2020: BALLYHACK GC

a-Mark Lawrence Jr. (Richmond)
63-68-69--200



2019: BALLYHACK GC

a-Jack Montague (Manakin Sabot)
74-66-66--206*

*won with a par on 1st playoff hole



2018: BALLYHACK GC

Fielding Brewbaker (Salem)
69-67-68--204

FIELD NOTES

- Last year's State Open marked the second straight in which the winner posted all three rounds in the 60s. **Larkin Gross, PGA's** opening-round 63 tied the record for low first round in merged State Open history, matching **Mark Lawrence Jr.'s** first round in 2020. Lawrence's 63 came on a par 72 layout at Ballyhack, while Gross' came on a par 70 at Independence.
- Gross will open his title defense in a grouping with amateurs **Scott Shingler** and **Luca Rinaldi**. Shingler, a past VSGA Amateur winner, beat Rinaldi, last year's State Open low amateur, in the semifinals of June's VSGA Amateur at Bayville GC. Gross is vying to become the first back-to-back State Open winner since **Jay Woodson** won three straight from 2012-14.
- The only players who finished inside the top 10 (and ties) last year not playing in this year's event are professionals **Justin LaRue** and **Ross Funderburke**.
- Lawrence has made four starts and one cut on PGA Tour Americas this season, with the highlight coming in the second round of a May event in Ecuador when he aced the par-3 2nd hole.
- Five professionals are playing in the State Open after playing in this week's G Pro Tour event at Pete Dye River Course of Virginia Tech: Lawrence, **Charlie Hanson**, **Bryce Corbett**, **David Zhang**, and **Connor Burgess**.
- Of the top five in the current MAPGA Rolex Player of the Year standings, three are in the field – No. 1 **Steven Delmar, PGA**, No. 3 **Josh Speight, PGA**, and No. 5 **Billy Hoffman, PGA**. The top four players in the MAPGA Assistant Player of the Year standings are competing: **Josh Apple, PGA**, Gross, **Jon Moles**, and **Yong Joo, PGA**.
- Two VSGA member clubs are each represented by four players in the field. **Brandon Ramsuer**, **Drew Brockwell**, **Travis Lodge** and **Mark Ernst, PGA**, represent Richmond's Lakeside Park Club. Great Falls' River Bend Club is represented by amateur **Colton Rodgers** (the 2025 VSGA Junior Stroke Play champion) and professionals **Moles**, **Kaylor Steger**, and **Andy Bonn, PGA**.
- Dick Mast, PGA**, is back in the field and is the oldest player competing, having turned 75 in March. The youngest player in the field is Lynchburg's **Matthew Stephens**, who turned 15 in January. Mast's son **Jacob Mast, PGA** is also playing, making them the only father-son duo in the field.
- Two-time State Open winner **Roger Newsom** is back in the field at age 62. He was part of the winning side at this year's VSGA Senior Four-Ball Championship.

INDEPENDENCE GC SCORECARD

Hole	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	OUT
Par	4	4	4	5	4	4	3	4	3	35
Yards	460	450	415	585	390	400	195	480	160	3535
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	IN	TOT
4	3	4	4	3	4	4	5	4	35	70
350	155	375	440	180	360	460	625	465	3410	6945

Yardages are tentative and subject to change by the committee.

PAST CHAMPIONS IN FIELD

Larkin Gross (2025)
 Connor Burgess (2023)
 Nick Taliaferro (2022)*
 Mark Lawrence Jr. (2020)**
 Jay Woodson (2012, 2013, 2014, 2016)
 Roger Newsom (2008, 2011)*
 Ted Brown (2005)

*-won as an amateur

**-won as an amateur, now professional