

2016 Forest Park Stroke Play Results

Ben Shields, from Timonium and Pine Ridge Golf Course, overcame an opening-hole bogey by scattering six birdies the rest of the way to finish 34-32--66, good for a three-stroke victory in the second annual Baltimore Municipal Golf Corporation stroke-play tournament at Forest Park Golf Course on July 30th.

Billy Wingerd, who had six birdies also, but was undone by four bogeys, finished second with 36-33-69, trailed by Brendan McKinney, 37-36--73 in the 23-player field. The 5,815-yard course was played at a par of 35-36--71.

Shields, who honed his golf game in the BMGC Junior program, winning two match-play events along the way, three-putted the first hole but bounced right back with a birdie from the fringe at the second. He turned 1-over, but among his back-nine birdies were two where he got up-and-down from green-side bunkers.

A University of Virginia graduate currently working in finance, Shields' best effort this season -- really his first at this level of competition on the local scene -- saw him claim one of the two places available in the match-play draw of the Maryland State Golf Association Amateur at the Elkridge Club. It came out of a 13-man playoff and his reward was a first-round meeting with medalist Dan Falls, whom he took to the 18th green before Falls won, 1 up. Shields had qualified for the event with a 75 at Hobbit's Glen GC.

Jim Winner, from Churchville and Mountain Branch GC, won the Senior championship, running in three birdie putts in the last 10 holes to end 36-34--70.

The other winners were Jonathan Huddleston (low gross), 81, and Ron Brown (low net), 71, in the First Flight, and Jim Dunn (low gross), 82, and David Thomas (low net), 72, in the Senior Division's First Flight.