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# Notable moments in 100-year history of Bay County Golf Championship

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Scott DeWyse hits his drive on No. 6 during the 88th Bay County Golf Championship in 2012. The Bay City Times



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**HAMPTON TOWNSHIP, MI** -- Hitting the 100 mark isn't often celebrated in golf.

But in the case of the Bay County Golf Championship, it's an impressive number.

When more than 150 golfers hit the links of Bay County Golf Course this weekend, they will be part of the 100th playing of the tradition-rich event.

The tourney began in 1922 as the City Championship and was played at Bay City Country Club or Euclid Municipal Course through 1964. The tourney went on hiatus from 1965-67 before returning as the Bay County Championship in 1968.

To commemorate the 100th edition, we take a look back at some of the notable moments from a century worth of competition.

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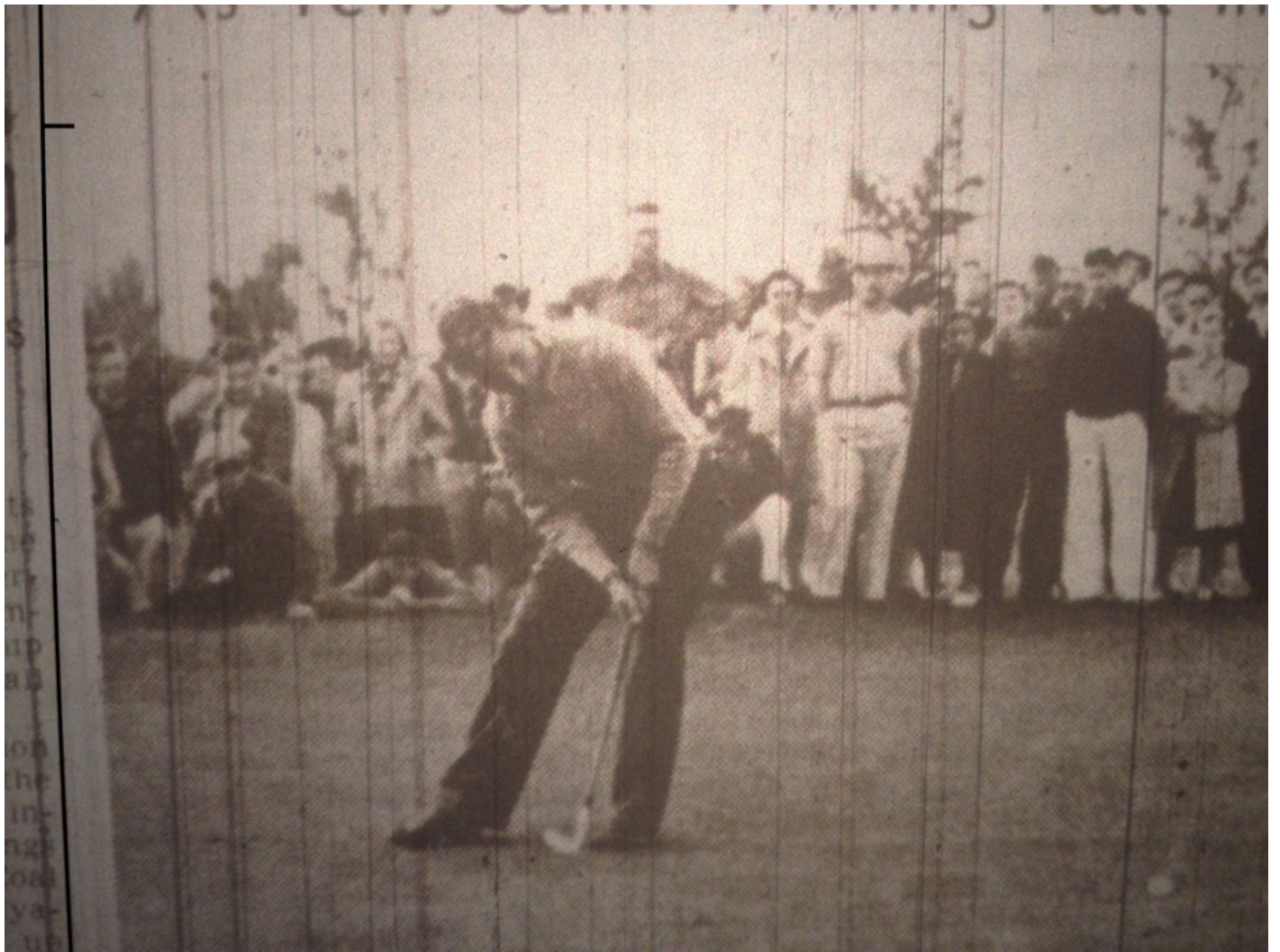


Emmett Kelly, center, won the first City Golf Championship in 1922. (Provided by Tim Kelly)

**\*1922:** [Emmett Kelly](#) defeats Fred Johnson 1-up in a 19-hole finale to win the first City Championship in an “exciting and interesting match that has not been equaled in some time on the local links,” according to The Bay City Times.

**\*1924:** Wendell “Dude” Evans becomes the first player to win multiple titles, going back-to-back in 1923 and 1924 with wins over Fred Johnson in both title matches. Johnson is runner-up in the first three City Championships. He never wins a title.

**\*1925:** Eugene Hand defeats Charlie Porter for the first of his four consecutive titles. He stands as the area’s premier player while winning seven championships from 1925-37.



John Tews rolls in a putt to win the 1938 City Championship, now known as the Bay County Championship, his first of a record 12 titles. MLive.com

**\*1938:** At age 17, John Tews edges Elsun Hedges 1-up to win his first crown. Tews goes on to record 12 championships over the span of 27 years.

**\*1942:** John Tews wins his third straight title -- and fourth in five years -- with a three-round tally of 218 in the first championship that is played by medal format. The format would fluctuate from medal play to match play until 1971, when it permanently went to two rounds of medal play.

**\*1945:** At the age of 51, Sam Young wins by five strokes over Leonard Halub, becoming what is believed to be the oldest champion in tournament history.

**\*1948:** Harry Halub wins his first of five championships and begins an era of great battles with his good friend John Tews. From 1946-64, they combine to post 13 first-place finishes and seven runner-up finishes. They square off in the championship match five times.



Carl Herber hits a shot en route to the title at the 1970 Bay County Golf Championship. Bay City Times file

**\*1960:** Carl Herber defeats John Tews 5-and-4 in the title match and joins Fred “Chick” Herber as the first brother combo to win championships. That feat would later be matched by Scott and Doug Anderson and Justin and Jason Holyszko.

**\*1964:** On the final day of operation for Euclid Municipal Golf Course, John Tews wins the last of his record 12 championships. There would be no City or Bay County Championship for the next three years. Perhaps fittingly, Jerry Snable wins the boys 14-and-under title in the final tourney played at Euclid Municipal then captures the men’s title in the first tourney played at Bay County Golf Course in 1968.



Jerry Snable wins his second Bay County Golf Championship title in 1971 and is presented with a trophy by tournament director Frank Walsh. Times file photo

**\*1968:** A new era dawns with the Bay County Championship coming to the new Bay County Golf Course. Jerry Snable appropriately christens it with the first of his 11 victories.

**\*1970:** Carl Herber defeats Bill Ott 3-and-2 for the second of his three career championships. He is the only player to win in the City Championship era and the Bay County Championship era.



Tom Rezler hits a shot during his title run in the 1980 Bay County Golf Championship. Times file photo

**\*1974:** Tom Rezler outlasts Tim Tobin in a playoff to bring home his first championship. Rezler would go on to match his uncle Harry Halub with five career titles and add six runner-up finishes. Rezler plays in the Championship Flight of the tourney for 52 consecutive years from 1968-2019.

**\*1979:** A state champion at Bay City Central and a standout at the University of Michigan, Pete Pafford returns to the forefront of the local scene with his first of five championships. He wins all five in the span of nine years.

**\*1992:** Jerry Snable has long been regarded as one of the area's elite players, but his legend is about to grow exponentially. He rattles off a record seven consecutive titles from 1992-98 and bumps his career haul to 11 championships, one shy of the record of John

Tews.

**\*1999:** Doug Anderson finally brings the Snable reign to an end, firing a two-round total of 139 to win his first championship – 30 years after his brother Scott accomplishes the feat.



Mike Wenglikowski sends the ball and his tee flying en route to victory at the Bay County Golf Championship. THE BAY CITY TIMES

**\*2000:** Mike Wenglikowski emerges as a surprise winner, kicking off a new era of young champions in the tournament. Eight straight winners would be in their 20s and it wouldn't be until 2020 when a player won in his 40s.

**\*2007:** Mike Wenglikowski is on the cusp of his fourth title in seven years. Instead, the next great champion hoists his first trophy as [Justin Holyszko](#) tops Wenglikowski in a playoff. Holyszko would go on to claim eight championships, trailing only John Tews and Jerry Snable on the all-time list.

**\*2016:** [Scott DeWyse](#) halts Justin Holyszko's run of four consecutive titles, edging him by a single stroke to win his first championship. DeWyse joins Alan Schafer as the only players in the Bay County Championship era to work their way up from First Flight



champion to Championship Flight winner.



Scott Miller shot a tourney-record 66 in the Bay County Golf Championship. The Saginaw News

**\*2018:** Scott Miller, who shot a record 66 in the opening round of the 2007 tourney, gets his first title 11 years later and becomes the first married man to win the championship in 19 years. He also makes “Scott” the most common championship name, joining Scott Anderson and Scott DeWyse in the winner’s circle.

**\*2020:** More than 20 years after he last competed in the event, former course professional – and tournament director – Brent Goik regains his amateur status and wins his first championship. Goik goes on to win three times in four years and comes into this year’s event as defending champion.

**\*2024:** The 100th playing of the Bay County Championship awaits.

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