



▶ Parziale made the most of his brief time on the 2009 amateur golf circuit.

2009 Richard D. Haskell MGA Player of the Year

Matt Parziale

▶ Weeks after Matt Parziale (Thorny Lea GC) capped off his All-American collegiate career at Southeastern University (FL), the 22-year-old returned home and dominated the local amateur scene en route to capturing the 2009 Richard D. Haskell MGA Player of the Year honor. Collecting a total of 832 points in just three months as he made the decision to enter the professional ranks at the end of July, Parziale finished 121 points ahead of second-place competitor and nine-time MGA Player of the Year Frank Vana, Jr. (Marlborough CC). In the 2009 MGA State Open at Belmont Country Club, Parziale posted a final round, day-low score of 3-under par 68 to jump from a tie for 8th place into 2nd place overall; he thus earned the low amateur honor against a field of the region's top amateur and professional players. The following week, he advanced to the quarterfinals of the prestigious Men's North & South Amateur contested at Pinehurst No. 2 (NC). Though he then made a surprisingly early exit in the first round of match play at the MGA State Amateur, just one week later he posted a three-day score of 5-under par 283 to capture the 2009 New England Amateur by a comfortable margin of victory of three strokes; it marked the first time in four years that a Bay State golfer won the regional title. Parziale capped off his amateur career in late July by fending off a charging Vana for a one-stroke victory in the Oumet Memorial. Just days after accepting that trophy, he packed his bags and headed south to try his hot hand at a professional golf career.

2009 George M. Cohen MGA Senior Player of the Year

Bob Linn

▶ The 55-year-old Linn (Berkshire Hills CC) advanced – in his first year of senior amateur eligibility – to the second round of match play in the U.S. Senior Amateur at Beverly CC (IL). Later that month, he won the 2009 New England Senior Amateur at Wyantenuck CC – by a margin of victory of three strokes – on the strength of a second round score of even par 70.



▲ Linn

2009 Christopher Cutler Rich MGA Junior Player of the Year

Nick McLaughlin

▶ In the 2009 MGA State Junior at Framingham CC, a then 15-year-old McLaughlin (Far Corner GC) recorded a three-day, 6-over par score of 222 to become just the third Pre-Junior Division player to capture the overall title. The sophomore at St. John's Prep in Danvers, now 16, also shot even par 72 to win the Division 1 individual state golf championship at the GC at Turner Hill.



▲ McLaughlin

MGA Evening of Champions

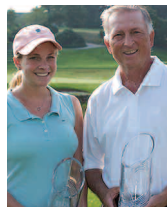
Parziale, Linn and McLaughlin – and all of the 2009 MGA Champions – will be honored at the MGA's Annual Salute to Champions Dinner, which will be held on Thursday, January 7 at Wellesley Country Club. Visit www.MGALinks.org for complete 2009 results, including final point standings in all three MGA Player of the Year categories.



▲ Robert (left) and David Currey



▲ Riley



▲ Meredith and Ken Kotowski



▲ Ruschioni (left) and Nunez



▲ Higgins



▲ Linn



▲ Murphy

MGA Father & Son AUGUST 4-5

Segregansett CC		Par 72
1. *Robert Currey	Brae Burn CC	71
*David Currey	Brae Burn CC	
Jim Ruschioni	Monoosnock CC	71
Jay Ruschioni	Monoosnock CC	
3. Anthony Dilisio	Salem CC	72
Dana Dilisio	Salem CC	
Brian Higgins	Franklin CC	72
Patrick Higgins	Franklin CC	
Michael Holbrook	Ferncroft CC	72
Jim Holbrook	Ferncroft CC	
Joseph Hayes	New Sandy Burr CC	72
Connor Hayes	MGA Links at Mamantapett	

* won in playoff

MGA Public Links AUGUST 10-11

Franconia GC		Par 71-71-142
1. Ryan Riley	Norton CC	66-63-129
2. Bobby Loguidice	Franconia GC	69-64-133
3. Francis Gearty	Franconia GC	69-66-135
4. Nicholas Clarke	Bay Pointe CC	68-68-136
5. Bill Drohen	Bradford CC	70-67-137

MGA Father & Daughter AUG 24

Willowbend GC		Par 70
1. Ken Kotowski	The Kittansett Club	69
Meredith Kotowski	The Kittansett Club	
2. Mark Savel	Nashawtuc CC	70
Andie Savel	Nashawtuc CC	
John Mulcahy	Hatherly CC	70
Mary Mulcahy	Hatherly CC	

MGA State Senior Four-Ball

SEPTEMBER 8-9

Bay Club at Mattapoisset, Allendale CC

Par 71-72-143	
1. *Jim Ruschioni	Monoosnock CC 69-70-139
*Paul Nunez	Ludlow CC
2. Steve Bell	Charles River CC 69-70-139
Mike Fitzgerald	Nashawtuc CC
Bruce Carter	Ponkapoag GC 69-70-139
Joe Keller	Oyster Harbors Club

* won in playoff

MGA State Mid-Amateur

SEPTEMBER 15-17

Haverhill CC		Par 70-70-210
1. Brian Higgins	Franklin CC	66-65-65-196
2. Philip Smith	Vesper CC	71-67-70-208
3. Phil Miceli	Sagamore Spring GC	72-73-65-210
Cy Kilgore	Tedesco CC	68-71-71-210
5. Steven Tasho	Thorny Lea GC	69-72-70-211
Joe Walker	Dennis Pines GC	69-72-70-211
7. John Hedges	Thorny Lea GC	70-72-71-213
Ryan Riley	Norton CC	67-74-72-213
9. Joe Cunningham	The Country Club	71-73-70-214
Andy Drohen	Crestview CC	68-74-72-214

Richard D. Haskell
MGA Player of the Year
Point Rankings

2009 Final Standings

RANK	PLAYER	CLUB	TOTAL POINTS
1.	Matt Parziale	Thorny Lea GC	832
2.	Frank Vana, Jr.	Marlborough CC	711
3.	Brian Higgins	Franklin CC	598
4.	Bill Drohen	Bradford CC	405
5.	Ryan Riley	Norton CC	380
6.	John Hedges	Thorny Lea GC	373
7.	Taylor Fontaine	Pleasant Valley CC	293
8.	Ben Spitz	The Harmon Club	280
9.	Kevin Velardo	CC of Billerica	267
10.	Peter Uihlein	Bay Club at Mattapoisset	250
11.	Mike Calef	Brockton CC	240
12.	Steve Tasho	Thorny Lea GC	226
13.	Tony Grillo	Farm Neck GC	221
14.	Brandon Parker	Blackstone National GC	210
15.	Kevin Carey	Dennis Pines GC	208
16.	Chad Bouchard	Sterling National CC	206
17.	Doug Clapp	Old Sandwich GC	200
	Scott Congdon	Foxboro CC	200
	Bradley Kushner	Club at New Seabury	200
20.	John Gilmartin	Indian Ridge CC	181
21.	Brian Cawley	The Georgetown Club	167
22.	Phil Smith	Vesper CC	165
23.	Brian Secia	Miacomet GC	155
24.	Kevin Quinn	Charles River CC	153
25.	Benjamin Bridgeo	Cohasse CC	150

New England Senior

SEPTEMBER 21-23

Wyantenuck CC		Par 72-72-144
1. Bob Linn	Berkshire Hills CC	72-70-142
2. Larry Bolduc	Long Hill GC (CT)	76-69-145
	David Szewczul	Tunxis Plantation CC (CT) 71-74-145
4. Paul Nunez	Ludlow CC	75-71-146
Andy Congdon	Wyantenuck CC	73-73-146

MGA State Senior

SEPTEMBER 29-30

Salem CC		Par 72-72-144
1. Paul Murphy	Charles River CC	73-73-146
2. Mike Cole	Larry Gannon Muni. GC	75-72-147
3. Paul Couture	Pleasant Valley CC	76-72-148
Bob Linn	Berkshire Hills CC	76-72-148
Donald Foberg	CC of Greenfield	74-74-148
Joseph Keller	Oyster Harbors Club	74-74-148
Rick Marcos	Segregansett CC	71-77-148
8. Jack Weeks	Wollaston GC	79-70-149
Dick King	Olde Barnstable GC	77-72-149
Tom Bergeron	Crumpin-Fox Club	76-73-149
Herschel McDunnah	Oak Ridge GC	76-73-149
Carter Fasick	Indian Meadows GC	74-75-149

2009 USGA State Team

In the 2009 USGA State Team Championships, the MGA's Team Massachusetts – **John Hedges, Brian Higgins** and **Frank Vana, Jr.** – finished in a tie for sixth place at The Lewis and Clark Course at the CC of St. Albans in St. Louis (MO); the WGAM's Team Massachusetts – **Tara Joy Connelly, Chelsea Curtis** and **Pam Kuong** – finished in 16th place at Sycamore Hills GC (IN). The events feature three days of stroke play against a field of 51 three-person teams representing 50 states and the District of Columbia.

TEAM MASSACHUSETTS MEN

The Country Club of St. Albans (Lewis and Clark Course)

St. Albans (MO) Par 72-432

TEAM RESULTS: 141-144-143-428

INDIVIDUAL:

Frank Vana, Jr.	75-70-70-215
Brian Higgins	69-74-75-218
John Hedges	72-78-73-223

TEAM MASSACHUSETTS WOMEN

Sycamore Hills Golf Club (IN) Par 72-432

TEAM RESULTS: 160-160-152-472

INDIVIDUAL:

Chelsea Curtis	79-82-74-235
Pam Kuong	81-81-82-244
Tara Joy Connelly	92-79-78-249

2009 Tri-State Matches

Pleasant Valley CC October 8-9 Par 70

Team Massachusetts captured its record sixth-straight Tri-State Team Matches by collecting a total of 71½ points to defeat Connecticut by 18½ points and Rhode Island by 34 points at Pleasant Valley Country Club. The Bay State contingent became the first team to claim six straight titles since the event's inception in 1928. The first victory of this streak in 2004 halted a six-year drought for Massachusetts. **Frank Vana, Jr.** making a record 16th appearance at this event, led all competitors this year with 11½ points.



▲ 2009 TRI-STATE TEAM MASSACHUSETTS

SEATED FROM LEFT: Brian Higgins, Ryan Riley, John Hedges, Harry McCracken and Bob Linn.

STANDING FROM LEFT: Ben Spitz, John Gilmartin, Kevin Velardo, Mike Cole, Mike Calef, Dick Osborn (captain), Paul Murphy, Frank Vana, Jr., and Paul Nunez.

Tara Joy Connelly is
Awarded the 2009
WGAM Player of the Year

▶ Tara Joy Connelly of Cohasset GC has been named the winner of the WGAM Player of the Year Award for the fifth straight year. The selection process is based upon points issued for performances in WGAM events,



USGA events and certain regional and national competitions. In June, she finished 3rd in the WGAM Baker Trophy at GC of Cape Cod; in July, she was a finalist in the WGAM State Amateur at Vesper CC; in August, she finished 3rd in the WGAM Grace Keyes Cup at Renaissance GC, won the Massachusetts Women's Open at LeBaron Hills CC and was co-medalist in the U.S. Women's Mid-Amateur sectional qualifying at The Kittansett Club... she then advanced to the round of 64 at Golden Hills GC (FL). In September, she won the WGAM Endicott Cup.

Anne Marie Tobin
WGAM Player of the Year
Point Rankings

2009 Final Standings

RANK	PLAYER	CLUB	TOTAL POINTS
1.	Tara Joy Connelly	Cohasset GC	1620
2.	Mary Chamberlain	Cummaquid GC	1070
3.	Chelsea Curtis	Club at New Seabury	890
4.	Wallace Hamerton	Olde Barnstable GC	850
5.	Brittany Altomare	Mount Pleasant CC	742.5
6.	Sarah Whitney	The Harmon Club	592.5
7.	Claire Sheldon	The Country Club	485
8.	Kristen MacDonald	Thomson CC	461.25
9.	Pam Kuong	Charles River CC	385
10.	Joanne Catlin	Gardner Muni. GC	352.5
11.	Isabel Southard	Blue Hill CC	327.5
12.	Lisa Anderson	Ferncroft CC	315
13.	Annette Gaiotti	Olde Barnstable GC	275
14.	Anne Fraser	Larry Gannon Muni. GC	272.5
15.	Kerri Connolly	Indian Pond CC	245
16.	Marion Webster	The Kittansett Club	235
17.	Mary Mulcahy	Hatherly CC	185
18.	Kristen Lilly	Cohasset GC	175
19.	Victoria Kidder	Olde Barnstable GC	170
	Marion Mcdnerney	New England CC	170
21.	Tracy Martin	Fresh Pond GC	165
	Amanda McPhee	Woburn CC	165
23.	Jenny Ceppi	Bass Rocks GC	160
24.	Mary Gale	Bedrock GC	156.25
25.	Tracy Welch	Winchester CC	155

Golf is, in part, a game; but only in part. It is also, in part, a religion, a fever, a vice, a mirage, a frenzy, a fear, an abscess, a joy, a thrill, a pest, a disease, an uplift, a brooding, a melancholy, a dream of yesterday and a hope for tomorrow."

—New York Tribune (1916)

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photos (l-r): Arthur Miller, David Esbjornson, Lydia R. Diamond, Kenny Leon,
Gina Gionfriddo, Peter DuBois, Craig Lucas



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Those Are The RULES A Draining Situation

DITCHING IT Our Fall Issue posed the question: "It has been a rainy summer season and many players encountered interesting rules situations. At a club event, a player's ball landed in an unmarked drainage ditch that contained more water than usual. That situation prompted a question... what are the options for a player whose ball lands in an unmarked drainage ditch either containing water or not?"

According to Rule 26, your options are as follows:

- a. Play a ball as nearly as possible at the spot from which the original ball was last played;
- b. Drop a ball behind the water hazard, keeping the point at which the original ball last crossed the margin of the water hazard directly between the hole and the spot on which the ball is dropped, with no limit to how far behind the water hazard the ball may be dropped;
- c. As additional options available only if the ball last crossed the margin of a lateral water hazard, drop a ball outside the water hazard within two club-lengths of and not nearer the hole than (i) the point where the original ball last crossed the margin of the water hazard or (ii) a point on the opposite margin of the water hazard equidistant from the hole.

It is the responsibility of the Committee to define accurately the margins of water hazards and lateral water hazards [Rule 33-2a]. However – if the Committee has not done so, the ditch is, by definition, either a water hazard or a lateral water hazard.

Know The Rules

Q: A player takes a drop from an unplayable lie in accordance with Rule 28c (two club lengths) for a ball that is lying up against a large tree root. When the dropped ball strikes the ground, it rolls back into the same unplayable position. How must the player proceed?

"Golf... is the infallible test. The man who can go into a patch of rough alone, with the knowledge that only God is watching him, and play his ball where it lies, is the man who will serve you faithfully and well."

—P.G. Wodehouse