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## NGA, NWAGA to Co-Present Women's Championships

### *Partnership includes Amateur, Match Play*

OMAHA (April 9, 2018) – The Nebraska Golf Association and the Nebraska Women's Amateur Golf Association today announced an extension of their partnership to co-present the state's two premier women's championships, beginning in 2018.

The two championships have been renamed the Nebraska Women's Amateur Championship and the Nebraska Women's Match Play Championship. In an effort to uphold the traditions of these championships and grow participation, the NGA and NWAGA will be co-presenters and the NGA will contribute its resources to conduct the events at the same level as its 10 other state championships.

The Nebraska Women's Amateur Championship is a 54-hole stroke play event that began in 1975 under the name of Women's State Medal Golf Tournament. Omaha's Susan Marchese owns the record books of the championship, winning an incredible 11 titles. This year, the 44th Nebraska Women's Amateur Championship will be conducted at Beatrice Country Club, June 18-20. It will be the fourth time hosting for Beatrice Country Club, and the first since 2011, when Papillion's Kayla Knopik (now Kayla Barnes) won her first of two titles. Wahoo's Haley Thiele is the defending champion after winning last year at Wild Horse Golf Club in Gothenburg. Entries open May 1 at 8 a.m. CDT, and close on June 8 at 5 p.m. CDT.

The Nebraska Women's Match Play Championship features an 18-hole Stroke Play Qualifier followed by a cut to the low 16 players for the Championship Match Play Bracket. This was the first women's championship in Nebraska, and is the second oldest state championship to the Nebraska Amateur, which started in 1905. The inaugural championship was conducted in 1916 at The Field Club of Omaha, and Lincoln's Louise Pound won the title. Marchese also holds the most Match Play titles, winning eight, the first in 1982 and the last in 2010. The 95th Nebraska Women's Match Play Championship will be conducted at Yankee Hill Country Club in Lincoln on July 23-25. Entries open June 1 at 8 a.m. CDT and close on July 13 at 5 p.m. CDT.

These championships are open to any female amateur golfers who reside in Nebraska and are a member of NWAGA. Golfers who currently attend college in Nebraska are also eligible to compete, as well as those who graduated from a Nebraska high school and currently attend college in another state.

For more information on these championships, visit the Competitions section of the NGA website here: <http://nebgolf.org/competitions.html> or the NWAGA website here: <http://nwaga.org/competitions.html>.

#### **About the NGA**

The Nebraska Golf Association, founded in 1966, is comprised of all members of public and private clubs and/or municipal or regional golf associations which utilize an approved handicap service recognized by the USGA and provided by the NGA. Our mission is to uphold and promote the game of golf and its values to all golfers in Nebraska. Among the duties of the Association include governance of member clubs and service as their handicapping and course rating authority, conduct of state golf championships, local USGA qualifying & other notable competitions, promotion of junior golf, presentation of worthwhile educational programs and support of allied golf organizations in Nebraska. The Nebraska Golf Association is an Allied Golf Association of the USGA and carries out core services including Handicap Administration and Oversight, Course Rating, Rules of Golf and Rules of Amateur Status, Tournaments and USGA Championship Qualifiers and USGA Initiatives and Community Programs.

#### **About the NWAGA**

The Nebraska Women's Amateur Golf Association, founded in 1973, is an organization of golf clubs and individuals governed by amateur women golfers and formed for the purpose of promoting and conserving the best interests and true spirit of the game of golf for all women in the State of Nebraska. As NWAGA members, your participation and support is integral to NWAGA's success and will continue to enliven our efforts.

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