

Governor's Games

Golf Tournament
A Notah Begay Qualifier

Beaver Creek Golf Club
Zachary, La



Robinson Holds On to Win at Rain-Soaked USSSA Governor's Games

by Ian Auzenne

ZACHARY, La.—The 2023-24 season of the Louisiana USSSA Junior Golf Tour came to a soggy end last weekend, as torrential rains fell on the Beaver Creek Golf Club during both days of the USSSA Governor's Games State Championships presented by All Star Automotive Group.

That rain forced the tournament to end prematurely.

The competitors, all of whom were vying for a spot at the Notah Begay III Junior Golf Regional Championships, played only nine holes on Sunday before Mother Nature forced tournament organizers to halt play.

The weather may have also halted a comeback attempt in the final round.

Benjamin Robinson, of Opelousas, won the Boys 15-18 tournament with a one-over 109, besting Tyler Zimmerman, of Youngsville, and Michael Parmley, of DeRidder, by two strokes to win the Boys 15-18 state championship.

Robinson led the field after the first round, posting an even 72 on the first 18 holes. Zimmerman started the second round in the middle of the leaderboard at +4.

He carded two birdies in the front nine of the second round to pull within two strokes of the lead. However, the horn sounded just as Zimmerman found his momentum, cutting short his rally.

Parmley, who entered the final round in a three-way tie for second place shot an even 36 in round two to maintain a share of the runner-up position, holding off fourth-place finisher Gavin McDermott, of Harvey, by one stroke and fifth-place finisher Samuel Arnaud, of Lafayette, by two strokes.

Madden Baughman made his season debut on the Louisiana USSSA Tour at the Governor's Games and claimed his first Louisiana USSSA championship in the process.

Baughman, of Poplarville, Mississippi, shot a one-over 109 to win the Boys 12-14 state title. Like Robinson, Baughman posted an even-par 72 in the first round. Hunter Walker, of Natchitoches, shot a six-over 114 to claim second place, finishing one stroke better than third-place recipient Hayden Patin, of Abbeville.

Gracie Evans, of Lake Charles, won the Girls 15-18 state championship by shooting a 132. Amelie Dardenne, of Plaquemine, finished in a distant second place by shooting at 173. Emily Engolio, also of Plaquemine, took third place by shooting a 217.

The competitors in the Boys and Girls 9-11 competitions completed their full tournaments, as those events consisted of only 18 holes.

Aidan Caruso, of New Orleans, won the Boys 9-11 state championship

by shooting a six-over 78. Samuel Parmley, of DeRidder, claimed runner-up honors with a total of 89. William Thompson, of Lafayette, finished in third place with a total of 102.

Marcella Rabalais won the Girls 9-11 state title by shooting an 81.

Each division winner—Robinson, Baughman, Caruso, Evans, and Rabalais—have qualified to compete in the Notah Begay III Junior Golf Regionals at Dancing Rabbit Golf Club in Philadelphia, Mississippi, on September 7 and 8.

The winners at the regional tournament will compete at the Notah Begay III Junior Golf National Championships at the Kosati Pines at Coushatta course in Kinder.

The Louisiana USSSA Junior Golf Tour's 2024-25 season begins on Sunday, August 18 at Cane Row Golf and Turf Club in New Iberia with the 2024 Back 2 School Tournament.

Registration for the Back 2 School is open now and until August 14 at ussagolf.com.



**Boys 15-18 Winners (L-R) Michael Parmley, 3rd Place, DeRidder LA;
Benjamin Robinson, CHAMPION, Opelousas, LA;
Tyler Zimmerman, 2nd Place, Lafayette, LA**



**Boys 12-14 Winners (L-R) Hayden Patin, 3rd Place, Abbeville, LA
Madden Baughman, CHAMPION, Poplarville, MS;
Hunter Walker, 2nd Place, Natchitoches, LA**



**Boys 9-11 Winners (L-R) Aidan Caruso, CHAMPION, New Orleans, LA;
Samuel Parmley, 2nd Place, DeRidder, LA
William Thompson, 3rd Place, Lafayette, LA.**



**Girls 15-18 Winners: (L-R) Gracie Evans, CHAMPION, Lake Charles, LA;
Amelie Dardenne, 2nd Place, Plaquemine, LA**



Girls 9-11 CHAMPION, Marcella Rabalais, Baton Rouge, LA

NEXT EVENT

BACK 2 SCHOOL 24

Sunday, August 18

Cane Row G&TC

New Iberia

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