

**NORTHEAST
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INVITATIONAL GOLF
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IN THE NEWS

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58th NORTHEAST AMATEUR INVITATIONAL SET TO CROWN A NEW CHAMPION

RUMFORD, R.I. – Welcome to the 58th Northeast Amateur Invitational golf tournament. This year's event will take place from June 19-22 at Wannamoisett C.C., a par-69, Donald Ross-designed course that continues to challenge the field every year. In 2018, USC's Justin Suh went wire-to-wire to tie the tournament record at 15 under par and hold off an elite field to capture one of the biggest wins of his impressive amateur career.

Tournament chairman Ben Tuthill has assembled a deep field including 75 of the top collegiate players in the country which will be representing 48 different colleges and universities. Of the collegiate players set to tee it up, 43 were named to DI PING All-Region Team. The field is highlighted by Cole Hammer of Texas, who has been named recipient of the DI Phil Mickelson Outstanding Freshman Award and is a PING First-Team All-America selection. After winning the Western Amateur and Azalea Invitational last summer, he shared medalist honors three times this collegiate season, including the NCAA Austin Regional. Texas teammate Pierceson Coody, and Georgia's Trent Phillips joined Hammer on the PING All-Freshmen Team. John Pak (Florida State) was a PING First-Team All-America selection as well after winning 4 times this season including the ACC Championship.

This year's field also includes five members of the US team which will compete in the Arnold Palmer Cup at the Alotian Club in Roland, Arkansas June 7-9th. The US team members include John Augenstein (Vanderbilt), Quade Cummins (Oklahoma), Will Grimmer (Ohio State), Peter Kuest (BYU) along with Hammer (Texas).

This year marks the first in recent history that a past champion is not in the field. However, many past USGA champions are set to tee it up including former US Junior Am champs Noah Goodwin and Philip Barbaree, former US Mid Am champs Stewart Hagestad and Matt Parziale, along with current US Mid Am champ Kevin O'Connell. Other USGA Champions in the field include 2017 and 2018 US Four-ball Champs Frankie Capan, Ben Wong, Cole Hammer and Garrett Barber.

Some of the contestants were looking for a spot in the US Open at various sectional qualifiers held across the country. Those making it to Pebble Beach include Massachusetts native Matt Parziale, the former U.S. Mid-Amateur champ is heading back to the major stage after taking low amateur honors at Shinnecock Hills last year. Other qualifiers include Stewart Hagestad, Noah Norton (Georgia Tech) and Chandler Eaton (Duke).

Tony Romo, the former Dallas Cowboy quarterback and current lead NFL analyst for CBS Sports, will play in this year's event for the first time. Romo won the 2018 American Century Celebrity Championship and has played in three PGA Tour events. Most recently he shot 76-74 to miss the cut at the AT&T Byron Nelson in Texas.

The local talent on tap includes RI Player of Year Tyler Cooke, former RI and New England Am champ Bobby Leopold, former RI Am champ and Notre Dame sophomore standout Davis Chatfield, all current Wannamoisett members; Four time RI Junior champ Patrick Welch (Oklahoma), CT Player of the Year and State Am champ Ben Conroy, UConn standout and Hopkinton, MA native Jimmy Hervol and NJ State Am champ from URI Dawson Jones. Hervol, Jones and Chatfield were DI First Team All-Region selections.

The Northeast Amateur begins with a Sponsor/Contestant Tournament on Tuesday, June 18. The tournament proper begins the next morning at 8 a.m. Please follow scoring updates on our web site NortheastAmateur.com and find daily video updates from Don Coyne and daily news articles at the site as well.