

Burke Lake Club Champion Gets NATIONAL HONOR



You could call Justin Snow the Bubba Watson of Burke Lake Golf Center. The self-taught amateur golfer honed his skills at Burke Lake while pursuing his undergraduate degree at nearby George Mason University. After winning Burke Lake's Club Championship in a three-way playoff in 2020, the 26-year-old found himself holding an unlikely invitation to represent Burke Lake Golf Center in the inaugural, 2021 PGA National Club Championship at one of the most storied courses in professional golf – Pinehurst No. 2.

“Burke Lake is one of the first tournaments I ever played in, and to go from there to the biggest stage in golf, home of the U.S. Open, is pretty unbelievable,” Snow said with astonishment. “I’ve never played in that intense of an environment before. There were a lot of spectators, officials, and a lot of pressure focused over three days, and the No. 2 course lives up to all the hype.”

The PGA National Club Championship celebrates and recognizes amateur club champions from across the United States. The No. 2 course at Pinehurst opened in 1907 and is renowned for its beloved fairways and its immensely challenging greens. It has hosted more championship tournaments than any other golf course in America, and it is where golfer Ben Hogan launched his illustrious career.

For Snow, playing at Pinehurst in the shadow of legends was an experience of a lifetime. As much as he relished the opportunity, he admits he’s glad to be back home playing golf among friends.

“Burke Lake Golf Center is a great place to learn the game and go out and have a good time with friends,” he said. “I will try to defend my title this fall, and I know some of my buddies are gunning for me!”

After the big-league pressure Snow felt playing at Pinehurst in March, competing in the Burke Lake Club Championship this year may seem to him more like a good-natured game among friends than a test of nerves.

