

2008 Variety Tournament of Champions

This past June the Section once again had the privilege of working with Variety – The Children’s Charity to conduct the Variety Tournament of Champions. This annual event continues to raise money to help provide the best possible care to all the special needs children that Variety helps everyday.

Held over two days the tournament brings some of the best professionals in the Philadelphia Section to Whitemarsh Valley CC in Lafayette Hill, PA. The first day of the tournament features a Pro-Am with professionals being paired with special guests of Variety. A special treat on day one was the chance for all golfers to “Beat the Pro” on the par three ninth hole at Whitemarsh. However, the pro in this case was the Variety’s 2008 Ambassador, six year old Kyle Lograsso.

Lograsso, an avid golfer, has also overcome many setbacks in his short life. Kyle was diagnosed with **Retinoblastoma** – cancer of the retina, when he was only two years old. In order to minimize the spread of cancer, Kyle had to have his left eye removed. Despite that handicap Kyle is able to play the game he loves at a tremendous level. This was evident to all the participants in the Pro-Am. For more information on Kyle you can visit, www.kylelograsso.com.

Heading into day two of the tournament Cavaliers CC head pro Dave McNabb held a one shot lead over George Forster of Radnor Valley CC. Using a few of the new, longer tee boxes that have been added to Whitemarsh Valley the professionals were seeing parts of the course for the first time. McNabb was unable to hold his lead through the second round and ultimately finished three shots back of the 2008 champion George Forster.

The victory was Forster’s first of the season but he was not able to celebrate for long.. After the tournament, Forster headed to the airport to make his way the 41st PGA Professional National Championship. Forster’s wife was on hand to accept his award at the Champions Gala held on Thursday of the tournament week.

- Joe Monforto