

U.S. Mid-Amateur

Monday, Sept. 11, 2023
Sleepy Hollow Golf Club
Scarborough, N.Y.

**Nate Gahman,
Albany, Ga.**

**3-under-par 68 (second round, stroke play)
Championship – 70-68—138 (3 under)**



Q. What is like playing in your first U.S. Mid-Amateur?

Nate Gahman: “It’s awesome. I really enjoy it, the food is great, the course is impeccable. It’s a treat, my wife (Elli) is on the bag.”

Q. What are the challenges of having to wait overnight to play your last three holes?

Nate Gahman: “I had that thumbprint par 3 (No. 16) to start on. I hit a million pitching wedges in my sleep. I couldn’t sleep. To come back out and play three holes is almost worse than coming back out and playing 15. I definitely got the good end of the draw with the rain and all. I am grateful for that for sure.”

Q. Can you tell us about the eagle at No. 15?

Nate Gahman: “In the practice round we were rained out so I had to play the last seven holes blind. I just stuck to the yardage book. I had 188 [yards] in and hit 7-iron to about 3 feet. I aimed right at the flagpole behind the green and figured it would be good if I just hit it solid.”

Q. How do you feel about your play overall?

Nate Gahman: “I think the course fits me better here than at Cherry Hills (U.S. Amateur). The rough isn’t quite as penal here as Cherry Hills.

In stroke play I am hitting 3-iron and 3-wood a lot. I told my wife that I would love to bust driver here but in stroke play it is not worth it. It’s just fairways and greens and make birdies when they come to me.”

Notes – Nate Gahman is playing in his second USGA championship in 2023. He also qualified for the U.S. Amateur at Cherry Hills Country Club in August. He won the 2022 and 2023 Georgia Mid-Amateurs.