

SIMMERMAN AND KUCHAR WIN STATE JUNIOR TITLES

The 38th Annual State Junior Championship saw another fantastic finish in both divisions at the Country Club of Mount Dora. The Florida State Golf Association conducted event plays host each year to the top juniors in the state ages 12-17.

First round co-leader, Danny Simmerman fought off a shaky putter to hold off Jeremy Anderson of Lake Mary by one stroke with a pair of 71s for the 15-17 title. The soon-to-be-senior had back-to-back three-putts on 13 and 14 during Tuesday's final round. Although Simmerman never trailed, the two three-putts brought the field to within a stroke. On the par-3 15th Simmerman distanced himself from the field for good as he sank a 40-foot putt for birdie.

The Palm Beach Gardens resident will return to Country Club of Mount Dora on July 6th for the U.S. Junior Amateur qualifying.

In the 12-14 division, Matt Kuchar of Lake Mary passed first round leader and defending champion, Ryan Lagergren of Titusville with a final round 73. The Seminole High freshman was three-under-par on the front-nine over the two days. Kuchar's final nine holes on Tuesday unfortunately for his fellow-competitors was the front-nine as he closed out with a three-under-par 33 and a 148 36-hole total.

The FSGA will take a week off and resume its 12-event schedule on June 24 with the State Amateur Championship hosted by the Bay Hill Club in Orlando.