

Back-to-back: McKinleyville's McKenzie Ford wins H-DN girls golf title again

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Only one point separated them prior.

When it was over, only one stood out as champion.

McKinleyville High's McKenzie Ford knew she had to do something with Arcata's Brittney Bisgrove nipping at her coat tails only down one stroke with the individual Humboldt-Del Norte Conference girls golf title on the line as play started at Big Foot Golf Course on Monday.

The McKinleyville Panther ensured the Arcata Tiger would not walk away atop the H-DN this season.

Shooting a 76, Ford ended with a total of 551. The performance was five-strokes better than Bisgrove's 81. The Tiger finishes the year with a total of 551.

Ford becomes back-to-back H-DN Champion. As a sophomore last year, she won the crown by more than 60 strokes.

Ford and Bisgrove battled each other for the top spot all season. Bisgrove bested Ford at Del Norte with an 80 to 84 three weeks ago. However, Ford recovered to finish first in the last two events to remain No. 1.

St. Bernard's Hayley Rice -- who shot an 88 on Monday -- ends the regular season with total of 601 to finish third overall individually.

Eureka's Cathy Canepa shot a 93 to finish with a 624 total and fourth place individually. She's followed by McKinleyville's LeiLani Harling (85, 661 total). Arcata's Jordan Ghisetti rounds out the top five individuals with a 97 and a total of 690.

Team wise, Arcata takes the cake. The Tigers -- who captured first place in five of the seven tournaments -- compiled

a 501 at Big Foot and a 3,507 season total.

McKinleyville, which earned the first-place nod in the last two H-DN tourney's, finished with a 483 and a total of 3,636.

Eureka shot a 531 as a team and ended with a 3,877. Fortuna finishes fourth as a team shooting a 558 to end with a 4,045 total.

Up next for H-DN teams is the North Coast Section Qualifier. Eureka and Del Norte are Division I squad while the others are in Division II. D-I schools are classified as having a student population of 1,000 or above. Eureka is listed at 1,409 while Del Norte is 1,090. D-II schools are those of populations below 999.

Ford, Rice and Canepa are expected to automatically qualify for the NCS Championships individually. Arcata, as a team, should automatically qualifies for the championships as it earned the league title.

In the D-I Qualifier Tournament, second-place finishers in each league that are Division I schools will automatically qualify plus three individuals not on qualifying teams, according to the NCS website (www.cifncs.org). The qualifying tournament is

scheduled for Oct. 25 at Cypress Course at Sunol Golf Club in Sunol, Calif. The championships is scheduled on Nov. 1 at Lone Tree Golf Course in Antioch.

In D-II, league champions automatically qualify for the NCS Championships plus three individuals not on qualifying teams, according to the NCS website. The remainder of the field will be selected from the At-large selection committee. The championships are scheduled for Oct. 25 at Buckingham Golf & Country Club in Kelseyville.

Deadline to submit paperwork is today at 8 p.m.

H-DN at Big Foot

Top 10 Individuals

1. McKenzie FordMcK76
2. Brittney BisgroveArc81
3. LeiLani HarlingMcK85
4. Hayley RiceSt. B88
5. Cathy CanepaEur93
6. Jordan GhisettiArc97
7. Sydney BensonDN99
8. Tammy ValleyMcK104
9. Greta HuschleArc108
10. Alexis AguiarFor108

Team Scores

1. McKinleyville483

2. Arcata521
3. Eureka531
4. Fortuna558
5. Del Norte587
6. Hoopa Valley626
7. St. Bernard's656

Top 10 Individuals (Overall)

1. McKenzie Ford551
2. Brittney Bisgrove557
3. Hayley Rice601
4. Cathy Canepa624
5. LeiLani Harling661
6. Jordan Ghisetti690
7. Greta Huschle704
8. Sydney Benson721
9. Tammy Valley746
10. Alex CollinsEur749

Team Standings (Overall)

1. Arcata3,507
2. McKinleyville3,636
3. Eureka3,877

4. Fortuna4,045

5. Del Norte4,368

6. St. Bernard's4,621

7. Hoopa Valley4,739