in 1968 in a field that did not include John Baldwin, the defending champion, who had a military commitment with the Air National Guard. Also absent was Allen of Rochester, also a three-time winner in the 60's, who was playing a national tournament.

Nick Raasch and Neil Spitalny, of Colonia, the 1967 junior winner, highlighted the competition and both won in early rounds. Raasch, 19, and a Penn State sophomore, had won this title in 1966.

Bill Galloway of Binghamton had the lowest qualifying score of 68 while Gerry Dimmick, also of Binghamton, had a 69.

Dr. Edward O'Keefe of Mohawk GC in Schenectady, the 1964 runner-up, won his way to the finals by defeating Raasch 1 up in the quarterfinals and George Dillon of Briarcliff Manor 2 up in the semi-finals.

Among Tony's victories were Mike Slipko of Niagara Falls 6 and 5, Ron Ryan of Hamilton 4 and 3, John Liccardi from Rochester 3 and 1, Robert Hof of Rochester, 2 and 1, Don Bailey from Ontario 5 and 3, Fritz Gambetta of Utica, 3 and 1, and O'Keefe, 7 and 5 in the finals.

Bill lost the first hole in the finals to a par, birdied 5 and 6 to take the lead, but finished the morning front nine all even. He took control coming home, winning 12 with a bogey, 13, 14 and 16 with pars, and halved 17 and 18 for a 4 up lead.

O'Keefe won 19 with a par but Tony birdied 20 and won 23,26 and 27 with pars to go 7 up. Ed won 30 with a birdie, but conceded Bill's 12 footer for the match at 31 when he hit a bunker on the par 3 and took a bogey on the 144-yard hole. That gave Tony a chance to defend his home course in 1969.

Tournament Format Changes

Beginning This Season

A number of changes are in store for our Championships in 2009, and those changes are noted below. Every year as a Committee we take a close look at our Championships to evaluate what is working, and what isn't. We hope that you will give these changes a chance to take root and we also hope that, in time, they will have the desired effect of making our Championships the very best competitions you play in all year.

1) Women's Amateur

There are 3 major changes to this Championship, and we hope that these changes will greatly increase participation in its 80th year.

a. We have added a new Championship, the Women's Mid-Amateur Championship, which will be held concurrently for players who have reached their 25th birthday before the Championship begins.

b. The format has been changed to completely stroke play, and will be contested over 54 holes. There will be a cut after 36 holes.

c. Carts will now be allowed at all stages of the Championship.

2) Men's Amateur

a. The Championship will be contested over 72 holes of stroke play.

b. All players will play 18 holes on both Tuesday & Wednesday of the Championship, and we will cut the field to the low 40 players & ties, as well as anyone within 10 shots of the lead. On Thursday, all remaining competitors will play 36 holes.

3) Senior & Super Senior Men's Amateur

a. The starting field will now be 132 players, down from 164 players. This will allow us to conduct play in threesomes throughout the week, alleviating the Pace of Play issues we have had over the years and giving us increased flexibility with weather issues. The cut after 36 holes will change slightly, and now the top 50% of the field and ties in each Championship will remain for Thursday's final round.

b. The entry fee will be increased from $115 to $200, but will include all cart fees for the Championship, including the practice round. This will make the process much simpler logistically for both the players and host facility, and will result in an overall cost savings for all participant.