

Ryan Slonaker
2020-2024

Competitive golf started at an early age for Ryan as he was competing in local and state tournaments by age 7. Those early tournaments were just the start of a highly decorated EMS and Junior circuit career.

Despite missing out on his 8th grade season due to COVID, Ryan wasted no time getting his EMS Career off to an impressive start his Freshman year. After helping secure a Virginia Independent Conference Team championship, and 1st Team All-VIC performance, Ryan ended his first full year as a Flame by shooting a 68 to win the Virginia Independent Schools Athletic Association Division 3 Individual Championship.

As a Sophomore, he once again helped his team win a VIC Team Championship, and was a 1st Team All-VIC selection. The following week, he shot a 2 under par to become the back-to-back VISAA D3 Individual Champion. After finishing his round he and his teammates anxiously awaited results to be tallied in the Team Championship. As scores came in for the top four golfers, the team was tied with Veritas. As tie-breaking numbers were calculated, EMS, with the score of their 6th golfer, won the VISAA D3 Team Championship. This was the first in EMS Golf history. This was his second team championship of the year as he was also a member of the Varsity Boys Basketball team who defeated Fairfax Christian to secure their first state title.

As a Junior, he once again had a 1st-Team All Conference performance in the Blue Ridge Athletic Conference Championship Match. In truly unprecedented fashion, for the third year in a row, he was the VISAA D3 Individual Champion, shooting even par.

As a Senior, he shot a 74 at Heritage Oaks to secure his first BRAC Individual Championship and fourth consecutive 1st Team All-Conference selection. He was a 1st Team VISAA Selection.

EMS was not the only place where Ryan shined. He was the 2019 Virginia Youth Champion, and in 2021 he traveled to Miami Florida and won the Optimist International. His strength and precision was on display in 2022 as he hit a 362 yard drive to win the Hope Valley Invitational Long Drive Championship. In 2023 he won a US Junior Qualifier at the US Naval Academy to secure his spot in the 2023 US Junior Championships in Daniels Island, South Carolina. Locally, he was the 2022 and 2023 Daily News Record Golfer of the Year.

Ryan will continue his golf career at Virginia Tech.