KCC golfers climb to 3rd at nationals

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PLYMOUTH, Ind. - The Kirkwood Eagles moved into third place at the NJCAA Division II national golf tournament Wednesday with a strong outing at the Swan Lake Resort in Plymouth, Ind.

Kirkwood matched the best score of any team with a 290, helping the Eagles climb one spot in the 20-team field. The Tyler Apaches lead the tournament at the halfway mark with a 36-hole score of 573, good for a one-shot edge over the South Mountain Cougars.

Kirkwood has a 36-hole score of 585, putting the Eagles 12 shots behind the leader.

Carson Whittington fired a 1-under-par 71 for Kirkwood Wednesday and is tied for second place at 1-under 143. Marco Maldonado of Tyler owns a six-shot lead at 7-under 137.

Charlie Hartwig of Kirkwood is tied for 17th at 147, Eddie Doyle and Louis Flynn are tied for 21st at 149, and Jordan Even is tied for 43rd at 152. Flynn shot an even-par 72 on Wednesday. Even shot 73, Doyle 74 and Hartwig 76.

The tournament continues with the final two rounds Thursday and Friday.

Kirkwood is making its third appearance at the national tournament in four years. The Eagles finished fourth in 2013 and placed sixth in 2015.