



# 102<sup>nd</sup> GAM Championship

Conducted by the Golf Association of Michigan  
July 31 – August 1, 2023  
TRAVIS POINTE COUNTRY CLUB  
ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN  
ENTRY DEADLINE: Wednesday, June 28, 2023



## ELIGIBILITY

Entries are open to amateur golfers who: (1) have an up-to-date GAM/USGA Handicap Index at time of entry not exceeding 5.4 and (2) are individual members of the GAM at the time entries close. Entries are subject to rejection at any time, including during the Championship. The reason for rejection may include unbecoming conduct. Unbecoming conduct in any GAM competition may result in future entries being denied.

## SCHEDULE

Sectional Qualifying Rounds – 18 Hole Stroke Play  
(Maximum of 78 entrants at each site)  
Tues., June 27 Polo Fields G&CC – Ann Arbor  
Weds., July 5 Owosso CC - Owosso  
Thurs., July 6 Michaywe Pines - Gaylord  
Thurs., July 13 Indian Springs GC – White Lake  
Tues., July 18 Port Huron GC – Port Huron  
Weds., July 19 Sunnybrook CC – Grandville

## CHAMPIONSHIP ROUNDS

**Monday, July 31** – First and second rounds – 84 contestants, 36-hole stroke play with the low thirty (30) and ties advancing to the final round. Lunch will be available to contestants between rounds.

**Tuesday, August 1** – Final round – 18 holes stroke play. A tie for the Championship will result in an immediate hole-by-hole playoff until a winner is determined.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF ENTRY

All entrants whose applications are accepted will be notified by email if an address is provided. Verification of entry may also be accomplished by logging on to [www.gam.org](http://www.gam.org) and clicking on the Championship you have entered. An entrant who has not received email confirmation or is not listed on the website is solely responsible for determining the status of his application by calling the GAM office at (248) 478-9242, ext. 111. Applications that are received on or shortly before the deadline of June 28, and do not meet the criteria for acceptance, including over-subscription, **WILL BE HELD** due to the time constraints involved in returning and re-submission of the entry form. An entrant who sends in his entry during this time frame has the sole responsibility of calling the GAM office at (248) 478-9242, ext. 111 and verifying that his application has been accepted and, if not, making the necessary corrections to qualify the application for acceptance. Each entry is date and time stamped upon receipt to establish the order in which limited fields are filled on a first come - first served basis. Applications that do not meet the criteria for acceptance will receive a new date and time stamp upon re-submission or, in the case of a held application when the application is qualified for acceptance. Checks accompanying applications that are unresolved by the entry deadline will be returned.

## DRESS CODE

Shirts with collars and sleeves are required. Neither tank tops, tee shirts, short shorts, gym shorts, cut-offs, bathing suits nor **denim pants/shorts** are permitted. Players and caddies are expected to adhere to the dress code. Those inappropriately attired may be asked to change clothes before being allowed access to the course. The GAM will adhere to any more specific dress code required by a host facility.

## CADDIES, AUTOMOTIVE TRANSPORTATION

Players shall walk at all times during a stipulated round. A player may bring his own caddie or carry his own bag during the Sectionals and the Championship rounds. Pull carts may be allowed at Sectionals and at the Championship if the host facility permits.

## ENTRIES: FORM, FEES AND CLOSING DATE

Each applicant shall pay an entry fee of \$145. Only one entry may be submitted per person. Entry application and fee must reach the GAM office by Friday, June 23, 2023. Late or incomplete applications are not acceptable. Entry deadline means time of receipt at Association office, not time of postmark. Fax transmittals are not acceptable. **Entries are also accepted online at [www.gam.org](http://www.gam.org) for participants with a valid credit card.** The entry fee covers Sectional Qualifying round and the Championship schedule. The entry fee will be refunded if the GAM office is notified by e-mail ([tournaments@gam.org](mailto:tournaments@gam.org)) before entries close on June 23. After June 23, fees will be refunded only in the event of injury or illness, provided there is a letter of verification from a doctor. If you must withdraw within 24 hours of the tournament, you may notify the GAM via phone ((248) 479-9242 ext. 124). No refunds will be given for any reason after your assigned qualifying date or if exempt after August 7. There will be a \$20 service charge on all refunds. Any applicant whose check is returned due to insufficient funds will have his entry denied and returned. The committee reserves the right to extend the entry deadline in case the field is not full.

## PRIZES

Mementos will be awarded to Sectional Medalists and ties. Prizes will also be awarded to the Champion and Runner-up with the name of the champion engraved on the K.T. Keller trophy. After the completion of the competition, should there be a tie for the Championship, a sudden death hole-by-hole playoff will be used (Rules of Golf; Committee Procedures, Section 7A). Should there be a tie for runner-up, a score card play-off will be used (Rules of Golf; Rules of Golf; Committee Procedures, Section 7A).

## NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL

Championship qualifiers who withdraw without informing the Association office may have future entries denied. The regulation is to ensure a fair opportunity for an alternate to compete. Players who withdraw after the first round of play on July 31 will be subject to Committee review.

## PRACTICE ROUNDS

Fees and times for practice rounds at sectional qualifying sites are at the discretion of the host club/course.

## CHAMPIONSHIP YARDAGE

All projected yardage for the championship will be posted at [www.gam.org](http://www.gam.org) by June 1, 2023. All yardage is subject to change.

## DISTANCE MEASURING DEVICES

DMD's that measure distance only are allowed in this competition. If a player uses a distance-measuring device that is designed to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect his/her play, **AND USES IT FOR THOSE OTHER CONDITIONS**, the player is in breach of Rule 4.3, for which the penalty is **TWO STROKES** for the first breach of this rule and **DISQUALIFICATION** for a subsequent breach during the stipulated round.

## **RULES OF GOLF**

Play will be governed by the 2023 USGA Rules of Golf.

## **CONDITIONS, SCHEDULES**

The Championship Committee reserves the right to alter any of the conditions and schedules herein. The decision of the Committee in any matter shall be final.

## **SECTIONAL QUALIFYING SITE ASSIGNMENT**

Players will be assigned to their preferred qualifying site on a first come - first served basis determined by the date and time that an acceptable entry is received. The GAM will not change an assigned qualifying site after entries close. Assigned starting times will not be changed. If a player requests a filled sectional site, and does not indicate (first, second, etc.) further choices, his entry will be returned.

## **QUALIFYING PLACES, TIES, ALTERNATES AND SUBSTITUTIONS**

The Committee will determine the number of qualifiers and alternates in each Sectional, after entries close, based upon the size of each field. A tie for the last qualifying place and/or alternate spot shall be decided immediately by a hole-by-hole playoff.

**Before the Championship begins, substitution with alternates in order of qualifying scores at each Sectional will be allowed for non-exempt qualifiers unable to compete. If an exempt player withdraws after entering, the Committee will establish the Sectional site order to fill the position. Once the Championship proper starts, there will be no additional substitutions for players who withdraw or do not appear for their first round starting time. Alternates have no status at the Championship, including practice rounds or practice privileges of any type.**

## **EXEMPTIONS**

Players in the categories listed shall be exempt from Sectional Qualifying, provided they are otherwise eligible. Exempt players must submit entry form and fee by entry deadline. (*Italics denote ineligible pro*) **Please Note: Exemption category 4 is based on the competition if completed in its entirety (54 Holes), if shortened then the allocated number of places will be reduced by half.**

### **1. Michigan Amateur Champions for the last 5 years**

2023 – To be filled by GAM

2022 – Nick Krueger

2021 – *Patrick Sullivan*

2020 – *Tyler Copp*

2019 – *Ben Smith*

### **2. GAM Champions for the last 5 years**

2022 – August Meekhof

2021 – *James Piot*

2020 – Jimmy Chestnut

2019 – Mitchell White

2018 – *James Piot*

### **3. 2023 Michigan Amateur Semifinalists**

Filled by GAM

### **4. Top ten finishers and ties in the 2022 GAM Championship (not otherwise exempt)**

\*(Note: If Championship is shortened due to extenuating circumstances, TOP FIVE finishers (not otherwise exempt))

*Grant Haefner*, Jimmy Dales, Bradley Smithson, Charles DeLong, Coalter Smith, Drew Coble, Matt Zerbel, Jeff Champine, John Quigley

### **5. 2022 GAM Top Ten Honor Roll (not otherwise exempt) –**

Anthony Sorentino, Michael Anderson, Patrick Deardorff

### **6. 2022 GAM Mid-Amateur Champion – Scott Strickland**

### **7. 2022 GAM Senior Amateur Champion – John Barbour**

### **8. GAM Player of the Year for the last 2 years**

2022 – Nick Krueger

2021 – *James Piot*

### **9. 2022 GAM Tournament of Champions Champion – Andy**

Matthews

### **10. Championship Committee Exemption(s) – Paul Ostby**

# Golf Association of Michigan Tournament Player's Information

If you plan to participate in a tournament sponsored by the Golf Association of Michigan, it is important that you read the following information. It is your responsibility to know the rules and conditions of the competition concerning participation in GAM competitions.

**CONDITIONS OF PLAY:** The Golf Association of Michigan reserves the right to decline any entry. Any person whose entry is accepted shall be subject to the rules and conditions of play set forth by the GAM. The GAM reserves the right to alter the conditions or shorten any competition due to weather or other conditions warranting such action. Any act of unsportsmanlike conduct, as written in the GAM PLAYER CODE OF CONDUCT stated below, will be cause for removal from a tournament or suspension from participating in future GAM competitions. NOTE: The GAM will not make any provisions for a player asking for special consideration due to other commitments.

**GAM PLAYER CODE OF CONDUCT:** By submitting an entry, or by participating in any GAM competition, the player understands that his/her participation is at the sole discretion of the GAM. The player's entry may be rejected for any reason, at the discretion of the Official-in-Charge, at any time before the close of the competition (as defined in the USGA Rules of Golf). Unbecoming conduct or actions at any GAM event, or state, national, or international event, or conduct or actions deemed detrimental to the GAM, the spirit of the game, or to the host facilities are grounds for such rejection. During competition, a serious breach in etiquette may result in warning, penalty, or immediate disqualification.

A serious breach in etiquette may include, but is not limited to:

1. Cheating
2. Willful destruction of golf course or GAM property
3. Deliberate failure to properly care for the course
4. Abusive language or conduct towards GAM and/or host facility, staff, volunteers, or other players
5. Club throwing and/or physical endangerment of others
6. Offensive or excessively loud behavior
7. Alcohol and/or substance impaired behavior
8. Repeated withdrawals or no cards during or after the round
9. Inappropriate golf attire
10. Not meeting handicap/score posting requirements
11. Other conduct deemed to be unbecoming
12. Improper use of a cell phone by a player or caddie during the stipulated round

Should such an incident occur, the Official-in-Charge may submit a report to the Code of Conduct Subcommittee consisting of the Championship Committee Chair, Championship Committee Vice Chair, Executive Director, Senior Director of Competitions (if not Official-in-Charge), and any pertinent Subcommittee Chair or on-site Rules Official. The player that committed the breach and other involved people may be contacted for input. The report will be finalized by this Subcommittee and submitted to the Championship Committee for approval. Sanctions may include suspension from future GAM competitions, losing exempt status for future year(s), or being declared ineligible for GAM team competitions and/or player awards. The GAM can also stipulate that sanctions only be lifted after the player meets reasonable conditions for reinstatement. The decision to reject an entry during an event by the Official-in-Charge is final. However, any further sanctions imposed by the Championship Committee may be appealed to the GAM Executive Committee, whose decision shall be final.

**TOURNAMENT ELIGIBILITY:** All GAM Championships may be entered at any time starting with the stipulated open date, provided the entry is received on or before the entry closing date and the field is not full. Late or incomplete entries are not acceptable and will be returned. Time limit for entries means time of receipt at the GAM office (not time of postmark). Entries should be mailed early to allow ample time for delay in delivery. Entries with insufficient funds will be considered incomplete and unacceptable and will be withdrawn. The entrant is responsible for any fees incurred by the GAM for NSF checks and must pay such fees before entry in further GAM competitions is allowed.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF ENTRY:** All entrants whose applications are accepted will be notified only by e-mail. Verification of entry may also be accomplished by logging on to [www.gam.org](http://www.gam.org) and clicking on to the Championship you have entered. An entrant who has not received email confirmation or is not listed on the website is solely responsible for determining the status of the application by calling the GAM office at (248) 478-9242. Each entry is date and time stamped upon receipt to establish the order in which limited fields are filled on a first come - first served basis. Applications that do not meet the criteria for acceptance will receive a new date and time stamp upon re-submission or, in the case of a held application, when the application is qualified for acceptance. Checks accompanying applications that are unresolved by the entry deadline will be returned.

**TOURNAMENT INFORMATION:** Information concerning course assignment, pairings, starting times, etc., will be published online as soon as possible after entries close. If you have problems locating this information on the website, please call the GAM office at 248-478-9242.

**QUALIFYING PLACES, TIES, ALTERNATES, SUBSTITUTIONS:** The number of qualifiers and alternates in each sectional will be determined by the Committee, after entries close. A tie for last place and/or alternate spot shall be decided immediately after completion of play by a hole-by-hole playoff (except select Net Championships) On the day of Sectional Qualifying, every qualifier should notify the Official-in-Charge or GAM staff whether he will play in the Championship. If a qualifier or exempt player decides to withdraw, he must notify the Association office promptly. Failure to comply may result in future entries for GAM competitions being declined. Before the Championship begins, substitution with alternates in order of qualifying scores at each sectional will be allowed for non-exempt qualifiers who withdraw. If an exempt player withdraws, the Committee will establish the Sectional site order to fill the position. Alternates have no status at the Championship, including practice rounds or practice privileges of any type.

**RULES OF GOLF:** Play will be governed by the 2023 USGA Rules of Golf, the USGA or GAM 2023 Local Rules and Conditions hard card and any Local Rules so provided on a Hole Location Sheet. Questions will be settled by the Association's Rules of Golf Committee for the Championship, whose decisions shall be final.

**WITHDRAWALS/NO SHOWS/NO CARDS:** Any player who has applied to participate in a GAM competition and wishes to withdraw for any reason MUST notify the GAM office at [tournaments@gam.org](mailto:tournaments@gam.org) prior to the competition. If within 24 hours of the competition, please call (248) 478-9242 ext. 124. If withdrawing on the day of the competition, call the course you are assigned to play. Players who fail to follow this procedure will be listed as a NO SHOW. A player who withdraws during a round MUST return the official score card to the Official-in-Charge with an explanation. Otherwise, the player will be listed as a NO CARD. Players must also inform the Committee in advance if they are unable to compete in subsequent rounds of a multi-round championship. Repeated NO SHOWS, NO CARDS or withdrawal between rounds may result in rejection of future applications.

**13/10-STROKE RULE:** The GAM expects all contestants in championship play to exhibit playing skills that are comparable with their peers. Thus, if a player repeatedly returns scores that are not within 13 strokes of the Course Rating, or in the case of net competitions, repeatedly returns net scores that are not within 10 strokes of the Course Rating, and/or falsely represents his/her Handicap Index, his future entry applications may be rejected by the GAM. The player will be notified in writing of his/her status and expected to prove his/her playing ability is consistent with the requirements of the GAM by submitting evidence supporting such a claim.

**EXEMPTIONS:** Players identified as exempt on entry applications shall be exempt from Sectional Qualifying provided they meet all other eligibility requirements

**PHOTOGRAPHIC/VIDEO:** By submitting an application, the player agrees to allow the GAM to use the player's photographic/video image for any GAM media related use(s).

**NON-METAL SPIKE POLICY** It is a condition of the competition that shoes with either traditionally-designed spikes (regardless of composition, i.e., ceramic, plastic, etc.) or, regardless of design, spikes comprised either entirely or partially of metal (if such metal may come in contact with the course) are prohibited during the stipulated round.

**Penalty for breach of this condition: Disqualification**

**APPLICATION FOR ENTRY – 102<sup>nd</sup> GAM CHAMPIONSHIP  
ENTRY DEADLINE – FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 2023**

<b>Payment Information</b>	<b>Send To: GAM, 39255 Country Club Drive Suite B-40, Farmington Hills, MI 48331</b>
<b>Entry Fee: \$150</b>	<b>Method of Payment:</b> Credit Card ___ Check ___ (Make checks payable to GAM)
<b>Card Type:</b> Mastercard ___ Visa ___ Discover ___	<b>Card Number:</b> _____
<b>Cardholder Name:</b> _____	<b>Expiration Date:</b> ___/___ CVV: _____
<b>Billing Address:</b> _____	<b>City:</b> _____ <b>Zip:</b> _____

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Emer. Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Relation \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_ GHIN No. \_\_\_\_\_

Club Name \_\_\_\_\_ Current USGA Index \_\_\_\_\_ Effective Date \_\_\_\_\_

**A player's memo with pairings, and practice round information will be sent by e-mail. Please provide your e-mail address.**

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**PLEASE LIST IN ORDER OF PREFERENCE FOR SECTIONAL QUALIFYING**

DATE	SITE	PLACE	DATE	SITE	PLACE
___ June 27	Polo Fields G&CC	Ann Arbor	___ July 18	Port Huron GC	Fort Gratiot
___ July 5	Owosso CC	Owosso	___ July 19	Sunnybrook CC	Grandville
___ July 6	Michaywe Pines	Gaylord	___ Exempt		
___ July 13	Indian Springs GC	White Lake			

I have read the Tournament Players Information, and I agree to observe all regulations and conditions stated. As a condition of entry, I understand and agree to follow and observe the GAM Player Code of Conduct. I have conformed with all aspects of the Rules of Amateur Status. I agree that there are certain risks inherent in the game of golf and accept personal and sole liability for all such risks, including, but not limited to any health-related risks.

**Signature of Applicant** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**CERTIFICATION OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN (Required if applicant is under the age of 18)**  
As parent or guardian of the applicant, I hereby certify the facts in this entry form and state that I am familiar with his plans to participate and that he does so with by approval. Further, I, for myself and the applicant, hereby release the GAM, its Committee members, officers, and employees from any and all liability for any event or consequence whatsoever in any way arising out of or relating to the applicant's entry or participation in this Championship with the sole and singular exception of liability arising out of bad faith or willful misconduct. In case of emergency occurring during this Championship, I authorize a qualified medical doctor to take all necessary measures in the treatment of this applicant.

Signature of Parent or Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relation to Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE: The GAM assumes no liability to players for this condition of the competition. By submitting an entry form and subsequently playing in the competition, players agree to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the GAM and its respective affiliates, directors, officers, employees, agents and assigns from and against any and all claims, damages, liabilities and losses, including without limitation reasonable attorney's fees and costs and expenses of litigation, arising out of any negligent act or omission of the indemnifying party in connection with the wearing of "spikeless" shoes.**