



# 16<sup>th</sup> GAM Senior Match Play Championship

Conducted by the Golf Association of Michigan

MAY 28 – 31, 2024

POLO FIELDS GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

ENTRY DEADLINE: WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 2024



## ELIGIBILITY

Entries are open to all GAM members who: (1) have an up-to-date WHS Handicap Index at time of entry not exceeding 7.4, and (2) will have reached their 55<sup>th</sup> birthday before May 28, 2024. 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 competitions may result in future entries being denied.

The field will be limited to 144: 96 in the Senior Division and 48 in the Super Senior division. Players must declare in advance in which division they will play. **Accepted contestants will receive confirmation by e-mail if an address is provided.**

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**Tues., May 28:** 18 Hole qualifying to determine the 32 who will advance to match play in the Senior division and the 16 who will advance to match play in the Super-Senior division.

**Wed., May 29:** AM - 1st round of matches – Seniors & Super Srs.  
PM - Second round of matches - Seniors

**Thurs., May 30:** AM - Quarterfinals – Seniors  
Quarterfinals – Super Seniors  
PM - Semifinals – Seniors  
Semifinals – Super Seniors

**Fri., May 31:** AM - Finals – Seniors and Super Seniors

## ENTRIES: FORM, FEE, DEADLINE DATE

All entrants shall make application on GAM forms, obtainable from the GAM website [www.gam.org](http://www.gam.org), and the GAM office. **Entries are also accepted online at [www.gam.org](http://www.gam.org) with a valid credit card.** Copies are acceptable. **Only one entry may be submitted per person.** Entry fee of \$155 shall be paid at time of application by every applicant. Entry fee will be refunded for any reason if the GAM office is notified ([tournaments@gam.org](mailto:tournaments@gam.org)) before entries close on May 15. After May 15, entry fee will be refunded **only** in the event of injury or illness verified by a doctor's statement. If you must withdraw within 24 hours of the tournament, please call (248) 478-9242 ext. 124. There will be a \$20 service charge deducted from all refunds. No refunds will be given after May 27. **Any player whose check is returned due to insufficient funds will have his entry denied and returned.** Entry form and fee must reach the GAM office by Wednesday, May 15, 2024. Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted. The date of a postmark is not relevant. **Fax transmittals will not be accepted.**

## PRACTICE PRIVILEGES

Practice rounds and fees are at the discretion of the host club. Please view the Player Memo on GAM.org for additional practice round information. More information may be sent out after the entry deadline.

## CONDITIONS & SCHEDULES

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

## PRIZES

Prizes will be awarded to the Champion and Runner-Up in both divisions. The Champion of the Senior Division will have his name engraved on the Jerry A. Walker Memorial Trophy and receive an exemption to the Michigan Amateur Championship in the following calendar year.

## AUTOMOTIVE TRANSPORTATION/CADDIES

Motorized carts are mandatory for all participants. The entry fee covers range balls and carts for every day of the Championship, as well as lunch on Tuesday. **Caddies are not permitted in this Championship. All spectators must walk.**

## 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 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, SPECTATOR CARTS

**Use of caddies and spectator carts is always prohibited during a stipulated round.**

## RULES OF GOLF

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

## GOLF BALLS

The "One-Ball" Rule is not in effect.

## CHAMPIONSHIP YARDAGE

Projected yardage for the Championship (both divisions) will be posted at [www.gam.org](http://www.gam.org) by May 1, 2024. Projected 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.

# 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:** This GAM Championship may be entered at any time starting Wednesday, February 14, 2024, 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 finding this information on the website, please call the GAM office at (248) 478-9242.

**QUALIFYING PLACES, TIES, ALTERNATES, and 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 for the Michigan Net Amateur 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 events 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 2024 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 [tournamententry@gam.org](mailto:tournamententry@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.

**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**

