



13th GAM Net Match Play Championship

Conducted by the Golf Association of Michigan

Sept. 9-11, 2024

LAKES OF TAYLOR GC

TAYLOR, MICHIGAN

ENTRY DEADLINE: Wednesday, August 28, 2024



ELIGIBILITY

Entries are open to all male amateur golfers who are 1) a member of a GAM Member Club at time of entry, 2) at least 18 years old as of Sept. 9, 2024, and 3) have a GAM/USGA Handicap Index not exceeding 20.4. Entries are subject to approval or rejection at any time, including during the Championship. Reasons for rejection may include unbecoming conduct. Unbecoming conduct in any GAM event may result in future entry applications being denied. The field will be limited to 84 contestants. Accepted contestants will receive confirmation by email if an address is provided.

FORMAT, SCHEDULE

The field for stroke play qualifying will be 84 contestants. Golf carts and range will be provided each day of the competition.

Championship Rounds:

Monday, Sept. 9 - AM – SHOTGUN START- 18 holes stroke play; cut to low 32 for match play. The low 32 players in the Championship qualify for match play. A tie for the 32nd spot, shall be decided immediately after completion of stroke play by a hole-by-hole playoff. Lunch will be available following the round.

Note: If a player qualifies and is unable to compete in the Match Play Championship, he must notify the Committee immediately so that the next eligible player may be included.

Monday, Sept. 9 – PM - First-Round Matches

Tuesday, Sept. 10 – AM - Second-Round Matches

PM - Third-Round Matches

Wednesday, Sept. 11 – AM - Semifinal Matches

PM - Final Match

Match Play: USGA general numerical draw shall be used.

The stipulated round shall be extended to as many holes as are required for a match to be won.

CONDITIONS, SCHEDULES

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

CADDIES, AUTOMOTIVE TRANSPORTATION

Caddies are not allowed in any phase of the Championship. There will be no spectator carts allowed.

ENTRY FEE, CLOSING DATE

Entry applications and \$135 entry fee must reach the GAM office by August 28, 2024. Late or incomplete entries are not acceptable. Refunds will be issued if the GAM office is notified (tournaments@gam.org) prior to the close of entries. Entry fee will not be refunded after entries close unless sickness or injury (with doctor verification) prevents play. If you must withdraw within 24 hours of the tournament, please call (248) 478-9242 ext. 124. No refunds will be given for any reason after Sept. 8. There will be a \$20 service fee on all refunds. Any player whose check is returned due to insufficient funds will have his entry returned.

TIME OF STARTING

All players must be present, on the tee, and ready to play at the time laid down by the Committee. A competitor is solely responsible for timely arrival at the correct teeing ground.

PRIZES

Prizes will be awarded to the Stroke Play Medalist and Match Play Champion and the Match Play Runner-up. The Match Play Champion will have his name engraved on the GAM Net Match Play Trophy.

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.

HANDICAPS

A player's handicap index for this tournament will be established on the day most administratively practical for the GAM. Per World Handicap System recommendations, players will receive 95% of their course handicap for stroke play and 100% of their course handicap for match play.

RULES OF GOLF

Play will be governed by the 2023 USGA Rules of Golf

GOLF BALLS

Only brands of balls in the most recent USGA Conforming Golf Balls list may be used. **The "One-Ball" Rule will not be in effect.**

CHAMPIONSHIP YARDAGE

Projected yardage for the Championship will be posted at www.gam.org by August 1, 2024. This 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.

NOTICE TO COMPETITORS – HANDICAP ADJUSTMENTS

This is a net handicap competition. The GAM, as the tournament host, takes its responsibility to create an equitable playing environment seriously. The Committee reserves the right to adjust a competitor's handicap before, during or after a round. The Committee also reserves the right to adjust a player's net score after the round is complete and to adjust his handicap for a subsequent round for a multi-day competition. Accordingly, the competitors are advised that the tournament committee will constantly be reviewing and analyzing the field and the attendant scores posted at various stages throughout (and possibly after) this competition. Should the committee determine that a competitor's handicap does not accurately reflect the player's true scoring potential, reductions (or other sanctions) could be implemented. Possible factors influencing the committee's decision include (but are not limited to):

- The failure to post scores (particularly qualifying scores for this competition).
- A gap of posted scores between competitions.

The competitors are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the USGA handicapping guidelines and direct any questions or concerns regarding handicapping issues to the tournament committee.

Golf Association of Michigan Tournament Player 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 events. 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: The GAM tournament may be entered at any time starting on April 10, 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 events 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 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 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 for 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 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 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

APPLICATION FOR ENTRY – 13th GAM NET MATCH PLAY CHAMPIONSHIP
ENTRY DEADLINE - WEDNESDAY, August 28, 2024

Payment Information

Send To: GAM, 39255 Country Club Drive, Suite B40, Farmington Hills, MI 48331

Entry Fee: \$135

Method of Payment: Credit Card Check (Make checks payable to GAM)

Card Type: Mastercard Visa Discover Card Number: _____

Cardholder Name: _____ Expiration Date: ____/____/____ CVV: ____

Billing Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Player Name _____ Age _____ Date of Birth ____/____/____

Address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

Phone: Home (____) _____ Cell (____) _____ Work (____) _____

Emergency Contact: Name _____ Phone (____) _____ Relation _____

Club Name _____ GHIN No. _____

Tournament information will be sent to you by e-mail. Please provide your preferred e-mail address below. Please print clearly.

E-Mail _____

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 _____

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.