



14th GAM Women's Four-Ball Championship

Conducted by the Golf Association of Michigan

July 15-16, 2024

BOULDER CREEK GOLF CLUB

BELMONT, MICHIGAN

ENTRY DEADLINE: Wednesday, July 3, 2024



ELIGIBILITY

Entries are open to **ALL** female amateur golfers who have an up to date WHS Handicap Index, and are **individual members of the GAM at time of entry**. Female amateur golfers who would like to compete in the Senior Division must be 50 years old or older by July 15, 2024. All other golfers will be placed in the Open Division. 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 tournament may result in future entries being denied. Eligible contestants will receive a confirmation by email if both addresses are provided. Verification of entry may also be accomplished by logging on to www.gam.org and clicking on the Championship you have entered. If you are a transgendered individual, contact the GAM Executive Director at 248-478-9242, ext. 115, for the additional entry application procedure.

FORMAT

This competition is a two-person team event known as Four-Ball Stroke Play in the Rules of Golf (Rule 23). In Four-Ball Stroke Play, two competitors play as partners, each playing her own ball. The lower gross score of the partners is the team score for the hole. (This form of play is often referred to as "Best Ball.") Flighting will be done by handicap indexes as of the entry deadline, and gross and net prizes will be awarded based on the total number of teams competing in each division & flight. **There must be a minimum of seven (7) teams competing in a Senior Division to be eligible for gross and net prizes. Net prizes will not be awarded in the Open Division.**

SCHEDULE, FORMAT - 36 Holes Four-Ball Stroke Play

Monday, July 15 – First round, 18 holes Four-Ball Stroke Play. Lunch Provided. Players must inform the Committee in advance if they are unable to compete in the second round. Failure to do so may result in future entries being denied.

Tuesday, July 16 – Second round, 18 holes Four-Ball Stroke Play. Lunch provided. A tie for the Open Division and Senior Division Championship shall be decided immediately after completion of the second round by a sudden-death playoff.

ENTRIES: FORM, FEES AND CLOSING DATE

Entrants shall apply on GAM forms; copies are acceptable. Entrants are solely responsible for securing and returning forms. **Every team shall pay an entry fee of \$300. Entry application and fee must reach GAM office by Wednesday, July 3, 2024. Fax transmittals are not acceptable.** Late or incomplete entries are not acceptable. Time of receipt means time received in GAM office, not time of postmark. Refunds will be issued if GAM office is notified (tournaments@gam.org) prior to the close of entries on July 3. After July 3, fees will be refunded only in the event of injury or illness (with doctor verification). If you must withdraw within 24 hours of the tournament, please call (248) 478-9242 ext. 124. There will be a \$20 per player (\$40 per team) service charge on all refunds. No refunds will be given after July 14. Entry fee covers the Championship schedule, range balls, cart fee, and lunch on both days. Any team whose check is returned due to insufficient funds will have its entry denied and returned. **The committee reserves the right to extend the entry deadline in case the field is not full.**

CHAMPIONSHIP YARDAGE

All yardages for Open & Senior Divisions of the championship will be posted at www.gam.org by June 1, 2024. All yardages are subject to change.

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.

AUTOMOTIVE TRANSPORTATION

Motorized carts are mandatory for Championship and practice rounds; cart fees for the two days of the Championship are included in the entry fee. Cart fees for practice rounds are the responsibility of each contestant. A maximum of two carts will be allowed per group. Note: **ONLY COMPETITORS MAY RIDE IN A CART. SPECTATORS ARE PROHIBITED FROM RIDING. CADDIES ARE NOT ALLOWED IN THIS CHAMPIONSHIP**

PRACTICE

Practice at the host site will be available. Information will be sent out after the entries close. Practice on the course is prohibited on the days of the Championship.

RULES OF GOLF

Play will be governed by the 2023 USGA Rules of Golf. The One-Ball Rule is will not be in effect.

NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL

Entrants who withdraw without informing the Association office may have future entries denied.

PRIZES

Prizes will be awarded to the 1st gross and net teams in senior flights based on the total number entries. The Open Division will only award gross prizes. **There must be a minimum of seven (7) teams competing in a Senior flight/division to be eligible for gross and net prizes.** The overall Champions' names will be engraved on the Hiestand-Garety Trophy.

CONDITIONS, SCHEDULES

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

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.

**APPLICATION FOR ENTRY – 14th GAM WOMEN’S FOUR-BALL CHAMPIONSHIP
ENTRY DEADLINE - WEDNESDAY, JULY 3, 2024**

Full payment is due with entry.

Please charge the card below for the full entry _____ Please charge the players equal amounts on the cards below _____

<p>Payment Information Send To: GAM, 39255 Country Club Drive Suite B-40, Farmington Hills, MI 48331</p> <p>Entry Fee: \$300 (Per Team) Method of Payment:</p> <p>Credit Card _____ Check _____ (Make checks payable to GAM)</p> <p>Card Type: Mastercard _____ Visa _____ Discover _____ Card</p> <p>Number: _____</p> <p>Cardholder Name: _____</p> <p>Expiration Date: ____/____/____ CVV: _____</p> <p>Billing Address: _____</p> <p>City: _____ Zip: _____</p>	<p>Payment Information Send To: GAM, 39255 Country Club Drive Suite B-40, Farmington Hills, MI 48331</p> <p>Entry Fee: \$300 (Per Team) Method of Payment:</p> <p>Credit Card _____ Check _____ (Make checks payable to GAM)</p> <p>Card Type: Mastercard _____ Visa _____ Discover _____ Card</p> <p>Number: _____</p> <p>Cardholder Name: _____</p> <p>Expiration Date: ____/____/____ CVV: _____</p> <p>Billing Address: _____</p> <p>City: _____ Zip: _____</p>
---	---

<p>Name _____</p> <p>GHIN No. _____</p> <p>Home Club _____</p> <p>Home Address _____</p> <p>Telephone: _____</p> <p>Emer. Contact _____ Phone _____</p> <p>Birthdate: _____</p> <p>E-mail Address _____</p> <p>Current USGA Index ____ . ____ Effective Date _____</p>	<p>Name _____</p> <p>GHIN No. _____</p> <p>Home Club _____</p> <p>Home Address _____</p> <p>Telephone: _____</p> <p>Emer. Contact _____ Carrier _____</p> <p>Birthdate: _____</p> <p>E-mail Address _____</p> <p>Current USGA Index ____ . ____ Effective Date _____</p>
<p>We will play in the Open Division: _____ Senior Division: _____</p>	
<p><u>A player’s memo with pairings and practice round information will be sent by email. Please provide e-mail addresses below.</u></p>	
<p>E-mail _____</p>	<p>E-mail _____</p>
<p>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.</p>	
<p>Signature of Applicant _____</p>	<p>Date _____</p>
<p>Signature of Applicant _____</p>	<p>Date _____</p>

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.

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 events.

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: This GAM Championship may be entered at any time starting Wednesday, March 13, 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 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 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 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