



GAM Tournament of Champions

Conducted by the Golf Association of Michigan

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

OAK POINTE CC - CHAMPIONSHIP

BRIGHTON, MICHIGAN

ENTRY DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 20, 2024



ELIGIBILITY

Must be an individual member of the GAM at time of entry, be the current Men's or Women's Club Champion at that GAM member club, an individual winner of a 2024 GAM Championship, or be in the top 20 on either of the 2024 Honor Rolls. There must have been an organized competition, either stroke play or match play, at your club to determine Men's and Women's Club Champions. The Club Championship should be a gross competition. If the Club Championship is net, the winner must be from the "Championship" flight. If either Champion cannot play, a runner-up may substitute for him/her. If you are a transgendered individual, contact the GAM Executive Director at 248-478-9242, ext. 115, for the additional entry application procedure.

SCHEDULE

All players will play 18 holes of stroke play. This is a gross only competition. A tie for the Championship shall be decided immediately after completion of the round by a hole-by-hole playoff.

ENTRIES: FORM, FEE AND CLOSING DATE

Entrants must apply on Association forms. Forms will be mailed or e-mailed to the Golf Professional at all GAM member facilities. It is the responsibility of the aforementioned people to get the application into the hands of their Club Champions. Any player whose check is returned due to insufficient funds will have his entry denied and returned. **Entry fee of \$100 and a completed application must reach the GAM office by Friday, September 20, 2024 for both men and women.** If your Club Championship is not held prior to September 27, and you wish to participate, contact the GAM office. An effort will be made to accommodate Club Champions who are not determined until after the deadline, but only if the size of the field permits. Refunds will not be issued after the entry deadline unless sickness or injury prevents play (with doctor verification). The entry fee covers the championship schedule, range balls, cart and lunch. A \$20 service charge will be deducted from all refunds.

PRIZES

Prizes will be awarded to the top finishers in the Men's and Women's divisions. A tie for first place will be decided immediately by a sudden-death playoff.

AUTOMOTIVE TRANSPORTATION

Automotive transportation is **mandatory** in this Championship. Where automotive transportation is permitted, **ONLY COMPETITORS MAY RIDE IN A CART. CADDIES ARE PROHIBITED DURING ALL ROUNDS OF COMPETITION. ALL SPECTATORS ARE PROHIBITED FROM RIDING.**

GOLF BALLS

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

CONDITIONS, SCHEDULES

The Committee appointed by the GAM reserves the right to alter or change any of the Conditions or Schedules herein.

RULES OF GOLF

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

PRACTICE PRIVILEGES

Practice rounds and fees are at the discretion of the host club. More information will be sent out after the entry deadline.

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.*

CHAMPIONSHIP YARDAGE

All projected yardages for the championship will be stated at www.gam.org by September 1, 2024. Projected yardages are 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.

APPLICATION FOR ENTRY - GAM TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS
ENTRY DEADLINE – FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2024

Payment Information **Send To:** Golf Association of Michigan 39255 Country Club Drive Suite B-40, Farmington Hills, MI 48331 OR tournaments@gam.org (PREFERRED METHOD)

Entry Fee \$100 **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** _____

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.

Entrants Signature _____ **Date** _____

Name _____

Address _____ **City** _____ **Zip** _____

Cell Phone (____) _____ **Emergency Contact** _____

Emergency Contact Phone (____) _____ **Relation** _____

Player's E-mail _____ **Date of Birth** _____ **Male or Female**

Club Representing _____ **Date of Club Championship** _____

Club Pro _____ **Club Phone Number** _____

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 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 at the stipulated entry 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 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 tournaments) 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 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. (Note: Use (248) 478-9242 ext. 124 if withdrawing within 24 hours of the tournament.) 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