



113th Michigan Amateur Championship

Conducted by the Golf Association of Michigan

JUNE 17 – JUNE 21, 2024

THE HIGHLANDS AT HARBOR SPRINGS - HEATHER

HARBOR SPRINGS, MICHIGAN

ENTRY DEADLINE: FRIDAY, APRIL 26, 2024



ELIGIBILITY

Entries are open to eligible amateur golfers with a USGA Handicap Index not exceeding 5.4 at the time the player's entry is received by GAM, and who meet the Golf Association of Michigan State Residency Criteria as of April 1, 2024. Eligible contestants will receive confirmation by email if a working email address is provided on the player's application. Verification of entry may also be accomplished by logging on to www.gam.org and clicking on the Championship entered.

SECTIONAL QUALIFYING ROUNDS

18-Hole Stroke Play for all except exempt players.

CHAMPIONSHIP ROUNDS - 156 Players eligible

STROKE PLAY - 36 holes to determine 64 players for match play. All sectional qualifiers and exempt players shall compete.

Monday, June 17 - First round, 18 holes stroke play.

Tuesday, June 18 - Second round, 18 holes stroke play. A tie for the final spot in match play shall be decided immediately after completion of the second round by a hole-by-hole playoff.

MATCH PLAY - USGA general numerical draw shall be used. The stipulated round shall be extended to as many holes as necessary for the match to be won.

Wednesday, June 19

AM - Round of 64, 18 holes.
PM - Round of 32, 18 holes.

Thursday, June 20

AM - Round of 16, 18 holes.
PM - Quarterfinals, 18 holes.

Friday, June 21

AM - Semifinals, 18 holes.
PM - Finals, 18 holes.

CONDITIONS & SCHEDULES

The Michigan Amateur 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

Medals will be awarded to sectional qualifying Medalists, and prizes will be awarded to the Champion, Runner-Up, and 36-Hole Medalist. The Champion's name will be engraved on the Michigan Amateur Staghorn Trophy and the 36-Hole Medalist's name will be engraved on the Charles Koscs Medalist Trophy.

ACCEPTANCE OF PLACES, NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL

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 not to compete, he must notify the Association office promptly.**

NON-METALLIC SPIKE POLICY

Non-Metallic Spike Policy are both in effect for this Championship and all qualifiers.

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.

ENTRIES: FORM, FEE, DEADLINE APRIL 26, 2024

All entrants, including exempt players, shall make application on GAM forms, obtainable from the GAM website, www.gam.org or the GAM office. Copies are acceptable. **Only one entry per person.** **Entry fee of \$155 (GAM member) or \$200 (Non-Member)** 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) before entries close on April 26. After April 26, an entry fee will be refunded **only** in the event of injury or illness verified by a doctor's statement. There will be a \$20 service charge deducted from all refunds. No refunds will be given for any reason after your assigned qualifying date or if exempt after June 16. **Any player whose check is returned due to insufficient funds will have his entry denied and returned.** **Entry applications and fee must reach the GAM office by Friday, April 26, 2024.** **Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted.** **The date of a postmark is not relevant.** **Fax transmittals will not be accepted.** The entry fee covers the Sectional Qualifying Round, practice rounds for competitors at the Championship site and the Championship schedule. Fees and times for practice rounds at sectional qualifying sites are at the discretion of the host club/course.

CADDIES, AUTOMOTIVE TRANSPORTATION

An entrant may provide his own caddie or carry his own clubs for sectional qualifying or any phase of the Championship. Players shall walk at all times during a stipulated round. Pull carts may be allowed at Sectional qualifying sites. Players should check the players' memo at www.gam.org.

RULES OF GOLF

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

SECOND CHANCE QUALIFIER

A second chance qualifier will be conducted at Owosso CC on Friday, June 7. The qualifier will be open to any player who has failed to qualify, but who has posted an 18-hole score in one of the regular qualifiers. Entries will be available online 10 a.m., June 3, 2024. The fee is \$100.

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 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 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.

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.

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 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.

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 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.

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

APPLICATION FOR ENTRY – 113th MICHIGAN AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP
ENTRY DEADLINE - FRIDAY, APRIL 26, 2024

Payment Information

Send To: 39255 Country Club Drive, Suite B-40, Farmington Hills, MI 48331

Entry Fee: Member \$155 (Non-Member \$200) **Method of Payment:** Credit Card Check (Make checks payable to GAM)

Card Type: Mastercard Visa Discover Card Number: _____

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

Player's Name: _____ Birth Date: _____

Mailing Address: _____ City: _____

Zip: _____ Preferred Phone: _____

GHIN No.: _____ Club Name: _____ Current USGA Index ____.

NOTE: Applicants who are not GAM members must complete the handicap information on page 4 of this form.

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

E-mail Address: _____

Emergency Contact _____ **Phone** _____ **Relation** _____

Please rank qualifying sites by preference (1 through 12) or indicate entry as an exempt player. Limit of 78 players per sectional qualifying site. If your choices are full this is the method to determine where you will compete.

_____ Edgewood CC, Commerce Twp., Mon., May 6	_____ Kaufman GC, Wyoming, Thurs., May 23
_____ Clio CC, Clio, Mon., May 6	_____ Forest Akers GC – West, Lansing, Sat., May 25
_____ Pheasant Run GC, Canton, Fri., May 10	_____ Edgewood CC, Commerce Twp., Tues., May 28
_____ Lochmoor Club, Grosse Pointe Woods, Mon., May 13	_____ Twin Lakes G&SC, Oakland, Fri., May 31
_____ Salem Hills GC, Northville, Tues., May 14	_____ Greywalls, Marquette, Sat., June 1
_____ Fieldstone GC, Auburn Hills, Thurs., May 16	_____ The Highlands at Harbor Springs - Moor, Wed., June 5
_____ Bedford Valley GC/Stonehedge South, Battle Creek, Tues., May 21	_____ Exempt

SECOND CHANCE QUALIFIER

A second chance qualifier will be held at Owosso Country Club on Friday, June 7, 2024. The qualifier will be open to any player who has turned in an 18-hole score and has failed to qualify in one of the 2023 regular qualifiers. Entries will be available online 10 a.m., June 3. Fee \$100.

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 further choices, (first, second, etc. choices) his entry will be returned.

Automotive transportation is prohibited. Players shall not use automotive transportation during the stipulated round.

AFFIRMATION: I have read the Tournament Player's 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 my 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: _____

HANDICAP VERIFICATION FOR NON-GAM MEMBERS:

Any Player who is not a GAM member must have this section completed by an officer, handicap chairman, or the head professional from his home club:

The most current USGA Handicap Index for the player identified on the reverse side of this form is:

Current Index: _____.

Effective Date: _____

Club Name: _____ City: _____

Verified By: _____ Phone: _____
Please Print

Signature: _____ Title: _____

2024 Michigan Amateur Championship Exemptions

Players in the categories listed are exempt from Sectional Qualifying provided they meet all other eligibility requirements. (*Italics denotes ineligible*)

- 1. Michigan Amateur Champions for the last 7 years**
2023 – August Meekhof
2022 – Nick Krueger
2021 – *Patrick Sullivan*
2020 – *Tyler Copp*
2019 – *Ben Smith*
2018 – *Beau Breault*
2017 – *Tom Werkmeister*
- 2. Michigan Amateur Runners-Up for the last 2 years**
2023 – Will Anderson
2022 – Patrick Deardorff
- 3. Quarterfinalists in 2023 Michigan Amateur**
Jack Zubkus, Jimmy Dales, Brad Bastion, Lorenzo Pinili, Kyle Petrovich, Jared Lyons
- 4. GAM Champions for last 5 years**
2023 – August Meekhof
2022 – August Meekhof
2021 – *James Piot*
2020 – *Jimmy Chestnut*
2019 – *Mitchell White*
- 4. 2023 Michigan Jr. Match Play Champion** – Will Preston
- 5. 2023 GAM Mid-Amateur Champion** – Matt Zerbel
- 6. 2023 GAM Senior Amateur Champion** – Greg Davies
- 7. 2023 GAM Senior Match Play Champion** – Mike Ignasiak
- 8. 2023 GAM Top Ten Honor Roll** (not otherwise exempt)
John Quigley, *Yuqi Liu*, Arie Jackman, Bryan Haase, David Szymanski
- 9. GAM Player of the Year for the last 2 years**
2023 – August Meekhof
2022 – Nick Krueger
- 10. Qualified for the U.S. Amateur, US Mid-Amateur, or U.S. Senior Open** (not otherwise exempt) – Andrew Tindall, Dave Wilson
- 11. 2023 USGA performances; Won at least one match in the U.S. Junior Am, US Senior Am** (not otherwise exempt) – N/A
- 12. 2023 USGA Performance: Reaches match play in a USGA Championship where the player was exempt** (not otherwise exempt) – Jerry Gunthorpe
- 13. 2024 USGA Open Local Qualifying Rounds** – Non-exempt players entered in the Michigan Amateur who advance in any US Open Local Qualifying will be exempt from Michigan Amateur Sectional Qualifying.
- 14. USGA Champions from the Past 10 Years** – *James Piot*
- 15. 2024 Michigan Open Champion** (if eligible and not otherwise exempt) – To be filled by GAM
- 16. Championship Committee Exemptions** – Ben Fulcher, Michael Anderson

GAM Residency Principles

With the Michigan Amateur Championship and Michigan Women's Amateur Championship, the GAM seeks to identify the premier amateur golfers among those who call the state home. The Association has established its own criteria for use in questions of residency. **The issue of a player's residency is in the sole discretion of the GAM.**

A player is responsible for reviewing and confirming compliance with the GAM Residency Criteria. Should questions or concerns about residency status exist, a player must contact the GAM at least two weeks prior to the entry deadline at 248.478.9242 ext. 111 or tournaments@gam.org.

As a part of the application process, an applicant shall attest that they meet the GAM Residency Criteria. The GAM has the right, at any time, to request documentation from an applicant verifying that claimed status. Any falsification, misrepresentation, or deliberate omission of facts or documents pertinent to the applicant's eligibility may result in the player being disqualified, stripped of any prize or title, and that person being declared ineligible to participate in any future GAM tournaments.

The GAM reserves the right to consider exceptional circumstances and rule in the best interest of the Association and its Championships on matters of residency.

GAM Residency Criteria

To meet the GAM Residency Criteria for the Michigan Amateur or Michigan Women's Amateur, a player must belong to one or more of the following categories:

1. A person who establishes their legal residence in Michigan and intends to stay here permanently. Generally, this depends on where you live, work, or attend school; where you have lived, worked, or attended school; in the case of a student, where your parents or guardians live; and other evidence that there is intent to make Michigan a permanent home. You have severed any previous out-of-state ties.

Residents are generally found to have:

- Michigan driver's license
- Michigan license tag on vehicle
- Voter registration in Michigan
- Ownership or lease of Michigan residence
- Michigan homestead exemption declared on residence
- Place of employment in Michigan
- Proof of payment of utilities at property for which residency is being claimed
- Michigan address listed on state and federal income tax returns

2. A student whose parents or guardians are permanent legal residents of Michigan as shown by permanent employment in the State, establishment of a primary household here and severance of out-of-state ties.
3. Your spouse or partner is employed in Michigan in a full-time, permanent position and this employment is your primary purpose for your family living in the State.
4. Military personnel based in Michigan on active duty, their spouse, and dependent children.

A dependent student does not meet the GAM Residency Criteria if his or her parents or guardians are not permanent legal residents of Michigan as described above.

A student is presumed to be a dependent of his/her parents or guardians if they are 24 years of age or younger and have primarily been involved in educational pursuits or have not been financially self-supporting through employment.

Circumstances that generally do not show permanent residency include:

- Employment in a temporary or short-term position usually intended for internship, apprenticeship or training
- Employment in a position normally held by a student
- Your spouse is employed permanent in the State, but you are in Michigan for temporary reasons
- Your relatives live in Michigan
- You lived in Michigan permanently in the past

The GAM may request documentation to determine a player's residency. If you feel your Michigan residency may be in question, please contact the GAM. To guarantee a thorough review, contact the GAM at least two weeks prior to the entry deadline. In the event a residency question is presented later than that time, the GAM reserves the right to remove a player from the field.