20th GAM Senior Four-Ball Championship

Conducted by the Golf Association of Michigan
AUGUST 24-25, 2026
EAGLE EYE GOLF CLUB
BATH, MICHIGAN
ENTRY DEADLINE: WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2026

ELIGIBILITY

Entries are open to male amateur golfers who: (1) have reached their 55th birthday by August 24, 2026, (2) have an up-to-date WHS Handicap Index, (3) have an individual Handicap Index not exceeding 7.4 strokes, and (4) are individual members of the GAM at the **time of entry. THIS IS NOT A NET COMPETITION**. 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 competition may result in future entries being denied. Eligible contestants will receive confirmation by email. Verification of entry may also be accomplished by logging on to www.gam.org and clicking on the Championship you have entered.

FORMAT

This competition is a two-person team tournament 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 his own ball. The lower of the partners' gross scores is the team's hole score. (This form of play is often referred to as "Best Ball.") **THIS IS NOT A NET COMPETITION.**

SCHEDULE, FORMAT - 36 Hole Four-Ball Stroke Play

Monday, August 24 - First round, 18 holes Four-Ball Stroke Play. Lunch will be made available. 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. **No cut - all teams play 36 holes.**
Tuesday, August 25 – Second round, 18 holes Four-Ball Stroke Play. Lunch is available after the round. A tie for the Championship shall be decided immediately after completion of the second round by a hole-by-hole 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 $400. Entry application and fee must reach the GAM office by Wednesday, August 12, 2026. Fax transmittals are not acceptable.** Late or incomplete entries are not acceptable. Time of receipt means the time received at the GAM office, not the postmark date. Refunds will be issued if the GAM office is notified (tournaments@gam.org) before the close of entries on August 12. If you must withdraw within 24 hours of the tournament, please call (248) 478-9242 ext. 124. After August 12, fees will be refunded only for injury or illness (with doctor verification). No refunds will be granted for any reason after August 23. There will be a $20 service charge on all refunds. The entry fee covers the Championship schedule, range balls, the cart fee, and lunch on both days. Any team whose check is returned for insufficient funds will have its entry denied. **The committee reserves the right to extend the entry deadline in case the field is not full.**

EXEMPT REGISTRATION

Teams that meet the following criteria will be able to register two weeks before the Registration Open Date:

1. Top 5 and ties in the Senior Division in 2025
2. Top 3 and ties in the Super Senior Division in 2025
3. Host and Committee Exemptions

CHAMPIONSHIP YARDAGE

All projected yardage for the championship will be posted at www.gam.org by July 1, 2026. The yardage is 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 PRIVILEGES

Practice rounds and fees are at the host club's discretion. Information will be sent out after the entries close.

RULES OF GOLF

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

GOLF BALLS

The "One-Ball" Rule is not 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- and 2nd-place teams in the Senior and Super Senior Divisions. The overall Champions' names will be engraved on the Gus Cosmos 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.

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

DISTANCE MEASURING DEVICES

DMDs 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 – 20th GAM SENIOR FOUR-BALL CHAMPIONSHIP
ENTRY DEADLINE - WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2026

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

Payment Information Send To: GAM, 39255 Country Club Drive Suite B-40, Farmington Hills, MI 48331 or tournaments@gam.org

Entry Fee: $400 (Per Team) Method of Payment:

Credit Card ____ Check ____ (Make checks payable to GAM)

Card Type: Mastercard ____ Visa ____ Discover ____ Card

Number:_____

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

Billing Address: _____

City: _____ **Zip:** _____

Payment Information Send To: GAM, 39255 Country Club Drive Suite B-40, Farmington Hills, MI 48331 or tournaments@gam.org

Entry Fee: $400 (Per Team) Method of Payment:

Credit Card ____ Check ____ (Make checks payable to GAM)

Card Type: Mastercard ____ Visa ____ Discover ____ Card

Number:_____

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

Billing Address: _____

City: _____ **Zip:** _____

Name _____

GHIN No. _____

Home Club _____

Home Address _____

_____

Phone _____

Emer. Contact_____ Relation_____
Phone_____

Birthdate: _____

E-mail Address _____

Current USGA Index ____. ____ Effective Date_____

E-mail _____

Name _____

GHIN No. _____

Home Club _____

Home Address _____

_____

Phone _____

Emer. Contact_____ Relation_____
Phone_____

Birthdate: _____

E-mail Address _____

Current USGA Index ____.____Effective Date_____

E-mail _____

Please specify the Division in which you wish to play

Senior Division_____ Super Senior Division **(both must be 65 or Older)** _____

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 _____

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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 circumstances that warrant 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 provision for a player requesting special consideration due to other commitments.

GAM PLAYER CODE OF CONDUCT: By submitting an entry or participating in any GAM competition, the player understands that his/her participation is at the sole discretion of 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 the competition, a serious breach in etiquette may result in a 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 who 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 Official-in-Charge's decision to reject an entry during an event 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 11, 2026, 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. The time limit for entries refers to the time of receipt at the GAM office (not the postmark date). Entries should be mailed early to allow ample time for delivery delays. 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 acceptance criteria will receive a new date and time stamp upon resubmission, 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 the Michigan Net Amateur Championships and qualifiers.) 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, substitutions 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 in practice rounds or any practice privileges.

RULES OF GOLF: Play will be governed by the 2023 USGA Rules of Golf, the USGA or GAM 2026 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