

48th Michigan Junior Amateur Championship

27th Michigan Junior Match Play Championship

Conducted by the Golf Association of Michigan

July 6-9, 2026

BEDFORD VALLEY GC

BATTLE CREEK, MICHIGAN

ENTRY DEADLINE: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 2026



ELIGIBILITY

Entries are open to all male amateur golfers who have not yet reached their 19th birthday by July 9, 2026, are not full-time college students at the sole discretion of the GAM, meet the GAM State Amateur Residency Criteria as of April 1, 2026, have a Handicap Index of 15.4 or less, and are members of a GAM Member Club at time of entry. 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 competition may result in the denial of future entry applications.

FORMAT, SCHEDULE

Sectional Qualifying-18 holes stroke play

84 contestants will qualify for the Overall Division, including exempt players.

24 contestants will qualify for the Boys 15 & Under Division, including exempt players.

Championship Rounds:

Monday, July 6 - 36 holes stroke play; cut to low 32 for Match Play.

The top 32 players in the Championship qualify for match play. A tie for the Championship, as well as the 32nd spot, shall be decided immediately after completion of the 2nd round by a sudden victory hole-by-hole playoff.

Note: If a player qualifies and cannot compete in the Match Play Championship, he must notify the Committee immediately so that the next eligible player may be included.

Tuesday, July 7

AM – First Round Matches (Overall Division)

AM – 18 Holes of Stroke Play – 15 & Under Division. The low 8 players will qualify for match play. A tie for the Championship, as well as the 8th spot, shall be decided immediately after the completion of the round by a sudden victory hole-by-hole playoff.

Wednesday, July 8

AM – Second Round Matches (Overall)

PM – Quarterfinal Matches (15 & Under)

PM – Quarterfinal Matches (Overall)

Match Play: General numerical USGA draw shall be used.

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

Thursday, July 9

AM - Semifinal Matches

PM - Final Match

CONDITIONS, SCHEDULES

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

EXEMPTIONS

Players in categories below, provided they meet all other eligibility requirements, will be exempt from Final Qualifying. (*Italics denote ineligible due to age and/or attending college*)

Overall Division Exemptions

- Top Five Finishers in 2025 Michigan Junior Am - Stroke Play:** Connor Fox, Cody Rowe, Sutton Schroeder, John Cassiday, Adam Thanaporn
- 2025 Michigan Junior Am - Match Play Quarterfinalists:** Nicklaus Smith, Max VanderMolen, Joseph Levan, William Pennanen, Julian Sinishtaj, Jack Klimek, Troy Nguyen, Sutton Schroeder
- 2025 GAM Junior Player of the Year Points List- Top 15:** Joseph Levan, Tommy Preston, Max VanderMolen, Harris Hoekwater, Cooper Reitsma, Connor Fox, Julian Sinishtaj, William Pennanen, John Cassiday, Sawyer O'Grady, AJ Gasper, Andrew Chang, Jack Klimek, Sutton Schroeder, Nicklaus Smith
- 2025 US Junior Amateur Qualifier Top 5:** Tommy Preston, Cooper Reitsma
- 2025 Michigan Junior PGA Top 5:** Max VanderMolen, AJ Gasper, Colin Riehl, Andrew Chang, John Cassiday, Konner Kubica
- 2025 GAM Junior Stroke Play Champion & Runner-Up:** Brandon Kulka, Blake Springstead
- 2025 GAM Boys' Championship Top 5:** Joseph Levan, Harris Hoekwater, William Pennanen, Tommy Preston, Parker Westcott
- 2025 GAM Junior Invitational Top 3:** Tommy Preston, Cooper Reitsma, Sawyer O'Grady, AJ Gasper
- 2025 U.S. Amateur Qualifier Top 10:** *No age eligible players fulfilled this requirement in 2025*
- 2026 Michigan Amateur - Match Play Qualifier:** (To Be Filled by GAM)
- Michigan Jr. Amateur Match Play Champion Last Three Years (if still eligible):** Joseph Levan, Connor Fox, Will Preston
- 2025 Michigan Junior State Amateur Champion – 15 & Under Division:** Blake Springstead
- Junior Committee Exemption – TBD**

15 & Under Division Exemptions

- 2025 GAM 12 & Under Championship Champion:** *No players fulfilled this requirement in 2025*
- 2025 GAM 14 & Under Match Play Champion & Runner-Up:** Watson Mercier, Leland DeKorver
- 2025 GAM Boys' Championship Top 3:** Draven Rogers, Jack Logar, Zane Rueger, Timothy Wagemann
- 2025 GAM Junior Invitational Champion & Runner-Up (15 & Under Division):** Parker Westcott, Watson Mercier

EXPENSES

A player may accept a reasonable amount of expenses from any outside source without forfeiting amateur status.

CADDIES, AUTOMOTIVE TRANSPORTATION

Caddies are not allowed in any phase of the Championship. Players and Spectators shall not use automotive transportation at any time during the Championship.

ENTRY FEE, CLOSING DATE

Entry applications and a \$100.00 entry fee must be received by the GAM office by Wednesday, June 10, 2026. Late or incomplete entries are not acceptable.

GOLF BALLS

Only brands of balls in the most recent USGA Conforming Golf Balls book may be used.

DISTANCE MEASURING DEVICES

DMDs that measure distance only are allowed in this competition. 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 the GENERAL PENALTY for the first breach of this rule and DISQUALIFICATION for a subsequent breach during the round.

PRIZES

Mementos will be awarded to all Sectional Medalists and ties. Prizes will be awarded to both the Stroke and Match play Champions and Runners-up. Overall Stroke & Match Play Champion(s) will have their name(s) engraved on the Forest B. Wright trophy, which remains in the GAM office. Prizes comply with the Michigan High School Athletic Association guidelines.

DRESS CODE

Shirts with collars and sleeves are required; however, women may wear sleeveless shirts with collars or collarless shirts with sleeves. Tank tops, T-shirts, short shorts, gym shorts, cutoffs, bathing suits, and **denim pants/shorts** are not 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.

ACCEPTANCE OF PLACES, NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL

Qualifiers shall notify the Official in Charge if they cannot compete in the finals. If a player withdraws, he must advise the GAM office immediately by emailing tournaments@gam.org.

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 governing 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 round

Should such an incident occur, the Official-in-Charge shall submit a report to the Championship Committee. Future sanctions may range from suspension from future GAM competitions to being ineligible for GAM team competitions and/or player awards. This may also include losing exempt status for future year(s). The Official-in-Charge's decision to reject an entry during a competition 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 Wednesday, February 18, 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 is the time of receipt at the GAM office (not the postmark date). Entries should be mailed early to allow sufficient 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 into any further GAM competition is permitted.

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.

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 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.

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 sudden-death 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 *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 before the competition. 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 to those of 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 their status and is expected to prove that their playing ability is consistent with the requirements of the GAM by submitting evidence to support 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 – 48th MICHIGAN JUNIOR AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP
27th Michigan Junior Match Play Championship
ENTRY DEADLINE - WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 2026

Payment Information	Send To: GAM, 39255 Country Club Drive Suite B-40,, Farmington Hills, MI 48331
Entry Fee: \$100	Method of Payment: Credit Card <input type="checkbox"/> Check <input type="checkbox"/> (Make checks payable to GAM)
Card Type: Mastercard <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> Discover <input type="checkbox"/>	Card Number: _____
Cardholder Name: _____	Expiration Date: ____/____/____ CVV: _____
Billing Address: _____	City: _____ Zip: _____

Check the Division for the player below: Overall: _____ Boys 15-and-Under: _____

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

Address _____

City _____ **Zip Code** _____ **Graduation Year** _____

Parent/Guardian: Home Telephone (_____) _____ **Cell Phone** (_____) _____

School _____ **Golf Course Most Regularly Played** _____

My up-to-date Handicap Index® is ____ . ____ **strokes.**

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

E-Mail _____

I am exempt from qualifying under category number _____. **Otherwise, I have indicated, by number, my Sectional Qualifying site preference(s) on the bottom of the page.**

I have read the Tournament Players Information and agree to comply with all stated regulations and conditions. 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

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 any 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 _____ **Relationship to Applicant** _____

Final Qualifying Rounds - 18 Holes

QUALIFYING PLACES, TIES, ALTERNATES, SUBSTITUTIONS

The Committee will determine the number of qualifiers and alternates in each Qualifier, after entries close, based on the size of the field. A tie for the last qualifying place and/or alternate spot shall be decided immediately by a hole-by-hole playoff. Before the Championship begins, alternates will be selected to replace qualifiers who are unable to play, with priority given to alternates from the same site. If an exempt player withdraws, the Committee will establish the Qualifying site order to fill the position.

SCHEDULE OF QUALIFYING ROUNDS, QUALIFYING LOCATION, TRANSFERRING

Each entrant should compete in the Qualifier nearest his residence. If a player indicates no second choice and his first choice is filled, his entry will be returned. This also applies if a player indicates no third choice and their first and second choices are already filled. Please indicate, **by number**, your order of preference in the spaces to the left of each date, and select as many as desired to reduce the risk of your entry being returned due to over-subscription. Players will be assigned to their preferred qualifying site on a first-come, first-served basis, based on the date and time their accepted entry is received. Practice at the Qualifying site will be available, with fees and times set by the host club/course. Contestants shall not change their Qualifying site after entries close. Starting times shall not be changed.

DATE	CLUB	PLACE	DATE	CLUB	PLACE
____ June 18	Kaufman GC	Wyoming	____ June 23	Twin Lakes G&SC	Oakland
____ June 19	Indian Springs GC	White Lake	____	Exempt	

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