



NIMAGA NOTES MAY 2014

Welcome to the 2014 season of NIMAGA!!!

It should shape up to be a great season of golf with some great new courses on the schedule, as well as some old favorites. If you have never had the pleasure of playing at **Harborside**, make sure you sign up for the **May Midweek**. It is a spectacular course and a true test of golf. A special welcome to our new members, and a reminder that it takes a few events to be comfortable playing in competition, especially if you are new to tournament golf.

What's New in 2014

The Match Play Event is now officially sanctioned by NIMAGA

A College membership rate has been added

The 4-Man Scramble tournament in October

New website features that include updated NIMAGA Cup point standings and Players Championship qualifiers, and PayPal for the Match Play.

Congratulations to our April Winners-

Spring Thaw at Countryside

Gross Winners

Palmer-Ralph Reiser

Player-Tom O'Brien

Trevino-Mike Zdarsky

Net Winners

Palmer-Bob Pokrzywa

Player-Jim Neceda

Trevino-Tom Gearhart

April Midweek at Cantigny

Gross Winners

Low Division- Vito Favia

High Division-Mario Conte

Net Winners

Low Division- Tom Jenks

High Division- Jeff Toth

PLAYOFFS, PLAYOFFS!

Paying homage to Jim Mora playoffs have been the word in our first two events. Cantigny featured a three-way GROSS tie between Vito Favia, Jeff Korkus, and Dave Minor. Jeff missed a fifteen foot putt for par on the first hole and was eliminated when Minor hit a clutch ten footer followed by Favia's four footer. On hole 2 after a Favia miss hit left him short of the creek Minor from a tough sidehill lie hit a strong wedge which rolled in the creek. Favia two-putted after a fine approach shot to close out Dave and take his first NIMAGA title.

Countryside featured a playoff in each division. Dave Clay won a scorecard playoff for second place GROSS (this is the normal policy) in Palmer. Jim Neceda made a twenty-footer for par on the 18th hole to force a NET playoff with Michael Woulfe in the Player division. Each shot a great round of 68 on a windy Prairie course. Neceda made a five foot par putt to win when Michael's approach shot failed to make the green and left him with a difficult chip.

Tom Gearhart bested Greg Rusteberg on the first playoff hole for the Trevino NET title. He parred the first hole (one of only two in Trevino that day brewmaster Tim Prentiss being the other) after Greg found tree trouble and scrambled to get to the green. Two putts from 30 feet were enough to take home the plaque.

Congratulations to all of our sudden death winners!

As a reminder, please come straight to the scoring table after you have completed your round and check in. At that point, please take your blank scorecards and, as a group, fill in your scores and information on the card, sign it, and have it verified and signed by two other members of the group you played with that day. After all of the cards are signed and verified, please hand them in at the scoring table. This will really help the Tournament Directors get the scoring done in a timely matter. Then stick around and have a cold beverage, congratulate the winners, and see if your skin held up!!!

RULES CORNER

At the **April Midweek**, we had an interesting ruling- Player A hit his ball into a pile of cut up tree branches that had been dumped in a pile for removal at a later time. The ruling was that Player A got relief. Was it right?

Yes. The basis for the ruling is found under [Rule 25](#) . Ground under repair includes materials piled for removal and/or a hole made by a greenkeeper, even if not so marked. Also in that decision- If a greenkeeper is in the process of sawing up a fallen tree and stacking the wood, the tree in its entirety is ground under repair.

As always, it is good to have an understanding of the Rules of Golf. If you have a question about a ruling during your round, it is encouraged for you to get the opinion of the group you are playing with, so as to confirm the correct play. If no consensus has been reached with the group, if necessary, play two balls for the rest of the hole, and get the ruling from the tournament committee when you finish your round, but before you turn in your scorecard.

PACE OF PLAY

For the last few years, NIMAGA has adopted the following Pace of Play rule-

If a group finishes **14-18** minutes behind the group in front of them, and **26** minutes or more behind two groups in front of them **1 Stroke Penalty** **19** minutes or more behind the group in front of them, AND **26** minutes or more behind two groups in front of them **2 Stroke Penalty**. Groups finishing beyond the above time lines will be brought to the attention of NIMAGA's Board for what ever action the Boards chooses. Please note this rule includes leniency and thus any group which does not finish within these time allowances will be assessed the penalty. Also note this rule is based on the "group," it is not acceptable for the first player of a group to hole out on the last hole and run into the club house. The "group" has not finished until the last player holes out on the last hole.

This Pace of Play rule was established to keep the tournament running at a pace that most courses and golfers find acceptable. In tournament rounds, please be aware of the group in front of you, and keep pace.

Suggestions for keeping the Pace of Play include playing "Ready" golf, putt-out instead of re-marking your ball, begin lining up your putt when you get to the green, not when it is your turn, and leave the green quickly after your group has puttied out, and mark your scorecards on the next tee box. Another good suggestion is when two players are riding in a cart, drive the cart to the first ball and drop off the first player with his choice of clubs. The second player should proceed in the cart to his ball. After the first player hits his stroke, he should begin walking toward the cart as the second golfer is playing.

The Tournament Directors do not like assessing slow play penalties, so please keep the pace.

"If you watch a game, it's fun. If you play it, it's recreation. If you work at it, it's golf." - Bob Hope

"The most important shot in golf is the next one." - Ben Hogan

"Correct me if I'm wrong, Sandy, but if I kill all the golfers they'll lock me and up and throw away the key." - Carl Spackler