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## NIMAGA NOTES SEPTEMBER 2014

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### What a year, so far....

And it's not over!! If you have qualified for the NIMAGA Player's Championship, make sure you get your registration in. Foxford Hills will sure to be a great test of golf!! Also coming up is the 4-Man Fall Scramble. Last year the members who played all agreed it was a great event and a ton of fun!!

### **Don Clement- Former NIMAGA President**

Sadly Don Passed away on September 9<sup>th</sup> at age 85. Don joined NIMAGA in 1966 and soon became a board member volunteer. Don directed the advertising effort in 1970 for the USGA Public Links. The USGA called upon NIMAGA to help with the event in 1970 at Cog Hill. Don served as the Tournament Chairmen when NIMAGA had over 400 members. Tee sheets and results were printed and mailed to every member along with NIMAGA Notes each month. Don served as Vice-President and President for more than 25 years. He loved the competition in NIMAGA and gave many hundreds of hours to our organization. In 1985 Don had a severe Heart attack and yet he made sure to get someone to run the Tournament in his absence. At his funeral mass, it was said that " He got things done". Under his leadership the Milwaukee Challenge Match, Tournament Of Winners(Now the NPC event), and NIMAGA Cup were created. He got things done! He was unable to play golf in the recent years, however, all who knew him will miss the many good times spent with Don.

### **Congratulations to our most recent Winners-**

#### **August Midweek at Hilldale**

##### **Gross Winners**

Low Division- Tim Jordan

High Division- Doug Peters

##### **Net Winners**

Low Division- John Lemm

High Division- Matthew Bagley

## **Two-Man Better Ball at White Pines**

### **Gross Winners**

Low Division- Vito Favia & Dave Minor

High Division- Frank Fiarito & Rolando Leyva

### **Net Winners**

Low Division- Pete Angelakos & Dave Sloan

High Division- Mark Heinsohn & Tom Gearhart

## **Patriot's Day Classic at Bartlett Hills & Palatine Hills**

### **Gross Winners**

Palmer(Bartlett)- Rob Castanares

Player(Palatine)- Mario Conte

Trevino(Bartlett)- Mark Masciola

### **Net Winners**

Palmer(Bartlett)- Joseph Nagy

Player(Palatine)- Mike Zdarsky

Trevino(Bartlett)- Jim Wojcik

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!!

## **NIMAGA Players Championship**

On October 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>, NIMAGA will hold it's Player's Championship event at the beautiful Foxford Hills Golf Club. This is NIMAGA's premier event for the year. It is played as a one division, two-day tournament, and the winner for best gross score, and the five lowest nets win a beautiful trophy. It is truly the tournament to qualify for!!

## **Presidential Press**

The last 2 events of the 2014 NIMAGA golf schedule is the most prestigious (NIMAGA Players Championship) and the most popular (4-Man Scramble) based on our post tournament survey (90% thought it was a great format and wanted it repeated on the schedule).

The NIMAGA Players Championship (formerly the Tournament of Winners) has one of the best fields in recent years. Perry Variano (Gross) and Nick DiCosola (Net) are returning to defend their titles. We have nine returning champions (Youngquist, Barnaby, Ogoli, Jourdan, Leitschuh and Koranda to name a few) from the past five years competing at Foxford Hills. Foxford Hills in Cary is the perfect layout for the event. A premium on accuracy off the tee on many holes along with fast undulating greens that require one with a good short game to navigate the

course. The course will play to Par 72 with yardage at 6,350. A calm day should lead to some good scores while a windy day will lead to many adventures. The deadline is Friday, September 26th for those who qualified and satisfied all eligibility requirements (the only tournament where you need both to participate). The event is over 40 years old but holding the winner's trophy on Sunday never gets old just ask Steve Barnaby, David Ogoli or any of the other winners. Good Luck to all who are playing!

The 4-Man Scramble was added to the schedule in 2013 at Big Run. The teams were determined by a straight handicap draw. The accolades for the event were many after the round. The one time where you will play with members from other divisions rather than against. The high handicappers play the forward tees and the low handicappers play the back tees. There are no requirements on drives used or shots used it is a straight scramble event. I had the pleasure of playing with two members last year that I had never played with before. We did not play well but we really enjoyed each other's company - it was like many others said "a great day". The site for this year's event is Settlers Hill in Batavia the course that tamed the NIMAGA members at the 2013 August Midweek. Hopefully this year NIMAGA will have its revenge on the HILL.

Thanks to all members for their constant feedback, assistance and most of all SPORTSMANSHIP displayed during 2014. All three separate our organization from others. Many have made life long friends and that is one tradition which will always continue.

## **HANDICAP RULE EXPLANATION**

In an effort to establish and maintain parity in NIMAGA Tournaments a handicap policy has been established by the Board of Directors. All members will have a NIMAGA Tournament handicap which will be calculated from participated NIMAGA Tournaments "Only". The NIMAGA Tournament handicap will be posted on the Web-site on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of every month during the NIMAGA Tournament Season.

In addition to their USGA handicap, members will also carry a NIMAGA Tournament handicap. This Tournament handicap will be based solely on golf scores that are recorded in regular NIMAGA Tournaments including Tournament of Winners, Mid-Week and The Seniors Tournament. The tournament handicap is calculated at 96% and takes the best 3 scores of 6 tournaments played to establish the NIMAGA Tournament handicap. The member will use the lower of the two handicaps (USGA or Tournament) when playing in NIMAGA Tournaments.

## **Rules Corner**

Let's say I have a downhill three-footer on a very fast green. I hit the putt and it burns the edge of the hole, then rolls 60 feet off the green. Can I take an unplayable lie, and a one-stroke penalty, and replace the ball in it's original spot on the green?

The answer is yes. You may declare a ball unplayable at any time, except when it is in a water hazard, according to Rule 28. Simply replace the ball, add a stroke, and putt again.

This one comes up throughout the year:

I thought I'd hit my first drive out-of-bounds off the tee, so I hit a provisional, a 150-yard pop-up, and then played that ball from the fairway. Then I found my first ball. Could I have played that one instead?

Per Rule 27-2, if you arrive at your provisional ball before you reach the spot where you think your first tee ball went OB, you can hit the second ball again. If you then find your first ball, you're allowed to play it instead. But once you have hit the provisional ball from a spot closer to the hole than the original ball, it becomes your ball in play.

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.

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In baseball you hit your home run over the right-field fence, the left-field fence, the center-field fence. Nobody cares. In golf everything has got to be right over second base. - Ken Harrelson

Columbus went around the world in 1492. That isn't a lot of strokes when you consider the course. ~Lee Trevino

If I've got a swing, I've got a shot. ~Bubba Watson