



NIMAGA NOTES AUGUST 2015

THE HEAT IS ON.....FINALLY

As we get into the “dog days” of summer, it is finally starting to heat up. Not many tournaments left to qualify for the NIMAGA Players Championship, so get your applications in and play to your best level. Good Luck to all!!

ALL MEMBERS

NIMAGA is an organization run by volunteers. We all have a stake in keeping NIMAGA alive and flourishing. If you know someone who may be interested in tournament golf, let them know about your experience in NIMAGA. The more members we have, the more beneficial it is to everyone.

RETIREMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

After many, many years on the Board of NIMAGA, Tim Jordan is stepping down. Throughout the years, Tim’s insight, leadership, and hard work has been invaluable to the organization. At the next tournament, please take the time to thank Tim for his service.

*****UPCOMING EVENTS*****

Two-Man Two Ball Event at Prairie Bluff Sunday, August 23rd

A long running and very popular NIMAGA event in which players from any division can pair with each other to play as a team. The format is not a scramble you each play your own ball to the holes conclusion and the better of the two scores on a Net and Gross basis are used. You can discuss club selection, yardage, wind, the break-in the green as well as defer your shot to that of your teammate if away. Please feel free to reach out to a fellow member or contact John Johnston jj1210@comcast.net. He is the tournament director and can help you find someone.

NIMAGA Players Championship - October 3 and 4 Boone Creek in McHenry

The entry forms will be e-mailed to those eligible after the Two-Man event. This year we will return to the old format and have a cut (60% of the field and ties head to day 2) after day one. The eligibility requirements are as follows:

Finish in the top 4 of any event or

- Part of the 2015 winning NIMAGA Cup team or
- Finished in the top 5 of the 2014 NPC or
- Finished first in the 2014 Fall Scramble (was scheduled after last year's NPC) or
- Have won the NPC in 2012 or 2013 **and**

- Posted 10 total scores (includes NIMAGA events) prior to the mid-September tournament deadline **and**
- Played in 2 NIMAGA events for returning members and 4 for new members.

All those eligible (see above) whether they play or not in the event will get a NPC glass (they are very nice).

TOURNAMENT RESULTS

FREEDOM OPEN

Palmer Division

Gross Winner- Michael Harmon

Net Winner- Greg Vitel

Player Division

Gross Winner- Steve Schumm

Net Winner- Terry Boksha

Trevino Division

Gross Winner- Ray Reimer

Net Winner- Wayne Richards

JULY MIDWEEK

Low Division

Gross Winner- Dave Minor

Net Winner- Frank Fiarito

High Division

Gross Winner- Terry Boksha

Net Winner- Nick DiCosola

AUGUST MIDWEEK

Low Division

Gross Winner- Paul Susner

Net Winner- Alistair Brown

High Division

Gross Winner- Al Leitschuh

Net Winner- Ken Koranda

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

Low Division

Gross Winner- Michael Harmon

Net Winner- Brandon Rowan

High Division

Gross Winner- Mario Conte

Net Winner- Rolando Leyva

MILWAUKEE CHALLENGE

Once again, NIMAGA will be participating in the Challenge Match against our counterparts in Wisconsin. Please take a moment to consider signing up for this great event. It has a long history with our organization, and it is a lot of fun.

PRESIDENTIAL PRESS

Well, we finally got some nice weather, and in turn we have seen some amazing golf. The scoring has been as good as the pace of play. Most events have been less than 4 1/2 hours and in many cases we are following the public. Thanks to all who are playing ready golf it makes the round much more enjoyable.

Three events left to qualify for the NIMAGA Players Championship our most prestigious event (more information above). We are trying something new for the Patriot's Day to accommodate location and day. We will have two separate tournaments one on the south side on Saturday and one at the Northwest side on Sunday. We hope to see you at one or both as there is no restriction.

I wanted to conclude my contribution to the Notes with a BIG THANK YOU and GOOD LUCK wish to my good friend and long-time member Bob Arendt who moved to Boulder, Colorado in late July. Dan Plens put together a great sign at the Senior Open to honor Bob at his last event. He was extremely touched by all the well wishes from his NIMAGA friends. As I have told many members I owe my longevity in NIMAGA to Bob and the late Keith Buralli. My first two experiences at NIMAGA events were not very welcoming. The guys I played with were not overly friendly considering the sport is a gentleman's game. That changed at my third tournament (which happened to be at Old Oak) I was paired with Bob and Keith our fourth was a no-show. I did not know what to think of some heckling and trash talking between the two and once they started on me around the 7th hole I came to realize it was all in good fun. I could not tell you to this day if I played well or poorly if I won money or not but I can tell you it was the main reason I have stayed part of this organization for over 10 years. I have been blessed to make many friends and enjoy the game that much more. I hope the new guys find their Bob and Keith so they too can enjoy many years of NIMAGA!

Good Luck to everyone playing the remaining events!

Frank R. Fiarito
NIMAGA President

****HANDICAP REPORTING****

As a member of NIMAGA, it is imperative that you report all of your scores, independent of all the NIMAGA regular tournaments, timely and accurately to the Interstate Handicap system. This includes any of the rounds from the year-long Match Play tournament. This helps to insure that the handicaps are as current as possible, and the field is level for all players.

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 USGA Handicap and a NIMAGA Tournament handicap which will be calculated from participated NIMAGA Tournaments "Only". The NIMAGA Tournament Handicap will be based solely on golf scores that are recorded in regular NIMAGA Tournaments, including Mid-Week Tournaments, the Seniors Tournament and the NIMAGA Players Championship. The tournament handicap is calculated at 96% and takes the best 3 scores of 6 tournament rounds 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 and is identified with the letter "t" next to the member's handicap in the Tournament Pairings Sheet (i.e. 16t).

Rules Corner

We define the game by the rules of golf, which tell us that we need to play the ball as it lies and play the course as we find it. Rarely do we lift the ball if we can help it and this local rule will usually only come into play if there is significant casual water and/or significant ground under repair areas.

Occasionally, due to conditions, the Tournament Committee will establish a "Lift, Clean, and Place" rule for the tournament.

"A ball lying on a closely mown area through the green may be lifted without penalty and cleaned. Before lifting the ball, the player must mark its position. Having lifted the ball, he must place it on the marked spot and not nearer the hole than where it originally lay, that is not in a hazard and not on a putting green.

A player may place his ball only once, and it is in play when it has been placed (Rule 20-4). If the ball fails to come to rest on the spot on which it was placed, Rule 20-3d applies: If the ball when placed comes to rest on the spot on which it is placed and it subsequently moves, there is no penalty, and the ball must be played as it lies, unless the provisions of any other Rule apply.

If the player fails to mark the position of the ball before lifting it or moves the ball in any other manner, such as rolling it with a club, the player incurs a penalty of one stroke.

Golf is 20 percent talent and 80 percent management. This is a game of misses. The guy who misses the best is going to win.- Ben Hogan

A businessman was attending a conference in Africa. He had a free day and wanted to play a round of golf and was directed to a golf course in the nearby jungle. After a short journey, he arrived at the course and asked the pro if he could get on.

"Sure," said the pro, "What's your handicap?"

Not wanting to admit that he had an 18 handicap, he decided to cut it a bit. "Well, it's 16," said the businessman,

"But what's the relevance since I'll be playing alone"

"It's very important for us to know," said the pro, who then called a caddy.

"Go out with this gentleman," said the pro, "his handicap is 16."

The businessman was very surprised at this constant reference to his handicap. The caddy picked up the businessman's bag and a large rifle. Again, the businessman was surprised, but decided to ask no questions.

They arrived on the 1st hole, a par-4.

"It's wise to avoid those trees on the left," said the caddy.

Needless to say, the businessman duck-hooked his ball into the trees. He found his ball and was about to punch it out when he heard the loud crack of the rifle and a large snake fell dead from a tree above his head. The caddy stood next to him with the rifle smoking in his hand.

"That's the Black Mamba, the most poisonous snake in all Africa. You're lucky I was here with you."

After taking a bogey, they moved to the 2nd hole, a par-5.

"Good to avoid those bushes on the right," says the caddy.

Of course, the businessman's ball went straight into the bushes. As he went to pick up his ball, he heard the loud crack of the caddy's rifle once again, and a huge lion fell dead at his feet.

"I've saved your life again," said the caddy.

The 3rd hole was a par-3 with a lake in front of the green. The businessman's ball came up just short of the green and rolled back to the edge of the water. To take a shot, he had to stand with one foot in the lake. As he was about to swing, a large crocodile emerged from the water and bit off much of his right leg.

As he fell to the ground bleeding and in great pain, he saw the caddy with the rifle propped at his side, looking on unconcernedly.

"Why didn't you kill it" asked the man incredulously. "I'm sorry, sir," said the caddy. "This is the 17th handicap hole. You don't get a shot here."

And that, my golfing friends, is why you should never lie about your handicap!