



NIMAGA NOTES – MARCH 2023

NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Winter is almost over, daylight saving time began earlier in the week, the NCAA Division 1 Basketball Tournament has started, and the first tournament of the season the Spring Thaw is three weeks away. Welcome to the 2023 NIMAGA tournament season.

If you are one of the few that have not paid for your 2023 Membership, what are you waiting for? Membership must be paid before you can register for a tournament. Tournament Registration closes March 31st for the Spring Thaw.

In case you missed it, the inaugural NIMAGA Sim Open was held at X Golf in Downers Grove on January 26th. Congratulations to the winners, low gross Perry Variano, low net Corey Lamb, high gross Terry Boksha and high net George Zdarsky. Everyone enjoyed themselves and the NIMAGA board plans on having the Sim Open again next year. We hope you will be able to participate.

Read the rest of NIMAGA Notes for an exciting announcement and to find what is happening this season.

Good luck to all, be safe and stay well.

Brian Alberts
President

2023 NIMAGA MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

Don't forget that everyone needs to be registered for NIMAGA membership and pay the dues before you can enter a tournament. Membership registration is open through Golf Genius. Simply go to the NIMAGA.org website and click on the orange Golf Genius banner on the top of the screen.

We have the following membership options available:

Mar 1 – Sep 1	Regular Membership	\$ 70
Feb 15 – Mar 15	Package Membership	\$ 500 (Last Day)

As a refresher, Regular Memberships will provide you with a CDGA handicap throughout the 2023 calendar year. The Package Membership will provide a CDGA handicap as well as paid entry into the 7 regular events.

TOURNAMENT REGISTRATION

Registration is open for all of our regular and midweek events. But you will need to have your 2023 membership dues paid for before you can register. You can see the entire NIMAGA schedule displayed at the end of this newsletter along with the registration close dates for each event.

So, don't delay. The Spring Thaw is less than 30 days away with the registration close date being Mar 31th.

C&G MATCH PLAY TOURNAMENT

Did you know that NIMAGA offers a season long match play tournament? In fact, the C&GMPT is starting its 16th year. This unique event will match players in a head-to-head match play format. Players have the complete flexibility to choose the course and the date that fits into their schedule. You then report back the results, and the winners move on.

This a great way to meet other NIMAGA members and hopefully pick up some prizes and trophies along the way.

This event is open to all second year (and above) NIMAGA members, so register now.

PACE OF PLAY (PoP) POLICY

Every amateur golf association struggles with administering slow play and NIMAGA is no exception. Slow Play has been part of NIMAGA culture for a very long time. The NIMAGA Board has worked hard throughout the holiday season to come up with a new set of Pace of Play policies that will be used in 2023.

In summary, a player will be assessed slow-play penalty strokes after 3 PoP violations. PoP violation(s) will occur when players fall behind the prior groups. The key change is that you will need 3 PoP violations before a penalty stroke is assessed. By using prior PoP violations, NIMAGA is using a player's playing history in doling out penalty strokes versus that one bad (slow) tournament.

You will hear a lot more about this topic throughout the year and it may be refined over time. As always, feel free to provide your questions or any feedback to web@nimaga.org

The bullet points that follow are the ways that a PoP violation will be issued to a player and when those PoP violations could result in a slow-play penalty stroke at a tournament.

- A tournament course's pace of play will be established prior to the tournament, based on the course's expectation of PoP. If the expected POP is unreasonable (Slow public play, inclement weather, harsh course conditions, etc.), then the tournament course's pace of play will be adjusted to the finish time of NIMAGA's first group.
- If a group finishes outside the tournament course's established pace of play **AND** finishes 14 or more minutes behind the group in front of them, each member of the group would receive a PoP violation.
- If a group finishes outside the tournament course's established pace of play **AND** finishes 19 minutes or more behind the group in front of them, they will receive 2 PoP violations.
- Allowances will be made for foursomes playing behind threesomes. That foursome will receive a 1 PoP violation if they do not finish within 28 minutes of two groups in front of them or 2 PoP violations if they do not finish within 37 minutes of two groups in front of them **AND** outside the tournament course's established PoP.
- Upon receiving a 3rd PoP violation, an individual will be issued a one stroke slow play penalty on the day of the violation. That individual will also be issued slow play penalties for any additional violations after the 3rd.
- Playing times are recorded when the last player holes out on the final hole.
- Members will have 1 PoP violation removed from their record for each tournament where he finishes in the allotted time, until he is either back to zero or receives another violation.
- You will not get credit for this if you play in the first group, unless you play under the course PoP, or within our PoP policy behind public play.
- Every effort will be made in not pairing two PoP violators in the same group.
- Starting & finishing times of each group will be tracked and recorded on the Golf Genius Scorecards by the scorer or other designated board member.
 - Violations of the PoP Policy will then be issued whenever warranted.
 - Tournament scorers will determine if a slow-play penalty is to be assessed based on POP violation history and PoP infractions for that tournament.
 - These PoP violations will be recorded onto each player's profile in Golf Genius.
- Members will be notified of how many violations they have prior to each tournament they are playing through Golf Genius emails.
- Violations will not be made public knowledge, though a slow play penalty would be reflected on the final leaderboard.

NIMAGA PLAYER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Starting this year, NIMAGA will be offering a Player of the Year award. This prize will be awarded at the end of the year and will be presented to that player who has accumulated the most NIMAGA Cup points throughout the 2023 calendar year.

The award will be a trophy and paid membership for the 2024 season.

Good luck, players.

NIMAGA HOLE-IN-ONE JACKPOT

Returning in 2023, the NIMAGA Hole-In-One is a cash pot that is collected from participating NIMAGA members (\$1 per entry) at each NIMAGA sanctioned event. If a NIMAGA member gets a hole-in-one in any sanctioned NIMAGA events and has paid into the Hole-In-One Pot for that event, prior to teeing off on the first hole, he will be paid a portion of the pot.

Entry into the Hole-in-One Pot is voluntary. You may enter early and can enter for any event that you plan to participate in.

How to Get into the Hole-In-One Pot:

1. Must be a NIMAGA Member
2. Must be a NIMAGA Sanctioned Tournament (Match Play & Milwaukee Challenge are Excluded)
3. All entries are part of the same Pot, no matter which division or course the member is playing
4. Must Pay \$1 to the Hole-In-One Pot prior to teeing off on your first hole of each event

The current pot starting the 2023 season is at \$480.75 !

Pay at the event or Venmo in your entry to @Shawn_Pipes (Last four 0164) and indicate which event you are entering for the jackpot.

Hole-in-One entry information is always present on the tee sheet that is emailed to all tournament players or you can email questions to HoleInOne@nimaga.org

\$10 SKINS

Another 2022 season feature that will continue in 2023 is the Skins entry being \$10.00. This change was implemented at the start of the 2022 season based on member feedback from the 2021 Annual Members Meeting.

Skins entry information is always present on the tee sheet that is emailed to all tournament players.

CHOOSE YOUR TEES

For several tournaments in 2022, NIMAGA started allowing players to 'Choose Your Tees'. For 2023, we will be having Choose Your Tees for all NIMAGA tournaments (except the C&G MPT, NIMAGA Cup, Milwaukee Challenge and possibly the NPC tournaments). By allowing members to pick the tees that they want to play, this enhances your golf experience.

Choose Your Tee information (with tee options per division) will be available on the 2023 Golf Genius tournament portals when you sign up for an event. Once the tournament registration closes, you will receive an email asking for your tee choice. Please respond timely with your choice. If we do not hear back from you, you will be assigned to the default tees.

But remember, you can only win the gross prize if you play from the longest tee option for your division. If at least 5 players do not wish to play from the longest option, it will be eliminated, and everyone will play from the shorter tees.

SOCIAL MEDIA

NIMAGA is planning on expanding our Social Media presence in 2023. We want to market and advertise NIMAGA to attract potential new members as well as publicize our tournament results.

The good news is that all of you can help us with that. Social Media grows by word of mouth and our exposure is greater when more of you participate.

So, please follow us on our 2 social media platforms.

Facebook - Northern Illinois Men's Amateur Golf Association
nimaga_golf on Instagram (we are growing this one. So not much information here, yet)

PERPETUAL PLAQUES

Running out of space on the wall for your NIMAGA Tournament Plaques? Or maybe you're new to NIMAGA and wondering where you're going to put all the plaques you plan on winning in your NIMAGA career?

We have the answer to both of those dilemmas called a "Perpetual Plaque". Instead of getting a nice hardwood plaque for every tournament you win, "go green" and purchase a single personally customized 12, 18, or 24+ plate hardwood plaque of your choice of color, type, and design. You would then have an individual plate engraved for each of your previous and future NIMAGA victories and golf accomplishments (e.g., hole-in-one). The total one-time cost starts at \$130, and you would be reimbursed by NIMAGA a minimum of \$100 up to half of the total cost of your Perpetual Plaque with a NIMAGA Certificate (\$200 maximum reimbursement). You would then get an engraved plate for each of your future NIMAGA victories at no cost to you.

Additionally, you will be asked for your choice of plaque after your next victory if you haven't been asked previously.

For more information or to start the conversion process, contact admin@nimaga.org.

FAQs

Don't forget, we have a FAQ section on the NIMAGA website (<http://www.nimaga.org/faq/>) with Golf Genius questions as well as other topics. Be sure to check that out and if you have other questions or need help, send an email to web@nimaga.org and we will be sure to address it.

2023 NIMAGA TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

2023 TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE					
	Date	Day	Entry Cutoff Date	Tournament Name	Golf Course
	April thru September		Apr 30	C&G Match Play	Season long tournament in which opponents arrange course & time. Must be a member for 2+ years.
	Apr. 8	Sat.	Mar 31	Spring Thaw	Cog Hill #1 (Player)
					Cog Hill #2 (Trevino)
					Cog Hill #3 (Palmer)
	Apr. 25	Tue.	Apr 15	April Midweek	Bridges of Poplar Creek CC
	May 7	Sun.	Apr 27	May Jamboree	Palatine Hills GC
	May 23	Tue.	May 13	May Midweek	Hilldale GC
	June 4	Sun.	May 25	Summer Classic	Village Greens of Woodridge
	Jun. 8	Thu.	May 29	Super Senior Open (Age 65+)	Woodruff GC

June 13	Tue.	N/A	NIMAGA Cup (Qualify)	Bittersweet GC
June 21	Wed.	June 11	June Midweek	Bowes Creek CC
July 9	Sun.	June 30	Freedom Open	Highland Woods GC
July 24	Mon.	July 14	July Midweek	Ruffled Feathers GC
Aug. 2	Wed.	July 23	Senior Open (Age 50+)	Steeple Chase GC
Aug. 12	Sat.	Aug 2	NIMAGA Club Championship	Boone Creek GC
Aug. 13	Sun.			Broken Arrow GC
Aug. 29	Tue.	Aug 19	August Midweek	Orchard Valley GC
Sep. 9	Sat.	Aug 31	Patriot's Day Classic	The Arboretum Club
Sep. 16	Sat.	N/A	Milwaukee Challenge (Limited)	Fox Lake CC
Sep. ??	???.	TBD	September Midweek	TBD
Oct. 1	Sun.	Sep 21	Two-Man Best Ball	Naperbrook GC (High)
				Springbrook GC (Low)
Oct. 7	Sat.	N/A	NIMAGA Players Championship (Qualify)	Whisper Creek GC
Oct. 8	Sun.			