



NIMAGA NOTES – JULY 2024

NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hopefully everyone had a great 4th of July weekend! This summer is moving fast. Believe it or not, we are already about halfway through our tournament schedule already. Everybody should be rounding into midseason form just in time for our 2-day Club Championship in about a month. We have 2 great July events before that though. This weekend we are Golf Club of Illinois with one of the longest holes in Illinois, and we're at Foxford Hills at the end of the month.

We have had great participation in the majority of our events so far. We've had to call most courses to ask for more tee times. Our most recent event, Aurora CC, was a great success. We had to come close to setting a record for the highest turnout for a midweek! Most really enjoyed the course, though it beat a lot of us up. It's great to get a chance to play at private clubs. We may look into playing there again, but it would be nice to be able to play at a different private country club if we have the chance. If anyone has connections somewhere, please let us know.

I would like to touch base on something that we could use some help with. It takes a lot of work to put on a NIMAGA tournament. Between communicating with the course on numbers and times, registering and collecting payments, getting responses for choose your own tee, special requests, dealing with late entries and withdrawals, dividing up the field into divisions, doing pairings, collecting skins, choosing CTP's, making sure all the scorecards and signs are printed out, then getting all the info back out to the course and to everyone who is playing, scoring the event and then finalizing results, it takes lots of time.

There are a few things everyone can do to enable the process to run a little more efficiently. Make sure you are receiving NIMAGA emails, and they are going to an address where you will see them promptly. Please respond to requests, such as choose your own tee, as soon as you can. Often times, a delayed response holds up the process in Golf Genius. Please try to register by the deadlines for events. Things happen, and we understand that. We will do our best to try and get everyone in who wants to play, but we can't guarantee it past the deadline. It's not always as simple as just adding a name to the roster.

Last of all, the best way to communicate to us is to send an email to admin@nimaga.org. Multiple people see that email, so it will be responded to faster than if you just email one person directly. Thank you for your help!

Let's make the 2nd half of the season as successful as the first. Get registered for those tournaments and play well!

Tom O'Brien
President

2024 NIMAGA CUP

The 2024 NIMAGA Cup was held at Klein Creek in Winfield on Wednesday, May 29th.

Three teams of 12 golfers squared off in this Ryder Cup format style of play on a cool, overcast day at Klein Creek.

In the end, the Blue team came away with a victory over the Red & White teams. The final score was Blue 11.5, Red 9.5 and White with 6.0.

Thanks to all who participated.



Blue Team

Top row (l to r) – Dan Plens, Jim Wojcik, Bob Lake, Mike Lyman, James DeLee, John Snow, Steve Leiber

Bottom row (L to r) – Tom Govern, Peter McGhee, Frank Fiarito, Jeff Toth (capt), Ray Riemer



Jeff Toth with the NIMAGA Cup.

RULES SECTION

The NIMAGA Notes will be running a continuing column explaining various Rules situations. Robert Yedniak is the contributing author of this section.

*This month Robert addresses - **Playing a Provisional Ball***

The NIMAGA board frequently advocates that we play a provisional ball to help keep the pace of play. So, I thought I would devote this article to clarify some of the rules regarding playing a provisional ball.

When are you allowed to play a provisional ball?

- Per Rule 18.3.a – “If a ball might be *lost* outside a *penalty area* or be *out of bounds*, to save time the player may play another ball provisionally under penalty of *stroke and distance* (see Rule 14.6).”
- Note that if you believe your ball is in a *penalty area*, you are not allowed to play a provisional ball. For example, say you hit a shot and you are not sure if it carried a yellow staked penalty area. You should know that for a yellow staked penalty area, your ball must fully clear the other side of the penalty area. If your ball bounces on the opposite side of a yellow staked penalty area, but bounces back into the penalty area, and you cannot play if from the penalty area, your drop options are on the near side of the penalty area. If you are not sure if your ball cleared the penalty area, you are not allowed to play a provisional ball and then go forward to look for your original ball. I thought this was one of the rules the golf ruling organizations would have changed to speed up play when they revised the rules a couple of years ago. But when I did further research, I found there is a logical reason that they did not change this rule. If you are

curious, you can buy me a beer after a tournament, and I can explain the logic. It would take a couple of paragraphs here.

How to play a provisional ball.

- Per Rule 18.3.b – “Before the *stroke* is made, the player must announce to someone that they are going to play a *provisional ball*:
 - It is not enough for the player only to say that they are playing another ball or is playing again.
 - The player must use the word ‘provisional’ or otherwise clearly indicate that they are playing the ball provisionally under Rule 18.3.”
- It is not in the rules, but it is also good practice to let your playing opponents know the brand, number or markings on the original ball and the difference between the provisional ball. If you unfortunately hit your provisional ball in the same area as your original ball, and you cannot distinguish between them, the provisional ball becomes the ball in play with the stroke and distance penalty.

When is a provisional ball in play?

- I am pretty sure that we are all familiar with the concept in Rule 18.3.c that you are allowed to continue to play your provisional ball as long as your stroke is played from a spot that is not nearer the hole than where the original ball is estimated to be (Rule 18.3.c.1). But when does your provisional ball become the ball in play?
- Per Rule 18.3.c.2, “The *provisional ball* becomes the player’s ball *in play* under penalty of *stroke and distance* in either of these two cases:
 - When Original Ball Is Lost Anywhere on Course Except in Penalty Area or Is Out of Bounds. The original ball is no longer *in play* (even if it is then found on the *course* after the end of the three-minute search time) and is now a *wrong ball* that must not be played (see Rule 6.3c).
 - When Provisional Ball Is Played from Spot Nearer Hole Than Where Original Ball Is Estimated to Be. The original ball is no longer *in play* (even if it is then found on the *course* before the end of the three-minute search time or is found nearer the *hole* than had been estimated) and is now a *wrong ball* that must not be played (see Rule 6.3c).”
- One of the important points to note here, and I’ve seen it occur in our tournaments. If you’ve used your three minutes to search for your original ball where you have estimated it might be, play your provisional ball and then walk forward and find your original ball, you can no longer play that ball. If you do, it is now a *wrong ball*.

I hope you have found this information helpful. Please refer to Rule 18 if you want more information on Stroke and Distance Relief; Ball Lost or Out of Bounds; and Provisional Ball.

NIMAGA PLAYER OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Player of the Year award is in full swing. 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 2024 calendar year.

The award will be a trophy and paid membership for the 2025 season.

Current Leaders (through the June Midweek):

Corey Lamb	300 points
Mike Lyman	285 points
Robert Allen	265 points
Stan Mitchell	245 points
Dick Freund	235 points
Chris Close	220 points
Terry McGhee	220 points
Einar Steinsson	205 points
Dan Montgomery	205 points
Dave Dianovsky	205 points
Jeff Lyman	185 points
Greg Doyle	180 points

Click here to see the 2024 POY race - https://nimaga.org/results/nimaga_cup/

CHANGES FOR THE 2024 NIMAGA SEASON

It is important that you spend an extra minute after completing your round to check those scorecards for accuracy before signing them and turning them in to the tournament scorer. DQs could result from inaccurate scorecards.

Every NIMAGA tournament will be a Choose Your Tees event (excluding the C&G Match Play, NIMAGA Cup and the Milwaukee Challenge).

- New in 2024, if you do not respond (or declare) your tee choice, you will default to the shorter tee. Last year, our default was the longer tees.
- So be aware of that when making your tee choices.

The tee sheet that you will receive prior to the tournament will have a slightly different format. Nothing to be alarmed about. All of the necessary information will be present.

- Refer to both the tee sheet and rules sheet for all of your tournament information.
- As always, these two pieces of information are also available on the Golf Genius tournament portals

Pace of Play (PoP) violations will be carried over into the next calendar year. Meaning that, any 2024 PoP violations that exist at the end of the season will be carried over to the start of the 2025 season.

IN MEMORIAM

NIMAGA is sad to report the passing of one of its former members, Bruce 'Boomer' Miller. Bruce was a NIMAGA member for many years. Bruce was a great guy and liked by all. He had to stop his NIMAGA play when he suddenly lost his leg. But that setback did not stop Bruce. He became heavily involved with the Freedom Golf Association, which is an organization based out of Burr Ridge whose mission is to bring joy and a sense of freedom to veterans and the Special Needs community through golf. Bruce died at the age of 74.

HOLE-IN-ONE POT

The Hole-In-One pot continues to grow.

We are now at \$1,571.00 (as of July 2nd).

The NIMAGA Hole-In-One is a cash pot that is collected from participating NIMAGA members (\$1 per entry) at each NIMAGA sanctioned event (excluding the C&GMPT and Milwaukee Challenge). 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.

Hole-in-One entry information is always present on the tee sheet that is sent to all tournament players.

Email HoleInOne@nimaga.org with any questions that you might have.

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.

2024 NIMAGA TOURNAMENT RESULTS

NIMAGA SIM OPEN - 01/06/2024

X-GOLF – DOWNERS GROVE

Low Division – Kapalua Plantation Course

1 st Gross	Chris Close
1 st Net	Anthony Volpicelli
2 nd Net	Tom Zmuda
3 rd Net	Jim Dubay

High Division – Kapalua Plantation Course

1 st Gross	Tim Szczesny
1 st Net	Ken Koranda
2 nd Net	Jeff Toth
3 rd Net	Terry McGhee

SPRING THAW - 04/06/2024

Palmer Division – Cog Hill #2

Gross	Ron Potocnik
Gross 2 nd	Dave Dianovsky
Net	Dennis Joplin

Player Division – Cog Hill #3

Gross	Corey Lamb
Net	Mike Zdarsky

Trevino Division – Cog Hill #1

Gross	Ray Pauliks
Net	Jim Wojcik

APRIL MIDWEEK – 04/18/2024

Low Division – Pine Meadow

Gross	Tom Zmuda
Net	Corey Lamb

High Division – Pine Meadow

Gross	Stan Mitchell
Net	Joe Lanute

MAY MIDWEEK – 05/01/2024

Low Division – Seven Bridges

Gross	Mike Lyman
Net	Dick Freund

High Division – Seven Bridges

Gross	Ken Koranda
Net	John Snow

MAY JAMBOREE – 05/19/2024

Palmer Division – Randall Oaks GC

Gross Mike Sutton
Gross 2nd Brandon Rowatt
Net Mike Lyman

Player Division – Bonnie Dundee GC

Gross Robert Allen
Net Terry Boksha

Trevino Division – Bonnie Dundee GC

Gross Einar Steinsson
Net Randy Samoska

NIMAGA CUP – KLEIN CREEK – 05/29/2024

Blue Team 11.5 points
Red Team 9.5 points
White Team 6.0 points

Blue Team Jeff Toth (capt), Mike Lyman, Dan Plens, Jim Wojcik, Tom Govern,
John Snow, Steve Leiber, Bob Lake, Frank Fiarito, Ray Riemer, Peter
McGhee, James DeLee

SUMMER CLASSIC – 06/08/2024

Low Division – Shepherd's Crook GC

Gross Al Green
Net Rolando Levya

High Division – Shepherd's Crook GC

Gross Greg Doyle
Net Mayur Patel

SUPER SENIOR OPEN (65+) – 06/18/2024

Low Division – St. Andrews #1

Gross Russ Riendeau
Net Stan Mitchell

High Division – St. Andrews #1

Gross John Snow
Net Jim Wojcik

JUNE MIDWEEK – 06/24/2024

Low Division – Aurora CC

Gross John Gollwitzer
Net Jeff Crites

High Division – Aurora CC

Gross Jeff Toth
Net Dennis Samoska

2024 NIMAGA TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

2024 TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE				
	Date	Day	Tournament Name	Golf Course
	April thru September		C&G Match Play	Season long tournament in which opponents arrange course & time. New members may be eligible. 
	July 14	Sun.	Freedom Open	Golf Club of Illinois
	July 31	Wed.	July Midweek	Foxford Hills GC
	Aug. 10	Sat.	NIMAGA Club Championship	Highlands of Elgin & White Pines - East
	Aug. 11	Sun.		White Pines – West & Highlands of Elgin
	Aug. 23	Fri.	Senior Open (Age 50+)	Glendale Lakes GC
	Aug. 29	Thu.	August Midweek	Blackberry Oaks GC
	Sep. 7	Sat.	Patriot's Day Classic	Cinder Ridge GC
	Sep. 14	Sat.	Milwaukee Challenge (Limited)	Fox Lake CC
	Sep. 26	Thu.	September Midweek	Traditions at Chevy Chase

	Sep. 29	Sun.	Two-Man Better Ball	Countryside - Prairie (Low)
				Countryside - Traditional (High)
	Oct. 5,6	Sat. Sun	NIMAGA Players Championship (Qualify)	Springbrook