



## NIMAGA NOTES – JULY 2025

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### **NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

I hope everyone is having a very enjoyable summer. I feel like the NIMAGA season just started but it's already mid-July and the last major of the year, The Open is under way. We played a good chunk of our schedule, including Aurora CC with a huge turnout! However, we do have some great events coming up. Thunderhawk is next and always a favorite. It's certainly worth the trip up north. Afterwards, we have our 2-day Club Championship with 2 courses, Palatine Hills and Heritage Bluffs. Then we have a classic old country club in the south burbs that is now public, Ravisloe. I haven't played any of those courses recently, so I'm looking forward to all of them. That is one of my favorite parts of being a NIMAGA member. It gets me out to play lots of courses I probably would not normally play. If there are courses on our schedule that you have not played, you should get out and try some new courses. That's part of the fun. Our tournament participation is high though, so make sure to register early. You don't want to get left out. We do try to accommodate everyone who wants to play but sometimes courses only give us so many times.

I had some questions from a member on scoring in Golf Genius (GG) a tournament or two ago. I'm sure others might have the same questions, so here is a quick GG note. When you are playing a NIMAGA Tournament, someone in each group needs to enter scores into the Golf Genius app (search for Golf Genius on your mobile device and download). If you haven't done it yet, it's simple and everyone should take a turn. It makes it much easier for the tournament directors doing scoring at the end of the round. Occasionally, we must move players around on the day of a tournament, due to a no show or someone running late. If that happens, you can still enter scores into GG. The person who switches groups can put his own score into the app and leave the rest blank from his original group. Someone from his original group can enter the rest of the group's scores and leave his blank. That way all scores are entered and scoring afterwards is much easier.

If you have a question about anything Golf Genius, feel free to talk to a board member at the next Tournament. Or as with most everything, you can send an email to [admin@nimaga.org](mailto:admin@nimaga.org).

Hope your golf game is starting to peak, and you have a great rest of the golf season! See a lot of you at Thunderhawk on Tuesday!

Tom O'Brien  
NIMAGA President

### **IN MEMORIAM - ROGER SCOTT**

NIMAGA is sad to report the loss of one of our own. Roger Scott passed away on July 4, 2025.

Roger has a long and storied history with Illinois golf and the NIMAGA organization. NIMAGA was founded in 1960, and Roger joined in 1973 and has been a member ever since. From the onset, Roger took an active role in NIMAGA and became a director shortly thereafter. He rose through the ranks in NIMAGA, eventually serving as President in 1998.

Roger worked constantly supporting golf in Illinois and promoting the NIMAGA organization. From his email id (nimagarog.xxxxx) to his personalized license plates (NIMAGA1), Roger was a key figure in promoting and growing the organization from the mid-1970s and on. During that period, our membership grew to its largest numbers, over 400 players. Roger and his fellow board members were instrumental in shaping NIMAGA into the organization much like it exists today.

Roger also spread his golf knowledge beyond NIMAGA, serving as a marshal and rules official in numerous tournaments throughout the Chicagoland area and abroad. He gave many of his hours to the Northwestern Women's golf team as well as to the Illinois Woman's Open. He was a member at Cruden Bay Golf Club in Scotland and volunteered his time and expertise to many tournaments in that area. Many of his fellow NIMAGA members have joined him on golf trips abroad.

After Roger left the NIMAGA board, he stayed on as a member and was named as an honorary board member.

Roger is survived by his wife, Barbara.

RIP Roger and thanks for all your years of service to NIMAGA.

### **2025 NIMAGA MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION**

The Regular Membership option is still available for those who have not yet joined NIMAGA for the 2025 season. This is priced at \$80 and is open until September 1<sup>st</sup>.

Remember that you must have a valid paid membership for 2025 before you can enter a tournament.

Be sure to let all of your golfing buddies in on this league and you will receive a PGA Superstore gift card for your successful referral.

## **UPCOMING TOURNAMENT DEADLINES**

Be sure to register for tournaments as soon as you can as we are filling up fast.

Here are a few upcoming tournament deadlines for sign-up:

Super Senior (65+)	Tues, July 29th	Entry deadline is Sat, July 19th @ 11:00 pm
Club Championship	Sat/Sun Aug 9/10	Entry deadline is Wed, July 30th @ 11:00 pm
August Midweek	Tues, Aug 19th	Entry deadline is Sat, Aug 9th @ 11:00 pm

We still have a few openings for the Milwaukee Challenge (Sat, Sept 20<sup>th</sup>). Registration closes on Sat, Aug 30<sup>th</sup>. This is a limited field of 32 players.

## **TOURNAMENT SIGN-UP**

We have had great participation in our tournaments for 2025. Just a reminder to enter those tournaments as early as you can to avoid being placed on a waitlist. When our field is full, we will work with the golf course to see if more tee times are available.

So far, we have been successful in getting more tournament spots, but this is never guaranteed. So, register early.

## **NIMAGA PLAYER OF THE YEAR POINTS**

Starting with the 2025 season, NIMAGA Cup Points will be displayed in Golf Genius under one heading (NIMAGA Player of the Year points). Points totals will no longer be displayed under playing divisions as in prior years.

The NIMAGA Board will be adjusting the method of choosing the NIMAGA Cup teams for the 2026 season. The rules for the 2026 NIMAGA Cup tournament will be communicated prior to the 2026 NIMAGA Cup tournament.

The NIMAGA Cup teams for the 2025 tournament are already determined based on last year's NIMAGA Cup points finishing totals. You would receive an invitation to that tournament if you finished in the top 12 of your playing division.

## **NIMAGA PLAYER OF THE YEAR STANDINGS**

The standings through July 18, 2025 are:

Ron Potocnik	505 points
Peter McGhee	385 points
Dave Dianovsky	380 points
Stan Mitchell	370 points
Jonathan Redding	360 points

Chris Close	305 points
Nate Holub	300 points
Robert Allen	275 points
Disk Freund	260 points
Tom O'Brien	260 points
Eric Lang	250 points
Lincoln Maina	245 points
John Gollwitzer	235 points
Barry Brown	225 points

The top point winner will receive a trophy and a free membership for 2026 season.

No points are awarded for limited field events (Senior Open, Super Senior Open, C&G MPT, NIMAGA Cup and the Milwaukee Challenge).

## **RULES SECTION**

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

### **Playing the Wrong Tees and Definition of a Stroke**

This will be another brief article to clarify a few issues that came up in my group in the Summer Classic at Prairie Isle. These are a couple of basic rules, but we have a lot of new members that may not have played strictly by the Rules of Golf in the past and might not have applied these rules in their prior casual rounds. And our seasoned members may also need a refresher. By the way, welcome to all our new members. Feel free to reach out if you have any rules questions.

### **Playing the Wrong Tees**

Now that NIMAGA is playing all our tournaments with the "Choose Your Tee" option, it is important to make sure you pay attention to the appropriate tee that you have chosen and play from the correct box on every hole throughout your round.

Unfortunately, I personally got penalized by this rule at the Summer Classic. There was some confusion for our foursome on the first tee, and I initially played from the wrong tee box.

The rules regarding the tee box are part of **Rule 6 – Playing a Hole**.

The teeing area is defined as a rectangle that is *two club-lengths deep* where:

- The front edge is defined by the line between the forward-most points of two tee-markers set by the Committee, and
- The side edges are defined by the lines back from the outside points of the tee-markers.

So not only do you need to tee off from the correct box, you also need to tee off within the defined teeing area. So be careful when you tee up your ball. I see a lot of players that place their tee in front of the markers, so they have now played from the wrong tee box and need to also make the necessary corrections, same as if they played the wrong box.

And if you have not initially teed off from the correct tee box, here is the process to follow to make sure you finish with a correct score for the hole and your round.

1. **Match Play.** There is no penalty, but the opponent may cancel the stroke:
  - This must be done promptly and before either player makes another stroke. When the opponent cancels the stroke, they cannot withdraw the cancellation.
  - If the opponent cancels the stroke, the player must play a ball from inside the teeing area and it is still their turn to play.
  - If the opponent does not cancel the stroke, the stroke counts and the ball is in play and must be played as it lies.
2. **Stroke Play.** The player gets the general penalty (two penalty strokes) and must correct the mistake by playing a ball from inside the teeing area:
  - The ball played from outside the teeing area is not in play.
  - That stroke and any more strokes before the mistake is corrected (including strokes made and any penalty strokes solely from playing that ball) do not count.
  - If the player does not correct the mistake before making a stroke to begin another hole or, for the final hole of the round, before returning their scorecard, the player is disqualified.

## Definition of a Stroke

A **Stroke** is defined as the forward movement of the club made to strike the ball.

But a stroke has not been made if the player:

- Decides during the downswing not to strike the ball and avoids doing so by deliberately stopping the clubhead before it reaches the ball or, if unable to stop, by deliberately missing the ball.
- Accidentally strikes the ball when making a practice swing or while preparing to make a stroke.

When the Rules refer to “playing a ball,” it means the same as making a stroke.

In my round at Prairie Isle one of our newer members did not realize that he needed to count his strokes even though he did not advance his ball in the high rough. So, any time you intend to hit the ball, it counts as a stroke and must be counted in your score.

Please send any rules questions or suggestions for future articles to the following email:  
[rules.nimaga@gmail.com](mailto:rules.nimaga@gmail.com)

## **FAQs & QUESTIONS**

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](mailto:web@nimaga.org) and we will be sure to address it.

## **2025 NIMAGA TOURNAMENT RESULTS**

### **NIMAGA SIM OPEN - 02/20/2025**

#### **X-GOLF – DOWNERS GROVE**

##### Low Division – SpyGlass Hills GC

1 <sup>st</sup> Gross	Chris Close
1 <sup>st</sup> Net	Shawn Pipes
2 <sup>nd</sup> Net	Anthony Volpicelli
3 <sup>rd</sup> Net	Tom Zmuda

##### High Division – SpyGlass Hills GC

1 <sup>st</sup> Gross	Jonathan Redding
1 <sup>st</sup> Net	Tim Szczesny
2 <sup>nd</sup> Net	Michael Choi
3 <sup>rd</sup> Net	Chuck Rankin

### **SPRING THAW – 04/05/2025**

##### Palmer Division – Cog Hill GC #1

1 <sup>st</sup> Gross	Ron Potocnik
2 <sup>nd</sup> Gross	Dave Minor
1 <sup>st</sup> Net	Anthony Volpicelli

##### Player Division – Cog Hill GC #2

1 <sup>st</sup> Gross	John Francel
1 <sup>st</sup> Net	Jonathan Redding

##### Trevino Division – Cog Hill GC #3

1 <sup>st</sup> Gross	Jim Zuccarelli
1 <sup>st</sup> Net	Jerome Johnson

### **APRIL MIDWEEK – 04/14/2025**

##### Low Division – Pine Meadow GC

1 <sup>st</sup> Gross	Dave Dianovsky
1 <sup>st</sup> Net	Tom O'Brien

### High Division – Pine Meadow GC

1<sup>st</sup> Gross                      Stan Mitchell  
1<sup>st</sup> Net                         Peter McGhee

### **NIMAGA CUP - 04/28/2025**

On Monday, April 28th, the NIMAGA Cup tournament was played at Seven Bridges in Woodridge.

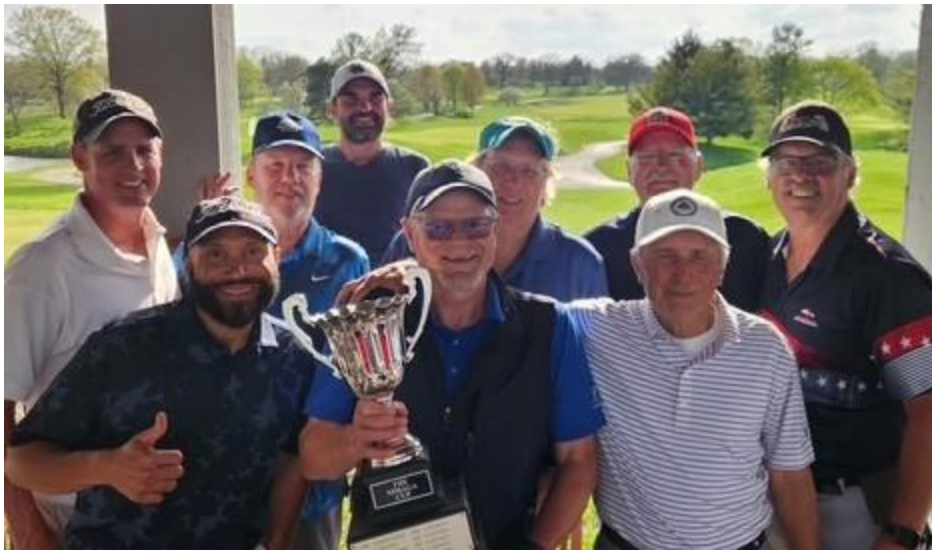
The NIMAGA Cup is an event that pits 3 teams of 12 players against each other in a match play format. At stake is 27 points, a bye into the season ending NIMAGA Players Championship and the NIMAGA Cup.

This year's winner was the Blue team captained by Einar Steinsson. His team secured 10.5 points and a victory. The Red and White teams were close behind with 8.5 and 8.0 points with Jim Dubay as Red team captain and George Zdarsky as the White team captain.

Thanks to all of the participants for competing. A special thanks also goes to Bob Lake for securing the golf course as well as Tom O'Brien for coordinating the NIMAGA Cup Draft Party.

The 2025 NIMAGA Cup winners are:

Einar Steinsson (capt)	Mark Heinsohn	Jeff Lyman	John Snow
Tom Zmuda	Shomari Moss	Stan Hilty	Paul Susner
Dan Plens	Ray Pauliks	Robert Westberg	Rolf Ronstadt



Pictured (L to R) : Mike Lyman, Shomari Moss, Mark Heinsohn, Tom Zmuda, Capt Einar Steinsson, Ray Pauliks, Paul Susner, Dan Plens, Stan Hilty

Not pictured: Robert Westberg, John Snow, Rolf Ronstadt

## **MAY JAMBOREE – 05/04/2025**

### Palmer Division – Countryside GC Traditional Course

1 <sup>st</sup> Gross	Ron Potocnik
1 <sup>st</sup> Net	Shawn Pipes

### Player Division – Countryside GC Traditional Course

1 <sup>st</sup> Gross	Stan Mitchell
1 <sup>st</sup> Net	Robert Allen

### Trevino Division – Countryside GC Prairie Course

1 <sup>st</sup> Gross	Osayi Menzies
1 <sup>st</sup> Net	Nate Holub

## **SENIOR OPEN (50+) – 06/02/2025**

### Low Division – Fox Bend GC

1 <sup>st</sup> Gross	Dave Dianovsky
1 <sup>st</sup> Net	Stan Mitchell

### High Division – Fox Bend GC

1 <sup>st</sup> Gross	Einar Steinsson
1 <sup>st</sup> Net	Mayur Patel

## **MAY MIDWEEK – 06/10/2025**

### Low Division – Old Orchard GC

1 <sup>st</sup> Gross	John Gollwitzer
1 <sup>st</sup> Net	Paul Susner

### High Division – Old Orchard GC

1 <sup>st</sup> Gross	Bob Lake
1 <sup>st</sup> Net	Ken Koranda

## **SUMMER CLASSIC – 06/14/2025**

### Palmer Division – Prairie Isle GC

1 <sup>st</sup> Gross	Dave Minor
1 <sup>st</sup> Net	Arlo Walsman

### Player Division – Prairie Isle GC

1 <sup>st</sup> Gross	Joe Nagy
1 <sup>st</sup> Net	Nate Holub

### Trevino Division – Prairie Isle GC

1 <sup>st</sup> Gross	Mike Grosskopt
1 <sup>st</sup> Net	Peter McGhee



## **JUNE MIDWEEK – 06/30/2025**

### Palmer Division – Aurora CC

1 <sup>st</sup> Gross	Dave Dianovsky
1 <sup>st</sup> Net	Chris Close

### Player Division – Aurora CC

1 <sup>st</sup> Gross	Dick Freund
1 <sup>st</sup> Net	Kevin McInerney

### Trevino Division – Aurora CC

1 <sup>st</sup> Gross	Matt Schlarb
1 <sup>st</sup> Net	Dennis Samoska

## **FREEDOM OPEN – 07/13/2025**

### Palmer Division – Pinecrest GC

1 <sup>st</sup> Gross	Ron Potocnik
1 <sup>st</sup> Net	Barry Brown

### Player Division – Pinecrest GC

1 <sup>st</sup> Gross	Lincoln Maina
1 <sup>st</sup> Net	Rich Kenny

### Trevino Division – Pinecrest GC

1 <sup>st</sup> Gross	Jim Kotula
1 <sup>st</sup> Net	George Zdarsky

## **NIMAGA MEMBER ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

As reported in the June 2025 edition of Chicago District Golfer:

Kirk Blakney	Hole-in-One	#4 Woodruff GC	03/29/2025
Congratulations, Kirk!			

## **2025 SCHEDULE**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Course(s)</b>	<b>Division</b>	<b>Start Time</b>
<b>June - October</b>	<b>C&amp;GMPT</b>		<b>Hogan / Jones</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Tue, July 22, 2025</b>	<b>July Midweek</b>	<b>Thunderhawk GC</b>	<b>Low / High</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>
<b>Tue, July 29, 2025</b>	<b>Super Senior Open (65+)</b>	<b>Hughes Creek GC</b>	<b>Low / High</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>
<b>Sat, Aug 09, 2025</b>	<b>Club Championship*</b>	<b>Palatine Hills GC</b>	<b>Low / High</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>
<b>Sun, Aug 10, 2025</b>		<b>Heritage Bluffs GC</b>	<b>High / Low</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Tue, Aug 19, 2025</b>	<b>August Midweek</b>	<b>Ravisloe CC</b>	<b>Low / High</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>
<b>Sat, Sept 06, 2025</b>	<b>Patriot's Day Classic*</b>	<b>Highland Woods GC</b>	<b>Pa / Pl / Tr</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>
<b>Tue, Sept 16, 2025</b>	<b>September Midweek</b>	<b>Bartlett Hills GC</b>	<b>Low / High</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>
<b>Sat, Sept 20, 2025</b>	<b>Milwaukee Challenge</b>	<b>Fox Lake CC</b>	<b>Limited</b>	<b>8:30 AM</b>
<b>Sun, Sep 28, 2025</b>	<b>2 Man Better Ball</b>	<b>Randall Oaks GC</b>	<b>Low / High</b>	<b>8:30 AM</b>
<b>Sat, Oct 04, 2025</b> <b>Sun, Oct 05, 2025</b>	<b>NIMAGA Players Championship</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>Invitational: One Division</b>	<b>TBD</b>