

Greetings!

We would like to take this opportunity to extend a cordial invitation to all interested area amateur golfers to join us for the competition, prizes and fun of the Toledo Metro Golf Association. It should be noted that the TMGA is not a league, but rather an organization that conducts a series of golf tournaments, with each standing on its own. Members may play in as few or as many events as their schedule permits. So, whether it's for just an event or two or most events, or even the entire schedule of TMGA events, why not come and join us?

For those of you who are still unfamiliar with us, the Toledo Metro Golf Association (TMGA) is a non-profit organization devoted solely to providing competitive golf for amateur golfers in the greater Toledo area. Each year, the TMGA puts together a tournament schedule, which tours area golf courses. Our 2018 schedule will be conducted at 11 different public courses and three country clubs. It consists of five multi-day championships and eight single-day events. Trophies (for some multi-day events) and nominal cash prizes (or gift certificates in sponsored events) are provided in both scratch and handicap divisions. In addition, a point system (emphasizing performance in major championship events) selects the TMGA Players of the Year (in both scratch and handicap divisions) for overall play throughout the season. These players are honored at our annual end-of-the-year banquet.

Our information filled website (www.toledometrogolf.com) remains the same. For those who lack access to the Web, or who have questions, contact Jim O'Neal at oniegolf1@cs.com (preferred) or by phone (419)-350-2421 (including texts).

There were a few minor changes for 2018 based on input from last fall's meeting including a new venue for the 2nd round of the Wolf Memorial. Most dates are the same week-ends, except Lenawee CC that had a conflict with our preferred date. Seth Graff will be training for my and other officers eventual demise :-). And, we are trying to schedule a few days at Country Clubs just for course access and not necessarily tournaments (like Toledo CC in 2017) These dates and times will be announced as the season progresses.

- Stone Ridge will host the 2nd round of the Wolf Fall Classic— all other venues remain the same although some may be on different dates.
- **The S.P. Jermain Match Play tournament will remain at its traditional July dates-- July 7, 8, 13, 14 and 1.** There are no July 4th conflicts so get your friends out to play in this fun tournament!!!
- **THE DISTILLERY** will once again host the meeting and awards banquet.
- Entry fees will remain the same ranging between \$55.00 and \$65.00 depending on the venue. The finale at HDCC (including food, beer and soda) is \$65.00.

We are excited that for the 6th straight year Mike Govito, owner of Jed's-- Fireball and Brew restaurants, is sponsoring the Toledo Amateur. His sponsorship has allowed us to increase those making the cut from 30% to 50% (max 60) and allowed for an increase in the prize fund (more details included in the entry blanks). The **maximum fields** for the S.P. Jermain and Toledo Amateur will again be limited based on recent participation. The S.P. Jermain field will be limited to 160 players and again will feature 32-player flights (or smaller in some brackets depending on



number of players). Also non-metro members participating in the Jermain will be invited to play in 1 single day Metro event with the guest fee waived.

The Toledo Amateur will again be contested the weekend of August 10, 11, 12 and will be planned for up to 104 players, with Friday's tee times limited to the afternoon (Noon-2:10) and Saturday's tee times limited to the morning (7:30-9:40). Players making the cut will still play 36 holes on Sunday. The Senior Division also remains the same. If entries exceed expectations the Committee reserves the right to make changes in the best interests of the participants with the possibility of adding a Friday morning/ Saturday afternoon wave. **NOTE: Those competing in the Senior Only Division will have the option of playing the next forward tees (typically the "blue" tees). Seniors competing in both Divisions will still be required to play from the back tees (typically "gold" tees).**

NOTE: All entrants in the Jermain & the Toledo Am will again receive a Trail Pass good for free rounds of golf at Ottawa Park, Detwiler and South Toledo (Must pay for a cart and there are some time restrictions).

Cart fees for those tournaments will again be \$13.00 if shared or \$20.00 for those who do not want to share.

TMGA membership dues will remain at \$60, except for those members who don't plan to keep their handicap with the TMGA. Those membership dues will remain at \$50.

Amateur country club (TDGA) members are again welcome to join the TMGA this season. Also, any non-TMGA member may again play in any single-day TMGA event simply by adding a \$10 guest fee to the event's entry fee. Guest fees were reduced by \$10.00 in 2014.

If you have friends who are interested in joining the TMGA they can simply download this same information and all other needed Metro documents and entry blanks by visiting our website (www.toledometrogolf.com). The following pages describe such specifics as TMGA tournament events and formats (entry procedures, fees, pairings, rules, awards, and the POY point system) as well as provide handicap and membership information for those interested in joining or rejoining the TMGA.

2018 TOURNAMENTS

We will begin the 2018 Season with the TMGA Opener on Saturday, April 21 at Ottawa Park GC. Your membership and entry fee for this event must be received by Tuesday, April 17th if you wish to compete in this stroke-play event.

Then, starting in early May and concluding in late August, six other single-day events will be conducted. See the 2018 TMGA Schedule for details. Use regular TMGA entry forms for these events plus the TMGA Opener and TMGA Finale. More entry forms can be downloaded from the website or are available at each event.

The TMGA Club Championship (two rounds) will be conducted on July 28 at The Legacy and July 29 at Fremont CC. The entry form for this event is attached on the TMGA membership application form. You must be a fully paid TMGA member in order to compete in the TMGA Club Championship (and have played in 3 tournaments beforehand).



The TMGA will again conduct two open area-wide championships this year. The "35th Annual Great Lakes Spring Amateur Golf Championship" will be held on Saturday, June 2 and Sunday, June 3 at Maumee Bay State Park. (See the enclosed special flyer.) Again this year, for the 35th consecutive year, we are privileged to have Jack Kerin and Great Lakes Reprographic as our tournament sponsor. The GLSA is one of the top amateur events in the greater Toledo area and represents the first leg of the Toledo area Grand Slam of Golf.

The 10th Tom Wolf Memorial Fall Classic (formerly Fall Classic) will be held on Saturday/Sunday September 8,9 on 2 fine courses Monroe Country Club for the 1st round and Stone Ridge for the 2nd round. The Classic represents the final leg of the Toledo area Grand Slam of Golf. ***Please support this tournament in honor of Tom Wolf and all he gave to the Metro and golf!!***

The S. P. Jermain Match Play Championship, which remains at its traditional date in July at Ottawa Park GC, and The Jed's Toledo Amateur Championship at Detwiler GC, are usually of special interest to TMGA members since these major area championships represent the middle legs of the Toledo area Grand Slam of Golf. Entry forms for these events (as well as the Tom Wolf Memorial) will be mailed to recent participants on our mailing list (and they are also available on the web site). **SAVE THE FORMS AND THE DATES!**

We will conclude the 2018 Season with the TMGA Finale on Sunday, September 23 at Heatherdowns CC. This year, we will again head to The Distillery for dinner, beer and soda, awards presentations, and our annual meeting. (TMGA members may bring dinner guests if they wish for a nominal additional fee of \$10.) We will again conduct an individual stroke-play event that morning using a modified Stableford point system format. Checks will be mailed in October to the high finishers (in both divisions) as well as the winners of field skins and closest-to-the pin awards. 2018 Player of the Year Points will be awarded to top finishers in this event (per 2012 meeting).

TMGA Players of the Year in both divisions will be honored at the awards banquet at the end of the season. TMGA Players of the Year in 2017 were Terry Tyson (Barry Latta Memorial Scratch Player of the Year-again) and Jim Kennedy (Handicap Player of the Year).

TOURNAMENT FORMATS

ENTRY: Mailed entry forms/fees must be received no later than the Tuesday prior to each scheduled TMGA event. Phone entries are discouraged except for highly unusual circumstances (if entry is late please e-mail by early Wed evening that it is in the mail). You may either enter by mail or in person after the round of play at previous tournament sites. Tournament entrants can obtain their tee times and pairings by visiting our website (www.toledometrogolf.com), beginning on the Thursdays before scheduled events. TMGA guest members are eligible to play in all single-day TMGA events for \$10 in addition to each event's entry fee. Entries for the Toledo area Grand Slam Championship events must be received by the date noted on their separate entry forms. **You must be a fully paid TMGA member to play in the TMGA Club Championship. Also, in order to be eligible for the TMGA Club Championship, you must have competed in three prior TMGA events (Jermain can count toward one of the three).**

FEES: Single-day event entry fees range from \$55 to \$65 (see TMGA entry forms) and include green fees (optional cart fees must be paid to the host course), prize money, and field skins.



(Field skins are optional and players may subtract \$5 from the event's entry fee if they wish to be excluded from that competition.) Full refunds will be granted only if the withdrawing player calls (or preferably e-mails oniegolf1@cs.com) TMGA President Jim O'Neal (419-350-2421) by 9 p.m. on the Tuesday preceding the event. Multi-day event fees are \$95 to \$105 and are noted on their separate entry forms, which include all refund deadlines/policies. **PAIRINGS:** For all single-day events, players may make up their own foursomes by indicating their preferred playing partners on their official TMGA entry blank. For two-day events (Great Lakes Spring Amateur, TMGA Club Championship, and the Tom Wolf Memorial Classic), players may make their own foursomes for the first round, but second-round pairings will be determined by first-round scores without exception. Visit our website (www.toledometrogolf.com) the Thursday before these events to find out your tee times. Please do not call the host course!

RULES

USGA rules govern all play except as modified by the tournament committee. Modifications and local rules will be noted at each event on both the rule sheet and the TMGA scoreboard.

Players compete in both scratch and handicap divisions in all events except for the Great Lakes Spring Amateur and the Fall Classic when players must declare their respective divisions or pay an additional entry fee to compete in both divisions. Players will not however receive certificate/check/cash awards for top finishes in both divisions. Instead, payments are based on the player's highest finish in one division (with scratch division priority).

Unless turf conditions warrant otherwise, the TMGA plays the ball "as it lies".

The maximum allowable handicap for all TMGA events is 30 strokes. Players with higher handicaps may compete in TMGA events, if they wish, but will only receive the 30-stroke maximum.

Ties for first place in both divisions will split prize money and POY points, except for the Spring Am, Metro Championship and Wolf Memorial where winner will be determined by sudden-death playoff.

Slow play will not be tolerated! Players are required to put their ball in play within 45 seconds (one minute for putts) when it becomes their turn to play. **Also, each foursome must complete their round in no longer than four hours and twenty minutes or at least finish within twenty minutes of the preceding group. If a group falls more than one hole behind the preceding group, they must adopt "Ready Play" procedures until their group gets back in position. Penalties for slow play involve the entire foursome (without exception) so players within each foursome are expected to marshal each other. The TMGA officers reserve the right to penalize both individuals and groups for slow play without warning.**

AWARDS

Winners of both divisions of the Great Lakes Spring Amateur will be awarded trophies at the conclusion of the event, while the winners of the TMGA Club Championship in both divisions will receive trophies at the TMGA Finale during the awards banquet. Gift certificates will be awarded to the top finishers in both divisions and for the low daily rounds for the Great Lakes Spring Amateur Championship. Checks/cash will be awarded to top finishers in each division as well as to winners of field skins and/or closest-to-the-pin awards for all other TMGA events. (Again, players will not receive check/cash awards for top finishes in both divisions. Instead, payments are



based on the player's highest finish in one division.) The number of places and amounts paid for each event are dependent on the size of the field and the amount of available prize funds. GLSA certificates are mailed in June while cash for all other events is usually distributed at the following TMGA event. Unclaimed funds are paid by check twice a year in July and in October. Top finishers in the S.P. Jermain and the Jed's Toledo Am are awarded gift certificates through Master Golf.

PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

The TMGA recognizes the players of the year in both the scratch and handicap divisions for season-long accomplishments. Again this year, our traditional point system will be used. For single-day events, points will be allotted to those players finishing in the top twelve. For two-day championships, points will be allotted to those players finishing in the top eighteen. This system was created to reward the TMGA members who have the best overall golf season with particular emphasis on the major events.

In major open events (Great Lakes Spring Amateur, S.P. Jermain, Toledo Amateur, and Tom Wolf Memorial) non-TMGA members will be considered when calculating these points. Scratch players can also earn points by finishing high in the Toledo Amateur. In addition, all players can earn points for high finishes in the S. P. Jermain Match Play Championship (depending on handicap and flight qualification). Finally, points will be allotted to the top twelve players with the lowest gross and net scoring averages for TMGA events only. (Players must complete every round that they start and must play at least six TMGA rounds in order to qualify for these points.) TMGA stats will be posted periodically throughout the season regarding the point standings for this season-long competition. Hopefully, this will motivate members to enter as many tournaments as possible in order to increase their chances of winning these prestigious awards. The TMGA Players of the Year in both divisions will be honored at the awards banquet at the end of the season. **TMGA Players of the Year in 2017 were Terry Tyson (Barry Latta Memorial Scratch Player of the Year) and Jim Kennedy (Handicap Player of the Year).**

HANDICAPS

To establish or update your official USGA handicap, mail the scorecards for all your rounds to Dave Harloff (TMGA Handicap Chairman); 2040 Eastbrook, Toledo, Oh 43613 - or you can submit them at the various TMGA events. The Toledo District Golf Association, who administers our handicaps, will revise handicaps twice per month, on the 1st and the 15th, so scores must be entered (**scores can easily be self entered on-line**) or received by Dave several days before those dates to update handicaps. It is your responsibility to adhere by these dates. The "active" season for updates is April 1st thru October 31st. **Please DO NOT send cards to the PO BOX!!!!**

All of your scorecards should include **clearly printed first and last names, dates, and tees used with applicable yardages and course ratings noted.** Your latest handicap card will be available for pick-up at all TMGA tournament sites. A minimum of five scores are needed to establish an official USGA handicap. New TMGA members who enter Metro events without a handicap index must supply Dave with at least their last five scorecards by the Tuesday preceding their first event in order to be eligible for the Handicap Division. (Note: League handicaps are unofficial and not acceptable for TMGA events.) If your USGA handicap is calculated elsewhere, it is your responsibility to present an updated handicap card to the TMGA officers after



completing your round at each event. Those who fail to present their handicap card will be eligible for the Scratch Division only. **Remember, a USGA handicap should include all of your scores – not just home course scores.** Nine-hole scores are now acceptable for computing handicaps. If your home course doesn't allow you to post away scores, then it's not an official USGA handicap. Therefore, players who belong to those courses should keep their handicap with the TMGA so they can have an official USGA handicap. Please let us know on your membership application if you do not plan to use the TMGA handicapping system. This year, as in past years, the Handicap Chairman has been directed to enforce a minimum number of scorecards that each TMGA member must submit by the handicap posting dates. The minimum number of scores to be posted are listed on the Schedule. Scorecards must be posted by the corresponding tournament entry dates. Failure to meet minimum scorecard requirement will result in players having their handicap reviewed by the handicap chairman and likely adjusted downward by one stroke for each scorecard below the minimum requirement (with a two-stroke maximum limit on the adjustment). Also, players who fail to submit all scorecards will be declared ineligible for the handicap division until such scorecards are finally submitted and posted. These requirements extend to new members joining later in the year as well as members who do not keep their handicaps with the TMGA. It is imperative for the fairness and integrity of the Handicap Division that these rules are followed. The Handicap Chairman reserves the right to unilaterally adjust handicaps or limit a player's eligibility to the Scratch Division if the handicap rules have not been followed or if handicap obviously does not fit ability over a period of several tournaments.. Section 5-2 of the "USGA Handicap System and Golf Committee Manual" will be used again this season which allows for the discretionary adjustment of a player's handicap. Handicaps will be systematically reduced (retroactive to last season) when normal computation methods produce a handicap obviously too high for an individual's playing ability. Being fair is the key to the integrity of the handicap division! **Handicap questions should be addressed to Dave Harloff by e-mail DAH6117@sbcglobal.net or text @ (419-350-8320). Know the NEW HANDICAP RULES from 2016.**

MEMBERSHIP

Full annual membership dues have remained the same at \$60. If, however, you don't keep your handicap with the TMGA, then your annual membership dues will be \$50. Single-day memberships for TMGA guests have been reduced to \$10. This fee should be added to the entry fee for each single-day event. Please complete fully the enclosed membership application, separate it from the championship entry forms, and MAIL IT along with your check for \$60 or \$50 (made out to "TMGA") to the address noted on your membership application. You can join the TMGA (or compete as a guest) if you are an amateur former TMGA member (with no residency stipulation), an amateur current TDGA member, or an amateur golfer who resides in the Ohio or Michigan counties listed on the membership application. All golfers noted above may compete in the Spring Amateur and Tom Wolf Memorial Classic events without TMGA membership status except for former members who fail to join the TMGA this year and no longer live within the stipulated counties. If you have any questions concerning the TMGA or about any of the events listed on our schedule, contact one of the TMGA officers listed on the bottom of the 2018 schedule. Tell your golfing friends about us. We are always looking to increase the membership of the TMGA!



TOLEDO METRO GOLF ASSOCIATION



Golfingly Yours,

THE TMGA OFFICERS