

Tournament Rules And Information

Welcome to The Farmers National Bank Greatest Golfer Youngstown. Here's an overview of the 17th year of our 54-hole tourney, Aug. 7-9.

54-Hole Tournament Overview

- This adult championship event tournament is a 54-hole cumulative scoring event with cuts after 36 holes. The top players (approx 25 pct of field) in each division will advance to the Sunday finals at The Lake Club. We have room for 300 golfers overall, and 84 golfers make Sunday.

  All players to Greatest (and those who have not played in last 3 years) must show a handicap from structured 2026 golf such as a regular league, money game, travel group or tourney play where witnessed, competitive scores are kept. (5 scores minimum).

  Not applicable are handicaps derived largely from non-competitive play where proof of those scores is unverifiable. Players in such situations are invited to email golfergreatest@gmail.com to explain playing history.

  5) Your handicap at your home course is the preferred method to determine your division. For our golfers with indexes, you are welcome to calculate your index against your Day 1 course to choose your division. If you don't know what that means, don't worry about it. Just sign up with your league handicap and live life to your fullest. In our Net divisions, we cap handicaps at 20.

6) Handicap verifications begin July 15 and continue thru the event. Your Aug. 1 handicap is your level for the tourney. Players are encouraged and invited to change their division through July 25 if they find their skill level has adjusted since they registered. Email us at golfergreatest@gmail.com

- **Total prizes are based on sponsorships**. We pay out each division ($300-1st, $200-2nd, $100-3rd,etc) plus trophies, plus various prizes throughout play Friday, Saturday and Sunday as the budget allows. We aim to keep the "Place" prizes at a basic level so as to not be too lucrative and entice more sandbagging that (some) golfers do. When our budget allows, we increase treats to all golfers, such as pin prizes, first beers, shirts, etc. The above prize lineup can be impacted by the size of each division.

- All division play is gross scoring. Your handicap is used only to slot you in a division.
- **During this registration period, we ask, beg and encourage ALL PLAYERS to police handicaps in their divisions and the whole event.** If you believe someone's division selection is out of whack with their current play, email us at golfergreatest@gmail.com. Your alert stays anonymous. We explore your claims without sharing names.
  We stress "current play" in that, if the guy was a 5 about 4 years ago when you last saw him, don't send us fishing because you see he's now in the 10-12 division now. Getting old sucks.
- The tournament is limited to players with a 25 handicap or less. To play in the Men's Open division, you must demonstrate a handicap below 4. No dreamers, please. Players above that handicap must play in the proper skill division.
- We aim to accommodate tee time requests due to personal obligations as long as they are within our set event times and made by July 25. You cannot request playing partners.
- **Please support our sponsors. They make this happen.**

Some More Rules of Play

- USGA and local rules will govern play.
- Please count your clubs before teeing off (max: 14 clubs).
- We will use digital scoring from GolfLeagueSite for each SUNDAY player. Download the app before arrival please.
  Card scoring will apply on Friday and Saturday.
- Use of measuring devices is permitted, with the exception of tools that detect elevation.
- **All putts must be holed. NO GIMMIES. It is a rules violation to not hole out.**
- If there is a doubt as to a rules procedure, a player may play two balls and the rules committee will make the ruling after play. Please report the issue before signing your scorecard.
- Playoff system:
  - Ties for first place on Sunday will go back out to compete — playing one hole at a time until one player bests another.

    - If time does not allow, then playoff follows: Scorecard playoff will break all ties using this order: Your back 9 score; your back 6 score; your back 3. If still tied, then hole-by-hole starting with No. 1 handicap until tie is broken.
    - Second and third places will be decided by scorecard playoff format.
    - We advance to Sunday just 84 players. No ties. The same Back 9, Back 6, et tiebreaker is used.
- Pace of play is crucial. Our goal is 4 hours and 20 minutes. Staff will monitor play and issue warnings. If you are out of position, your group will receive a warning and placed on the clock. A two-stroke penalty can be assessed. Please play ready golf.
- Caddies are only optional at the Sunday finals at The Lake Club.
- **Golf Balls and Clubs:** All clubs and balls must meet USGA specifications. No garage science projects are dark web purchases. Penalty - Disqualification.
- Seriously, pace of play is a big deal.
  No 5-hour rounds. Most of our rounds are not. But every year, a few groups go Lewis & Clark wandering on us.
  If you are not on heels of the group in front of you, we suggest: 1) Play ready golf; 2) Head to next tee box upon finishing hole; 3) Walk faster; 4) Talk less
- The tournament committee and course officials may adjust format due to weather conditions, course conditions or other circumstances.
- Players will be advised of any local rules at the start of play.
- Smile. Breathe. Enjoy.