

116th Western Amateur Championship

Sunset Ridge Country Club, Northfield, Illinois

July 30 – August 4, 2018



Entries Close 5 p.m. (CDT) on Friday, June 22, 2018

ELIGIBILITY — This Championship is open to male amateur golfers with an official and verified handicap index not exceeding **3.0**. In addition, WGA reserves the right to invite players of national and international reputation to participate. Such formal invitations are extended only in writing by WGA. (**Receiving this application does not in itself constitute an invitation.**) All entries are subject to approval or rejection by the WGA at any time before or after the start of play.

FIELD — The field may be limited by the WGA to a maximum of 156 contestants. The WGA shall determine the players who are exempt into the field in accordance with the exemption categories listed on page 3 of this entry form. Eligible players who are **not automatically exempt** should submit a completed entry form, **including** a golf resume, with the application fee seeking a **D-1 “Special Consideration Exemption”** prior to the deadline date.

ENTRY PROCEDURE

1. All entries must be submitted online at www.thewesternamateur.com. Late, incomplete, or inaccurate entry forms will not be accepted. There is a \$25 application fee for all applications.
2. All entries and application fees of \$25 must be submitted online prior to 5 p.m. (CDT) on Friday, June 22, 2018. Only one entry may be filed per player.
3. If an entrant who has paid the entire entry fee (\$325) withdraws before 5 p.m. (CDT) on June 22, 2018, the entry fee will automatically be refunded following the tournament. The \$25 application fee will be deducted from all refunds. If an entrant withdraws for any reason after 5 p.m. (CDT) on June 22, 2018, **no refunds** will be given. If you cannot compete and do not officially withdraw **prior** to the tournament, you will be treated as a “no-show” and will be subject to exclusion from future WGA sponsored events.
4. The application fee of \$25 (credit card payment submitted online) must accompany each entry.
5. Upon acceptance into the tournament field, the balance of the entry fee (\$300 - credit card payment submitted online) must be paid by Friday, July 27, 2018 to confirm each applicant's acceptance into the event. Each applicant who is accepted into the field will receive instructions on how to pay the remaining balance of \$300.

WITHDRAWAL — If an entrant withdraws after 5 p.m. (CDT) on June 22, 2018, **no refunds** will be given.

FORMAT — Tuesday & Wednesday, July 31 & August 1 — 36 holes of qualifying, 18 holes each day; the low 44 players and ties after 36 holes enter the final 36 holes of qualifying on Thursday, August 2; low 16 players after 72 holes enter match play. In event of a tie for the 16th position, a sudden-death playoff shall be held to determine the qualifiers. The playoff will begin as soon as the last player has completed 72 holes of qualifying and all scores are posted. All players in the playoff are required to be at the teeing ground where the playoff is to commence.

Monday, July 30	6:00 A.M. - 1:30 P.M. 7:00 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.	Registration (Sunset Ridge CC Clubhouse) Practice Rounds
Tuesday, July 31	A.M. & P.M. 6:00 P.M.	First Round Stroke Play Player Cookout (Sunset Ridge CC Clubhouse)
Wednesday, August 1	A.M. & P.M.	Second Round Stroke Play (low 44 plus ties enter final 36 holes of qualifying)
Thursday, August 2	A.M. & P.M.	Final 36 holes of Qualifying (low 16 enter Match Play)
Friday, August 3	A.M. P.M.	First Round (Match Play) Quarterfinal Round (Match Play)
Saturday, August 4	A.M. P.M.	Semifinal Round (Match Play) Final Round (Match Play)

2018 Host Venue - Sunset Ridge Country Club, Northfield, Illinois

Future Sites:	2019	-	Point O' Woods Golf and Country Club, Benton Harbor, Michigan
	2020	-	Crooked Stick Golf Club, Carmel, Indiana
	2021	-	Glen View Club, Golf, Illinois
	2022	-	Exmoor Country Club, Highland Park, Illinois
	2023	-	North Shore Country Club, Glenview, Illinois

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TOURNAMENT ACCEPTANCE — Players qualifying for an exemption into the tournament in categories A, B, C, and E will be notified of their acceptance into the tournament after receipt of the online application and application fee, **provided** there are spaces available. All players applying for a D-1 “Special Consideration Exemption” will be emailed notification of their status by June 29, 2018.

REGISTRATION — All players must register by 5 p.m. (CDT) on Monday, July 30, or confirm arrival time in advance by phone. Registration will be located in the Sunset Ridge Country Club Clubhouse and is open Monday, July 30, starting at 6 a.m. A player’s place in the tournament may be forfeited if he fails to register before 5:00 p.m. (CDT) on Monday, July 30.

PRACTICE — Sunset Ridge Country Club will be available for practice on Monday, July 30; however, each player **must register with the WGA prior** to any practice. Practice rounds can be scheduled for July 30, by calling **Steve Prioletti** at the WGA Headquarters - (847) 773-1899 **PLEASE NOTE:** Sunset Ridge Country Club’s golf course and practice facilities will be **unavailable** prior to Monday, July 30.

STARTING TIMES — Pairings and starting times for the first two rounds of qualifying will be posted outside the tournament office, in the Sunset Ridge Country Club clubhouse, and golf shop by 12 noon (CDT) on Sunday, July 29. Pairings can also be viewed at www.thewesternamateur.com.

ACCOMMODATIONS — Upon notice of tournament acceptance, participants should book flight reservations into Chicago O’Hare International Airport (Approx. 25 minutes from Sunset Ridge Country Club) The host hotel is the **Renaissance Chicago North Shore**, 933 Skokie Boulevard, Northbrook, IL 60062. The special tournament rate is **\$113**. Contestants are expected to make their own reservations.

PRIVATE HOUSING — As in past years, a limited amount of private housing will be provided. This is done on a **first-come, first-serve basis only**. You must specify on the entry form if you will need housing **and** fill out the housing application form embedded in the acceptance email. Players will be given private housing on a space available basis only.

HEADQUARTERS — All inquiries should be directed to Steve Prioletti, Tournament Manager of the Western Golf Association, 1110 Jorie Blvd., Suite 207, Oak Brook, IL 60523, telephone: (847) 773-1899. After 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 25, the WGA Tournament Office will be located at the Sunset Ridge Country Club clubhouse. The Tournament Office phone number is (847) 773-1899.

CADDIE POLICY — A limited number of club caddies are available for the practice round and tournament play on a first-come, first-serve basis. A player is not required to employ a caddie for any stage of the Championship although it is strongly recommended. Players that have been eliminated (missed the cut or lost a match) from the tournament **are** allowed to caddie for a player still in the field. Players **still competing** in the Championship **are not** allowed to caddie for another player in the field. **Penalty: As per APPENDIX I.** If you would like to request a Sunset Ridge Country Club caddie, please check the appropriate box on the online application **and** contact the Caddie Manager to make arrangements (Phone number and email will be published in the official acceptance email and player handbook).

CONDUCT CODE — The following actions by players or caddies will be considered violations of the Conduct Code: any abusive language, club throwing, cheating, disrespect of volunteers or officials, host families, abuse of the course, leaving the course during your competitive round without permission from a WGA official, any use of or association with drugs or alcohol, not adhering to the dress code during any portion of the tournament, any vandalism at a host hotel, and/or any other conduct not becoming of a Western Amateur contestant. The penalties for Conduct Code violations, based on the severity of misconduct, may be any or all of the following: a warning, disqualification of the player from the tournament, suspension of the player indefinitely from WGA Championships.

DRESS CODE — Golf slacks **only**. Shorts are **not** allowed during any portion of the Championship. Golf/Bermuda style shorts will be allowed during **practice rounds only** on Monday, July 30 (Caddies may wear Golf/Bermuda style shorts during all rounds of the championship). Collared shirts must be worn during all phases of the tournament. Players in violation of the dress code will not be permitted to start the competition. A violation of the dress code by a player during the stipulated round must be rectified without undue delay or the player will not be allowed to continue play. Proper dress code is required at all times while at the host facility, including in the clubhouse and at all practice facilities before and after play.

FOOTWEAR — It is a condition of the competition at Sunset Ridge Country Club that shoes with metal or traditionally designed spikes are prohibited. Penalty for breach of this condition: **Disqualification**.

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RULES OF GOLF - The Rules of Golf as approved by the USGA and The R&A, as modified by local rules established by the WGA, will be used. The WGA tournament committee reserves the right to alter any of the conditions and schedules herein. Changes in tournament format caused by force majeure shall be within the sole discretion of the WGA officials. The decisions of the WGA tournament committee in any matter shall be final. **In making a stroke, the player must not anchor the club, either “directly” or by use of an anchor point. Conforming Distance Measuring Devices will be allowed during the championship.**

PUBLICITY AND PROMOTION; BROADCASTING — By submitting this application, I understand that the WGA or its designees, may record, film, photograph, or otherwise capture my likeness, image, voice, biography, references to me, my quoted statements, and my play in the Championship (the foregoing, together with my name, my “Appearance”). In consideration of the opportunity to participate in the Championship, by submitting this Application, I grant (and/or have the authority to grant to the WGA in the case of a parent/guardian of a minor or other authorized representative submitting the Application on my behalf) to the WGA, and its licensees, successors and assigns, the perpetual, transferable, assignable, worldwide, royalty-free, irrevocable right to use my Appearance, in whole or in part, in all manner (including exhibition, distribution, reproduction, publication, display, broadcast, transmission or otherwise), and media now known or hereafter invented or discovered, and for any purpose whatsoever. The rights granted herein include, without limitation, the right to use the Appearance, or portions thereof, in promotion of the Championship and future championships through any of the foregoing means of distribution, as well as in the design, manufacture and distribution of merchandise related to the Championship or other championships, that include elements of my Appearance. The WGA is not obligated to use my Appearance in any matter, and materials embodying any aspect of my Appearance do not need be submitted to me for approval. I release and discharge the WGA, its licensees, successors and assigns from any claims arising from use of my Appearance, including claims for misrepresentation of me, my character, or my person by any means. As between the WGA and me, the WGA shall own all right, title and interest, including the copyright(s), in and to any works created by the WGA, its licensees, successors and assigns, that include all or a portion of my Appearance. This grant shall be binding on my heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, and the successors and assigns of the WGA. I hereby waive all privacy, publicity, defamation, libel, and proprietary rights relating to the Appearance as used by the WGA in conjunction with these terms. Players are required to cooperate with representatives of the media; however, no pre-Championship activities outside of those activities which are part of the Championship will be required. Authorized representatives of the media will not interfere with the player’s Championship play in an unreasonable manner.

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Exemption Categories

Players may be exempt based on one and/or both of the following two categories: *(To become officially entered, every player must apply online and submit an application fee prior to the deadline date.)*

- (1) Qualify under categories A, B, C, D or E, or
- (2) Have received a formal written invitation from the Western Amateur Tournament Committee

A. Exemptions based on WGA Championships

Western Amateur:

- A-1. Any Champion.
- A-2. "Sweet Sixteen" (match-play qualifier) since 2013.
- A-3. Posted 72-hole score since 2015.

Western Junior:

- A-4. Champion since 2015.
- A-5. Top three & ties since 2017.

B. Exemptions based on other Amateur events

- B-1. Top 175 Individuals in the Scratch Players World Amateur Ranking system (see owagr.com) between time of entry and the application deadline.
- B-2. Playing Members of a Walker Cup and/or Top 5 Men's World Amateur Team since 2013.
- B-3. 2017 Rolex First-Team Junior All American Team members, or Top 15 individuals in the AJGA Rolex Ranking at any point between June 1, 2018 and June 22, 2018.

C. Exemptions based on Collegiate events

- C-1. Top 25 Individuals in the Golfweek/Sagarin or Division-1 Golfstat Men's rankings on or after 6/1/2018.
- C-2. 2017 & 2018 GCAA Division I First Team All-Americans.
- C-3. Medalist in 2018 national championship of NAIA or NCAA (Div. II or III).
- C-4. 2018 medalist of the NCAA Division I Regionals.

D. Exemptions based on Special Considerations or Invitation

- D-1. A limited number of D-1 "Special Consideration Exemptions" and/or written invitations, may be granted by the Committee. If you do not qualify under the exemptions listed in A, B, C or E, please apply for a D-1 "Special Consideration Exemption" online.

E. Exemptions based on professional events

- E-1. Posted 72-hole score in a PGA TOUR event, PGA European TOUR event, or Web.com Tour event since 2016.
- E-2. Posted a 36-hole score in The Masters Tournament, U.S. Open or The Open Championship.