

GOLF NEWS

The Newsletter of GLAGA,
the Greater Lansing
Amateur Golf Association

Volume 5 Issue 1 • March 2002

GLAGA Tournament Wrapup for 2001

All City Tournaments

Eric Cowles came from behind to take the All City Match Play title in a hard fought battle with Bill Schmidt. The tournament was played over three days, starting with a shotgun qualifier on Friday, June 15 and concluding with the two man finals on Sunday afternoon, June 17.

Eric Cowles claimed the double crown this year with a one shot victory over former All City Champion Nathan Clark. The tournament which was played at Groesbeck and Timber Ridge this year turned out to be a tournament of champions with 2001 All City Match Play Champion Cowles, 1999 All City Medal Play Champ Nathan Clark, and Russ Cunningham who won last year's Stableford Tournament and this year's Summer Medal Play playing in the final group on Sunday. When Nathan's approach shot on 18 ricocheted off the green side trees into the water hazard fronting the green, Eric seized the opportunity to turn a one shot deficit on the 18th tee into a single stroke victory.

All Member Tournaments

Brad Myott won the **Spring Medal Play** at the Emerald the first weekend of May in a one hole sudden death playoff against Dick Diana.

Russ Cunningham lapped the field with a six shot victory in the **Summer Medal Play** at Royal Scot in July. Thirteen year old Sam Burman and last year's Senior Medal Play Champion Steve Martin shared second place.

The Stableford was conducted at Hawk Hollow on September 29 and 30. Gray Tuttle caught and passed first round leader Jerry Blake and Spring Medal Play runner up Dick Diana on the last few holes to take the first place prize. This year the Stableford will move to Forest Akers East in July.

Senior Member Tournaments

GLAGA members 50 and older had two events to compete in this year. Jim Westwood won the first **Senior Medal Play** tournament held at Willowood in Portland in July. Jim finished a stroke behind Ron Clevenger at the second **Seniors Medal Play** held at Oaklane.

Double Crown Champion

2001 All City Medal Play
2001 All City Match Play
Eric Cowles



Junior Golf in 2001

Junior Golf Scholarship Program - 2001 Recap

Last summer over 60 Lansing teenage golfers were awarded scholarships by GLAGA enabling them to golf to their hearts desire. They played over 900 rounds on Lansing's Municipal courses.

This was the 3rd year that GLAGA had sponsored this program for Lansing area teens. Chris Nicholoff's Lansing Recreation Fund again provided \$3,000 to go with GLAGA's contribution. In total there was over \$6,000 provided in scholarships. Don Ballard, Lansing's City Golf Director, has provided the administrative support as well as being a constant day-to-day advocate within City Hall. Thanks Don.

The program does more than just provide reduced greens fees for the young duffers (50¢ at Sycamore, Red Cedar and Waverly, \$1.25 at Grosbeck). A special thanks goes to Coach Fossum, retired MSU Varsity Golf Coach, who donated two group lesson sessions at Akers Golf Range (though one got rained out). The rules of golf and course etiquette were emphasized as well as the proper golf swing. The participants in this program have taken a big step towards making golf a part of their lives.

continued on page 2

Visit us online at
WWW.GLAGA.ORG

GLAGA received almost two dozen cards and letters from the players, thanking us as well as telling what the scholarships meant to them. Just a sampling:

- "Thank you very much for the opportunity to practice my golf ... at a reduced rate"
- "I was a lot more inclined to play when it didn't cost a lot"
- "I would like to extend my debt of gratitude for giving me the opportunity to play golf at a very reasonable cost. I was laid up for 2 ½ weeks for surgery, but my doctor says I can resume my regular play of 4-5 times a week"
- Thank you for sponsoring the Junior Golf Pass (as a result) my two sons were able to play on their own, with their friends and their Dad"
- "It was great playing golf all summer. Thanks once again." (Hand made card)
- "...it helped me get more into golf. I appreciated the pass.
- (Hand made card) "Golfing sure is great" with a smiling golfer. Another with a smiling golf ball "Thanks".
- "I really appreciate GLAGA's commitment to this program. I golfed a lot and my game improved very much."
- "So thanks again for the opportunity of playing golf ...more times that usual." It gave me the confidence to try out for Eastern's Golf Team (I made the team!).
- "The pass gave me the opportunity to play..... and spend more time golfing with my father."
- "I am thankful for this program because I understand the game more and I love to play it."
- "When I started playing golf, my scores were around 70, now they're around 40."
- "Now that I get to go golfing more, I have gotten much better. My game has gone from the high 70s to the low 60's... Thank you very much."
- "Thank you for giving me the opportunity to play golf without the trouble of money."
- "I got my first birdie at Red Cedar on the fourth hole."
- "I had the best summer of my life. Why? Because I got to go Golfing almost every day"
- "It taught me a lot about golf; e.g.; one day I could be driving well but chipping poorly and on another chipping well, but driving poorly. No matter how bad I am doing though, I learned I have to stay focused on every shot.
- "Sometimes when I go out with my Mom and Dad I can give them a little pressure now."
- Your donations helped me pursue my passion for golf."
- "Thanks for giving children like us the opportunity to enjoy the game of golf."

What more can be said – they appreciated the opportunity, took advantage of it and will have fond memories that will stay with and influence them for the rest of their lives.

GLAGA will once again be partnering with Chris Nichol off to sponsor another 60 or so scholarships this coming summer. The scholarships go to boys and girls who love golf but who otherwise might only be able to play occasionally, if at all. **Your GLAGA dues make this possible.** These young people are grateful to all the members for the continued support of this effort.



Bruce Fossum is a former President of the Golf Coaches Association of America and onetime chairman of the NCAA Golf Committee. He is one of just nine golf coaches in history to receive the "Honors Award" of the Golf Coaches Association. Bruce Fossum coached 11 All American golfers and led six teams to the NCAA finals. Now retired from full time coaching, he continues to teach at clinics and in private lessons.

"COACH" BRUCE FOSSUM

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CALL OR WRITE TODAY

From the Outgoing President, Stu White

With mixed emotions, I am tendering my resignation as President and director of GLAGA. I have treasured the opportunity to serve with you and am proud of our accomplishments. Through the tireless industry of this board, GLAGA has provided competitive venues for area golfers that no other organization or golf vendor has offered. We have invested thousands of dollars in junior golfers who have accessed our municipal golf facilities at a substantial saving to themselves and their families. We have embarked on a mission of community support, which has been recognized and validated by local government as well as state organizations.

I believe it is time for new leadership, a new perspective, and fresh ideas for the GLAGA of tomorrow. The volunteers who have dedicated themselves to this association, first as an informal collection of avid golfers and now in a more formal capacity, have moved this organization forward. We would not be here today on the threshold of change and growth in junior golf options such as a First Tee program for Lansing were it not for everyone who has had some connection with GLAGA. And like those who have come before me, it is time to let others take the tee.

I retire to the gallery with some sadness, but mostly gratitude and pride in what we have done. I thank you for your patience with me and your trust and commitment to our common vision. I know that you will move ahead with passion and promise under the direction of your new president and with fresh blood on the board. If I can ever assist you in the future, please feel free to call.

Visit us online at WWW.GLAGA.ORG

Greetings Fellow Golf Enthusiasts!

I am happy to introduce myself to the amateur golfing community in the Lansing area as your Interim President. I would like to start by first saying an emphatic "THANK YOU" to Stu White for his 13 years service to GLAGA, the past five years of which he served as president. His leadership helped the organization develop on several fronts including the GLAGA Junior Golf Scholarship Program (generously supported by the Lansing Youth and Recreation Fund), provision of member medal play, Stableford, Junior and Senior tournaments and continued administration of the ALL-CITY MEDAL and ALL-CITY MATCH PLAY tournaments. During Stu's tenure GLAGA won both local and state level awards for volunteer activities in Park and Recreation Services. To Stu, from all of us on the GLAGA board and from the amateur golfing community Thank You again, for your excellent work. GLAGA now looks to the future to continue providing tournament opportunities for amateur golfers of all ages and abilities.

As I mentioned above in opening I have assumed the role of President of GLAGA on an interim basis. After 19 years, I will also be stepping down from the Board of Directors in December of this year. To perpetuate the continuance of our activities we are currently in the process of soliciting potential new members for appointment to the board. We will keep you posted on our progress in the addition of new members and introduce them in an upcoming newsletter.

As in the past the GLAGA board welcomes your feedback on our activities and your tournaments. One change for the coming tournament season I will mention here. Players will no longer be able to sign up for tournaments on-line at the GLAGA web site. The process was fraught with problems last year for which we have no resolution and do apologize. You may still get tournament applications on line but they will have to be MAILED to the GLAGA post office box with full payment by the stated deadline to be accepted as an entry to a tournament.

In this newsletter among other things, look for the 2002 tournament schedule, exciting news about a new FIRST TEE Golf Learning Center designed by new board member Steven Mcleod to be built at the site of the current Sycamore Golf Course and, as always, please support our advertisers and sponsors.

Birdies to all,
Paul Nieratko
Interim President

The GLAGA Golf Calendar 2002

GLAGA Member Competitions

Dates	Event	Entries Close	Venue	Age Limit
May 4-5	Spring Medal Play	April 27	The Emerald	16* and Older
June 22-23	Seniors Championship	June 15	Willow Wood	50 and Older
July 20-21	Summer Stableford	July 13	Forest Akers East	16* and Older
July 30	Juniors Championship	July 23	Groesbeck	Age Divisions 18 & younger

All-City Competitions Conducted by GLAGA

Dates	Event	Entries Close	Venue	Age Limit
June 14-16	All-City Match Play	June 7	Groesbeck	16* and Older
August 9-11	All-City Medal Play	August 2	Royal Scot and Timber Ridge	16* and Older
Sept 7-8	All-City Fall Best Ball	Sept 4	Groesbeck	16* and Older

All Entry Forms for GLAGA Member Competitions and All-City Competitions Conducted by GLAGA must arrive at the GLAGA P.O. Box by the closing date accompanied by full payment by check or money order.

*If under the age of 16 a player must present a verified USGA Handicap of 18 or less to be eligible to compete.

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\$30.00 Membership Fee (No Increase From 2001)

2002 GLAGA Membership Application

NAME _____ BIRTHDATE: ____/____/____
(To Determine Senior/Junior Status)
ADDRESS _____ ZIP _____
CITY _____ PHONE _____

Return To: GLAGA, PO BOX 27092, Lansing, MI 48909

Please check one:

- I've included my **\$30** Check or Money Order made payable to GLAGA for my 2002 membership fee
- I've included my **\$50** Check or Money Order made payable to GLAGA for my 2002 membership fee and to designate **\$20 (tax deductible)** to sponsor a Junior golfer for the summer.

GLAGA Tournaments 2002 -- Entry Form

Spring Medal Play

The Emerald at Maple Creek

May 4-5 **\$90**

Entries Close April 27

Name _____ E-mail address _____
Address _____ Phone number _____
City _____ Zip _____ Want Cart _____ Avg Score _____
Date of Birth _____

Return with Payment to:
GLAGA, PO BOX 27092, Lansing, MI 48909

Submission of application constitutes agreement that player will abide by tournament rules as spelled out by the tournament committee including the 4 1/2 hour pace of play rule in all tournaments. Full payment MUST accompany this entry.

GLAGA Tournaments 2002 -- Entry Form

All City Match Play

Groesbeck

June 14-16 **\$80**

Entries Close June 7

Name _____ E-mail address _____

Address _____ Phone number _____

City _____ Zip _____ Want Cart _____ Avg Score _____

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GLAGA Tournaments 2002 -- Entry Form

Seniors Medal Play

Willow Wood

June 22-23 **\$85**

Entries Close June 15

Name _____ E-mail address _____

Address _____ Phone number _____

City _____ Zip _____ Want Cart _____ Avg Score _____

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GLAGA Tournaments 2002 -- Entry Form

Summer Stableford

Forest Akers East

July 20-21 **\$85**

Entries Close July 13

Name _____ E-mail address _____

Address _____ Phone number _____

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Date of Birth _____

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GLAGA Tournaments 2002 -- Entry Form

GLAGA Junior Championship

Groesbeck

July 30 **\$T.B.D.**

Entries Close July 23

Name _____ E-mail address _____

Address _____ Phone number _____

City _____ Zip _____ Want Cart _____ Avg Score _____

Date of Birth _____

Return with Payment to:

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Submission of application constitutes agreement that player will abide by tournament rules as spelled out by the tournament committee including the 4 1/2 hour pace of play rule in all tournaments. **Full payment MUST accompany this entry.**

GLAGA Tournaments 2002 -- Entry Form

All City Medal Play

Royal Scot & Timber Ridge

August 9-11 \$120/155

Entries Close August 2

Name _____ E-mail address _____

Address _____ Phone number _____

City _____ Zip _____ Want Cart _____ Avg Score _____

Date of Birth _____

Return with Payment to:

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Submission of application constitutes agreement that player will abide by tournament rules as spelled out by the tournament committee including the 4 1/2 hour pace of play rule in all tournaments. **Full payment MUST accompany this entry.**

GLAGA Tournaments 2002 -- Entry Form

All City Fall Best Ball

Groesbeck

September 7-8 \$T.B.D.

Entries Close September 4

Name _____ E-mail address _____

Address _____ Phone number _____

City _____ Zip _____ Want Cart _____ Avg Score _____

Date of Birth _____

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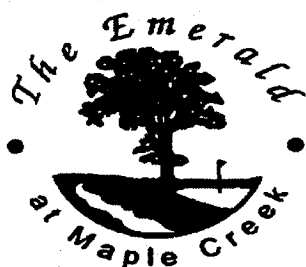
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