



Spring 2011 Golf News

2011 will be our last year at Marshall Golf Club. We will miss the friendships of all the members, past and present. A few members we so shared our love and friendship with have passed away, and we wish them rested golf peace and God's caring, continuing love.

I've truly admired the dedication so many members gave to the service of MGC either as a committee or board member. Many members also contributed their time and money to better our club. I want to give a heartfelt thank you for their efforts; it made my job much easier.

Most of all, I want to thank the members who trusted me and felt confident with my experience, expertise, and knowledge to teach the game of golf and the golf swing not only to themselves, but their entire families as well.

This coming spring, several new and exciting changes will be happening beginning on opening day for our men's and ladies leagues:

1. Both men's and ladies' opening guest days will be eliminated with a new format going into effect. Guests may still play, but all teams will be computer-paired. Guests must also possess an established handicap. A small fee will be charged to all participants for a meal, gratuity, golf and prizes.
2. The Men's Finale will be Sept. 8; the Ladies' Finale will be Aug. 30. All leagues will still play, but the pairings will be 1st place vs. 2nd place, 3rd vs. 4th, etc. Tee times will be posted for the Men's event on Sept. 2; Ladies will play shotgun at 5:30. Regular team points will apply for the overall league champions, and bonus prizes will be awarded for the day as well. The low four teams in each league will be awarded extra monies for Sept. 8 only. This entry fee will be a part of your league fees.

We have great tournaments for our members with competitions available in different formats other than a scramble, which is the most non-competitive format, but one used greatly as a tournament for simply having fun. Most of our scrambles at MGC are for charity and allow teams to pick their own players to compete.

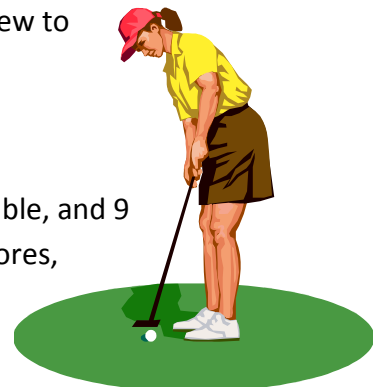
Listed below are the dates of our 2011 tournaments. We'd love to have you play in a few to simply try out the various formats.

May 21 – Variety Tournament (Saturday)

This is a two-person team format with 9 holes of best ball (best shot), 9 holes of scramble, and 9 holes of Modified Chapman. Flights are established after one of the first two 9 hole scores, so keep playing well!

June 11 – Galen Skramstad (Saturday) – sponsored by USBancorp

This tournament is one for both the average as well as championship caliber players. In the championship flight, the top 18 players and ties play an additional nine holes to determine the overall champion. There are two flights, divided equally, with prizes awarded to the lowest gross and net winners in each flight.




June 18-19 – Father/Son & Father/Daughter (Saturday and Sunday)

This is one of the most fun-filled family tournaments we have at our club. We use the Modified Chapman format, and every junior wins a trophy. You may pick a tee time on either day, or play on the Friday before if you can't make it on the weekend.

June 20 – Men's Medal Play Championship (Monday)

In this tournament, the championship flight players compete in the same manner as the Galen Skramstad tournament, except there are up to eight flights established based on handicaps. Prizes are awarded according to how you finish in your respective flight.

June 27 – MGC Junior Area-Wide Championship (Monday)



All area boys and girls from ages 6-18 will be invited from the surrounding area to compete. Flights will be determined by age with a 9 a.m. shotgun start. The Schwan Food Company will be the proud sponsor of this event and provide treats and lunch for all participants.

However, to ensure the success and integrity of this event, we will need adult supervisors to assist in scoring for the small junior players.

July 9 – Two-Person Better Ball Tournament (Saturday)

This is one of our best competitive formats. Each team counts the lower score of the pair. Flights are determined by the lower of the two team handicaps. Tee times will be between 9 and 11 a.m.

July 25-27 – MGC/Dakota Tour Charity Pro Am (Monday – Pro Am)

This has become one of the premier Dakota Tour stops for their summer season. However, it is important we have more sponsored teams participating, so please see me about sponsoring one or two teams so we can somewhat increase the professionals' payouts. This tournament would not be the success it is without our dedicated sponsors from past years. MGC thanks you for your previous generosity and kind donations. The format for this tournament is two pros playing with a team of three amateurs. The low ball of the pro is added to the low net score of the three amateurs. This is great fun, plus you get to play with two professionals and maybe get some pointers! This tour has produced two players who went on to the regular PGA tour.

August 6-7 – MGC Club Championship (Saturday and Sunday)

If you play league or simply pay your regular handicap fee for the year, you are automatically entered into this tournament. Flights are again established according to handicap. May the best golfer win their respective flight!

August 12-13 – Member/Guest Tournament (Friday and Saturday)

This tournament is by far the best format and most fun-filled one of the year. As it is my final year at MGC, I'd love to see all our past teams as well as some new teams participating. The format is 45-hole better ball match play: 18 holes on Friday plus a Horse Race scramble, and 27 holes on Saturday. Winners of each flight will participate in an alternate shot shoot-out at the end of Saturday's play. A nice meal and awards presentation

follows on Saturday evening. This provides a great golf weekend with a friend. We also have several ladies' teams who participate as well.

August 15 – Senior Tournament (Monday)

This tournament is sponsored by VanderHagen, Skogrand and Assoc., a local Ameriprise investment agency. This tournament is organized by flights with senior aged players (50+) participating from the surrounding area. We even have a Super Senior flight dedicated to those 72 years and older. You must have an established handicap to participate.

August 27 – Three Person Scramble (Saturday)

For a fun time with good company, invite two your close golfing friends or family to play in this event. Three to four flights will be made according to the handicap of the lowest player: A Flight, 5.3 and under; B Flight, 5.4-10.9; C Flight, 11.0 and over. Skins are included in the entry.

September 17-18 – Five Person Scramble (Saturday and Sunday)

There is plenty of competition in this event! It is a two-day event with two different payouts each day. You have a chance to win on either Saturday or Sunday. Each team's total handicap must total at least 55.0 with only one player below a 6.0 handicap index. This tournament only takes 4 to 5 hours to play, not the 7 to 8 hours it used to, and is tons of fun! Since it will be my final Five-Person as well as the last tournament of 2011, I'd love to see all the teams that have played before to get a team together and make it a great last event.

Most all of these tournaments have a meal included – lunch, dinner or both – so you can feed your appetite as well. I'd love to have as many people as possible play in all these tournaments, but I know it's hard, so choose carefully and enjoy the golfing season at least by participating in a tournament other than a scramble. In addition, on each of our summer holiday weekends we hold a Monday couples tournament, a 2 pm shotgun start with a different fun format.



The scheduled charity event dates for 2011 are listed below.

June 24:	SMSU Classic – Five-Person Scramble (Friday)
July 18:	Pride in the Tiger – Four –Person Scramble (Monday)
August 1:	SMSU/Titan Machinery Tournament
August 8:	Rotary Cancer – Four-Person Scramble (Monday)
September 12:	Avera Hospital – Four-Person Scramble (Monday)

Dates will be set for the SMSU Football Booster Fundraiser the MHS Golf Booster Scramble.

All charity tournaments need your support whether you play or contribute to the funding of them. Without the support from the area, extra funds cannot be raised for the special things in education, healthcare, etc. Please consider getting out, having fun, and enjoy a great round of golf at MGC!

See you soon! Allen Lucht, PGA Golf Professional