



MDGA NEWSLETTER



MIDWEST DEAF GOLFERS ASSOCIATION

Editor: Bob Dramin

January 2024



BENT TREE GOLF CLUB

Bent Tree Golf Club in Council Bluffs, Iowa is one of the most wonderful, beautiful, unique, challenging, and nicely designed courses.

Thanks to Head PGA Professional, Jeff Nielsen for his hard work with Willie Miller, 2023 MDGA Chairman to make this tournament go so smoothly that included allowing us to play 9-holes during the second-round after a hard rain in the morning. Bent Tree Golf Club was the only golf course in the Council Bluffs area that allowed us to play golf while other courses were closed.



MDGA's 76th tournament welcomed 82 golfers from 21 different states and two from Canada. We had 42 Open, 23 Seniors, and 19 Super Seniors play at Bent Tree Golf Club.

SIX NEW MDGA GOLFERS

First time MDGA tournament golfers were warmly welcomed: Pictured L to R: John Hayes (CA), Ismael Briseno (UT), and Louis Pedroza (CA). Not in picture: Alfred Casaccia (TX), Robert Sherwood (IA), and Clarendon Willer (IL).



MDGA MAKES NEW HISTORY

It was MDGA's first time in 76 years that 45 holes were played. In the past, MDGA had played 18, 36, and 54 holes but not 45 holes. That's cool that we are a part of history of playing 45 holes. Last time that MDGA had to cancel the whole day was in 1974 at Brainard, Minnesota. They played only 36 holes (2 days) due to rain all day. Since 1975, we had palyed 54 holes till this year when we played only 45 holes.

GOLFER MAKES HOLE IN ONE

Big congratulations to Jonathan of Canada who made an ace on the 18th hole (Par 3 - 124 yards) during the first round of MDGA tournament.



THREE NEW HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES



Patrick Arnold (IN)



Robert Lawson (IA)



Al Van Nevel (IL)
deceased

PUTTING CONTEST CHAMPION

“In Memory of Paul Dramin” Putting Champions - Bob Dramin (IL) won the putting contest and his second one since 2001 in Bloomington, IL that hosted the first putting contest.



L to R: 1st place: Bob Dramin (IL), 2nd place: Mike Nelson (FL), 3rd place: Telly Surber (KS), and 4th place: Mark Venz (WI)



STATE TEAM CHAMPION

Illinois, for the fourth straight year, won state team championship and its 21st time since 1957.

L to R: Shawn Lockhart, Bill Curtis, Curtis Blankenburg, and Bob Dramin



76TH MDGA CHAMPIONS

OPEN CHAMPION:

Bill Roberts (MO), his 12th time to win MDGA Championship since 1991. He won by one hole in a playoff over Kyle Finkbeiner (MI).



OPEN FIRST FLIGHT CHAMPION:

Jeremy Warshaw (CA) won by two holes playoff over Bob Dramin (IL).



OPEN SECOND FLIGHT CHAMPION:



Mark Venz (WI)

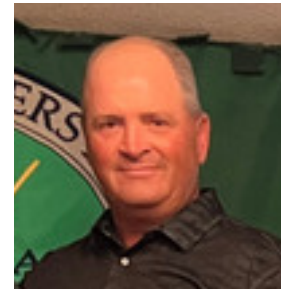
OPEN THIRD FLIGHT CHAMPION:



Adam Wasilewski (IL)

OPEN HANDICAP CHAMPION:

Al Van Nevel Memorial Award



Jason Mihalkanin (IL)

SENIOR CHAMPION:

Curtis Blankenburg (IL), his eighth won MDGA (won Open 4 times and won Seniors Champions 4 times) since 2001.



SENIOR FIRST FLIGHT CHAMPION:

David Costa (IL) won his sixth Championship. In 2001, 2002, and 2003 he won 3rd Flight Championship. Then, in 2008, he won 2nd Flight Championship. Also, he won 1st flight Championship in 2011. That shows he has improved his golf game since 2001!



**SENIOR SECOND
FLIGHT CHAMPION:**



John Hayes (CA)

**SUPER SENIOR
CHAMPION:**



Doug Schnoor (MN)

**SUPER SENIOR FIRST
FLIGHT CHAMPION:**



Jerry Pouliot (MN)

**SENIOR/SUPER
SENIOR HANDICAP
CHAMPION:**

Dr. Frank B. Sullivan
Memorial Award



George McCarley (KS)

**KING &
QUEEN**

Congratulations
to 2023 MDLGA
King Bill Curtis (IL)
and MDGA Queen
Molly Lindeman-
Jandt (MN).



77TH MDGA (2024)

Looking forward to seeing you again next year at Far Oaks Golf Club in Caseyville, Illinois to be hosted by Missouri golfers for the 77th MDGA tournament on August 5-8, 2024. Also, to meet returning golfers, and let's bring new golfers to enjoy golfing and socializing. Visiting the website: www.faroaksgolf.com