

2008 Illinois Women's Open Fact Sheet

Tourney

Thursday and Friday, July 24 and 25, will be the first and second rounds followed by Saturday's final round, July 26. The Illinois Women's Open is a 54-hole stroke play event. Following 36 holes, the field will be cut to approximately the low 40 percent plus ties, assuming a full field. In the event of a tie for the Championship, there will be a three-hole, total-stroke playoff. If the contestants remain tied after three holes, the playoff will revert to sudden death.

The field will be limited to 96 players. If more than 96 entries are received, or if need arises, a qualifying event will be held, date TBA. The IWO reserves the right to extend special exemptions, at the tournament committee's discretion. Entries are subject to rejection at any time at the discretion of the IWO.

All entries must be received at Chicagoland Golf's post office box (NOT at Mistwood GC) by 5 p.m., Monday, July 14, 2008.

Eligibility

Entries are open to all female-at-birth professionals and amateurs who are residents (or currently enrolled in college or high school) in Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Kentucky, Indiana and Michigan. Entrants must be 17 years-old as of July 24, 2008. Younger players or players from states other than the above may apply in writing to tournament committee for a special exemption.

Forms and Fees

Mail completed entry form with \$180 entry fee (check or money order) made payable to "Chicagoland Golf". Send it to Chicagoland Golf at PO Box 4116, Wheaton, IL 60189. We cannot accept credit cards at this time. Entries (if any) accepted after the deadline will cost \$205. No refunds will be given after the entry deadline. If you have questions about the tournament, call Chicagoland Golf's offices at (630) 719-1000. If you have specific questions about the golf course, call Mistwood at (815) 254-3333. One practice round is included in tournament fee; practice rounds, subject to availability.

Tee Times

First round tee times and pairings will be posted at least 72 hours prior to the start of the tournament at www.chicagolandgolf.com. Each day's results and the following day's tee times will be posted in the same place at chicagolandgolf.com approximately one hour after the last participant has finished. A special phone number at Mistwood will be made available for the purpose of players without Internet access verifying their starting times.

Purse and Prizes

The tournament purse will be announced prior to the event, minimum \$10,000 based on 75 contestants. Some players making the cut may not be awarded prizes. Players must declare pro or amateur status prior to start of event. Pros will receive cash, amateurs merchandise certificates at a store or pro shop chosen prior to the championship from a list. In the case of ties other than for first place, the prizes will be divided equally. USGA rules of Amateur Status apply.

Volunteers

Volunteers are needed every day during the event. Anyone interested in volunteering may call Chicagoland Golf at (630) 719-1000.

Directions, lodging, dining

Mistwood Golf Club is located in Romeoville on Renwick Road, three miles west of Route 53, one mile west of Weber Road (south from I-55 exit 263) and one mile east of I-55.

There are many fine national-brand hotels located 5-10 minutes away at the Route 30 interchange on I-55 (Exit 257); at I-55 & Weber Road (Exit 263) and at the Bolingbrook exit at I-55 & Route 53 (Exit 267). If coming from the south, exit I-55 at Route 30 and access the golf course by taking the east frontage road (Essington) north from Route 30 to Renwick Road, then east (right) one half mile to the course.

The Mistwood Golf Club restaurant and lounge on the second floor of the clubhouse is overseen by **Executive Chef Jim Shamet**, who has over 19 years of professional experience in the kitchen and his clients have included the Chicago Cubs, White Sox and Bulls, as well as Princess Diana, the Rolling Stones, Bruce Willis, Steven Spielberg, other Major League baseball teams, NBA basketball teams and major corporations. The restaurant will be open to serve breakfast, lunch and dinner. Dress is casual.

Dress Code

All tournament participants are expected to dress professionally at all times. This applies any time you are on tournament property or are attending tournament functions. No jeans, cut-offs, running shorts, short-shorts, or tee shirts are permitted. This applies to both players AND caddies.

Caddies & Golf Carts

No player will be allowed to carry her own golf bag, nor pull her bag on a wheeled cart.

Caddies are permitted, and can either carry the player's bag, pull the bag on a wheeled trolley or ride in the player's cart. (Players without caddies may share a cart.) A motorized golf cart can be reserved for a fee per day for the Championship. **Contact Mistwood Golf Club for cart or caddie reservations in advance. A limited number of caddies are available by prior arrangement.** Contestants may bring their own caddies. All caddies must be at least 16 years old and players are responsible for their caddie's conduct. As stated above, the dress code will be in effect for caddies at all times.

Conduct

No alcoholic beverages or headphones are permitted on the grounds during tournament play. This applies to both players and caddies. Displays of temper, foul language, or any other unprofessional behavior will not be tolerated. A player will be expected to conduct herself in a professional manner during the tournament. As a player, you are an entertainer and people come to see you perform. Please regard the spectators at the event, and let them know that you appreciate their presence.

Slow Play

USGA rules govern the IWO and are enforced. Exact details on slow play will be provided on the sheet of Tournament Rules & Conditions provided at check-in and downloadable from our web site.

Rules

Play will be governed by the United States Golf Association Rules of Golf with USGA options as approved by the Illinois Women's Open, and players will receive a sheet of Tournament Rules & Conditions at check-in.

Players must check in at the designated table in the clubhouse at least 30 minutes prior to their tee time. All players will be responsible for having knowledge of the rules on the Tournament Rules & Conditions sheet, which will be provided at check-in.

All questions and disputes shall be settled by the IWO rules committee, whose decision shall be final. The competition shall be deemed to have closed when the Championship Trophy has been presented.

Practice Range

A practice range – adjacent to the golf course – is available to all participants. Balls are not included in the tournament fee. There is also a practice putting green.

Galleries

Galleries are enthusiastically welcomed but must follow the same rules of conduct as the players and their caddies. Gallery should stay on the cart paths while players are making full shots but can approach the green when all players are on the green. Members of the gallery will also be required to reposition themselves if requested by a player at any time. Members of the gallery may rent carts (subject to availability), but they must have all four wheels on the cart path at all times and will be positioned as not to interfere with players.

Cell phones and cameras are strictly prohibited on the premises at all times during competition. Spectators possessing these items (even if turned off) will have them confiscated. Players and/or caddies in violation will be disqualified.

Release of Liability

Players, volunteers and spectators agree that they are aware of and assume all risks of bodily injury or property damage, including specifically (but not exclusively) the risks of being injured by thrown or struck golf balls or clubs, actions by other spectators, players, caddies or others in attendance. Players, volunteers and spectators agree that the Illinois Women's Open, Chicagoland Golf Publishing Co., Mistwood Golf Club, the Chicago Friends of Golf, Inc., the Weekly Challenge Golf Tour, Northern Illinois Men's Amateur Golf Association or any other sponsors, all principals of the aforementioned and the individual golfers are not liable for any injuries, property damage or suffering resulting from such causes or any other negligence.

Please check www.chicagolandgolf.com for news, updates, tee times, results and scheduling.