

Entries available for Junior Amateur, Four-Ball and Mid-Amateur Championships

BY CARR MCCALLA

Entry forms are now available for the 2007 LGA Junior Amateur, Four-Ball, and Mid-Amateur Championships. These events will be held at Beaver Creek Golf Club in Zachary (Junior Am), the University Club in Baton Rouge (Four-Ball), and Squire Creek Country Club in Choudrant (Mid-Am). If you and/or your friends and family members want to enter, simply visit the LGA website at www.LGAgolf.org for more information, to enter online, or to download an entry form. We anticipate all three of these venues will be popular sites so we encourage you to not delay in submitting your entry for any or all of these Championships. Competition dates are June 27-29 for the Junior Am and July 21-22 for the Four-Ball. Championship rounds play for the Mid-Am are August 3-5, with qualifying set for early July at seven sites around the state for those not exempt into the Championship proper. Entry fees are \$50 for the Junior Amateur, \$300 team entry fee for the Four-Ball Championship, and \$200 for the Mid-Amateur. As is the case this year for the LGA Amateur Championship, participants who do not advance past the qualifying round for the Mid-Amateur Championship will receive a \$100 refund. We're excited to visit Squire Creek CC for the Mid-Amateur, our first LGA trip to the Tom Fazio design recently cited as Louisiana's top course by the Golf Digest rating panelists.

DEADLINES FOR APPLICATIONS FOR LGA CLUB TEAM, AMATEUR, AND NET AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIPS CLOSE AT HAND

Don't forget.....if you plan on entering any of the first three LGA Championships; be aware that deadlines for those events will be here soon. The Club Team Championship, to be held this year at the Farm d'Allie Golf Club in Lafayette, pits 6-man teams from LGA Member Clubs against each other in a Ryder Cup format competition. Deadline for entries into this popular event is April 10 with the event scheduled for April 21-22. As in past years, a second (and third team, too) from a LGA Member Club will be accepted into the Championship if space is available when the deadline date arrives.

Entry deadline for the Net Amateur Championship at Beaver Creek Golf Course is set for May 8 with the Championship being conducted the weekend of May 21-22. This event has been on the LGA schedule since 2000 and we encourage all LGA members to consider participation, the format is such that low, intermediate, and high handicappers can all compete on an even playing field in a true LGA Championship for our Net players. The event also includes a Net Club Team Championship conducted concurrently with the Net Amateur. Find three other club members that want to participate and you can represent your club in this event, in addition to competing individually in the Net Amateur. Three of the four members' scores are counted each day to determine the LGA Member Club that will take home a beautiful crystal trophy for display in their club's trophy case. New Orleans' TPC Louisiana will host the 88th edition of our Amateur Championship June 7-10, just six weeks or so after the PGA Tour



visits this Pete Dye design for the Zurich Classic. As mentioned above, the LGA will refund \$100 of the \$200 entry fee to those that do not advance past the qualifying stage for this championship. Qualifiers will be conducted at eight statewide sites in mid-May with the deadline for entries scheduled for May 1. Entry deadlines for the events mentioned above are at 5 p.m. on the dates indicated. As noted above, entries can be submitted online through www.LGAgolf.org, or by hard copy sent to the LGA office. Hard copies of the entry forms may be downloaded via the website by clicking on 'schedule,' then 'info' beside the applicable Championship.

ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WALDER ACCEPTS POSITION WITH VIRGINIA STATE GOLF ASSOCIATION

Michael Walder, Assistant Executive Director of the LGA for the last 3 1/2 years, is moving. As you might imagine, we have mixed emotions about Mike's departure. He's done a wonderful job here. During his tenure the LGA has placed computers in every one of its LGA Handicap Network clubs (over 100), he's been the driving force behind each LGA Member Club becoming licensed by the USGA to issue approved handicap indexes to its members, he's administered the LGA's handicapping and course rating programs, as well as done a myriad of other things on behalf of LGA Member Clubs and their individual members. I could go on and on about all he's meant to the LGA and to golf in Louisiana. But, as is the case when you're fortunate enough to hire good people, they become attractive to others as well. He'll be heading back to the Middle Atlantic region where both he and his wife Leah grew up to become the Manager of Handicapping at the Virginia State Golf Association (VSGA). Mike came to the LGA from an internship at the VSGA in November of 2003. While sorry to see him leave, we wish Mike nothing but the best as he opens this new chapter in his career.

2007 LGA/AUDUBON GOLF TRAIL DISCOUNT CARDS AVAILABLE

The LGA is pleased again this year to partner with the Audubon Golf Trail in providing an important value-added benefit of membership to its individual members. As soon as a club remits its payment for 2007 LGA individual membership dues, the appropriate number of LGA Discount Cards will be forwarded to the club for distribution. Last year was the inaugural year for this partnership and we've received an extremely positive response from our membership constituency. In addition to all of the other benefits of LGA membership that a club and its individual membership receive by virtue of their members' \$9 annual membership dues (\$13 if a participant in the LGA Handicap Network), this card alone is valued at \$180 as it entitles LGA members to a free cart fee at each of the 12 Audubon Golf Trail facilities. The cards are valid April 1, 2007 through March 31, 2008.

See you next month.....Inside the Ropes!

Carr McCalla is the Executive Director of the LGA. He can be reached by e-mail (cmccalla@lgagolf.org) or phone (337-265-3938).