



THE
TRANSCRIPT



Dear Fellow Golfers:

As the competitive calendar gets underway, we at the Trans-Mississippi Golf Association are extremely excited about our tournament season and the outstanding venues that will host our 2018 championships. This year we travel to three wonderful venues. Our Senior & Mid-Master Championship will be held May 14-17 at Desert Forest Golf Club in Carefree, Ariz.; the 115th Trans-Miss Amateur Championship is July 9-13 and will be played at Brookside Golf & Country Club in Columbus, Ohio; and Mayacama Golf Club in Santa Rosa, Calif., will play host to our Four-Ball Championship from Sept. 17-20. Each of these clubs has a unique history within the game of golf and will be a fantastic venue for the respective championships.

An exciting development in our senior championship is the addition of the new "Mid-Master" division for top amateurs ages 40 years and older. The new division provides that age group an opportunity to compete in a highly regarded 54-hole stroke play championship.

The Trans-Miss Turf Scholarship Fund continues to be a major focus of our efforts. This year we will further enhance both the scholarship program, which the Fund has conducted for many years, and our Club Turf Internship Program, which we began three years ago.

The Turf Scholarship Program will again offer a minimum of \$80,000 of scholarships to worthy young men and women applicants interested in careers as golf course superintendents and recommended by professors at the top agronomy programs in the country.

The Club Turf Internship Program will continue to provide Trans-Miss member clubs with financial support to hire an agronomy student for a summer as an intern to train with the clubs' superintendent and work with the clubs' maintenance crews. These internships have proven to be invaluable to the clubs providing bright, ambitious students as additional staff. At the same time the interns acquire experience, training, mentorship, contacts, employment prospects, and summer income.

These students get real world experience with some of the best superintendents at prestigious clubs around the country. Your support through your clubs' membership and your participation in Trans-Miss events supports this worthy cause.

I hope that you will encourage your club to join the Trans and apply for the internship program. And please come join us this year at our championships for some wonderful golf.

On behalf of my fellow directors and the staff of the Trans-Miss Golf Association and Turf Scholarship Fund, thanks so much for your support and participation. See you on the course this season!

Truly,

Hunter Nelson

President

Trans-Miss Golf Association



TRANSMISS

Four-Ball Championship

Save the Date – September 17th-20th, 2018
Mayacama Golf Club – Santa Rosa, CA



The 38th Trans-Mississippi Four-Ball Championship will be held September 17th-20th at Mayacama Golf Club in Santa Rosa, CA. The course, in California's wine country and a Jack Nicklaus Signature, will play host to the top mid, senior & super senior amateur teams in the country.

Registration for the 2018 Championship will close online Wednesday, September 5th at 5 pm (CST).

ELIGIBILITY

Entries are open to male amateur golfers who have reached their 25th birthday on or before the first round of competition (September 18th, 2018). Teams must have a combined USGA handicap index of 10.0 or less. The Senior division is open to male amateur golfers who have reached their 55th birthday on or before the first round of competition. Teams must have a combined USGA handicap index of 14.0 or less. The Super Senior division is open to male amateur golfers who have reached their 65th birthday on or before the first round of competition. Teams must have a combined USGA handicap index of 16.0 or less. All tournament applicants (both team members) must be a member of a Trans-Miss Member Club or make an annual contribution (\$100) to the Trans-Miss Golf Association and Turf Scholarship Fund.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Monday, September 17 th	Practice Round & Player Reception
Tuesday, September 18 th	Round 1
Wednesday, September 19 th	Round 2
Thursday, September 20 th	Round 3 & Awards

WHAT'S INCLUDED

The entry fee for the Trans-Miss Four-Ball Championship is \$1,600 per team. The entry fee includes greens, cart, and range fees for the practice and all championship rounds. The entry fee also includes championship gifts, breakfast and lunch during all three championship rounds, and food/beverage at the Player Welcome Reception.

ABOUT THE TRANS-MISS

Established in 1901, the Trans-Mississippi Golf Association is comprised of the finest member clubs located throughout the country. In addition to conducting three annual championships, the Trans-Miss also awards over \$80,000 annually to aspiring golf course superintendents through the Turf Scholarship Fund. The Association is governed by a board of independent directors and is headquartered in Dallas, TX.

TURF



Etowah Valley Golf Club & Lodge

Trans-Miss Continues to Support Turf Management with Scholarships, Grants

In its ongoing mission to support men and women who are pursuing careers in the turf management industry, the Trans-Mississippi Golf Association recently allocated more than \$70,000 in the form of both scholarships to college students and internship grants to its Member Clubs.

For more than 50 years, the Trans-Miss Golf Association has supported the turf industry through grants, scholarships and internships. This year, the association distributed \$44,000 in individual scholarships to nine college students enrolled in Turf Management programs at universities across the country. Kaitlin Tanner, a Texas A&M junior from Shreveport, La., was one of two scholarship recipients who received the maximum amount of \$7,500.

"I'm going to use the money for tuition," Tanner said. "It was such an honor to receive the scholarship. It's definitely a great help for my education and tuition costs."

Tanner is working toward a career in the golf industry. She wants to be a superintendent someday. Interestingly, she's not a golfer – at least not yet. She ran cross country in high school, and some of her events took place on and around golf courses. Tanner said she's always loved being outside and working under the sun.

As she competed in cross country events, she couldn't help but be enamored with the beauty of the golf courses she saw. When she learned there was a

profession that allowed people to work on golf courses full-time, she investigated.

"I didn't know that could be a career," she said. "Once I learned about it, I changed my major from Health to Turf Science. Now I'm learning to play golf, too."

Tanner spent last summer as an intern at Etowah Valley Golf Club & Lodge in Asheville, N.C. She said she was exposed to just about every aspect of the superintendent's job. Mowing greens was her favorite task.

"I learned fast that most golfers really care about how the greens look and feel," she said. "You really have to focus and make straight lines."

Eight other college students who share Tanner's passion for golf course agronomy also received scholarships ranging from \$3,000-\$7,500. The scholarship winners included:

- Hayden Clements, Michigan State
- Alex Estes, Penn State
- Robert Frizzell, Oklahoma State
- Kevin Logan, Penn State
- Daniele McFadden, Kansas State
- Justin Mooney, Michigan State
- Michael Reece, Kansas State
- Kaitlyn Tanner, Texas A&M
- Calvin Wilson, Texas A&M

Additionally, nine Trans-Miss Member Clubs received

TURF

grants to underwrite summer internship programs at their facilities. In full, \$45,500 was dispersed between five qualifying clubs and the four facilities who hosted Trans-Miss events in 2017.

"We'll use the grant money to keep up our dorm rooms for intern housing," said Chris Wilson, the Director of Golf Courses and Grounds at Los Angeles Country Club, one of the clubs that qualified for grants through the application process. "Part of the money will go towards education and safety training, too."

Wilson said Los Angeles CC, which hosted the 2017 Walker Cup and will welcome the U.S. Open in 2023, has four interns coming in this summer. While working on the famous club's North and South Courses, they receive housing, meals, cable TV and internet service. It's all paid for by LACC, and Wilson said the Trans-Miss funds underwrite some of those costs.

"I think it's excellent what the Trans-Miss is doing to support us and other clubs like us," Wilson said. "We've had the benefit of a grant last year and this year. It shows how much the Trans-Miss supports its Member Clubs, the industry and the students who are trying to make a career out of it."

Along with LACC, the clubs that received grants this year through the application process were its nearby L.A. neighbor Riviera Country Club, Cherry Hills Country Club in Denver, Hazeltine National Golf Club in Chaska, Minn., and The Honors Course in Ooltewah, Tenn.

Also receiving club grants in 2018 were hosts to 2017 Trans-Miss events Eldorado Country Club in Indian Wells, Calif., Prairie Dunes Country Club in Hutchinson,



Prairie Dunes Country Club

Kan., Bayonet and Black Horse in Seaside, Calif., and The Hideaway Golf Club in Palm Springs, Calif.

Eldorado CC played host to the 2017 Trans-Miss Senior Championship. Prairie Dunes welcomed the 115th Trans-Miss Amateur Championship last summer, and Bayonet and Black Horse was the site of the 38th Trans-Miss Four-Ball. The Hideaway was the generous host for the Trans-Miss Board of Directors annual meetings.

For more information on how the Trans-Miss Golf Association supports the Turf Management industry, superintendents and their staffs, as well as the game in general, [click here](#).

TRANSMISS

2018 Championships



**Trans-Miss Senior &
Mid-Master**
Desert Forest Golf Club
Carefree, AZ
May 14-17



115th Trans-Miss Amateur
Brookside Golf & CC
Columbus, OH
July 9-13



38th Trans-Miss Four-Ball
Mayacama Golf Club
Santa Rosa, CA
September 17-20



PREVIEW



Trans-Miss Senior & Mid-Master Championship Set for Desert Forest Golf Club

CAREFREE, Ari. – With its new name and expanded player division, the Trans-Mississippi Senior & Mid-Master Championship is headed back to the Arizona desert for the first time in five years. Desert Forest Golf Club in Carefree, Ariz., will host the 54-hole stroke play event from May 15-17.

Traditionally the first event each year on the Trans-Miss calendar, the Senior & Mid-Master Championship has a rich history of desert landscape venues. Last year, Iowa's Gene Elliott won at Eldorado Country Club in Indian Wells, Calif. Jeff Burda from Sacramento was victorious in 2014 at La Quinta Country Club in nearby La Quinta, Calif.

Both of those clubs are located in the Palm Springs area. The last time it was played in Arizona was in 2013, when Corliss "Corky" Nelson of Dallas scored a one-shot victory in the desert at The Gallery Golf Club.

This year's championship returns to the Grand Canyon State and to the course that started it all. Built in 1963 for only \$250,000 by Robert "Red" Lawrence, Desert Forest is known as the first true desert golf course in America. Appropriately nicknamed the "True Desert Original," the course sits perched some 2,750 feet above sea level.

The par-72 old school gem hosted the 2006 Trans-Miss Four-Ball, 2007 U.S. Women's Mid-Amateur, 1990 U.S. Senior Amateur and boasts some unique traits, namely in what it lacks.

There are no out of bounds stakes at Desert Forest, for starters. You also won't find any water hazards in play, forced carries or fairway bunkers. The club prides itself on being about pure golf and nothing else. Desert Forest isn't a country club. It's a golf club. Thus, there is no swimming pool, no tennis courts or other sometimes distracting social amenities.

What is abundant, however, is stellar golf that challenges a player at every turn. The contoured fairways provide uneven lies and tricky angles into large, undulating greens that require thought and patience. On the margins of the course is the Sonoran Desert, picturesque in its beauty, yet punishing for balls that end up there.

Lawrence, who went on to build several courses across the American Southwest, moved hardly any earth in his construction of Desert Forest. Instead, he let the land dictate the routing, which created an authentic golf experience that is in perfect balance with its painted surroundings.

"The straight driver will be rewarded. You have to keep it out of the Sonoran Desert," said Brandon Rogers, in his 20th year as the club's Head Professional. "Coming into the greens, it's tough to get the ball close to hole. If you short-side yourself, getting up-and-done becomes very difficult. You're better off being on the front edge of the green than being pin-high right or left if you miss the green."

PREVIEW

Despite the absence of water hazards and fairway bunkers, Rogers said Desert Forest offers a plethora of risk-reward opportunities.

"The risks and rewards are constant," Rogers said. "You find yourself asking, 'How much of this do I want to take on?' There are a lot of options for better angles into greens, but you have to take aggressive lines. Then there are shorter par-4s to consider. A player might want to force driver into a narrow spot to get a wedge into a green."

Once you're on the greens, Rogers warned, a whole new set of challenges arise.

"You have to be on the correct side," Rogers said. "The green contours make the player have to understand the where the slopes are, which can either reward or penalize a player. If you get on the wrong side of a slope, you have to putt over or across it. Getting a putt close becomes much more difficult to manage."

Previously open to the nation's top senior amateurs at least 55 years old, the Trans-Miss Golf Association's Board of Directors in February voted to expand the field with a new "Mid-Master" division for amateurs ages 40 and older. The intent is to intensify the competition and bring another pure stroke play championship to a significant portion of the Mid-Amateur demographic.

"This is an exciting move for the Championship," Trans-Miss Executive Director Rob Addington said. "We want to appeal to the 40-plus demographic. The inclusion of the country's best middle-aged amateurs will enhance our event, and it puts us on similar footing as other top national amateur events that attract elite mid-amateur and senior competitors."

With the change, the Trans-Miss Senior & Mid-Master

Championship will have four divisions: Mid-Master (40+), Senior (55+), Super Senior (65+) and Legends (70+). Each division competes from separate tees and yardages over 54 holes of stroke play. A champion will be crowned in each division.

For more information about the Trans-Miss Senior & Mid-Master Championship, [click here](#).



2017 Trans-Miss
Senior Champion,
Gene Elliott



Chris Maletis, 2017 Tournament Co-Chairman
(left) and Super Senior Division Champion
Mark Miller at the 2017 Senior Championship.



Defending Legends Division Champion Jim
Martin (right) with Tournament Co-Chairman,
Chris Maletis at the 2017 Trans-Miss Senior.

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