

# QUESTION AND ANSWER DOCUMENT FOR 2017 U.S. NATIONAL TEAM

Last revised: November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016

## TOURNAMENT BACKGROUND

### **Q: So what is the tournament targeted in 2017?**

A: It is the World Adventure Golf Masters or WAGM. It is a relatively new tournament sponsored by the World Minigolf Federation (WMF). This will be the seventh year of its existence, with Germany winning the first five team tournaments and Sweden as current defending champions. The United States national team finished fifth in 2016, one stroke behind 4<sup>th</sup> place.

### **Q: What is the format of this tournament?**

A: The 2017 invitation has not been published, but it is expected to follow the following format:

- Teams are four scoring members, no alternates.
- We may bring more than four players; all players can compete individually, though only four may be selected to score for the team competition.
- All individuals compete in six qualifying rounds. These scores are used in individual categories (e.g. senior men) as well as team category scoring.
- A additional team round will be played and used only for the team category as the final team scoring round before team placements and medals are decided. Team scores will be comprised of the initial six qualifying rounds plus this seventh team round. This will complete the team category competition.
- An additional individual round will be played by the best 18 players after six rounds in the overall category. The title World Adventure Golf Master will be awarded to the player with the lowest score after the six qualifying rounds and the final individual round.

As reference, the 2015 invitation is listed here: <http://minigolfsport.com/pdf1/1136.pdf>  
(The 2016 WAGM had a reduced format due to the course size, 2015 is a better representative)

### **Q: When is the next WAGM and where will it be held?**

A: The 2017 WAGM will be held at the Zaton resort in Croatia on September 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. This is to be held immediately before the 2017 World Championships at the same site from September 20<sup>th</sup> to the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

It is estimated that we would depart from the USA during Labor Day weekend.

### **Q: So why is it suggested we go to this tournament? Why not play at the World Championships?**

A: The World Championships is always held on WMF-style courses: eternit, concrete, and/or felt. In Croatia it will be on felt and eternit.

The WAGM is held on an adventure-style course, which is much closer to what we play here in the United States. If people are interested in competing at the WC's, we can help answer any questions but this is not our targeted event.

**Q: Will we have to play with WMF putters and balls?**

A: It will be strongly recommended that squad members practice with a WMF putter and different balls. We can compete well using only a golf ball and PGA putter, but to compete for the podium we may need to occasionally use WMF balls. We will make arrangements to obtain equipment for practice several months ahead of the event. In the event WMF equipment is superior on a hole, we need to be prepared. If there are questions on this, these can be addressed during the phone interview.

**USA TEAM SELECTION**

**Q: So how are we doing team selection in 2017? Will it be based on rankings? Will we have qualification tournaments? Is anyone able to try out regardless of division?**

A:

- Anyone may submit an application, regardless of division
- Phone interviews will be conducted like last year; assuming no time constraints, this will be done for all applicants
- Team members must be US Nationals at the time of selection
- Those selected to Team USA must be members of the USPMGA in 2017
- Members will be selected to the team based on recent performance, application, and interview
- The winner of the 2016 USPMGA Master's, assuming they are US Nationals and provide an application accepted by the USPMGA, will be extended an invitation to the 2017 US National Team
- The US National Team will be selected by Jon Drexler
- Final selections are subject to approval by Bob Detwiler

**Q: What expenses will be covered and what will the player pay for?**

A: Team polo shirts, opening ceremony team uniforms, and tournament registrations will be covered for the selected members. A travel stipend of \$700 for selected players is pledged at this time. We will be working on sponsorship opportunities to defray additional airfare, hotel, and meal expenses.

**Q: How do we apply?**

A: An application form is available as a separate attachment. If you cannot locate this, please contact Jon Drexler at [usminigolfer@gmail.com](mailto:usminigolfer@gmail.com).

Interviews will also be scheduled and conducted by phone once the written application is received.

**Q: When are applications due?**

A: Applications must be turned in by January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017.

**Q: When will final selections be made?**

A: Applications will be processed as they are received. Final selections will be done as soon as possible after the application deadline.