

GPS Fall Wrap Up

The first year of the Great Plains Senior Tour (GPS) is over but to say it was a huge success is an understatement. Senior golf tournaments have become extremely popular among the golf courses that participate in the GPS.

It all started in Scotland in May and ended with the **Wells Fargo Advisors** "Tournament of Champions" in Mitchell on September 22. The majority of these tournaments were filled to capacity.

Golf Courses

There were a total of 34 tournaments held at 22 different golf courses. Courses holding their first senior tournament were Adrian, Mn, Howard, SD, Parker, SD, Salem, SD, and Brunsville, Ia. All courses are looking to participate on the GPS Tour again in 2022.

Tourney of Champions

This was the third year that the year-end tournament was held at Lakeview Golf Course. To be eligible to participate in the tournament each team had to place in any flight at one of the tournaments over the summer.

In the first Tournament of Champions held in 2019 there were 34 teams that participated. 2020 saw the teams participating increase to 46 teams. This year saw numbers jump dramatically to 73 teams.

This past year saw a new twist in the event with **Wells Fargo Advisors** becoming the first corporate sponsor to be involved in any GPS event.

The 73 teams (146 golfers) that participated was the largest senior tournament ever held. There were golfers participating from Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, and South Dakota.

2022 Men's GPS Schedule

The schedule will not be finalized until April 2022, but it appears that all of the 34 events held in 2021 will once again be held in 2022.

Check back then for the final schedule.

Golfers Concerns

Consistently over the course of the summer, one of the few concerns that I heard from many golfers was some tournaments took too long.

Suggestions I have heard from golfers to help this concern were:

- Each course monitor teams and address slow play as it occurs
- Eliminate mulligans
- Courses limit the number of teams in their tournament
- Wait to serve lunch after play is completed

Each course is on their own to decide how they want to run their tournaments. But it is my opinion that these suggestions would be good ones for each course to consider

Please check back next April for the finalized schedule and new updates.

Dave Huber