

# Nebraska District Optimists

April 2024

Wendy Townley, District Governor



Choose Optimism



*Well, the first day of Spring has officially arrived, and Mother Nature keeps teasing us with spring-like weather . . . let's hope for no more wintry weather, as the sights and sounds of Spring are upon us!*

Along with a change in the weather, comes a renewed focus on the many exciting Optimist projects ahead. Please be sure to put these upcoming events on your calendar. Every club can use some help, it seems. So if you're available, why not offer to help out.

- **Fri. & Sat., April 19 & 20: Nebraska District Third Quarter Conference in South Sioux City, Nebraska.** Use this link to find the details and to register. Hoping to see you there! <https://www.nebraskaoptimists.org/>
- **Thurs., May 9 from 5:30 to 8:30 PM:** A very special fundraiser for Metro Area Youth Foundation (MAYF). This organization's focus is on helping families dealing with childhood cancer. Their work is amazing, to say the least! Use the link below for more info, to become a sponsor, or to obtain a ticket: [metroareayouthfoundation.org](https://metroareayouthfoundation.org)

**MAY 9**

DOORS OPEN:  
5:30 P.M.

DOORS CLOSE:  
8:30 P.M.

*Cars & Guitars Bash*

PETER FINK  
CAR MUSEUM  
5808 N. 90th St, Omaha, NE

*Benefit for Families Fighting Childhood Cancer*

- **Thurs., May 16: Omaha Breakfast Club is hosting a golf tournament at Tiburon Country Club.** For sponsorship info or to participate in the golf tournament, see the registration form on the last page of to this newsletter.



Nebraska Optimists sure are keeping busy these days. An evening meeting on Mar. 18 for Zones 6 & 7 Club officers helped to clarify some upcoming projects and how we can keep them running strong.

## Nebraska Junior Golf



In particular, the Nebraska Optimist Junior Golf Program is hoping to send some teens & preteens to the Doral Country Club in Florida for an exciting 4-day competition against kids from around the world. Even Tiger Woods participated in this as a young golfer!

The Nebraska District typically sends four or five golfers, and this is a very expensive trip: air fare, hotel reservations, meals, etc. The Junior Golf Program is hoping to get support and funding from all clubs in the Nebraska District. The goal is that every child who wants to participate and qualifies can be assured of going with all expenses covered.

In order to qualify for this event, a student must first participate in the state level qualifying golf tournament, sponsored by the Optimist Clubs of Nebraska. **It will be held May 24th at the York Country Club in York, Nebraska.** A registration form for this qualifier is attached to this newsletter.

For more information or if you have questions, please contact one of these two Optimists, who have run this program for many years. A registration form for student golfers is attached to this newsletter.

Dick Raasch [RWRaasch@cox.net](mailto:RWRaasch@cox.net) (402)681-9438  
Kerianne Kluge [kkluge1optimist@yahoo.com](mailto:kkluge1optimist@yahoo.com) (502) 550-8948

## Summer of Growth & Opportunity in 2024 for Hope Center Kids



Every Summer the Optimist Clubs in the Omaha area work to provide students at The Hope Center some field trip experiences in and around the metro area. They travel by bus to such places as museums, nature centers, water parks, and more!

We are currently in the planning stages for this summer's field trips and could use one more person to help with planning and arranging the trips. If you are interested in planning with Sharon Flinn (from Miracle Hills Optimist Club), please contact one of these people.



Sharon Flinn [sharonomaha66@gmail.com](mailto:sharonomaha66@gmail.com)

Ivan Wineglass (803) 319-8610

WASHINGTON COUNTY

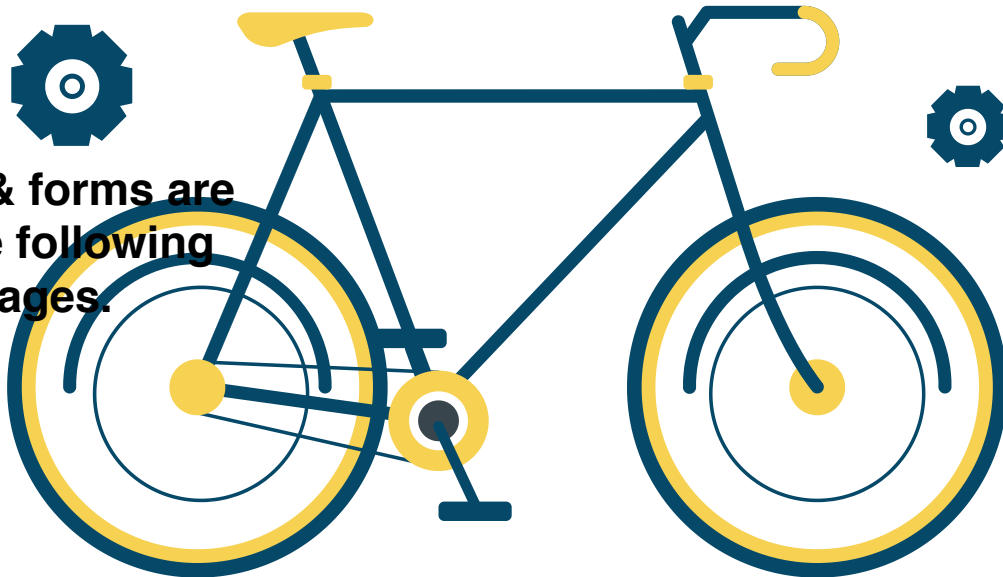
**BIKE**

**RODEO**

**FUN for all  
ages!**



Rules & forms are  
on the following  
pages.



WASHINGTON COUNTY BANK

SOUTH PARKING LOT

15TH & LINCOLN STREET, BLAIR, NE

GAMES, HELMETS, OBSTACLE COURSE,  
PRIZES, AND MORE!

BIKE DECORATIONS AND ACCESSORIES DONATED BY WCB.

**SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2024**

**11AM - 1PM**



***There will be a bike repair station, and a decorated bike station. Blair Police will have the bike course for kids to practice on, the Fire Department will be there, giving away bikes. A community-wide event! Please join us!***



Optimist Leaders,

The minimum participation requirement to hold a District Pitch, Hit, & Run Contest has been reached. The contest is ON! Attached are the Rules for the event plus the Winner Registration Forms and MLB Scoring Charts.

All clubs, whether or not they responded in advance, are invited to participate. Just make sure you **host a local contest by April 30** and send your winner **information and \$40 check by May 3.**

Remember....ALL ages are the age that they will be ON November 15, 2024. Contact Bob Grundman with any questions.

Bob Grundman  
402-489-9171

## **2024 NEBRASKA DISTRICT OPTIMIST PITCH, HIT, RUN CONTEST GUIDELINES**

1. Lincoln's Star City Optimist Youth Foundation will host a Nebraska District PHR Contest beginning at 6:00 pm on Friday May 17, 2024, with on-site check-in and warm-up beginning at 5:15 pm at the Optimist Youth Sports Complex, 5300 South Folsom in SW Lincoln. No metal cleats are allowed.
2. Clubs shall host local contests no later than April 30 and send Winner Registrations no later than May 3.
3. Each club will be allowed to send its local winners in four baseball and four softball division age categories (7/8, 9/10, 11/12, and 13/14) based on November 15, 2024, ages. No refunds if any fewer are sent. If a winner is not able to attend the District Competition, you may register the next highest scorer in that age bracket.
4. The \$40 club registration fee will be used to purchase 5 trophies in each of the eight categories plus field rentals and administration costs.
5. Local contests may use any competition rules they choose to select their local winners and provide local prizes of their choosing.

*Guidelines continued on next page.*

6. District winners will be registered with MLB and may advance based on District scores only if your club is not registered as a local host with MLB.

7. The District contest will use the more extensive MLB Competition Rules for each event so its winners are eligible to compete and earn a spot in a Team Championship (Aug.–Oct.) or National Finals (during World Series).

**PITCH** – each pitcher gets five (5) attempts (overhand or underhand) to hit the 17” x 30” Strike Zone target mounted 20” above the ground. Each hit is 50 points with an additional 50 points for each time the bullseye on the target is hit. Regulation baseballs will be used for baseball while 11-inch softballs (7/8 and 9/10 divisions) and 12-inch softballs (11/12 and 13/14) will be used. Baseballs will be pitched from 45 feet, while softballs will be pitched from 35 feet.

**HIT** – Each hitter gets five (5) tries off a batting tee; they may adjust to an appropriate height. Balls will be the same size as in pitching and hitters may use their own bats. All hits landing in “fair territory” will be measured. Distance will be converted to scores based on zones.

**Distance will be converted to scores based on Zones:**

Foul Zone: 0-10’ – 0 Points

Zone 4: 150’ – 210’ – 100 Points

Zone 1: 10’ – 60’ – 15 Points

Zone 5: 210’ – 270’ – 150 Points

Zone 2: 60’ – 90’ – 25 Points

Zone 6: 270’ and Beyond – 200 Points

Zone 3: 90’ – 150’ – 50 Points

**RUN** – each runner gets two (2) attempts to run a 90’ straight line distance from a standing position. The fastest time (to the nearest 1/10 second) will be scored using the Run Conversion Chart.

8. Scores from each of the three (3) events will be totaled. The highest score in each age bracket in each division will be the winner.

**QUESTIONS? Bob Grundman 402-489-9171 or [bobdianegrundman@gmail.com](mailto:bobdianegrundman@gmail.com)**

**MAIL Winner Registration and your check,  
payable to SCOYF, to: Bob Grundman  
7412 Karl Drive  
Lincoln, NE 68516**

**FAX to 419-821-1953**

**OR**

**Scan & Email to**

**[bobdianegrundman@gmail.com](mailto:bobdianegrundman@gmail.com)**

**DEADLINE for submissions is MAY 3rd**





Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Club coordinator: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

### AGE BRACKET

(AS OF 11/15/2024)

**7/8 Full Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

Gender - Boy / Girl Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

**9/10 Full Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

Gender - Boy / Girl Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

**11/12 Full Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

Gender - Boy / Girl Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

**13/14 Full Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

Gender - Boy / Girl Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

BASEBALL



# DISTRICT WINNERS REGISTRATION

Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Club coordinator: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

## AGE BRACKET

(AS OF 11/15/2023)

**7/8 Full Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

Gender - Boy / Girl Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**9/10 Full Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

Gender - Boy / Girl Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**11/12 Full Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

Gender - Boy / Girl Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**13/14 Full Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

Gender - Boy / Girl Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

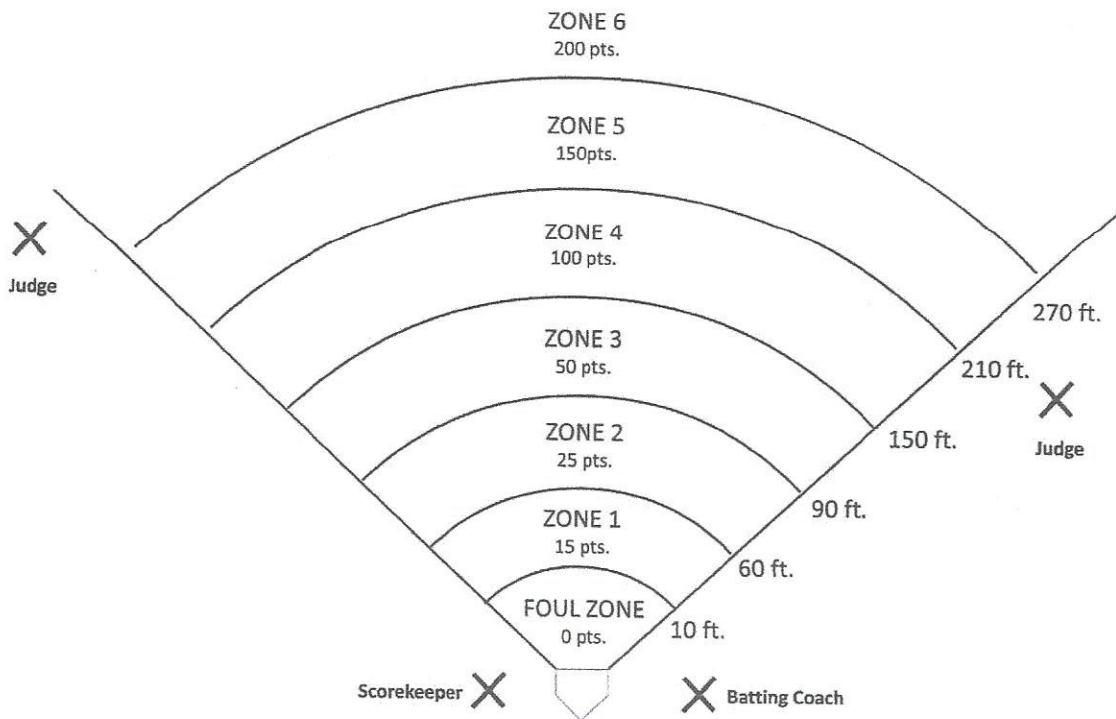
**SOFTBALL**

### PROCEDURE:

- The hitter can adjust the tee to their desired height
- Each hitter gets 5 tries off the tee
- Only balls in fair territory count
- Each ball earns points, depending on the zone in which it lands
- There should be multiple Judges in the field near each zone line, determining any close calls and final zones where balls land and tallying scores
- All athletes not hitting should be in the dugout, or at least 20 yards from the tee at all times

### SCORING:

- Every ball that lands in fair territory counts towards an athlete's overall score
- Score is based on where ball lands, not where it stops rolling
- The zones each have different points associated, as indicated below
- At the end of each player's turn, all 5 swings are totaled to give an overall number

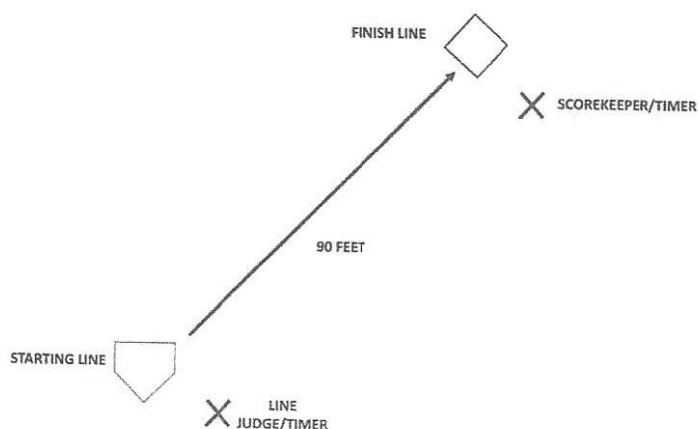




- The Timer will call out “1-2-3 GO!” or blow a whistle to indicate when the runner should begin
- A participants time is recorded when the runner crosses the finish line. Runners DO NOT have to stop on a base
- We recommend two people keep time, one at the starting line and one at the finish line, to minimize timing mistakes
- If an athlete false starts twice in a row, the time is disqualified and it counts as one of their turns

**SCORING:**

- The fastest of an athlete’s two attempts is what will be used for scoring
- Using the Run Conversion Chart, the Scorekeeper will find the player’s fastest time and record the corresponding point value.



**RUN CONVERSION CHART:**

< 3.5sec add 10 pts. for every tenth of a second under 3.5sec (3.4sec = 610, 3.3sec = 620 ...)

Time	Points	Time	Points	Time	Points	Time	Points	Time	Points
3.5	600	4.5	500	5.5	400	6.5	300	7.5	200
3.6	590	4.6	490	5.6	390	6.6	290	7.6	190
3.7	580	4.7	480	5.7	380	6.7	280	7.7	180
3.8	570	4.8	470	5.8	370	6.8	270	7.8	170
3.9	560	4.9	460	5.9	360	6.9	260	7.9	160
4.0	550	5.0	450	6.0	350	7.0	250	8.0	150
4.1	540	5.1	440	6.1	340	7.1	240	8.1	140
4.2	530	5.2	430	6.2	330	7.2	230	8.2	130
4.3	520	5.3	420	6.3	320	7.3	220	8.3	120
4.4	510	5.4	410	6.4	310	7.4	210	8.4	110

≥ 8.5sec equals 100 pts.

# 2024 Golf Scramble

## REGISTRATION



### Date

Thursday, May 16, 2024

### Time

Check-in: 11:00 a.m.  
Shotgun Start: 12:00pm

### Place



Tiburon Golf Club  
10302 S 168<sup>th</sup> Street  
Omaha, NE 68136

### Questions

Call Sherryl Longacre  
Phone: 402-719-4176  
Email: [sllongacre@gmail.com](mailto:sllongacre@gmail.com)

### Sponsorships

Check the sponsorship(s) of your choice:

- Bring Out the Best in Kids **\$1,000**
- Friend of Youth **\$500**
- Hole Sponsor **\$190**
- Hole Co-Sponsor **\$95**

### Registration includes:

- Green and cart fees
- Unlimited warm-up range balls
- Banquet Dinner
- Door Prizes

### Completed Form and Check Are Due by April 26, 2024.

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

## REGISTER YOUR TEAM TODAY!

### Foursome

Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Player 1: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Player 2: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Player 3: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Player 4: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide an email address for each player.  
This will be the main contact method used.

### Fees

- Individual \$85 if form and check received by 04/28. \$90 after.
- Team \$340 if form and check are received by 04/28. \$360 after.

Registration(s) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsorship(s) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mulligans \$5 each limit 4 per person & 16 per team \_\_\_\_ x \$5 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\$25 Dinner Guest Only \_\_\_\_ x \$25 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Grand Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make Checks payable to: **Breakfast Optimist Club**

c/o Sherryl Longacre  
11212 Davenport St.  
Omaha NE 68154