

US Masters Tournament

Date: 5/9/24

Background

The US Masters Tournament (UMT) is considered the premier North American continental championship. The tournament was originally called the North American Ing Cup and featured a field of sixteen amateur players from Canada, Mexico and the United States.

In 2007, the Ing Cup was merged with the North American Masters Tournament (NAMT) to become the NAIM.

As of 2013, it was officially the North American Masters Tournament (NAMT) again. The tournament format matches sixteen of North America's strongest amateurs and professionals in a 4-round Swiss tournament to determine a champion. This tournament is run each year at the US Go Congress and is one of North America's most heavily contested events.

As of 2014, the NAMT is a combined 9-round tournament with the top section of the US Open. Players in the event who qualify for the NAMT are eligible for reserved prizes additional to the main tournament prizes.

As of 2022, the NAMT was shortened to just US Masters and to emphasize that the tournament takes place at the US Go Congress. The tournament is open to all professionals and strong amateurs. The number of rounds was reduced to seven in 2023 and all but one round takes place simultaneously with the US Open. Prizes for the top six places were also increased significantly, as were the reserved prizes for top winners who qualify as North American players.

I. Selection Process

The field of the US Masters is filled with professionals and amateurs from around the world. Players are selected for the tournament in the following order:

- Players holding certification from the professional Go organizations of North America, Japan, Korea, China, Taiwan.
- Players seeded from the previous year's tournament.
- Players selected by the national Go associations of USA and Canadian

The US Masters TD has sole discretion as to the size of the tournament and which players are allowed to participate. Any disputes will be resolved by the AGA president.

II. Rules

AGA rules will be used. All games will be played with no handicap. Komi for white is 7.5 points.

Full regulations for [AGA tournaments](#) are in effect.

III. Prize Money and Eligibility Requirements

As of 2024, the top-place finishers will receive the following prize money:

1 st Place	\$4,000
2 nd Place	\$2,500
3 rd Place	\$1,000
4 th – 6 th Place	\$400

Top finishing players who are also citizens or residents (min. one year) of US, Canada, or Mexico will receive additional prize money that is reserved just for North American players:

1 st Place	\$3,000
2 nd Place	\$2,000
3 rd Place	\$1,000
4 th Place	\$500

IV. Past Champions

Year	Location	Champion
1991	Rochester, NY	Charles Huh
1992	Salem, OR	Dae Yol Kim
1993	South Hadley, MA	Charles Huh
1994	Washington, DC	John Lee
1995	Seattle, WA	Thomas Hsiang
1996	Cleveland, OH	Jong Moon Lee
1997	Lancaster, PA	Keun Young Lee
1998	Sante Fe, NM	Jong Moon Lee
1999	San Francisco, CA	Jong Moon Lee
2000	Denver, CO	Thomas Hsiang
2001	York, PA	Ke Huang
2002	Chicago, IL	Jie Li

2003	Houston, TX	Joey Hung
2004	Rochester, NY	Jie Li
2005	Tacoma, WA	Jie Li
2006	Asheville, NC	Zhaonian (Michael) Chen
2007	York, PA	Mingjiu Jiang
2008	Portland, OR	Feng Yun
2009	Washington, DC	Zhi Yuan (Andy) Liu
2010	Colorado Springs, CO	Huiren Yang
2011	Santa Barbara, CA	Zi Yang Hu
2012	Black Mountain, NC	Zi Yang Hu
2013	Tacoma, WA	Zi Yang Hu