



Grand Traverse Band Economic Development Corporation Supports LPGA Epson Tour Great Lakes Championship with Pro-Am Sponsorship

WILLIAMSBURG, Mich., May 20, 2026 – Before the pros take the stage at the LPGA Epson Tour Great Lakes Championship, the Grand Traverse Band Economic Development Corporation (GTB EDC) is proud to sponsor the LPGA Epson Tour Pro-Am.

As one of the premier events on the Epson Tour schedule, the Great Lakes Championship brings elite professional golfers, visitors, and media attention to the region, creating meaningful economic and tourism impact throughout Northern Michigan. Through this sponsorship, GTB EDC is helping support an event that not only showcases world-class competition but also highlights the beauty, hospitality, and vibrancy of Northern Michigan.

“The LPGA Epson Tour Pro-Am at the Great Lakes Championship represents the kind of partnership that aligns naturally with our mission,” said Johnny Barrientoz, CEO of the Grand Traverse Band Economic Development Corporation. “This event unites communities, enhances local visibility, boosts sports tourism, and fosters sustained economic development. We’re thrilled to contribute to an event that benefits our community and highlights the beauty of Northern Michigan to a wider audience.”

[The LPGA Epson Tour Great Lakes Championship Pro-Am](#) offers an unforgettable experience for golfers of all skill levels. Played in a fun and competitive scramble format featuring three amateurs paired with one LPGA Epson Tour professional, the Pro-Am delivers a rare opportunity to play alongside rising stars of women’s golf. The two-day event takes place on Wednesday, June 17, and Thursday, June 18, at The Heather Course at The Highlands.

The Epson Tour, the official qualifying tour of the LPGA, features rising professional golfers competing for advancement to the LPGA Tour. The Great Lakes Championship has become a marquee event for the area, attracting athletes and spectators from across the country while generating increased visibility for local businesses, destinations, and organizations. Sponsoring the Pro-Am reflects GTB EDC’s broader vision of investing in initiatives that strengthen the region’s economy, create opportunities, and foster meaningful connections between business, tourism, and community development. The Grand Traverse Band Economic Development Corporation’s support helped the inaugural event receive recognition as the "Best New Event" by the Epson Tour.

About Grand Traverse Band Economic Development Corporation

The Grand Traverse Band Economic Development Corporation is dedicated to advancing sustainable economic growth and opportunity through strategic investments, partnerships, and development initiatives that support the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians and the greater Northern Michigan community.