



## Golf Australia Rookie Program

24<sup>th</sup> October 2011

### **Applications are now open for the Golf Australia Rookie Program for 2012**

The purpose of the Rookie Program is to support athletes who are in the final stages of their amateur golf through to athletes who are in the first five years of their professional golf careers.

There are essentially two streams of funding:

1. **Training and preparation funding.** This is to support you with coaching, strength and conditioning, biomechanics, sports psych, physio, etc. Through the Rookie Program Golf Australia will pay the agreed costs which are part of your annual plan with no requirement for you as the athlete to repay any of those costs.
2. **Competition expenses.** An allocation of funding to assist you to play the events which form part of your competition schedule. This can include, but is not limited to travel expenses, caddie fees, entry costs as well as qualifying tournaments. There is also no requirement for agreed competition costs to be repaid.

Fully funded Rookies will receive up to \$50,000AUD in reimbursed funding to cover the above expenses. Partial scholarships may be offered.

For further details regarding the Golf Australia Rookie Program, please contact me at [mattc@golfaustralia.org.au](mailto:mattc@golfaustralia.org.au) or on (03) 9626 5000.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matt Cutler".

Matt Cutler  
High Performance Manager  
Golf Australia



## **Golf Australia Rookie Program**

### **Overview**

Now entering its 4<sup>th</sup> year, the Golf Australia Rookie Professional arm allows a number of professionals to receive the levels of support that have previously been unachievable.

Each scholarship will be offered for a period of one year with a review after six months. As the scholarship holder can be part of the program until their fifth year of professional golf, it is theoretically possible for an athlete to be a scholarship holder for five years.

### **Criteria for Selection**

For an athlete to be eligible for selection, they must

- Be an Australian citizen
- Have a successful amateur record at the national and international level
- Be in the final six months of their amateur golf careers
- Have turned professional within the past 5 years
- Have in place a team of service providers from Sports Science-Swing Coach
- Be hard working and highly self-motivated to achieve their objectives
- Have an understanding of the time commitment and dedication required to reach their full potential on and off the golf course
- Be playing full time on a recognized professional golf tour

*\*There will be no minimum or maximum number of Rookie Squad members. The program is looking for internally motivated individuals who are 100% committed to the process of reaching their full potential on and off the golf course.*

### **Expectations of Scholarship Holders**

Scholarship holders will be expected to:

- Adhere to the plans jointly set for them with their primary coach, service providers and GA High Performance staff. These plans will be in regard to your daily training environment and competition schedule
- Maintain regular contact with GA High Performance Department
- Regularly review goals and objectives with service team
- Abide by the Athletes' Code of Ethics (Appendix 1) and by the code of ethics of their professional organisation/tour
- Maintain records where required – stats, results, receipts for reimbursement
- Compete at their own State Open (where possible)
- Attend GA National camps and present to amateurs about your experiences (where possible)
- Place the Golf Australia logo on their shirt (sleeve or collar) and golf bag

## **Key Performance Indicators of program**

The overarching long-term goal of the High Performance Program for Golf Australia is to create Major & Olympic Champions and increase the number of Australians in the World Top 100. While players achieving this goal are likely to have graduated from this program, the goal is the driver in establishing individualised plans which will contribute to our players ultimately achieving this goal. KPIs will be set for the athletes in the program, the program itself and also for those service providers involved.

### Examples include

Players	Retain Tour card Adhere to all aspects of training and competition program (specify individually)
Program	Agreed communication occurs between athletes & their service team Program operates according to budget and reports accordingly to ASF requirements.
Services	Services provided in a timely fashion Follow up details occur within two days of consultation.

## **Service Providers**

Some of the potential scholarship holders will have an existing support network of coach, psychologist, physiotherapist, mentor, etc. In other cases the scholarship holders will have either loose or non-existent relationships with service providers. Where there is no current relationship, the GA High Performance department will assist in identifying appropriate service providers.

A support team may consist of a combination of local, interstate and international providers. This will depend on where the scholarship holder spends their time training and competing.

## **Application Process**

Applications will be distributed throughout November by the PGA, ALPG and GA. The closing date for applications will be **January 3, 2012**. Applications should be forwarded to Matt Cutler either by mail at Golf Australia: Level 3, 95 Coventry St, South Melbourne, VIC, 3205 or email at [mattc@golfaustralia.org.au](mailto:mattc@golfaustralia.org.au)

## **Selection Process**

All applications will be assessed by the Golf Australia High Performance team, consisting of HP staff, GA National Coaches and GA approved service providers. It may also be necessary for the selection panel to gain further information on each applicant, such as speaking with their coach, PGA, ALPG, service team, etc.

The selection of squad members for 2012 is anticipated to occur by the end of January.

## **Induction Process**

The induction will be organised as soon as is practical following the selection of the squad members.

## **Six-monthly reviews**

Formal reviews of athletes will take place 6 monthly and annually, however monitoring will be informal and often. The approach taken will be to identify monthly goals and targets in each area of development for each squad member.

## Appendix I

### **Athlete Code of Ethics**

Athletes must:

- (a) abide by all policies of the ASC, GA and either PGA or ALPG (whichever is applicable) which are notified to them from time to time;
- (b) neither possess nor use illegal or prohibited drugs or other substances (either at law or under the ASC's Anti-Doping Policy or the policy of the player's Tour);
- (c) not use legal or permissible drugs and other substances (either at law or under the ASC's Anti-Doping Policy or the policy of the player's Tour) in an irresponsible or dangerous manner;
- (d) work towards the attainment of their full potential in their sport;
- (e) work diligently and effectively in their studies and/or occupation;
- (f) occupy their time gainfully outside of their sport to a degree and in a manner expected of them by Golf Australia;
- (g) comply with the training requirements as specified by their coaches and accept and respond in a positive manner to the GA High Performance Department's direction and feedback;
- (h) maintain personal habits of health and behaviour conducive to sporting excellence;
- (i) abide by the spirit, as well as the letter, of the rules of their sport;
- (j) accept victory and defeat with dignity and grace;
- (k) behave and dress in a dignified manner when representing Golf Australia both on and off the competition arena;
- (l) co-operate with the ASC and Golf Australia in establishing and conducting a quality sports program.