



NSW GOLF FOUNDATION SUMMARY GUIDELINES FOR INDIVIDUAL GRANTS

Under the revised R&A/USGA Rules of Amateur Status (Effective January, 2012), “an Amateur Golfer, regardless of whether he plays competitively or recreationally, is one who plays golf for the challenge it represents, not as a profession and not for financial gain.” The Rules of Amateur Status cover acts which would cause an amateur golfer to breach the above definition, thereby causing forfeiture of Amateur Status.

Under Rule 4 of the Rules of Amateur Status, an amateur golfer may:

1. Receive financial support from a member of his family;
 2. Receive expenses while playing in a team event, practice session or training camp;
 3. A junior golfer may receive expenses when competing in a competition limited exclusively to junior golfers;
 4. **Receive financial assistance (competition expenses) for participation in individual events** provided such funds are lodged with, and disbursed by, the national, regional, state or country golf union or association, or, where authorized, his club (this also applies to junior golfers competing in competitions not restricted to juniors);
 5. Receive expenses for participating in an exhibition match in aid of a recognized charity;
 6. **Accept reasonable subsistence expenses**, not exceeding actual expenses incurred, to assist with general living costs. The expenses must be approved by and paid through the player’s national golf union or association;
 7. Accept an educational scholarship whose terms and conditions have been approved by the golfer’s Governing Body.
- **Decision 6/2**, relating to **Disabled Amateur Golfers** and the determination of their ‘golf skill or reputation’, states that “From an Amateur Status perspective, a disabled golfer’s golf skill should be determined by a Governing Body based on his/her ability as a golfer rather than his/her ability as a disabled golfer. This interpretation has the benefit of being less restrictive in terms of raising sponsorship and publicity for disabled golf (New).”
 - **‘Competition Expenses’** are clarified in **Decision 4/1** as “those expenses wholly and exclusively incurred for the purpose of playing in a golf competition or exhibition. The following are some examples of a player’s competition expenses: Transportation / travel costs; Accommodation / lodging; Meals / refreshments; Entry fees; Caddie / cart and practice fees (Revised).”
 - **‘Subsistence Expenses’**: **Decisions 4-3/1, 4-3/2 and 4-3/3** also deal with other allowable golf-related expenses, and state that an amateur golfer may accept reasonable financial assistance, subject to the approval of his national golf union or association (Rule 4-3) for general golf-related expenses such as (not an exhaustive list): Coaching costs including instructional fees and related travel and living expenses; Golf equipment (including golf clothing); Golf Club dues; Medical treatment (eg physiotherapy) for conditions specifically affecting the playing of golf; Costs in respect of fitness training.

NOTE 1: Where it is not practicable for expenses, particularly Subsistence Expenses, to be disbursed only as reimbursement for payments already made by the player, grants may be given in advance, provided all amounts are properly accounted for.

NOTE 2: Most grants for competition Expenses within Australia do not need approval from Golf Australia, and can be approved by the State body. However, where grants are proposed for players in international competitions, Golf Australia must first be consulted by the State body to ensure that the Conditions of such competitions are compliant.

NOTE 3: While Rule 6-2 prohibits a player from using his skill or reputation for self-promotion or gain, it is permitted for the player’s name or likeness to be used to promote his national body or state association, a recognized charity or similar good cause, or any golf competition or event considered to be in the best interests of, or contributing to the development of the game.