



# The Australian Amateur Championships

## 2020 CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION & LOCAL RULES

### 1. Format

- 1.1 Both the Men's and Women's Championships shall be played in two separate sections.
- 1.2 (i) The first section shall be decided by strokes over two qualifying rounds of 18 holes each.
- (ii) For these two rounds, each player shall play one round at Royal Queensland Golf Club and one round at Brisbane Golf Club
- (iii) **First Round:**  
Tuesday 14 January, Royal Queensland Golf Club and Brisbane Golf Club
- Second Round:**  
Wednesday 15 January, Royal Queensland Golf Club and Brisbane Golf Club
- 1.3 The leading qualifier shall be the Men's and Women's Australian Medallist and receive a gold medal. In the event of a tie, joint winners will be declared.
- 1.4 The sixty-four (64) lowest men's scores and the thirty-two (32) lowest women's scores after the two qualifying rounds shall compete in the second section of the Championship.
- 1.5 In the event of there being a tie for a position after the two qualifying rounds such that more than 64 men or 32 women remain in the Championship, those players tying for the last qualifying position or positions shall continue over such holes as the Championship Play Committee determines in a sudden-death, hole-by-hole play-off until the qualifiers have been determined. However, if the Championship Play Committee determines that there is not sufficient time available for a play-off, such a tie will be resolved by lot.
- 1.6 The second section of the Championship shall be played at Royal Queensland Golf Club and consist of successive rounds of match play, with losers being eliminated and winners progressing to the next round.
- (i) The automatic draw shall be applied to establish the match pairings. Ties for these places will be decided by lot.
- (ii) If a competitor, who has posted a two round total that will qualify for the match play stage, withdraws before or after the match play draw is made, the competitor's results will still be used to calculate the leading 64 men's places and ties, and the leading 32 women's places and ties that will determine the cut mark, but their opponent will receive a bye.

#### Men:

**Round One:** Thursday 16 January (am) – 18 holes  
**Round Two:** Friday 17 January (am) – 18 holes  
**Round Three:** Friday 17 January (pm) – 18 holes  
**Quarter-finals:** Saturday 18 January (am) – 18 holes  
**Semi-finals:** Saturday 18 January (pm) – 18 holes  
**Final:** Sunday 19 January – 36 holes

#### Women:

**Round One:** Thursday 16 January (pm) – 18 holes  
**Round Two:** Friday 17 January (pm) – 18 holes  
**Quarter-finals:** Saturday 18 January (am) – 18 holes  
**Semi-finals:** Saturday 18 January (pm) – 18 holes  
**Final:** Sunday 19 January – 36 holes

- 1.7 In the event of a halved match in any round;
- (i) players shall continue to play until a winner is determined, and;
- (ii) the last stipulated round is deemed to extend to as many holes as are required for a match to be won.
- 1.8 The winner of the Women's Championship will be the *Australian Women's Amateur Champion* and receive the Amateur Championship Gold Medal and hold the Championship Cup for one year. The winner of the Men's Championship will be the *Australian Men's Amateur Champion* and receive the Amateur Championship Gold Medal and hold the Championship Cup for one year.

### 2. Ross Herbert National and International Stroke Teams Event

- 2.1 Each Australian State and Overseas Governing Body may nominate a team comprising two men and two women who meet eligibility conditions laid down by Golf Australia.
- 2.2 The winning National and International Teams will be determined by the lowest aggregate of all team members' scores from the qualifying rounds.
- 2.3 In the event of a tie, joint winners will be declared.
- 2.4 Members of the winning National Team will receive the Ross Herbert National Teams Trophy and a bronze medallion; members of the winning International Team will receive the Ross Herbert International Teams Trophy and a bronze medallion.

### 3. Championship Play Committee

- 3.1 The Championship Play Committee will comprise members of Golf Australia.
- 3.2 In the absence of the full Championship Play Committee, such members as may be present at the time, may give a decision, and any decision so given will be deemed to be a decision of the full Championship Play Committee.
- 3.3 The Championship Play Committee will have the sole management and control of the Championship, with full power at any time to alter or vary any one of the Conditions.
- 3.4 The Championship Play Committee's decision on matters affecting the Championship will be final.

### 4. Rules of Play

The Rules of Golf, as adopted by R&A Rules Limited, will apply, together with Golf Australia's Hard Card (see condition 7), and any additional Local Rules as drawn up by the Championship Play Committee.

### 5. Entries

- 5.1 Eligible players for the Women's Championship are female amateurs whose GA Handicap or overseas equivalent does not exceed 2.4 strokes. Eligible players for the Men's Championship are male amateurs whose GA Handicap or overseas equivalent does not exceed 1.0 strokes. (NB Exempt players must meet the handicap criteria unless the Championship Play Committee determines otherwise)
- For players with a GA Handicap, the exact Handicap at the close of entries will be used for ballot purposes.
- Players from international unions will be required to submit their handicap at the time of entry. This handicap will be used for ballot purposes unless Golf Australia is advised of any changes.
- An entrant who holds current handicaps in multiple countries, and who is not exempt from a handicap ballot, is required to advise GA of the details of all handicaps they hold. GA will determine which handicap is to be used for ballot purposes; this handicap will also be used to determine whether the player has conformed with the handicap limit for the championship
- 5.2 Players must comply with the Golf Australia Gender Policy. The policy can be viewed by [clicking here](#)
- 5.3 The Entrance Fee for the both the Men's Championship and for the Women's Championship is \$270.00 (includes GST).
- 5.4 Entries will be accepted via the Golf Australia online entry system only. Manual entries may be accepted at the discretion of Golf Australia. Payment will be made online using the Paypal gateway using credit card or Paypal account.
- 5.5 Should a player withdraw from the Championship; they will not be permitted to re-enter unless approved by the Championship Committee.
- 5.6 The decision of the Championship Play Committee as to acceptance or refusal of any entry will be final.
- 5.7 Entrants must conform in all respects to the Rules of Amateur Status, as adopted by R&A Rules Limited.
- 5.8 Fully completed Entry Forms must be received by Golf Australia prior to 12.00 pm (AEDT) Friday 6 December 2019. **IT IS THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE ENTRANT THEMSEL TO ENSURE THAT THEIR ENTRY IS RECEIVED PRIOR TO THE CLOSING TIME FOR ENTRIES.** A player's entry form has not officially been received until their name has been posted at [www.golf.org.au](http://www.golf.org.au).
- 5.9 The maximum field size for the Men's Championship is 198. The maximum field size for the Women's Championship is 90. In the event of applications exceeding the number of places available in either Championship, entries from higher handicap competitors who are not exempt as noted in Condition 6 will be decided by a handicap ballot. Unsuccessful entrants will be informed without delay and given the opportunity to compete if withdrawals subsequently occur. Entrance Fees will be refunded to entrants balloted out, who do not compete.
- 5.10 Entrance Fees will only be refunded in the case of a withdrawal being advised before the closing time for entries, or for a medical or exceptional circumstance, except for those entrants who fail to secure a place.

### 6. Exemptions and Remaining Places

Exemptions for the 2020 Australian Men's and Women's Amateur Championships will be granted to the below (Note – Where applicable, it is the sole responsibility of the player to ensure that the Championship Play Committee has received notification of their exempt status. Should the Championship Play Committee not be so advised, that player will be deemed to be a non-exempt player).

#### All exempt players must meet handicap criteria in 5.1

##### Men's Championship

- 6.1m Any player in the top 200 of the WAGR as at close of entries.
- 6.2m Any player in the top 50 of the final Golf Australia Men's Order of Merit for the preceding year.
- 6.3m Any player in the top 20 of the final Golf Australia Boys' Order of Merit for the preceding year.
- 6.4m All past Australian Men's Amateur Champions.
- 6.5m Competitors at the 2019 Men's Interstate Teams Matches. (NB This does not include participants at the Boys' Teams Matches.)
- 6.6m 2016-2019 Australian Boys' Amateur Champions.
- 6.7m Current Australian Men's Mid Amateur Champion.
- 6.8m Current Australian Men's Senior Amateur Champion.
- 6.9m Competitors at most recent World Amateur Teams Championship.
- 6.10m Competitors at most recent Asia-Pacific Team Championship (Nomura Cup).
- 6.11m 2009-2019 British Amateur, US Amateur, Asia-Pacific Amateur and European Amateur Champions.
- 6.12m 2017-2019 Amateur Champions of countries affiliated with The R&A and USGA.
- 6.13m 2019 Australian Men's Amateur Championship – match play qualifiers.
- 6.14m 2019 Emirates Australian Open – Championship Proper competitors.
- 6.15m Current Australian men's state amateur champions as at close of entries.
- 6.16m 2019 Australian & Torres Strait Islander Champion
- 6.17m 2019 UniSport Nationals – Division 1 Champion
- 6.18m Competitors nominated by Golf Australia Member State Associations (maximum 2 each)
- 6.19m Players nominated by international golf associations (maximum 4 per country)
- 6.20m Current Champion of each Host Club.

6.21m Players exempted by Golf Australia.

#### Women's Championship

- 6.1w Any player in the top 100 of the WAGR as at close of entries.
- 6.2w Any player in the top 40 of the final Golf Australia Women's Order of Merit for the preceding year.
- 6.3w Any player in the top 10 of the final Golf Australia Girls' Order of Merit for the preceding year.
- 6.4w All past Australian Women's Amateur Champions.
- 6.5w Competitors at the 2019 Women's Interstate Teams Matches. (NB This does not include participants at the Girls' Teams Matches.)
- 6.6w 2015-2019 Australian Girls' Amateur Champions.
- 6.7w Current Australian Women's Mid Amateur Champion.
- 6.8w Current Australian Women's Senior Amateur Champion.
- 6.9w Competitors at most recent World Amateur Team Championship.
- 6.10w Competitors at most recent Asia-Pacific Team Championship (Queen Sirikit Cup).
- 6.11w 2009-2019 British Amateur and US Amateur Champions.
- 6.12w 2016-2019 Amateur Champions of countries affiliated with The R&A and USGA.
- 6.13w 2019 Australian Women's Amateur Championship – match play qualifiers.
- 6.14w 2019 ISPS Handa Women's Australian Open – Championship Proper competitors.
- 6.15w Current Australian women's state amateur champions as at close of entries.
- 6.16w 2019 Australian & Torres Strait Islander Champion.
- 6.17w 2019 UniSport Nationals – Division 1 Champion
- 6.18w Competitors nominated by Golf Australia Member State Associations (maximum 2 each)
- 6.19w Players nominated by international golf associations (maximum 4 per country)
- 6.20w Current Champion of each Host Club.
- 6.21w Players exempted by Golf Australia.

#### 7. Golf Australia Hard Card

The Golf Australia Hard Card will be in effect throughout the Australian Amateur Championship. The Hard Card can be viewed by [clicking here](#)

#### 8. Clubs and Balls

Any driver the player uses to make a stroke must have a clubhead, identified by model and loft, which is on the current List of Conforming Driver Heads issued by The R&A. This list is regularly updated and is found at [www.RandA.org](http://www.RandA.org).

Exception – Pre-1999 Driver Heads: A driver with a clubhead that was made before 1999 is exempt from this Local Rule.

##### **Penalty For Making a Stroke with Club in Breach of this Local Rule: Disqualification.**

There is no penalty under this Local Rule for carrying but not making a stroke with a driver that is not on the List of Conforming Driver Heads.

Any ball used in making a stroke must be on the current List of Conforming Golf Balls issued by The R&A. This list is regularly updated and is found at [www.RandA.org](http://www.RandA.org).

##### **Penalty for Making a Stroke at a Ball Not on Current List in Breach of this Local Rule: Disqualification.**

#### 9. Groove and Punch Mark Specifications (G-2)

In making a stroke, the player must use clubs that conform to the groove and punch mark specifications in the Equipment Rules that took effect on 1 January 2010.

An Equipment Database of fairway woods, hybrids, irons and wedges which have been tested for conformance to the current Equipment Rules is found at [www.RandA.org](http://www.RandA.org).

##### **Penalty for Making a Stroke with Club in Breach of this Local Rule: Disqualification.**

There is no penalty under this Local Rule for carrying but not making a stroke with a club which does not conform to these groove and punch mark specifications.

Players may be required to submit their club specifications to Golf Australia at the time of entry.

#### 10. Pace of Play

Rule 5.6 will be strictly enforced. See GA Hard Card for Pace of Play conditions.

Note: GA strongly encourages Ready Golf in stroke play. Further information about Ready Golf is available in the Player Information and will be made available at Registration

#### 11. Motorised Transport

*During a round, a player or caddie must not ride on any form of motorised transportation except as authorised or later approved by the Committee. A player who will play, or has played, under penalty of stroke and distance is always authorised to ride on motorised transportation. Penalty for breach of Local Rule: The player gets the general penalty for each hole during which there is a breach of this Local Rule. If the breach occurs between the play of two holes, it applies to the next hole.*

*A player or caddie seeking authorisation to ride on any form of motorised transportation as a result of one of the 10 eligible disability impairments recognised by the International Golf Federation must email Golf Australia ([golfoperations@golf.org.au](mailto:golfoperations@golf.org.au)) to obtain information on procedures for submitting requests. Details of the 10 eligible impairments are provided on the following webpage – [www.golf.org.au/ckfinder/userfiles/files/definitions\\_of\\_impairment\(3\).pdf](http://www.golf.org.au/ckfinder/userfiles/files/definitions_of_impairment(3).pdf). All such requests and required information must be submitted to Golf Australia by no later than 7 days prior to the first day of the relevant event. Golf Australia will consider a request in accordance with these conditions and its rules, regulations and policies.*

#### 12. Registration

Competitors in the Championship must register for the championship at the following times.

##### Sunday 13 January

Royal Queensland GC: 10.00 am – 3.00 pm

Brisbane GC: 10.00 am – 3.00 pm

##### Monday 14 January

Royal Queensland GC: 10.00 am – 3.00 pm

Brisbane GC: 10.00 am – 3.00 pm

Players may register at either host venue. Failure to register could result in disqualification from the championship.

#### 13. Practice

##### Sunday 12 January

Royal Queensland GC: all day

Brisbane GC: am times

##### Monday 13 January

Royal Queensland GC: all day

Brisbane GC: all day

Players are entitled to ONE practice round only at each course on the official practice days.

Following the close of entries, the final field will be emailed details for booking practice times.

#### 14. Drug Testing

All competitors are subject to drug testing by the Australian Sports Anti-Doping Agency for banned substances as laid down in Golf Australia's Anti-Doping Policy. Any competitor infringing this policy, or refusing to take a test, will be disqualified and subject to any sanction(s) brought down by ASADA. A list of prohibited substances will be available at registration. Clarification of any medication can be obtained via the ASADA hotline – 13 000 ASADA (13 000 27232), or from [www.asada.gov.au](http://www.asada.gov.au).

#### 15. Images

Golf Australia may arrange for promotion of the Championship, for radio, internet and television broadcasting and other exhibition and publication of the Championship or excerpts thereof in any and all media throughout the world, whether now known or hereafter developed. By this application, the player consents to the use by Golf Australia, or persons authorised by Golf Australia, of their name, likeness, voice and references to them and photographs and other images of them and their play connected with their appearance in the Championship, or any portion(s) thereof, in connection with such media promotion, broadcasting and other exhibition and publication of the Championship. Golf Australia may utilise the rights granted it hereunder in connection with the promotion of this Championship as well as other Golf Australia Championships and Golf Australia. The cooperation of players with authorised representatives of the media is required, provided that no pre-Championship activities outside of those activities which are part of the Championship will be required and provided that the player's Championship play is not unreasonably interfered with.

#### 16. Database of Competitors' Details

The personal data contained in this entry is permanently retained by Golf Australia. This data may be utilised by Golf Australia or its sponsors for the distribution of correspondence, in both electronic and hard copy means. From time to time players may be sent entry forms, event literature, the Golf Australia e-newsletter, or marketing material by the sponsor(s) of Golf Australia events, or information about events conducted by Golf Australia-approved bodies. Upon receipt by Golf Australia of a written request, a player may either have access to their details, or have their details deleted from the database.

#### 17. Legal Policies (e.g. Match Fixing Policy)

All entrants are bound to comply with all of Golf Australia's legal policies. These policies relate to the golfer's behaviour and the behaviour of their associates during the tournament. Any breach of these policies may result in the competitor being withdrawn from the competition and subject to investigation and disciplinary proceedings.

Depending on the nature of the offence, the competitor may also be subject to criminal charges arising from their conduct.

It is the duty of the competitors and their associates to familiarise themselves with the relevant policies and ensure they comply. Copies of Golf Australia's Legal Policies can be found on the Golf Australia website on the 'Policies & Plans' page under the 'GENERAL INFO' tab.

#### 18. Smoking Policy

Players and caddies are prohibited from smoking during a stipulated round. (Note: In addition to the more traditional forms of smoking, this policy is also considered to cover vaping and the like, etc.) Details of sanctions for a breach of this policy are contained in GA's Code of Conduct.

#### 19. Code of Conduct

All entrants are bound by Golf Australia's Code of Conduct ("the Code"). A copy of the Code is available by [clicking here](#). Any breach of the Code may be recorded on the Central Register of the Code ("the Register"). The Register may be accessed (and published from time to time) by any State Association or Golf Australia for the purposes of administering Competitions or state championships, events, competitions, practice sessions or major activities conducted or sanctioned by a State Association, or any State Association or Golf Australia codes of conduct and/or other related matter.