



2022
Vic Four-Ball

2022 VIC FOUR-BALL CHAMPIONSHIP

Men's, Women's & Mixed Sections

Metropolitan Qualifying Rounds		Regional Qualifying Rounds	
Monday 10 Jan	Commonwealth	Sunday 9 Jan	Curlewis
Tuesday 11 Jan	Kingston Heath	Sunday 16 Jan	Horsham
Monday 24 Jan	Yarra Yarra	Sunday 23 Jan	Neangar Park
Monday 31 Jan	Southern	Sunday 30 Jan	Traralgon & Jubilee
Friday 4 Feb	Cranbourne	Sunday 6 Feb	Trentham
Thursday 17 Feb	Keysborough	Sunday 20 Feb	Ballarat & Bairnsdale
Monday 21 Feb	Gardiners Run	Friday 25 Feb	Flinders
Thursday 24 Feb	Latrobe	Sunday 27 Feb	Coomealla
		Friday 4 Mar	Mornington
		Sunday 6 Mar	Warrnambool & Hill Top

2022 Victorian Four-Ball Championship – State Final
36 Holes Four-Ball Stableford
Round 1: Moonah Links (Open Course) – **Monday 21 March**
Round 2: Portsea Golf Club – **Tuesday 22 March**

Entry Fee:

Metropolitan Qualifying Venues

\$160.00 per pair (incl. GST) or **\$220.00** per pair (incl. GST) for early bird entry.

Regional Qualifying Venues

\$100.00 per pair (incl. GST) or **\$70.00** per pair (incl. GST) for host club members

Inclusions:

Lunch and \$1500 worth of prizes.

Format:

18-Hole Four-Ball Stableford

Tee Times:

AM multi-tee starts at all qualifying venues

Eligibility:

Male and Female Amateur Golfers

GA Handicap Limit:

36.4 (men) & 45.4 (women)

Entries Open:

Early Bird Entry – 9am Wednesday 27 October 2021

Metropolitan Preferences & Regional Venues - 9am Wednesday 3 November 2021

Entries Close:

Early Bird Access – 5pm Tuesday 2 November 2021

Metropolitan Preferences – 12pm Wednesday 1 December 2021

Regional Venues – 10 days before the scheduled event (or prior if capacity is reached)

TERMS OF COMPETITION

1. COMPETITION PROCEDURES

1.1. Competition Structure

1.1.1. The championship will be played in three sections;

- Men's Section
- Women's Section
- Mixed Section

1.1.2. The championship will be played in two rounds;

- Qualifying Rounds
- Championship Final

1.2. Qualifying Rounds (Metropolitan & Regional)

1.2.1. All entering pairs must compete in a Qualifying Round. Qualifying Rounds shall consist of 18 holes of Four-Ball Stableford play. Each entering pair may compete in multiple qualifying rounds (however only one entry may be submitted for metropolitan venues until close of preferences).

1.2.2. Each individual player is permitted to enter as part of a men's or women's pair (as applicable) and as part of a mixed pair.

1.2.3. The leading women's and mixed pairs and the two leading men's pairs from each qualifying venue will qualify for the final. **Note:** Should any of the men's, women's or mixed sections have less than 4 pairs at any venue, the section may be combined with another section (i.e. women's & mixed section).

1.2.4. Players who have already qualified for the state final may compete at further events for prizes but cannot qualify again or with a different partner.

Exception: Before playing a second qualifying round, a player can notify Golf Australia that the pair who previously qualified cannot participate in the state final.

1.2.5. Ties for the last places of qualifying pair(s) in any section and all trophies will be decided by the system of countback as specified by Golf Australia.

1.2.6. **Substitutions** – Subject to the approval of the Championship Committee, following entry into the competition, it is permissible to substitute an alternative player for a nominated player who is unable to compete due to illness, injury or any other justifiable reason. However, only one player substitution can occur at the specific qualifying round. If both players are unavailable to play, they must withdraw allowing any subsequent pairs on the waiting list to participate. **No substitutions are permitted once a pair has qualified for the Championship Final.** The substitute player must be eligible to compete in accordance with the conditions of the competition.

1.3. Championship Final

1.3.1. The Victorian Four-Ball Championship State Final shall consist of 36 holes of Four-Ball stableford play. Round 1 will be played on Monday 21 March 2022 at Moonah Links GC & Round 2 at Portsea GC on Tuesday 22 March 2022.

1.3.2. The field for the Championship Final will consist of pairs who qualify via a Metropolitan or Regional Qualifying Round, as per term 1.2.3 above.

1.3.3. Men's qualifying pairs will play PM (Monday 21 March) & AM (Tuesday 22 March). Women's & mixed pairs will play AM (Monday 21 March) & PM (Tuesday 22 March).

1.3.4. In the event of a tie for the championship and all trophies in any section, all positions/winners shall be decided by the system of count-back as specified by Golf Australia.

2. ELIGIBILITY

2.1. Eligible players are male and female amateur golfers whose Golf Australia Handicap (or overseas equivalent) at the time of entry does not exceed 36.4 strokes (men) and 45.4 strokes (women).

2.2. In accordance with Section 17 of the GA Handicap System, the Championship Play Committee reserves the right to allocate Special Competition Handicaps to any player participating in the Victorian Four-Ball Championship. Circumstances which may lead to such action includes (but is not limited to):

- Qualification for a minimum of two State Finals over the past four years;

- Finished with a two-round total of 86 points or more at the previous year's State Final;
- Qualification for the current year's State Final with a score that in the view of the GA Match committee has not resulted in an appropriate reduction of one or both players' GA Handicaps following application of the GA Handicap system;
- Achieved notable performances in club, district, or other external four-ball and/or team competitions

Note: Such Special Competition Handicaps may apply solely to the Victorian Four-Ball Championship or to all four-ball/teams' events (including club/district events) for a defined period as determined by GA.

2.3 All competitors as part of their condition of entry into a GA event, will be required to produce proof of double Covid-19 vaccination at time of registration.

3. ENTRIES

3.1. All entries shall only be made online via the registration link at www.golf.org.au/vicfourball.

3.2. Golf Australia shall have the right to refuse the entry of any person without being required to give any reason for such refusal.

3.3. The draws for the competition will be sent to players and available at www.golf.org.au/vicfourball approximately one week prior to the event.

3.4. **Metropolitan Venues**

Entry for the metropolitan venues will be in three phases:

Phase 1 – Early Bird (\$220 per pair)

Each metropolitan qualifying venue will open for one week at a price of \$220 per pair. A maximum of 20 pairs will be accepted to each venue. Entries will be accepted on an as received basis.

Phase 2 – Preferences (\$160 per pair)

Each competing pair will be required to nominate their three preferred options for metropolitan venues. The Championship Committee will then allocate each pair to one of their preferred metropolitan qualifying venues via a random ballot. Entries with less than three different preferences will not be accepted.

Note: Commonwealth, Kingston Heath & Yarra Yarra Golf Clubs will only be available as a first preference.

Phase 3 – Open Entries (\$160 per pair)

Once preferences have been allocated any venue with spots available will open to entries on an as receive basis.

3.5. **Regional Venues**

The entry fee for regional qualifying rounds is or \$100.00 per pair or \$70.00 per pair if both players are members at the host club. Entries will be accepted on an as receive d basis.

3.6. Each qualifying venue will have places for a maximum of 54 pairs.

3.7. Starting field positions will be reserved for a minimum of 10 men's, 10 women's and 10 mixed pairs at each qualifying venue up until 10 days prior. After this date, excess entries will be determined by a waiting list (if applicable).

3.8. The Championship Play Committee has the right to withdraw any person from the event at any time for COVID-19 related circumstances.

4. TROPHIES

4.1. **Qualifying Rounds (18-Hole Stableford):**

- Winning Pair – Men's, Women's & Mixed sections
- Runner-Up Pair – Men's, Women's & Mixed sections
- NTP – Men & Women

State Final (36-Hole Stableford):

- Winning Pair – Men's, Women's & Mixed sections
- Runner-Up Pair – Men's, Women's & Mixed sections
- Third Place Pair – Men's, Women's & Mixed sections
- Best 18-Hole Stableford (Rd 1 & 2) – Men's, Women's & Mixed sections
- Daily NTP – Men & Women

TERMS OF COMPETITION

5. CHAMPIONSHIP PLAY COMMITTEE

- 5.1 The Committee shall consist of Golf Australia representatives.
- 5.2 In the absence of a full Championship Committee, such members thereof, as may be present at the time, may give a decision so given shall be deemed to be a decision of the full Championship Committee.
- 5.4 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 of the terms.
- 5.3. Protests must be made to the Championship Committee not later than 10 minutes after the conclusion of each round.
The Championship Committee reserves the right to accept additional post entries subject to availability for any venue that has not reached a full field capacity.

6. REFUND POLICY

Any entrant may withdraw and have the entrance fee refunded provided notification is received 5 days prior to the first round. To be eligible for a refund after this time players must provide Golf Australia supporting documents regarding their withdrawal from the event (e.g. medical certificate).

7. MOTORISED TRANSPORT

Competitors are permitted to ride in or on a motorised vehicle during any regional qualifying round of the championship.

Carts must be booked with Golf Australia and if limited carts are available, preference will be given to those that require usage for medical purposes.

For the metropolitan qualifying rounds and the State Final, competitors must hold a medical certificate or be at least 75 years of age in order to use motorised transport.

It should be noted that the hire or provision of such transport is at the competitor's own expense subject to arrangements and agreements with each host club.

8. RULES OF GOLF

The Rules of Golf, as adopted by R&A Rules Limited, and any supplementary local rules as determined by the Championship Play Committee, will apply.

9. CLUBS AND BALLS

List of Conforming Driver Heads: Model Local Rule G-1 is in effect. Penalty for making a stroke with a club in breach of Local Rule: Disqualification.

List of Conforming Golf Balls: Model Local Rule G-3 is in effect. Penalty for breach of the Local Rule: Disqualification.

Note: An updated List of Conforming Clubs and Balls is available on www.randa.org.

10. PRACTICE (RULE 5.2)

In stroke play, Rule 5.2b is modified in this way: A player must not practise on the competition course before or between rounds. Exception: All recognised practice areas within the bounds of the course may be used by players for practice on any day of the competition.

11. PACE OF PLAY (RULE 5.6)

In the absence of mitigating circumstances, a group is liable to be timed if it is in excess of the time allowed and in the case of second or subsequent groups, out of position. From the commencement of timing, if any player exceeds 50 seconds on a 'first to play approach shot (including Par 3 tee shot), chip or putt', or 40 seconds if it is a tee shot or 'second or third to play shot', they shall be deemed to have had a bad time.

The time allowed will be determined by the Committee and will be available prior to play. Out of position is defined as being more than the starting interval behind the group in front.

A player whose group is timed will have a bad time carried forward in the round even if the group subsequently arrives back in position or within time.

PENALTY FOR BREACH OF LOCAL RULE:

1 Bad Time Verbal warning from referee and told that if they have a further bad time, they will be penalised;

Stroke Play

2 Bad Times:	One Stroke Penalty
3 Bad Times:	Additional Two Penalty Strokes
4 Bad Times:	Disqualification

Note:

- It is not necessary for players to be advised they are being timed.
- Timings will be taken from the moment it is deemed by the Official that it is the player's turn to play.
- In exceptional circumstances, an individual player, or two of the three players in a group, may be timed.

When Timing Commences:

Other than on the putting green, the timing of a player's stroke will begin when it is their turn to play and they can play without interference or distraction. Reasonable time spent by the first player to play in determining their yardage will not count as time taken for the next stroke.

On the putting green, the timing of a player's stroke will begin after a player has been allowed a reasonable amount of time to mark, lift, clean and replace their ball, repair damage to the green, and remove loose impediments on their line. Time spent looking at the line from beyond the hole and/or behind the ball will count as part of the time taken for the next stroke.

12. DISTANCE MEASURING DEVICES

In accordance with Rule of Golf 4.3a(1), a player may obtain distance and direction information by use of a distance-measuring device. The provisions of Rule 4.3 apply in relation to Use of Equipment.

13. SUSPENSION OF PLAY (RULE 5.7)

The following signals will be used to suspend and resume play:

- Immediate stop for imminent danger – one prolonged note of a siren
- Stop for a non-dangerous situation – three consecutive notes of a siren
- Resumption of play – two consecutive notes of a siren
- Note: When play is stopped for imminent danger, all practice areas will be immediately closed.

14. RETURNING OF SCORE CARD

A player's scorecard is officially returned to the Committee when the player has left the recording office/area with both feet.

15. RESULTS OF THE COMPETITION – COMPETITION CLOSE

When the Championship trophy is presented to the winner, the results of the competition are officially announced, and the competition is closed.

16. ANTI-DOPING POLICY

The GA anti-doping policy applies for this event. The GA anti-doping policy is the Australian National Anti-Doping Policy, effective from 1 January 2021, and can be found by [clicking here](#).

TERMS OF COMPETITION

17. DATABASE OF COMPETITORS' DETAILS

The personal data contained in this entry is permanently retained by GA. This data may be utilised by GA 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 GA e-newsletter, or marketing material by the sponsor(s) of GA events, or information about events conducted by GA approved bodies. Upon receipt by GA of a written request, a player may either have access to their details, or have their details deleted from the database.

For further details, please refer to our privacy policy by [clicking here](#).

18. CODE OF CONDUCT

All entrants are bound by GA'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 GA 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 GA codes of conduct and/or other related matters.

19. LEGAL POLICIES (E.G. MATCH FIXING POLICY)

All entrants are bound to comply with all of GA'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. [Click here](#) to view GA's Legal Policies.

20. SMOKING & CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL POLICY

Players and caddies are prohibited from smoking and consuming alcohol during a round. (Note: In addition to the more traditional forms of smoking, this policy is also considered to cover vaping and the like).

The following penalty structure applies for a breach of the above policy:

- o First breach: Warning
- o Second breach: One-Stroke Penalty
- o Third breach: General Penalty
- o Fourth breach or any subsequent misconduct: Disqualification

The Championship Play Committee will impose any penalty, where applicable. Their decision is final.

21. IMAGES

GA 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 GA, or persons authorised by GA, 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. GA may utilise the rights granted it hereunder in connection with the promotion of this Championship as well as other GA Championships and GA. 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.