



GOLF

“GENERAL TERMS OF COMPETITION”

With effect from 1 January 2025

1. **GENERAL**

- a. By entering any Western Province Golf (WPG) Championship or Tournament (referred to as the ‘Tournament’ for the remainder of this document), the player agrees to abide by these WPG General Terms of Competition, the WPG Players Code of Conduct, Ethics Code, Marks and Logo Policy, POPIA/Photo consent Policy, Safeguarding Policy along with the relevant Tournament Terms of Entry.
- b. The WPG Tournament committee reserves the right to amend the General Terms of Competition document when deemed necessary.
- c. It is the responsibility of each entrant to ensure that they have read and are compliant with all of the abovementioned Policies and Codes.

2. **ENTRIES**

- a. The entry process will be completed once all information is provided accurately and in full and the entry fee has been paid online.
- b. The onus is on the entrant to ensure that their entry is correct, all information supplied is accurate and that the entry has been received by WPG, in accordance with the relevant Terms of Entry.
- c. LATE entries will not be accepted. Players are given ample notice and time to enter.
- d. 50% of the entry fee will be forfeited if an entrant withdraws PRIOR to the draw being published.
- e. 100% of the entry fee will be forfeited if an entrant withdraws AFTER the draw is published.
- f. The final draw will be published on the website by midday 3 days prior to the start of the Tournament. Players will be notified of their Tee times via email.
- g. All entries shall be subject to the approval of WPG who reserves the right to refuse any entry without giving a reason. The decision of WPG as to the acceptance or refusal of any entry shall be final.
- h. WPG will not be responsible to compensate any entrant for costs incurred prior to the final players’ list being confirmed or where the Tournament or Championship is cancelled for any valid reason as determined by WPG.

3. **FORMAT OF CHAMPIONSHIPS**

- a. The format of the relevant WPG tournament can be found in the relevant Tournament Terms of Entry and will include specifications regarding handicap requirements, division breakdowns and how final places will be decided.



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4. ELIGIBILITY

a. Handicaps

- i. Each WPG Tournament will specify a maximum handicap index (HI) assessed in terms of the World Handicap System, or an equivalent handicap, as issued by a recognized Handicap Authority acceptable to GolfRSA (National Body).
- ii. WPG reserve the right to not accept a player's entry if the player has score abnormalities, such as more than two (2) penalty scores or incorrectly captured scores, on Handicaps Network Africa (HNA).

b. Gender and Age

- i. Each WPG Tournament will specify, in the relevant Tournament Terms of Entry, whether the tournament is open to male and/or female golfers who are members of a golf club affiliated to a Union recognized by GolfRSA and any age limitations.

5. EXEMPTION CATEGORIES

- a. In the event of WPG receiving more than the maximum field size advertised in the relevant tournaments Terms of Entry, the tournament exemption criteria (including the tournament Ballot Process), will be used to decide the final players and alternates lists.

6. RULES OF GOLF

- a. WPG Tournaments will be held in accordance with the Rules of Golf as approved by the R&A Rules Ltd, WPG Permanent Local Rules ('Hard Card') and Additional Local Rules approved by WPG.
- b. Copies of the Additional Local Rules will be available from WPG at the Tournament venue. All entrants are advised to familiarize themselves with these Additional Local Rules.

7. SCORING & RESULTS

- a. In Stroke Play, a player is considered to have returned their scorecard when they have left the designated scoring area.
- b. The results are deemed to be officially announced, and the competition closed at the commencement of the prize-giving ceremony/announcement of the stroke play results.
- c. During match play rounds, the results of the match are considered final once both players have reported the result to the official scorer or 15 minutes after the scorer has received the result from the first player.
- d. In the event of a match being allocated a walking/designated referee, the result of the match is considered final once the designated referee has reported the result of the match to the official scorer.

8. DECIDING TIES

- a. In the event of a tie for first place, there will be a hole – by – hole playoff to determine the winner unless otherwise stated in the relevant Terms of Entry.
- b. Holes to be played will be decided by the Tournament Committee on the day, unless otherwise stated in the relevant Terms of Entry.



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- c. Other count outs will be decided by the count out procedure: Last round, last 9, last 6, last 3 and then last hole. If it can still not be decided, a coin toss will decide the count out winner.

9. DRESS CODE

Note: Restrictions on dress code may be stricter at certain host venues and it is up to all players, in such cases, to adhere to the club's dress code

- a. Only golf specific attire will be permitted during all WPG Tournaments.
- b. This regulation applies to all players when on the host golf course and official practice facility during any official tournament practice or tournament day.

Incorrectly dressed players will not be permitted to play and any queries in this regard should be made to the Tournament Director to avoid embarrassment.

10. PLAYER REGISTRATION

- a. The Registration process, for all WPG Tournaments, will be stipulated in the relevant tournament Terms of Entry and will be specific depending on the Tournament Committee's requirements.

11. CADDIES

- a. The relevant Terms of Entry will state whether caddies are permitted or not.
- b. Caddies may or may not be permitted depending on the nature of the tournament and their availability and/or the host venue's security policy etc.
- c. When caddies are permitted at a WPG tournament the requirement is that only caddies that have registered with the host venue, prior to the tournament (which includes official practice rounds), will be allowed to caddie.
- d. All registered caddies will need to follow the host venues caddies Rules and Regulations with regards to dress code and access to facilities.

12. CLUBS AND BALLS

- a. 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**.
- b. Groove and Punch Mark Specifications: Model Local Rule G-2 is in effect. Penalty for making a stroke with a club in breach of Local Rule: **Disqualification**.
- c. List of Conforming Golf Balls: Model Local Rule G-3 is in effect. Penalty for breach of the Local Rule: **Disqualification**.

13. TRANSPORTATION



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- a. Unless otherwise stipulated in the relevant Terms of Entry, or authorized by the Tournament Committee, a player or caddie must not ride on any form of motorized transportation during a round.
- b. A player who will play, or has played, under penalty of stroke and distance is always authorised to ride on motorised transportation. The player gets the general penalty for each hole during which there is a breach. A breach between two holes applies to the next hole.
- c. Requests to use a cart will only be granted to players who have a disability or a long-term degenerative medical condition as per the GolfRSA Transportation Policy which can be found on www.golfrsa.co.za
- d. Spectators may not hire golf carts or bring golf carts on site during WPG tournaments.

14. ADVICE IN TEAM COMPETITIONS (Model Local Rule H-2)

This MLR is not in effect, when an individual stroke play championship includes, as a subsidiary component, a team competition, unless otherwise stated in the relevant Terms of Entry.

When allowed:

- a. Each team may name one advice giver whom players on the team may ask for advice and receive advice from, during the round.
- b. The team must identify each advice giver to the Tournament Committee before any player on the team begins his or her round.
- c. The advice giver must not point out a line of play or walk on the putting green when the ball of a team player lies on the putting green.

15. TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE

- a. The names of the members of WP Tournaments Ruling Committee (TC), are published on the WPG website.
- b. This Tournament Committee reserves the right to alter the program and conditions of the event at any time, including starting times.
- c. All disputes shall be settled by the Tournament Committee whose decision shall be final.
- d. Any dispute/protest must be lodged within 15 minutes of completion of the round.
- e. This information may be requested in writing.

16. PRIZE GIVING

- a. WPG will endeavor to start prize giving functions as soon as possible after the completion of play and necessary administrative tasks.
- b. It is the responsibility of the player to ascertain whether they will be receiving a prize and are encouraged to stay for the presentation of prizes as a sign of respect to sponsors, organizers, and prize winners.

17. PLAYERS WITH DISABILITIES



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- a. Applicants must contact WPG individually for more information with regards to eligibility to play under the relevant category of Rule 25 in the 2023 Rules of Golf.

18. CANCELLATION OF ROUNDS

- a. In the event of play being delayed or declared null and void for any round of a tournament, additional play will be at the discretion of the Tournament Committee.
- b. If in the opinion of the Tournament Committee, adverse weather or any other occurrence beyond its control render the commencement or continuation of any stipulated round impractical, then, in stroke play tournaments, the result will be declared over the number of rounds completed by all players.
- c. Play will not continue beyond the advertised final day of the stroke play Qualifying rounds.
- d. In the event of any round of the Match Play being suspended due to adverse weather or any other occurrence beyond the control of the Tournament Committee, such suspended rounds will be continued as soon as play can be re-commenced in order to determine a winner of the round.
- e. It is possible that such suspensions of play may result in the Finals of the match play being reduced to 18 holes. Any such reduction however will be announced to the finalists prior to the start of the finals.
- f. In the event of the final match being started (whether scheduled to be played as a 36 or 18-hole final) and adverse weather or any other occurrence results in a suspension of play, play will be resumed as soon as is practically possible with the intent to play to the conclusion of the match.
- g. If the Final match cannot be concluded due to loss of light on the final day, the Trophy will be shared as the finals will not be resumed beyond the final advertised day of the Match Play Tournament.

19. SCORE INFORMATION

- a. If requested to do so players, must provide score information to Tournament Officials during play.
- b. Live scoring may be conducted by way of an “electronic device” and if so, each player or group will be requested to submit scores using such a device.

20. CODE OF CONDUCT

By entering any WPG tournament players consent to uphold the central principles of the game of golf and are expected to play by the rules and in the spirit of the game. Players in breach of this policy may be subject to informal or formal disciplinary measures. The full Players Code of Conduct Policy can be viewed at www.westernprovincegolf.co.za.

21. ANTI-DOPING POLICY



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- a. Anti-Doping constitutes a range of activities aimed at eliminating doping in sport, as well as protecting clean athletes and the integrity and values of sport.
- b. There are 11 Anti-Doping Rule Violations of which Use or Attempted Use by an Athlete of a Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method is one.
- c. All Competitors are subject to the provisions of the South African Institute for Drug-Free Sport's Anti-Doping (SAIDS) Rules. Details of the SAIDS Anti-Doping Rules, and the current List of Prohibited Substances and Methods, are available from the SAIDS website (www.drugfreesport.org.za).
- d. Competitors can do a medication check on the SAIDS website at the following link <https://drugfreesport.org.za/online-medication-check/> and should bear in mind that this list does not include Supplements. Information on Supplements is available at the following link <https://drugfreesport.org.za/supplements-and-their-risks/>.
- e. Competitors who have illnesses or conditions that require them to take particular medications or undergo procedures may have to apply for a Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE). If the medication or method a competitor requires to treat an illness or condition falls under the Prohibited List, a TUE may give that athlete the authorisation to use the required medicine or method.
- f. Only certain categories of Competitors need to apply for a TUE in advance. Competitors should check the SAIDS website at the following link <https://drugfreesport.org.za/who-needs-to-apply-for-a-tue/> which level of Competitors need to apply for a TUE in advance from SAIDS.
- g. Competitors who are taking medication and are in doubt as to their clinical status, should seek advice from WPG no later than 30 days before the start of a tournament. Drug testing may be authorized at any event under the jurisdiction of WPG.

22. LIABILITY/INDEMNITY

- a. The host club, WPG and its management will not be held liable or responsible for any damages, loss, including personal loss and or other forms of loss, harm or injury sustained as stipulated below:
- b. Physical and/or emotional injuries suffered by any person, including a player or spectator, during the tournament, due to any acts of God, suffered as a direct result thereof, including aspects such as being struck by lightning, etc.
- c. Physical injuries of any kind suffered, sustained or caused by any player, or spectator, eg. being struck by a ball or swinging club by their own negligence, or otherwise.
- d. Emotional injuries sustained due to any loss, including death, suffered as a result of any of the above injuries sustained personally or by a spectator.
- e. Damages suffered to any property of a player or spectator.
- f. Any financial costs endured by a golfer due to disqualification/failing to read the Terms of Entry and WPG General Terms of Competitions, making the final players list etc.

23. WPG TOURNAMENT POPIA CONSENT



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By entering any WPG tournament, players are consenting to WPG collecting and storing certain personal information about you (the minimum needed to conduct the administration of this event). The full WP POPIA and PAIA Policy can be viewed at www.westernprovincegolf.co.za.

24. PHOTOGRAPHY CONSENT, PUBLICITY & IMAGE USE WAIVER

By entering the Tournament venue or otherwise by participating in WPG events players automatically agree to their image being captured and used for publicity purposes. The full WP Golf Photography Consent Policy can be viewed at www.westernprovincegolf.co.za. To withdraw consent, players must notify WP Golf in writing prior to each event.

25. LOGO AND MARKS POLICY

This WP Golf Logo and Marks Policy applies to players and caddies who participate in any WPG ranked tournament (including any qualifying event), and governs their use or display of any names, brands, logos, images and other marks and identifiers on their person, equipment or apparel before, during or after any competition or official practice round and at any interview, press conference, ceremony or official event of a WPG Tournament. The full WP Golf Logo & Marks Policy can be viewed at www.westernprovincegolf.co.za. Questions about the use or display of a particular Mark under this Policy or questions regarding this Policy in general, should be sent to WP Golf at manager@wpgolf.co.za

26. SAFEGUARDING

WPG wishes to safeguard the welfare of all persons involved with WPG Tournaments and takes this responsibility very seriously. Safeguarding is considered to be the responsibility of organisations to make sure their staff and volunteers do no harm to children or vulnerable adults or expose them to harassment, abuse or exploitation. It is, however, increasingly becoming best practice to safeguard everyone in our organisation at all times, including protecting staff, spectators and volunteers from inappropriate behaviours such as bullying and harassment. By entering all WPG Tournament the player agrees to abide by and uphold the WPG Safeguarding Policy the content of which the players acknowledges and is hereby incorporated by reference.. The full Policy can be viewed at www.westernprovincegolf.co.za.