

SCOTTISH MEN'S OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP TERMS OF THE COMPETITION



Scottish
Golf

30 May – 1 June 2025

North Berwick Golf Club

The following must be read in conjunction with the Scottish Golf General Terms of the Competition. It is the responsibility of each competitor to ensure they have read and comply with these Terms of the Competition.

Entry Fee: £90
Closing Date: Monday 28 April 2025 @ 12 Noon

1. Eligibility

Eligibility criteria:

- a) Be of amateur status as defined by R&A Rules Limited.
- b) Identify as male, transgender female or non-binary whose sex assigned at birth was male or transgender male.
- c) Be in possession of a male assigned WHS™ Handicap Index® not exceeding 0.4.
or
Players who identify as transgender female with a female assigned WHS™ Handicap Index® of +4.4 or less
- d) All queries regarding transgender eligibility must be directed to governance@scottishgolf.org

2. Exemptions from Pre-Qualifying

The following entrants will be exempt from Pre-Qualifying:

- a) The 55 highest ranked entrants in the World Amateur Golf Rankings at close of entry.
- b) The next 55 entrants with the lowest WHS™ Handicap Index® at close of entry.
- c) Up to a maximum of 12 players, already entered, as nominated by Scottish Golf.

3. Pre-Qualifying

- a) Any entrant not exempt under categories 2. a – c at close of entry will automatically be entered into pre-qualifying at Haddington Golf Club on Tuesday 27 May 2025. *Any entrant not intending to pre-qualify (if not exempt from pre-qualifying at close of entries), must specify this at time of entry. Failure to notify Scottish Golf will result in entrants being included in the pre-qualifying draw and entry fees will not be refunded.
- b) The maximum field size for pre-qualifying is 144. If numbers exceed 144, a ballot of higher handicaps will take place based on WHS™ Handicap Index® taken at close of entries. Balloted entries will be placed on a reserve list.
- c) A minimum of 22 qualifying places (and all reserve places) for the Scottish Men's Open Championship will be available through pre-qualifying. Should any exempt player withdraw after the closing date their place will be added to pre-qualifying.
- d) The format of pre-qualifying shall comprise of a scheduled 18 holes of stroke play contested over one day.
- e) Qualifying places will be decided and allocated in lowest gross score order.
- f) In the event of a tie for qualifying or reserve place(s) a card count back will resolve any ties. The count back will be based on the lowest gross score of the last 9 holes (or 6, 3 or 1). If a tie still arises, the last 6, 3 or 1-hole(s) of the first 9 holes. If no decision is reached, a card play-off from hole 1 will apply, failing which; any remaining ties will be decided by lot.
- g) In the event of no play being possible on the pre-qualifying day, places in the Scottish Men's Open Championship will be determined by the lowest WHS™ Handicap Index® at close of entry. Should there be a tie for the final places these shall be decided by lot.
- h) In the event of total Championship entries failing to exceed 144 or following withdrawals, the number of places in the final field equalling or exceeding pre-qualifying numbers, all players would automatically gain entry to the Scottish Men's Open Championship and pre-qualifying would not take place.
- i) Caddies are permitted.

4. Scottish Men's Open Championship

- a) The Championship will comprise of a scheduled 72 holes of stroke play contested over 3 days. The top 40 competitors and ties returning the lowest gross scores after 36 holes will qualify for the final 36 holes.
- b) The Championship winner will be the competitor returning the lowest 72-hole gross score.
- c) In the event of a tie for first place after 72 holes, the Championship shall be decided by a sudden death play-off over holes to be decided by Scottish Golf. In the event of a tie for 2nd or subsequent places, a card count back will resolve any ties. The count back will be based on the lowest final 18 holes gross score and if still tied the gross score of the last 9 holes (or 6, 3 or 1). If a tie still arises, the last 6, 3 or 1-hole(s) of the first 9 holes. If no decision is reached, a card play-off from hole 1 will apply, failing which; the winner will be decided by lot.
- d) Caddies are permitted.

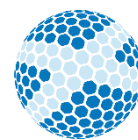
5. Winner and Prizes

The winner of the Championship will be the Scottish Men's Open Champion.

A prize presentation will follow the conclusion of play.

Winner:	Championship Trophy & Crystal Award
Runner-Up:	Runner-Up Crystal Award
Third Place:	3 rd Place Crystal Award

All trophies awarded at Championships shall be retained by Scottish Golf. Any player not present at the prize presentation who has failed to notify Scottish Golf will not be presented with their prize.



General Terms of the Competition

1. Rules of Golf

All Championships shall be played in accordance with The R&A Rules of Golf and in addition to the Scottish Golf Limited (Scottish Golf) Hard Card and the Championship specific Terms of the Competition.

All Championships will be run by Scottish Golf to whom all disputes will be referred and whose decision will be final.

2. Amateur Status

All players must be of amateur status as defined by R&A Rules Limited, unless otherwise outlined in the terms of the competition.

3. Entries & Fees

- a) All entries must be completed and received by Scottish Golf by 12 noon on the closing date. They must be accompanied by payment.
- b) Entries can be made via the Scottish Golf [website](#) and payment will be taken at the time of entry.
- c) It is the entrant's responsibility to check that their entry has been received by the closing date and time.
- d) Scottish Golf will only consider late entries should the maximum field size not be achieved and thereafter at their discretion up to 48 hours prior to the Championship concerned.
- e) If entries exceed the maximum field size, a ballot of higher handicaps will take place based on WHS™ Handicap Index® taken at close of entry, unless otherwise outlined in the terms of the competition. Balloted entries will be placed on a reserve list.
- f) An entry fee will only be refunded if the entrant confirms their withdrawal prior to the closing date and time by email to events@scottishgolf.org, or, if they fail to gain entry to the Championship.
- g) Refunds will be issued where applicable within 28 days of the final day of the event concerned.
- h) Players must walk at all times during a stipulated round, unless authorised by a member of the Committee, or permission to use a buggy has been granted in accordance with the Scottish Golf Transportation Policy.
- i) All entries are subject to the approval of Scottish Golf who reserve the right to refuse or accept or, having accepted, subsequently reject any entry. Scottish Golf will not accept entries from Russia or Belarus.
- j) Correspondence will be sent electronically where an email address has been provided. All information will also be available to view on the Scottish Golf [website](#). Scottish Golf will not be responsible for any correspondence that fails to reach the individual.

4. Handicaps

- a) All entrants must be in a possession of a WHS™ Handicap Index®.
- b) The WHS™ Handicap Index® certified at close of entry will be used for all purposes.
- c) It is the entrants' responsibility to ensure that their WHS™ Handicap Index® is up to date at all times. Scottish Golf will take no responsibility for any out-of-date WHS™ Handicap Index® used for balloting or any other purpose.
- d) Independent golfers will only be eligible to enter multi-day National Championships when they hold a mature handicap record of 20+ scores with a minimum of 5 of the last 10 being competition scores. A record comprising of only General Play scores will not be acceptable for entry purposes (excluding the PING Scottish Open for Golfers with a Disability).

5. Reserves

- a) Entrants who fail to gain entry will be allocated a place on a reserve list in order of WHS™ Handicap Index® at close of entry unless otherwise outlined in the Terms of the Competition.
- b) A reserve list will be maintained and managed by Scottish Golf. Should a place(s) in the starting field become available, reserves will be invited to play in the order they are listed on the reserve list. Reserves 1-3 will be permitted to play an official practice round (s).
- c) Should a reserve be unable to be reached, Scottish Golf event staff reserve the right to contact the next available reserve on the list to obtain a full starting field.

6. Withdrawals

- a) In the event of a competitor withdrawing after the closing date, the entry fee will not be refunded.
- b) Withdrawals will only be accepted if written confirmation is received in to events@scottishgolf.org from the player.
- c) If a competitor withdraws from the match play stages of an event after the match play draw is published, their opponent will be the winner of the match.
- d) Any competitor who:
 - Fails to notify Scottish Golf of their withdrawal within 48 hours prior to the start of the Championship.
 - Withdraws from a Championship after the draw has been published.
 - Fails to appear on the tee at their appointed start time.
 - Having commenced a round, fails to continue for a reason (or displays behaviour) Scottish Golf deems unacceptable.

May be subject to an automatic ban (or other disciplinary action) from playing in or entering any Scottish Golf Championships for such a period as Scottish Golf deem appropriate.

Any player who no returns/withdraws/retires during a Championship may not be permitted to take any further part.

7. Registration

- a) Players must register their intention to compete in a Championship by 15:00 on the official practice day(s), either in person at the Championship Office or by other designated method notified to the player.
- b) Failure to do so may result in the player forfeiting their place.

8. Inclement Weather or Exceptional Circumstances

If, in the opinion of Scottish Golf, it becomes impossible to complete a Championship in accordance with that Championship's Terms of the Competition, because of adverse weather or other circumstances, Scottish Golf reserves the right to amend the Championship format to the extent necessary to achieve a result within the time available.

9. Trophies / Prizes

All trophies awarded at Championships shall be retained by Scottish Golf.

Competitors may only win one trophy per event. Where a competitor qualifies to win multiple trophies the higher/older age category takes precedent, and any other trophies will be awarded to the next eligible competitor(s).

Any player not present at the prize presentation who has failed to notify Scottish Golf will not be presented with their prize.

10. Photography/Media

Scottish Golf seeks media coverage and publicity for all Championships, both around and during each Championship in the press and live and recorded digital media on the internet. Each player by entering a Championship and hereby agreeing to these Terms of the Competition assigns to Scottish Golf and its assignees and licensees the right in perpetuity throughout the world to make, use, edit, exhibit and reproduce in any way now known or hereafter devised for commercial and/or other purposes from time to time and at their discretion, motion pictures, still pictures, live taped or filmed television, sound recordings and any other reproductions of any description of the player made during or in connection with a Championship (including, without limitation, during practice and play) without compensation for the player or their heirs, successors, executors, administrators or assignees of the player. The player also assigns to Scottish Golf the right to use and reproduce the player's name, voice, likeness and biographical material in any way now known or hereafter devised, without compensation for the player or their heirs, successors, executors, administrators or assignees of the player including in circumstances where it may include the logo of a third party or of a sponsor or patron of a Championship or any other activities undertaken by Scottish Golf. Players shall be responsible for ensuring that they hold all the necessary rights to grant the above assignments. Notwithstanding the foregoing grant of rights, Scottish Golf and its assignees and licensees agree that, other than as permitted above, they will not authorise any company contractually associated with Scottish Golf to use the player's name, voice, likeness and biographical material in a way which constitutes the endorsement of a product or service, without first requiring such associated company to obtain the player's authorisation.

Parental/Guardian consent is required for all entrants U18. This will be required to be completed at time of entry. By submitting an entry, you and your child are agreeing to the Terms/General Terms of the Competition and give consent for your child to be entered, videoed, or photographed by Scottish Golf staff/representative for Scottish Golf promotion/news/social media purposes. Should you not wish to give consent for your child to be videoed and / or photographed please highlight this in the entry notes.

If you have any queries or concerns regarding photography and digital media, please contact events@scottishgolf.org.

11. Policies/Procedures

The following policies apply to all Championships and are available at www.scottishgolf.org:

- a) [Disciplinary and Grievance Policy](#)
- b) [Code of Conduct Policy](#)
- c) [Transportation Policy](#)
- d) [Pace of Play Policy](#)
- e) [Safeguarding Policy](#)
- f) [Transgender Policy](#)
- g) Anti-Doping Rules – The UK Anti-Doping Rules apply to all competitors. You can find the UK Anti-Doping Rules at www.ukad.org.uk.

N.B Scottish Golf reserves the right to disqualify any competitor who does not meet the requirements for entry to Championships, who does not comply with the requirements set out in all Scottish Golf's policies detailed above, or where it is determined that the competitor's participation in the Championship would lead to unfair competition.

11. Disclaimer

Neither the host venue nor Scottish Golf can be held responsible for any personal injury, loss of or damage to, equipment or personal possessions.

When you enter with the intention of competing in a Championship you give consent for your personal information to be collected in order to confirm your entry and provide you with any Championship specific information directly related to your participation in the event. Please refer to our [Privacy Policy](#) for full details for how we use your data.