

TERMS OF COMPETITION

1. ENTRIES AND ELIGIBILITY

- a) By submitting an entry for The R&A Student Tour Series 2023/24 (the "Series") you are entering into an agreement with R&A Championships Limited (Company number SC247047), having its registered office at Beach House, Golf Place, St Andrews, Fife KY16 9JA ("The R&A") and you agree to be bound by these Terms of Competition. It is the responsibility of each competitor to ensure that they have read and comply with these Terms of Competition.
- b) The Series shall be open to male and female players who are at least 18 years of age on the first day of January 2023, provided that the entrant is a fully registered student and the holder of a student card for the university or institution with which they are internally registered. The following individuals shall be eligible to compete:
- i. A student who has been accepted and is due to enrol in the forthcoming academic semester, and commencing study not later than 31 October in the year of the Series;
 - ii. A student eligible to compete in the BUCS Student Tour;
 - iii. A sabbatical officer of an Athletic Union or equivalent;
 - iv. A student satisfactorily finishing their course of study after 1 December 2022 will be eligible until the end of the academic year provided their institution still classifies them as a registered student. Satisfactorily finishing a course of study is not when a student graduates, but is deemed to be when their teaching, research and/or examinations are completed. Suspension of studies is not classed as satisfactorily finishing a course of study. Any student who has their studies suspended must wait until their studies recommence to compete again; and
 - v. A student embarking on a Sandwich Course and/or Study Abroad Course (e.g. Erasmus) is eligible during this time provided that: (a) the duration of the placement/course in industry and/or study abroad is 1 year or less; (b) if the duration is more than 1 year, then the student will be deemed ineligible after the passing of the 12-month mark.
 - vi. A student who is either: (a) ranked within WAGR® listing 1 – 3000 (see wagr.com) at date of entry, or (b) hold a Handicap Index® of not more than +0.0 for men and 2.0 for women at date of entry, as issued by an Authorised Handicapping Body. In the absence of a Handicap Index® a current equivalent exact handicap, as issued by a recognised Handicap Authority.

Entrants holding both a WHS Handicap Index and a handicap issued by a recognised Handicap Authority, must enter Series events using their WHS Handicap Index. The penalty for failure to enter a Series event in compliance with this section 1(b) is disqualification.

- c) One entry per player must be submitted electronically via randa.org and must be received by close of entries:
- i. STS – Spain on Monday 21 August 2023 at 12noon BST.
 - ii. STS – Italy on Monday 18 September 2023 at 12noon BST.
 - iii. STS – Portugal on Monday 18 December 2023 at 12noon BST.
 - iv. STS – France on Tuesday 6 February 2024 at 12noon BST.

Entries by telephone will not be accepted. It is the responsibility of the entrant to ensure that their online entry is completed successfully, and all contact details are accurate. Late entries will not be accepted. In the event of duplicate entries being submitted, the first entry will be used for all purposes. Duplicate entry fees that have been collected by The R&A will be refunded. Entry fees will be refunded if intimation of withdrawal is received on or before close of entries. Please note a service charge of £10 sterling may be deducted from duplicate entries or withdrawals. After close of entries, entry fees will only be refunded in full to entrants who do not gain a place in the starting field. Any refund of entry fees will be processed within 28 days of the final day of the Series event to the card of original payment. If an entrant withdraws before or after close of entries, their withdrawal is final, and re-entry will not be permitted.

- d) The exact handicap/handicap index certified at date of entry will be used for all purposes. i.e. no change of handicap will be accepted, even if prior to close of entries. Where an entry is made using the entrant's Centralised Database Handicap (CDH) number from the country of origin, it is the responsibility of the entrant to ensure that their exact handicap/handicap index is up to date. For an entry to be accepted that has not been made using a CDH, the entrant is required to upload handicap certification as instructed during the online entry process. Failure to upload handicap certification if required will result in an entry being rejected.
- e) Acceptance of an online entry or being within the WAGR® listing 1-3000 at date of entry does not guarantee a place in the starting field. Entrants successful in gaining a place in the starting field will be advised after close of entries.

- f) All entries are subject to the approval of the Committee, which reserves the right to disqualify any person making a false statement in their online entry and/or to accept or refuse or, having accepted, subsequently reject any entry without giving reasons for its decision.
- g) All competitors must participate in a Series event in its entirety. Failure to do so may result in future entries being rejected.
- h) All competitors are subject to the provisions of the International Golf Federation's Anti-Doping Policy. Details of the Policy, and the current List of Prohibited Substances and Methods, are available from the International Golf Federation's website (www.igfgolf.org). Entrants who are taking medication and in doubt as to their clinical status should seek advice from The R&A or the IGF knowing that, should a Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) be required this must be submitted to the IGF not later than 30 days before the start of a Series event.

2. FORMAT

- a) The starting field for all Series qualifying events will be 75 players (54 male / 21 female. If there are not enough male or female competitors in their respective starting fields the remaining places will be filled with players from the reserve list of the other gender or by Committee invitation.
- b) Any entrant named in one of the following categories will be allocated a place in the starting field in order of sequence of the following list:
 - i. Member of any previous Curtis Cup or Walker Cup Team.
 - ii. Member of any previous Arnold Palmer Cup Team.
 - iii. Top 5 Men and Women in respective final Series Order of Merit positions from the previous season.
 - iv. Winner of any Series event within the current Series season.
 - v. Players receiving an international cap (representing home country) in the past 24 months, at U18 or Senior level.
 - vi. Winner of Irish Intervarsity Championship in 2022.
 - vii. Men finishing in the Top 10 and Women finishing in the Top 5 in any one of the previous Series events within the same season.

After allocating places to competitors under section 2(b), the starting field for Series qualifying events will be completed in order of WAGR® listing 1-3000 at close of entries and, if still incomplete, by entrants using exact handicap/handicap index at date of entry. Unsuccessful entrants will be given the opportunity to compete in the event of withdrawals. The reserve list will be in order of those unsuccessful entrants within the WAGR® listing 1-3000 at close of entries, and thereafter by handicap/handicap index.

- c) The starting field for the Series Final will comprise male student golfers occupying places 1 – 43 and female student golfers occupying places 1 – 13 on the respective Series Order of Merit after the final qualifying event. The final 2 male and 2 female places in the starting field will be by Committee invitation. If the Committee invitations are not taken up the places will be awarded to the next available players in the respective Series Order of Merit.
- d) The Committee reserves the right to exempt a player.
- e) A competitor who fails to give The R&A notice of their withdrawal by close of registration or who is absent from a Series event without giving notice of their withdrawal will have their entry to the next Series event rejected. Exceptions may be made in case of sickness and other special circumstances at the discretion of the Committee. If an entrant withdraws before or after close of entries, their withdrawal is final, and re-entry is not permitted.
- f) Competitors must register no later than 1 hour before their tee time on day one of the event, or they will be disqualified.
- g) Series events will be played in accordance with the Rules of Golf as approved by R&A Rules Limited and the Local Rules as approved by the Committee.
- h) Any player who believes they are eligible to use the Modification for Players with Disabilities (Rule 25) should contact amateurentries@randa.org at entry to confirm their eligibility to use the specific modifications in Rule 25.
- i) Model Local Rule G-10 in the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf is in effect. In making a stroke, the player must not use a club, except for a putter, which exceeds 46 inches in length.
- j) The Model Local Rules in the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf are in effect regarding Conforming Driver Heads, Conforming Golf Balls and Groove and Punch Mark Specifications.

- k) Model Local Rule G-6 is in effect. A player must not ride on any form of motorised transportation except as authorised or later approved by the Committee. The R&A will only consider requests for use of motorised transportation where: (i) the player making the request has a qualifying disability; and (ii) the need for transportation results from that disability. Any requests by a player to use any form of transportation must be made by close of entries. All requests must be made in accordance with the procedures outlined in The R&A's Transportation Policy, available on request from The R&A.
- l) A copy of the Pace of Play Policy will be posted at each Series event venue and will be available on request.
- m) A player is prohibited from having a caddie at any time during a round. Penalty for breach of this Local Rule:
 - i. The player gets the general penalty for each hole during which they are helped by a caddie.
 - ii. If the breach happens or continues between two holes, the player gets the general penalty for the next hole.
 - iii. The player must immediately upon discovery that a breach has occurred ensure that they conform with this Local Rule for the remainder of the round. Otherwise the player is disqualified.
- n) All Series events including the Series Final will be stroke play over three rounds of 18 holes, with no cut. In the event of a tie after three rounds, the winner of a Series event will be decided by a hole by hole play-off to take place immediately. The play-off is to determine the winner only. All other prize winning positions will be determined by card countback using the lowest score for the last 18 holes (or the last 9 or 6 or 3 or 1 hole). If a tie still arises, the scores for the second round will be treated in the same way until a decision is reached.
- o) Competitors must not receive advice/coaching at any time during a round.

3. PRIZES

Qualifying events

- a) The winning male and female players will each receive a gold medal and a voucher for £150, second place male and female players will each receive a silver medal and a voucher worth £100 and third place male and female players will receive a bronze medal and a voucher for £75.

Series Final

- b) The winning male and female players will each receive a gold medal and a voucher for £150, second place male and female players will each receive a silver medal and a voucher worth £100 and third place male and female players will receive a bronze medal and a voucher for £75.

Order of Merit

- c) The male and female winners of the Order of Merit will become The R&A Student Tour Series Champions. The winning male will be presented with the Italian Federation Salver, a gold medal, a £200 voucher and a gift bag. The winning female will be presented with the South American Salver, a gold medal, £200 prize voucher and a gift bag.
- d) The winning male will receive an exemption into the 2024 Amateur and the winning female will receive an exemption into the 2024 Women's Amateur.
- e) The runner-up will receive a silver medal, £150 voucher and a gift bag. and third place a bronze medal, £100 voucher and a gift bag.

4. ORDER OF MERIT

- a) Players can earn Series Order of Merit points by playing in any of the qualifying events. The top players after the final qualifying event will qualify for the Series Final in April 2024 taking place over the Jubilee Course and The Old Course in St Andrews.
- b) Players will be ranked according to their performance in each Series event. Order of Merit points will be awarded on the basis of final scratch positions at each event.
- c) Order of Merit points for the Series qualifying events and for the Series Final will be awarded as shown in the tables in section 4(g) below. The difference in points awarded to men and women is necessary in order to offer a fair reflection and opportunity for players based on the comparative field sizes.
- d) The winner of the Series Order of Merit must have played in a minimum of one Series event prior to the Final.

e) Ties – Individual Series Events

- i. In the event of a tie for any players in the top 20 male and top 10 female positions at an individual Series event, players on tied scores will be awarded the same points, by the points for their final placings being added together and divided amongst the number of players tied on that score.
- ii. The only exception to this will be in the case of a tie for first place, in which case a play-off will have determined the winner, who will receive the full points for first place.
- iii. All players losing in a play-off will receive an equal number of Order of Merit points calculated using the procedure set out in section 4(e)(i) above.
- iv. In the event of a tie for any players in the prize winning positions (top 3 male or top 3 female), the prizes will be determined by countback, using best final round score, then best last nine holes score last 6 etc. Except in the event of a playoff for first place.

f) Ties – Tour Series Order of Merit

In the event of a tie for the overall Series Order of Merit, the finishing position in the Series Final will determine the overall winner of the Series Order of Merit. In the event this is also a tie, the winner of the Series Order of Merit will be decided after the first of the following conditions are met:

- i. The player who has won more Series events in the current season.
- ii. The player with the most second place finished in Series events in the current season.
- iii. The player with the best placed position in Series events in the current season.

g) Order of Merit points will be allocated as shown in the tables below:

Men's Qualifying Event: Points Awarded

Finishing Position	Order of Merit Points
1 st	120
2 nd	100
3 rd	90
4 th	85
5 th	80
6 th	75
7 th	70
8 th	65
9 th	60
10 th	55
11 th	50
12 th	45
13 th	40
14 th	35
15 th	30
16 th	25
17 th	20
18 th	15
19 th	10
20 th	5

Men's Final Event: Points Awarded

Finishing Position	Order of Merit Points
1 st	180
2 nd	150
3 rd	135
4 th	127.5
5 th	120
6 th	112.5
7 th	105
8 th	97.5
9 th	90
10 th	82.5
11 th	75
12 th	67.5
13 th	60
14 th	52.5
15 th	45
16 th	37.5
17 th	30
18 th	22.5
19 th	15
20 th	7.5

Women's Qualifying Event: Points Awarded

Finishing Position	Order of Merit Points
1 st	100
2 nd	80
3 rd	70
4 th	60
5 th	50
6 th	40
7 th	30
8 th	20
9 th	10
10 th	5

Women's Final Event: points awarded

Finishing Position	Order of Merit Points
1 st	150
2 nd	120
3 rd	105
4 th	90
5 th	75
6 th	60
7 th	45
8 th	30
9 th	20
10 th	10

- a) When a Series event has six or less men or women in the starting fields, the Order of Merit points will be halved in the respective category.
- b) At the conclusion of the qualifying events the top 42 ranked men and top 13 ranked women will be invited to compete in the Series Final. This will be included as a player's fifth/additional counting event for the overall Order of Merit. If there are not enough male or female competitors the remaining places will be filled with players from the other genders reserve list or committee invites of either gender.

5. GENERAL

- a) The R&A will not be liable for any loss, damage, cost or expense suffered by a competitor which was not reasonably foreseeable when participation was confirmed after the closing date, and/or was not directly caused by The R&A.
- b) The R&A will not be liable for any loss, damage, cost or expense suffered by a competitor as a result of a decision taken at any time by the Committee to amend, curtail or cancel any Series event.
- c) Competitors are subject to all safety protocols applicable at the Series event in relation to Health & Safety as issued and updated by The R&A and/or its safety advisers from time to time.
- d) All international competitors are advised to have in place appropriate medical insurance and/or funding to cover routine medical and performance related healthcare such as musculoskeletal injuries, including outpatient investigation. Insurance should include COVID-19 care if reciprocal home country arrangements do not apply. This will include any persons and/or Federation Officials accompanying the competitor for the duration of their stay in the UK, in order that all such medical care is provided outside the NHS.
- e) Competitors must comply with any instructions or further guidance issued by The R&A in relation to the Series.
- f) The R&A requires players and their team to conduct themselves in a manner that is respectful of the Series and the sport of golf. Players and their team shall at all times act in the best interests of the sport and the Series, and shall not conduct themselves in an unlawful or improper manner so as to bring the Series, The R&A, the sport of golf or its governing bodies into disrepute and shall not use any one of or a combination of, violent conduct, threatening, abusive, indecent or insulting words or behaviour. For the purposes of this condition, a player's team includes their agents, coaches or other support team including family members present at the Series or in the environs of the Series venue(s) or otherwise acting in relation to the Series. If a competitor acts contrary to the spirit of the game, the Committee will take appropriate action which may include reporting the facts to the competitor's university or institution. If the competitor is considered to have committed serious misconduct the competitor may be disqualified.
- g) All competitors are subject to the provisions of The R&A's Anti-Corruption and Betting Policy in force at the date of the Series event.
- h) The R&A seeks media coverage and publicity for the Series around and during the Series events in the press and by live and recorded radio and television broadcasting and filming and on the internet. Each competitor by entering the Series and thereby agreeing to these Terms of Competition assigns to The R&A 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 competitor made during or in connection with the Series (including, without limitation, during practice and play) without compensation for the competitor or the heirs, successors, executors, administrators or assignees of the competitor. The competitor also assigns to The R&A the right to use and reproduce the competitor's name, voice, likeness and biographical material in any way now known or hereafter devised, without compensation for the competitor or the heirs, successors, executors, administrators or assignees of the competitor including in circumstances where it may include the logo of a third party or of a sponsor or patron of the Series or any subsequent Series or any other activities undertaken by The R&A. Notwithstanding the foregoing grant of rights, The R&A and its assignees and licensees agree that, other than as permitted above, they will not authorise any company contractually associated with The R&A to use the competitor'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 competitor's authorisation. The R&A may also use any image of the competitor taken at a Series event to populate the relevant pages of the WORLD AMATEUR GOLF RANKING® website at wagr.com.
- i) All Series information may be viewed at www.randa.org.
- j) The Committee's objective is to complete the Series as per the format outlined in these Terms of Competition.
- k) The Committee reserves the right to amend these Terms of Competition at any time before or during the Series and/or cancel any Series event before or during play. The decision of the Committee is final in all matters.
- l) These Terms of Competition will be governed by and interpreted in accordance with the law of Scotland.