



R&A  
**THE AMATEUR**  
CHAMPIONSHIP

# INFORMATION

The 130<sup>th</sup> Amateur Championship

16 - 21 June 2025

Royal St. George's and Royal Cinque Ports



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Information correct as of 3 June 2025





# HISTORY.

The competition that was to develop and become known as The Amateur Championship was first held at Hoylake in 1885. Proposed by Thomas Owen Potter, the championship was contested by a total of 44 players from 12 clubs. Allan Macfie defeated Horace Hutchinson 7&6 in the Final to become the first champion.

Following the success of the first event, it was agreed that a Championship open to all amateur golfers should be played at St Andrews, Hoylake and Prestwick in rotation. Representatives, known as Delegates of the Associated Clubs, were elected from these clubs to run the Championship until 1919, when The R&A adopted the Championship.

John Ball won a record eight Amateur Championships between 1888 and 1912, while Sir Michael Bonallack triumphed five times between 1961 and 1970. The 1984 champion José María Olazábal and the 1998 champion Sergio Garcia have both gone on to win major titles.



With the Championship's popularity and reach at record levels, an 18 hole pre-qualifying event was introduced in 2022, enhancing the opportunity for players throughout the world to qualify. In 2025, pre-qualifying for non-exempt players will take place over Royal Cinque Ports. Thereafter, the first stage of the Championship involves 288 players, each of whom play two rounds of 18 hole stroke play qualifying over both courses (Royal St. George's and Royal Cinque Ports). The lowest 64 scores will compete in the match play stage of the Championship over Royal St. George's. In the event of a tie for last qualifying place, a hole-by-hole play-off will take place. Each match will consist of one round of 18 holes, except the Final which will be played over 36 holes.



Jacob Skov Olesen 2024 Champion

# PAST WINNERS.

## NOTABLE WINNERS.

Six Amateur champions have also won major championships.  
Many have represented Great Britain and Ireland in the Walker Cup.  
Some have taken their place in the Ryder Cup.



*Jacob Skov Olesen 2024 Champion*

**JOHN BALL JNR'S** name is synonymous with the early days of The Amateur. He lifted the trophy eight times (1888, 1890, 1892, 1894, 1899, 1907, 1910 and 1912). Ball also won The Open in 1890 at Prestwick, becoming not only the first Amateur to win The Open, but the first Englishman.

The 1930 Amateur Championship at St Andrews is one of the greatest in history. It was in that year that **BOBBY JONES** won his only Amateur title. It was an important milestone for it was the first leg of his journey to the Grand Slam of The Amateur, US Amateur, The Open and US Open, known then as the "Impregnable Quadrilateral." Jones won three Opens, four US Opens and five US amateurs. He retired from competitive golf after the 1930 Amateur and created Augusta National and the Masters Tournament.

### INTERESTINGFACT.

**FIRST DANISH CHAMPION:** Jacob Skov Olesen became the first Danish winner with his 4&3 victory over Dominic Clemons in the 2024 Final at Ballyliffin.



*Sir Michael Bonallack, Champion 1968 - 1970*

**SIR MICHAEL BONALLACK'S** record of winning three years in succession (1968-1970) will probably never be matched considering many champions don't remain in the amateur game these days. Bonallack, who would go on to become secretary of The Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews until 1999, also won the English Amateur on five occasions. He played in nine consecutive Walker Cups between 1957 and 1973, captaining the Great Britain and Ireland team in 1969 and 1971, leading a team to victory at St Andrews as Captain in the 1971 contest.



**PETER McEVOY OBE** took over the reins from Bonallack in the 1970s as England's top amateur. He won back-to-back titles in 1977 and 1978, the last player to win consecutive titles. He played in five Walker Cups between 1977 and 1989, missing the 1983 and 1987 matches before being a member of the 1989 Great Britain and Ireland team that recorded a first away victory. He also captained the 1999 and 2001 teams to victory, the first GB&I teams to win consecutive matches.

Many watching the 1984 final at Formby might not have realised they were watching two future superstars. **JOSÉ MARÍA OLAZÁBAL** defeated Colin Montgomerie 5&4 as part of a unique R&A triple in which the Spaniard won the Boys' Amateur in 1983 and Youths Amateur in 1985. Olazabal is one of a select band of Amateur champions to go onto earn a major title, winning the Masters Tournament in 1994 and 1999. He has won 21 times on the now DP World Tour, achieved six PGA Tour wins, played in seven Ryder Cups and captained the victorious European team in 2012.

## INTERESTINGFACT.

**YOUNGEST CHAMPION:** Italy's **Matteo Manassero** was 16 when he defeated England's **Sam Hutsby** 4&3 at Formby in 2009.

## INTERESTINGFACT.

**BIGGEST COMEBACK:** In the 2021 Final at Nairn, Laird Shepherd was eight down after 17 holes and still four down with four to play against fellow Englishman, **Monty Scowsill**, but recovered to level the match at the 36th. Shepherd eventually triumphed when Scowsill three-putted at the 38th.

**SERGIO GARCIA'S** 7&6 victory over Welshman Craig Williams at Muirfield in 1998 made him the second Spanish winner after Olazabal. Like his compatriot, he owns a green jacket, winning the 2017 Masters Tournament. He has also collected 15 DP World Tour trophies, 11 PGA Tour titles and holds the record for most Ryder Cup points with 28½ points from ten appearances, six times as a member of the winning team.

England's **GRAEME STORM** continued a run, begun by Garcia in 1998, with his 1999 win at Royal County Down that would see four straight champions go on to become DP World Tour winners. Storm has two victories. Finland's Mikko Ilonen amassed five wins before announcing his retirement in 2019. Northern Ireland's Michael Hoey graduated from his 2001 win to match Ilonen's five tournament win tally.



*Matteo Manassero, 2009 Champion*

**MATTEO MANASSERO** became The Amateur's youngest winner when he carried off the title at Formby in 2009. He is a five-time DP World Tour winner, a tally that includes the 2013 BMW PGA Championship.

2022 champion, **ALDRICH POTGIETER**, turned professional in June 2023 and won his first professional event in January 2024, The Bahamas Great Abaco Classic, in the process becoming the youngest ever winner on the Korn Ferry Tour at 19 years 133 days old.



*Aldrich Potgieter, 2022 Champion*

# HOST VENUES.



## ROYAL ST. GEORGE'S

Founded in 1887 and intended by its founder, Dr William Laidlaw Purves, to seek to emulate the ethos and traditions of St Andrews in the South of England, Royal St George's is consistently ranked amongst the leading courses in the World.

The club also occupies a unique place in the history of golf, for it was here in 1894, that the Open Championship was first played outside Scotland.

Located on the Kent coastline, Royal St George's has staged 15 Open Championships, more than any course outside of Scotland with victors including the likes of J.H. Taylor, Harry Vardon, Walter Hagen, Henry Cotton, Bobby Locke, Sandy Lyle and Darren Clarke.

In July 2021, Collin Morikawa produced a magnificent display to win The 149th Open and be crowned Champion Golfer of The Year, as the Championship returned for the first time since 2011. Royal St. George's last hosted The Amateur in 2017 when Englishman, Harry Ellis won the Championship.



## ROYAL CINQUE PORTS

Founded in 1892, Royal Cinque Ports name derives from Deal's membership of an ancient group of trading towns granted special privileges by the medieval English monarchs, known as the Cinque Ports.

The testing links runs along the coast of Sandwich Bay, on the same stretch of coastline as Royal St. George's, adjacent to the north.

Royal Cinque Ports hosted The Open Championship in 1909 and 1920 and is a Final Qualifying venue for the 153rd Open at Royal Portrush. It has hosted The Amateur Championship on 3 previous occasions (1923, 1982, 2013).



# 2026 HOST VENUES.



## ROYAL LIVERPOOL

The Royal Liverpool Golf Club links at Hoylake can be beautiful, uplifting, challenging, and even daunting when the wind blows and the summer rough is deep. The course was created to be a demanding test of golf and remains so. Being one of the oldest English seaside clubs, it lies at the very heart of the history and development of the game in Great Britain.

Despite its, at first glance, flat and benign appearance, Hoylake makes the trickiest demands of a player's shot selection, distance control and accuracy. When Open Championships are hosted here only the ultimate masters of these elements emerge victorious as Champion Golfer of the Year. Royal Liverpool's 13 Opens have delivered 13 different Champions, comprising an array of amateur stars, history makers and modern-day giants.



## WEST LANCASHIRE

The West Lancashire Golf Club, founded in 1873 in Blundellsands Liverpool, is among the ten oldest clubs in England and boasts one of the most natural and testing links found anywhere in the British Isles.

The course was designed by C K Cotton and is laid out on some 200 acres of land and succeeds in carrying out the ideal layout of a golf course – two loops of nine holes with the 9th and 18th greens in front of the clubhouse.

The course starts with a demanding dogleg par-4 and keeps you challenged throughout. After the demanding par 3 12th, you climb up to a splendid view from the elevated 13th tee. From here on in it is one quality links hole after another – the challenge is non-stop and will keep you on your toes from start to finish.

# PROGRAMME OF EVENTS.

DAY	EVENT	TIME
Thursday 12 June	Pre-Qualifying Practice, Royal Cinque Ports	8.00am–12.30pm
Friday 13 June	Pre-Qualifying, Royal Cinque Ports	7.30am – 11.48am
Saturday 14 June	Official Practice Day, Both Courses Player Registration	7.30am – 4.00pm 7.00am – 4.00pm
Sunday 15 June	Official Practice Day, Both Courses Player Registration	7.30am – 2.30pm 7.00am – 3.00pm
Monday 16 June	Qualifying Round 1, Both Courses	6.45am – 3.37pm
Tuesday 17 June	Qualifying Round 2, Both Courses	6.45am – 3.37pm
Wednesday 18 June	Play-Off (If required) Royal St. George's Match Play 1st Round, Royal St. George's	7.00am 9.30 – 2.45pm approx.
Thursday 19 June	Match Play 2nd Round, Royal St. George's Match Play 3rd Round, Royal St. George's	7.30am–9.45am 1.10pm–2.20pm
Friday 20 June	Quarter Finals, Royal St George's Semi Finals, Royal St George's	8.30am–9.00am 1.30pm & 1.40pm
Saturday 21 June	Final (36 holes), Royal St George's Prize Presentation	8.30am & 1.30pm 4.30pm approx.

Timings subject to change.

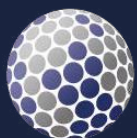




# ENTRY AND EXEMPTIONS.

With a 2024 WAGR® Power Ranking of 863.9462, The Amateur Championship continues to attract a field comprising of the world's best amateur golfers and offers the following exemptions from pre-qualifying to ensure its field quality each year.

## CHAMPIONSHIPS HUB



WORLD  
AMATEUR  
GOLF  
RANKING®

R&A USGA

EXEMPTIONS FROM PRE-QUALIFYING	
I	Winners of The Amateur Championship 2005 - 2024
	Winners of the U.S. Amateur Championship 2015 - 2024
	Winners of the European Amateur Championship 2015 - 2024
	Winners of the Asia-Pacific Amateur Championship 2015 - 2024
	Winners of the Latin America Amateur Championship 2016 - 2025
	Winners of the Africa Amateur Championship 2024 - 2025
	Winners of the G4D Open 2024 - 2025, subject to eligibility requirements.
II	Winners of The Mark H McCormack Medal 2015 - 2024
	Winner of the US Mid-Amateur Championship 2024
	Winner of the R&A Boys Amateur Championship 2024
III	Winner of the R&A Student Tour Series Order of Merit 2024/25
	Members of:
	The 2023 Walker Cup Teams
	The 2024 St Andrews Trophy Teams
IV	The 2025 Arnold Palmer Cup Teams
	Players who reached the last 32 of The Amateur Championship in 2024
V	Two competitors from the 2025 Royal Junior nominated by the organisers and approved by the Committee.
VI	The top 30 players and anyone tying for 30 <sup>th</sup> place in the WAGR® listing on completion of WAGR® week 2024/52
VII	The top 50 players and anyone tying for 50 <sup>th</sup> place in the WAGR® listing on completion of WAGR® week 2025/10
VIII	Second and third placed players in the Asia-Pacific Amateur Championship 2024*
	Second and third placed players in the Latin America Amateur Championship 2025*
	Second and third placed players in the Africa Amateur Championship 2025*
<p>*Ties will be decided in favour of the highest ranked player in WAGR at the commencement of the championship. If tied players have the same WAGR, or have no WAGR, then ties will be decided by the last round of the championship concerned. If still a tie, a card countback will use the back 9 holes or 6 or 3 or 1 hole and, if a tie still arises, the last 6 or 3 or 1 hole of the front 9 holes. If a tie still arises the same card countback will be used for rounds 3, 2 and 1 of the championship.</p>	
<p>After allocating places to entrants as above, the remaining places in the starting field will be determined by order of WAGR® listing 1-2000 on completion of WAGR® week 2025/20 and, if still incomplete, by using the WHS Handicap Index/ equivalent exact handicap of entrants, at date of entry. The remaining places will be awarded to, as a minimum, the top 5 competitors from Pre-Qualifying (PQ). The Championship reserve list will be based on the competitors' finishing positions at PQ.</p>	



# PRIZES.

As well as the opportunity to compete against the world’s best amateur golfers over the some of the world’s most iconic courses, championship winners will get the chance to play in three of golf’s most prestigious major championships by earning exemptions into The Open and US Open and, by tradition, an invitation to the Masters Tournament.

Indicative prizes and exemptions (if still amateur) are as follows:

Champion	Championship Trophy Gold Medal The 153rd Open The 2026 US Open The 2026 Masters Tournament (by tradition) DP World Tour Event
Runner Up	Silver Medal Challenge Tour event Final Qualifying for The Open





Semi Finalists	Bronze Medal
	Challenge Tour event
	Final Qualifying for The Open
Quarter Finalists	Final Qualifying for The Open
Leading Stroke play Qualifier	Championship Flag



PLAYER

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PORTRUSH

2025

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# OPEN AMATEUR SERIES.

**The Open Amateur Series is a sequence of three elite amateur championships which offers players an opportunity to gain an exemption into The 153<sup>rd</sup> Open at Royal Portrush.**

Previous winners include Alex Maguire (2023) and Calum Scott who went on to claim the silver medal at The 152<sup>nd</sup> Open at Royal Troon.

The player who accumulates the most WAGR points across these three events will receive a spot in The 153<sup>rd</sup> Open at Royal Portrush in July.

The Amateur Series exemptions are in addition to several other exemptions available for amateur players to reach the major championships, including by virtue of winning The Amateur Championship and European equivalent.

## THE OPEN AMATEUR SERIES - 2025 COUTING EVENTS:

The St Andrews Links Trophy - 6-8 June

*Jubilee & Old Course, St Andrews*

The 130<sup>th</sup> Amateur Championship - 16-21 June

*Royal St. Georges & Royal Cinque Ports*

European Amateur Championship - 25-28 June

*Vasatorps, Sweden*





# SUNSCREEN.

## Protect your skin against skin cancer:

- Apply Sunscreen regularly (every 2-3 hours)
- Apply sunscreen to exposed areas, particularly your nose, ears, lips, head, back of legs and feet.
- Use sunscreen F30 or greater.

## Early Detection

- Examine your skin regularly and get any new or changing skin blemished checked out.
- Be aware of darkening colour, irregularity, bleeding or blemishes not healing.
- If in doubt – get it checked out.

For more information, please visit [www.melanoma-fund.co.uk](http://www.melanoma-fund.co.uk) or [www.MASScot.org.uk](http://www.MASScot.org.uk)



# PLAYER BENEFITS.

Access to The 130th Amateur Championship will be free of charge for spectators although some areas will be restricted to players and officials only.

Your player's badge will serve as your accreditation throughout the Championship and will allow you to access all areas of the venue.



Player Lounge



Player Gym

INCLUDED IN ENTRY FEE:
Exclusive Player Gift Pack
Meal on Championship days
Championship Pavilion and Player Lounge Access
Professional yardage book for each course
Car parking
Range access with Titleist range balls
Pull trolley (if required)
Access to physiotherapy and medical support
Access to Player Gym onsite
Access to Championship images
Water, fruit, energy bars, tees, pencils, pitchforks



# PLAYER SERVICES.



## WATER AT THE CHAMPIONSHIP

The R&A supports sustainable practices which go hand in hand with protecting the future of our planet. On course water stations will be available for all players and caddies to use throughout the Championship. Please bring a refillable water bottle.



## CLUBHOUSE & CATERING

The clubhouses will be open and catering available from 90 minutes before the first tee time until the last game finishes each day. While competing in the Championship, you will be provided with one complimentary meal (breakfast or lunch) on competition days. Should you have any allergies please contact the catering team onsite.



## PLAYER LOUNGE, GYM & PHYSIO

Players will have complementary access to exclusive player lounge, gym and physiotherapy services in the Championship Pavilion.

## COMPETITOR INSURANCE

Competitors are advised to have a personal public liability insurance policy in place to protect them from claims for damage to third party property or injury to third parties whilst participating in this event.





## CADDIES

A limited number of caddies will be available at each competitor's own expense and should be booked early to avoid disappointment. Caddie bookings for both venues should be directed to Royal St. George's Caddiemaster. To book a caddie please contact:

Royal St. George's Caddiemaster  
Tel: +44 1304 613 090 (Option '5')  
Email: [caddiemaster@royalstgeorges.com](mailto:caddiemaster@royalstgeorges.com)



## PLAYER INFORMATION

Local Rules, Pin Positions, Pace of Play and all Championship Information can be viewed on the



[PLAYER PORTAL](#)



## LIVE SCORING / TV

There will be live scoring on [www.randa.org](http://www.randa.org) with updates throughout the event on the social media platforms.

The latter stages of the match play will be live streamed on R&A TV and broadcast on Sky Sports.



[R&A TV](#)



## Official practice times:

**Thursday 12 June (Pre-Qualifying):** 8.00am - 12.30pm

**Saturday 14 June:** 7.30am–4.00pm

**Sunday 15 June:** 7.30am–2.30pm

Competitors will be contacted with instructions on how to book times online.

Should you wish to practice outside of the official days please contact the club to ascertain availability and prices.

## Practice Range

Full practice range and short game facilities will be available at both venues with balls provided by Titleist.

Practice facilities will be available from 90 minutes before first tee time until 6.00pm each day.



# ACCOMMODATION AND TRAVEL.

We hope the following information and arrangements assist you when planning your trip.



## Accommodation

Local accommodation options can be found at:  
[www.visitkent.co.uk](http://www.visitkent.co.uk)



## Ferry Terminal

Dover Ferry Terminal is just a short drive from both venues.



## Taxi

Local Taxis are available at competitors' own cost.

Sandwich Cars  
Tel: +44 1304 617 424  
[www.sandwichcars.co.uk](http://www.sandwichcars.co.uk)



## Airports

Dover Ferry Terminal is just a short drive from both Golf Clubs and International and domestic flights operate to a number of airports within easy reach including:

London Gatwick Airport (86 Miles)  
[www.gatwickairport.com](http://www.gatwickairport.com)  
London Stansted Airport (100 Miles)  
[www.stanstedairport.com](http://www.stanstedairport.com)  
London Heathrow Airport (110 Miles)  
[www.heathrow.com](http://www.heathrow.com)



## Train

Sandwich train station is in close proximity to both venues.



## Car

If traveling by car, please follow the AA Signs to both venues.

# R&A THE AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP

[www.randa.org](http://www.randa.org)

Championship Enquiries and Withdrawals: [amateurentries@randa.org](mailto:amateurentries@randa.org)

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