



THE WOMENS AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP

NAIRN
10 - 15 June 2025

Closing Date for Entries Thursday 15 May 2025
Entry Fee £125 (incl. of VAT)

TERMS OF COMPETITION

1. ENTRIES

- a) By submitting an entry for The Women's Amateur Championship (the "Championship") 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 they have read and comply with these Terms of Competition.
- b) The Championship shall be open to players of the female gender who:
 - (i) are members of a golf club affiliated to a National Golf Association, authorised to adopt, manage, and maintain the World Handicap System™ (WHS) within their jurisdiction; and
 - (ii) have Amateur Status in accordance with the current Rules of Amateur Status, as published by R&A Rules Limited and the USGA, and who are also either: (a) ranked within the Women's WAGR® listing 1 – 1000 (see wagr.com) at date of entry, or (b) hold a current Handicap Index® based on ratings for women of not more than 1.4 at date of entry, as issued by an Authorised Handicapping Body. Entrants that are relying on the handicap criteria set out above but who do not hold a Handicap Index® must hold a current equivalent exact handicap, as issued by a recognised Handicap Authority, that would demonstrate an equivalent playing ability to a Handicap Index® based on ratings for women of not more than 1.4 at date of entry.
- c) Entrants holding both a Handicap Index® and a handicap issued by a recognised Handicap Authority, must enter the Championship using their Handicap Index®. The penalty for failure to enter the Championship in compliance with this section 1(c) is disqualification.
- d) The R&A reserves the right to refuse any entry, or having accepted, subsequently reject any entry based on a player's score and/or performance in any previous competitive tournament, including the Championship. Please note that The R&A may contact your current or previous home club, National Golf Association or Federation to request your full handicap record for these purposes.
- e) One entry per player must be submitted electronically via randa.org and must be received by close of entries i.e. 23:59hrs BST on Thursday 15 May 2025. 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. After close of entries, entry fees will only be refunded 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 Championship 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.
- f) 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 will result in an entry being rejected.
- g) Acceptance of an online entry or being within the WAGR® listing 1-1000 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.

- h) 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 reason for its decision.
- i) All competitors must participate in the Championship in its entirety. Failure to do so may result in future entries being rejected.
- j) 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 the Championship.

2. FORMAT

- a) The starting field will comprise 144 competitors.
Any entrant named in one of the following categories will be allocated a place in the starting field of the Championship. Note that exempt players must submit an online entry on or before close of entries.
 - (i) Winners of The Women's Amateur Championship 2015 - 2024
Winners of the U.S. Women's Amateur Championship 2020 - 2024
Winners of the European Ladies' Amateur Championship 2020 - 2024
Winners of the Women's Amateur Asia-Pacific Championship 2021 - 2025
Winner of the Women's Amateur Latin America Championship 2021 - 2024
Winner of the Africa Amateur Women's Invitational 2024 - 2025
Winners of The G4D Open 2024 - 2025, subject to eligibility requirements outlined in 1 (b).
Winners of The Mark H McCormack Medal 2015 - 2024
 - (ii) Winner of the U.S. Women's Mid-Amateur Championship 2024
Winner of the R&A Girls' Amateur Championship 2024
Winner of the ANNIKA Invitational Europe 2024
Winner of the R&A Student Tour Series Order of Merit 2024/25
 - (iii) Members of:
The 2024 Curtis Cup Teams.
The 2025 Arnold Palmer Cup Teams
 - (iv) Players who reached the last 16 of The Women's Amateur Championship in 2024
 - (v) Two competitors from the 2025 Royal Junior nominated by the organisers and approved by the Committee.
 - (vi) The top 15 players and anyone tying for 15th place in the WAGR® listing on completion of WAGR® week 2024/52
 - (vii) The top 25 players and anyone tying for 25th place in the WAGR® listing on completion of WAGR® week 2025/08
 - (viii) *Second and third placed players in the Women's Amateur Asia-Pacific Championship 2025
*Second and third placed players in the Women's Amateur Latin America Championship 2024
*Second and third placed players in the Africa Amateur Women's Invitational 2025

*Ties will be decided in favour of the highest ranked player in WAGR® at the commencement of the respective championship. If tied players have the same WAGR® ranking, or have no WAGR® ranking, 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.
- b) After allocating places to entrants under sections 2(a) and 2(c), the remaining places in the starting field will be determined by order of WAGR® listing 1-1000 on completion of WAGR® week 2025/19 and, if still incomplete, by using the Handicap Index®/equivalent exact handicap of entrants, 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 unsuccessful entrants within the WAGR® listing 1-1000 at close of entries, and thereafter by handicap.
- c) The Committee reserves the right to exempt a player.
- d) A competitor who fails to give The R&A notice of their withdrawal by close of registration or who is absent from the Championship without giving The R&A notice of their withdrawal will have their entries to all R&A Championships rejected for the next calendar year. 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.
- e) Competitors must register no later than 15:00 hrs on the day prior to the commencement of the Championship, or they will be withdrawn.

- f) Competitors must be of the female gender and have been female at birth or had the female sex assigned prior to puberty and meet the conditions of The R&A's transgender and non-binary policy, including pre-clearance as stated below.

Any transgender women or women with differences in sexual development (46 XY DSD) who wish to enter the Championship are subject to The R&A's transgender and non-binary competition policy and must apply for pre-clearance from The R&A to compete in the Championship. Application for pre-clearance must be made in writing to amateurentries@randa.org as early as possible and in no event not less than 6 weeks prior to the Championship.

The R&A reserves the right to carry out a confidential case-by-case evaluation of whether any competitor's participation is likely to lead to unfair competition at any time either prior to, during or after the Championship if it determines that such an evaluation is or becomes necessary. The Committee reserves the right to disqualify any competitor who does not meet the requirements for entry to the Championship, who does not comply with the requirements set out in The R&A's transgender and non-binary competition policy or where it determines that the competitor's participation in the Championship would lead to unfair competition.

- g) The Championship 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) Model Local Rule G-12 is in effect. Under this MLR, a player or caddie must not use any written, printed, or electronic materials to help with reading the line of play for a stroke to be made from on the putting green. While any other use of a yardage book is allowed (such as a player making a note as to what club they used on an approach shot), to avoid any doubt a player should not look at their yardage book or any other material when the ball is on the putting green. If a player or caddie breaches this Local Rule, they will receive a general penalty for the first breach and disqualification for the second breach.
- k) The Model Local Rules in the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf are in effect regarding Conforming Driver Heads (MLR G-1), Conforming Golf Balls (MLR G-3) and Groove and Punch Mark Specifications (MLR G-2).
- l) Model Local Rule G-6 is in effect. A player or caddie 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.
- m) A copy of the Pace of Play Policy will be posted at the Championship venue and will be available on request.
- n) One round of 18 holes shall be played on each of the first two days, for which one draw shall be made. The 64 lowest scores over the 36 holes will compete in the match play stage of the Championship. In the event of a tie for the last qualifying place, a hole-by-hole play-off will take place immediately on conclusion of play. The draw will be seeded. If a competitor who qualifies for the match play stage, withdraws before or after the match play draw is made, that competitor's results will still be used to calculate the leading 64 places that will determine the cut mark.
- o) Each match will consist of one round of 18 holes except the Final which will be played over 36 holes. If the match is tied after the final hole, the round is deemed to extend one hole at a time until there is a winner.
- p) Immediately after the match is finished, the winner must report the result to an R&A Official or to The R&A Championship Office. Failure to comply with this section 2(p) may lead to disqualification.

3. PRIZES

- a) The Championship Cup will be presented to the winner. The winner will be The Women's Amateur Champion and will receive a gold medal.
- b) The Pam Barton Memorial Salver will be presented to the Champion.
- c) The Diana Fishwick Cup will be presented to the runner-up. The winner will receive a silver medal.
- d) Springbok Trophy will be presented to the semi-finalist beaten by the Champion. The winner will receive a bronze medal.
- e) Lion Trophy will be presented to the semi-finalist beaten by the runner up. The winner will receive a bronze medal.
- f) The Doris Chambers Trophy will be presented to the competitor returning the lowest score for 36 holes in the stroke play

qualifying rounds. In the event of a tie for the lowest score for 36 holes in the qualifying competition, a card count back using the 18 hole second round score will be used. If still a tie, the last 9 holes (or 6 or 3 or 1) will be used. If still a tie, the places shall be shared.

- g) The Angus Trophy will be presented to the competitor returning the lowest score for 18 holes in the qualifying competition. In the event of a tie for the lowest score for 18 holes, scores for the second 9 holes (or 6 or 3 or 1) of the appropriate round will be used. If still a tie, the place(s) will be shared.

4. 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 the Championship.
- c) Competitors are subject to all safety protocols applicable at the Championship in relation to Health & Safety as issued and updated by The R&A and/or its safety advisers from time to time.
- d) All 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. This will include any competitors who may have travelled internationally 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 Championship.
- f) The R&A requires players and their team to conduct themselves in a manner that is respectful of the Championship and the sport of golf. Players and their team shall at all times act in the best interests of the sport and the Championship, and shall not conduct themselves in an unlawful or improper manner so as to bring the Championship, 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. Players and their team shall comply with any Code of Conduct set by the Committee from time to time. For the purposes of this condition, a player's team includes their caddies as well as any agents, coaches or other support team including family members present at the Championship or in the environs of the Championship venue or otherwise acting in relation to the Championship. 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 Federation or National Golf Association. 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 Championship.
- h) All competitors and/or caddies are subject to the provisions of The R&A's Logos and Marks Policy in force at the date of the Championship.
- i) Any players gaining entry into the Championship who hold Russian and/or Belarussian nationalities and/or passports are subject to the Neutral Athlete Criteria set by the Committee from time to time.
- j) The R&A seeks media coverage and publicity for The Women's Amateur Championship around and during the Championship in the press and by live and recorded radio and television broadcasting and filming and on the internet. Each competitor by entering the Championship 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 and/or their caddie (if applicable) made during or in connection with the Championship (including, without limitation, during practice and play) without compensation for the competitor or caddie or the heirs, successors, executors, administrators or assignees of the competitor or caddie. The competitor also assigns to The R&A the right to use and reproduce the competitor and/or their caddie's name, voice, likeness and biographical material in any way now known or hereafter devised, without compensation for the competitor or caddie or the heirs, successors, executors, administrators or assignees of the competitor or caddie including in circumstances where it may include the logo of a third party or of a sponsor or patron of the Championship or any subsequent Championship or any other activities undertaken by The R&A. Competitors shall be responsible for ensuring that they hold all the necessary rights to grant the above assignments, including appropriate agreements with their caddies. 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 or caddie'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 the Championship to populate the relevant pages of the WORLD AMATEUR GOLF RANKING® website at wagr.com.
- k) All Championship information may be viewed at www.randa.org.

- l) The Committee's objective is to complete the Championship as per the format outlined in these Terms of Competition. The Committee reserves the right to amend these Terms of Competition at any time before or during the Championship and/or cancel the Championship before or during play. The decision of the Committee is final in all matters.
- m) These Terms of Competition will be governed by and interpreted in accordance with the laws of Scotland.

MARK DARBON *Chief Executive*