



SENIOR AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP

WALTON HEATH (OLD AND NEW)
8 – 11 July 2025

Closing Date for Entries Friday 6 June 2025
Entry Fee £150 (incl. of VAT)

TERMS OF COMPETITION

1. ENTRIES

- a) By submitting an entry for the R&A Senior 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 male gender, non-binary players, transgender women and women with differences in sexual development (46 XY DSD) who:
 - (i) have reached the age of 55 before the first day of the Championship.
 - (ii) 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
 - (iii) have Amateur Status in accordance with the current Rules of Amateur Status, as published by R&A Rules Limited and the USGA who hold a current Handicap Index® based on ratings for men of not more than 2.4 at date of entry, as issued by an Authorised Handicapping Body. Entrants 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 men of not more than 2.4 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 Friday 6 June 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 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 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 Handicap Index®/equivalent exact handicap 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 Handicap Index®/equivalent exact handicap 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 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 reasons 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) A competitor must not make use of any drug to enhance performance. Should a competitor show clinical evidence of use of a drug for a nontherapeutic purpose, the Committee may require the competitor to undergo a drug test. Any competitor found to be in breach of this section 1(j) may be disqualified. Entrants who are taking medication and in doubt as to their clinical status should seek advice from The R&A in advance of the Championship.

2. FORMAT

- a) The starting field will comprise 168 competitors. Any entrant named in one of the following categories will be allocated a place in the starting field of the Championship. Exempt players must submit an online entry on or before close of entries:

- (i) Any past R&A Senior Amateur Champion or US Senior Amateur Champion.
- (ii) The first 20 and anyone tying for 20th place in the R&A Senior Amateur Championship 2024.

Anyone who played in:

- (iii) The Amateur Championship 2020-2024.
- (iv) The US Amateur Championship 2020-2024.
- (v) The match play stages of the US Mid-Amateur Championship 2020-2024.
- (vi) The 2023 or 2024 Senior Open Championship.
- (vii) The 2023 or 2024 US Senior Open Championship.
- (viii) The match play stage of the 2024 US Senior Amateur Championship.
- (ix) Past playing members of a USA or GB&I Walker Cup side.
- (x) Playing members of the four Men's Seniors Home International teams 2024 (i.e. England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales).
- (xi) The champion in the English, Irish, Scottish and Welsh Senior Open Amateur Championships 2025. Blank entries may be made on behalf of competitors qualifying in this category.
- (xii) The current APGC Senior Amateur Champion if eligible.
- (xiii) The winner of the European Senior Men's Championship 2025, if eligible. A blank entry may be made on behalf of the competitor qualifying in this category.
- (xiv) 2 players nominated by GolfRSA from the top 6 of the GolfRSA Senior Rankings at 2 May 2025, if eligible.

- b) After allocating places to entrants under sections 2(a) and 2(c), the remaining places in the starting field will be completed in order of Handicap Index®/equivalent exact handicap of entrants at date of entry. Unsuccessful entrants may be given the opportunity to compete in the event of withdrawals. The reserve list will be in order of Handicap Index®/equivalent exact handicap at date of entry. The number of competitors from the USA will not exceed 60. In the event of a reduction of exempt entries in one category being required, the exempt competitors' list will comprise players from categories, in order of priority (i) to (ix). In the event of a reduction of exempt entries in one category being required, entry will be decided using exact handicaps at date of entry. Should the number of competitors from the USA reach the maximum of 60, USA entrants on the Reserve List will only be offered a place in the starting field should a withdrawal be received from a competitor from the USA.
- 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 the 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 first day of the Championship, or they will be withdrawn.
- f) 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.
- g) 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 modification in Rule 25.
- h) 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.
- i) 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.

- j) 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).
- k) 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.
- l) A copy of the Pace of Play Policy will be posted at the Championship venue and will be available on request.
- m) The Championship will be decided by stroke play over four rounds. One round of 18 holes will be played on each of the first two days, one round over the Old course and one round over the New course. The 50 lowest scores over the 36 holes and ties for 50th place will qualify for the 3rd round which will be played over the Old course. If a competitor who qualifies for the 3rd round withdraws before or after the round 3 draw is made, the competitor's results will still be used to calculate the leading 50 places and ties that will determine the cut mark. The 40 lowest scores over the 54 holes and ties for 40th place will qualify for the final round which will be played over the Old course. If a competitor who qualifies for the final round withdraws before or after the final round draw is made, the competitor's results will still be used to calculate the leading 40 places and ties that will determine the cut mark. The pairings and starting times for round 3 shall be determined by the 36 hole total with the competitors with the lowest scores starting last, and the same principle will apply for the final round.
- n) In the event of a tie after four rounds, the winner of the Championship will be decided by a hole by hole play-off to take place immediately. In the event of a tie for second place, this will be decided on 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 third round will be treated in the same way until a decision is reached.
- o) A secondary competition will be played within the Championship for competitors who have attained the age of 65 years before the first day of the Championship. The winner of this competition will be the competitor returning the lowest gross score over 72 holes. In the event of a tie, the procedure will be as per the card count back outlined in section 2(n).

3. PRIZES

The winner will become the R&A Senior Amateur Champion and will be awarded the Championship Trophy and a gold medal. The runner-up will receive a silver medal and the competitor in third place and those tying for third place will each receive a bronze medal. The winner of the 65 and over competition will receive a memento.

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 R&A Senior 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 hereby 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 including a list of accepted entries 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.
- m) The Committee reserves the right to amend these Terms of Competition at any time before or during the Championship and/or to cancel the Championship 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 laws of Scotland.

MARK DARBON Chief Executive