



## TERMS OF COMPETITION

### 1. ENTRIES AND ELIGIBILITY

- a) By submitting an entry for The R&A Student Tour Series 2025/26 (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 enrolled in tertiary education at an establishment located outside of the USA and Mexico. They must have reached the age of 16 on 1 January 2025, but be no older than age 28 on 31 December 2026. Players must be a fully registered student and holder of a student card for the university or educational institution with which they are internally registered. The following individuals shall be eligible to compete:
- 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;
  - A student satisfactorily finishing their course of study after 1 December 2025 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
  - 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.
  - A student who is either: (a) ranked within WAGR® listing 1 – 4000 (see [wagr.com](http://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](http://randa.org) and must be received by the close of entries as published on The R&A website for the relevant event. 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 1-4000 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](http://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 and / 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 5 Women in the previous year's Order of Merit final results.
  - iv. Winner of any Series.
  - v. Players receiving an international cap (representing their home country) in the past 24 months, at U18 or Senior level.
  - vi. Winner of the Irish Intervarsity Championship in 2025.
  - 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 1-4000 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 1-4000 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 – 30 and female student golfers occupying places 1 – 12 on the respective Series Order of Merit after the final qualifying event.

### Ties – Tour Series Order of Merit

In the event of a tie in the Series Order of Merit after the final qualifying event, places in the Final 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.
- d) The Committee reserves the right to exempt a player into a Series event or the Final and / or nominate a team.
- 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 at the golf club, in person, 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](mailto: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) Model Local Rule G-12 is in effect. Under this MLR, a player 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 breaches this Local Rule, they get the general penalty for the first breach and disqualification for a second breach.
- m) A copy of the Pace of Play Policy will be posted at each Series event venue and will be available on request.
- n) 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.
- o) 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 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.
- p) Competitors must not receive advice/coaching at any time during a round.

### 3. PRIZES

#### **Series qualifying events**

- a) The winning male and female players will each receive a memento, second place male and female players will each receive a memento and third place male and female players will each receive a memento.

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.

#### **Series Final**

- b) The winning male and female players will each receive a memento, second place male and female players will each receive a memento and third place male and female players will receive a memento.

#### **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. The winning female will be presented with the South American Salver. The runner-up will receive a, memento and third place, memento.

The winning male will receive an exemption into The Amateur Championship 2026, The St Andrews Links Trophy 2026, and the winning female will receive an exemption into The Women's Amateur Championship 2026 and The St Rule Trophy 2026.

### 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 2026 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) Ties – Individual Series Events
- 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.
  - 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.
  - 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.
- e) 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:
- The player who has won more Series events in the current season.
  - The player with the most second place finished in Series events in the current season.
  - The player with the best placed position in Series events in the current season.
- f) Order of Merit points will be allocated as shown in the tables below:

Men's Series Qualifying Event: Points Awarded

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

Men's Final Event: Points Awarded

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

Women's Series Qualifying Event: Points Awarded

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

Women's Final Event: points awarded

Finishing Position	Order of Merit Points
1 <sup>st</sup>	150
2 <sup>nd</sup>	120
3 <sup>rd</sup>	105
4 <sup>th</sup>	90
5 <sup>th</sup>	75
6 <sup>th</sup>	60
7 <sup>th</sup>	45
8 <sup>th</sup>	30
9 <sup>th</sup>	20
10 <sup>th</sup>	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 Series qualifying events the top 30 ranked men and top 12 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.

## 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 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. 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 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) All competitors are advised to have a personal public liability insurance policy in place to protect you from claims for damage to third party property or injury to third parties whilst participating in the series events.
- i) 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](http://wagr.com).
- j) All Series information may be viewed at [www.randa.org](http://www.randa.org).
- k) The Committee's objective is to complete the Series as per the format outlined in these Terms of Competition.
- l) 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.
- m) These Terms of Competition will be governed by and interpreted in accordance with the law of Scotland.

