

R&A

# ANNUAL REVIEW 2025





CHAMPION GOLFER OF  
THE YEAR 2025

JJ Spaun

Scottie Scheffler

Scottie Scheffler admires the Claret Jug after his triumph in The 153rd Open at Royal Portrush.

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# FOREWORD.

**It was a notable year for The R&A working with national federations, partners and other stakeholders across a number of areas to ensure golf continues to thrive.**

The sport is in a healthy position, with growing participation across the world and an increasing focus on making golf more accessible, appealing and inclusive across all formats.

During his first year in charge as Chief Executive of The R&A and Secretary of The Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews, Mark Darbon has helped maintain this momentum. Mark has made a hugely successful start working across the breadth and complexity of The R&A's activities and establishing himself as an important figure within the sport. Mark has redefined and rearticulated The R&A's strategy and we now look forward to implementing those objectives under Mark in the years ahead.

Personally, 2025 was a very memorable year for me as I took over as the new Chairman of The R&A in the autumn from Niall Farquharson following his extremely sure-footed three-year tenure. I would like to pay tribute to Niall and thank him for all he did and achieved as Chairman.

I have greatly enjoyed the first few months of my new role, meeting with partners, stakeholders and staff at The R&A. To see at close hand the respect in which The R&A is held in the world of golf has been both heartwarming and humbling.

As The R&A now embarks on a new strategy in 2026, I am excited to see the organisation continue its work so more people can play, engage and benefit from the sport across the globe. It is a milestone year with the opening of our Global Headquarters at St Andrews West.

After making great strides with various initiatives in 2025 – as you will read throughout the pages of this Review – I am sure the new base will help the organisation to continue to promote this wonderful sport and inspire current and future generations of golfers.

Turning back to last year, I was delighted to attend some of our overseas amateur championships, where the quality of play and the depth of fields continue to improve while the impact on each region continues to grow.

When I was in Mexico for the Women's Amateur Latin America championship at PGA Riviera Maya, it was wonderful to meet Lorena Ochoa, widely-regarded as the country's greatest female golfer. Lorena is an inspiring figure for all golfers in Latin America, not only for her stellar golfing career but also through her work off the course with her Foundation.



**“To see at close hand the respect in which The R&A is held in the world of golf has been both heartwarming and humbling.”**

It was a great thrill for me and Charlie Maran, Chairman of our Amateur Championships Committee, to present her with Honorary Membership of The Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews.

During my time in Mexico, I also had the pleasure of spending more time with Annika Sörenstam, having first met her at the World Amateur Team Championships in Singapore in October. Annika is also an Honorary Member of the Club and, as a ten-time major champion, one of the greats of the game. Annika's passion for the sport shines through and her own Foundation continues to provide opportunities in women's golf at the junior, collegiate and professional levels. There could be no better partner for us in staging the Women's Amateur Latin America championship.

I now look forward to attending a number of our amateur and professional championships in 2026. There is great anticipation for the return of The 154th Open to Royal Birkdale and the 50th staging of the AIG Women's Open at Royal Lytham & St Annes, along with the ISPS HANDA Senior Open. We stage these three major championships to a world class standard and it is sure to be another memorable year.

Looking further ahead, it was pleasing last year to see the International Olympic Committee approve the addition of an Olympic golf mixed-team event, which will be played for the first time at the 2028 Olympic Games in Los Angeles. Our own major championships and golf at the Olympics offer excellent platforms to promote the sport to a huge global audience and encourage new people to pick up a club for the first time or entice lapsed golfers back into the sport.

Last autumn saw Dennis Watson take over as Captain of The Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews from Ian Pattinson. Just as Ian was, Dennis has been and will continue to be a brilliant ambassador for the Club and The R&A and a great promoter of the game when on his travels as Captain throughout the UK and around the world.

Saturday 13 September last year was a significant day in the Club's calendar as a record number of golfers enjoyed playing in the historic 100th staging of the Town Match in St Andrews. Believed to be the largest annual one day amateur golf match in the world, 916 players competed over the Old, New, Jubilee and Straththyrum Courses for the anniversary event – the highest ever number to compete.

Sadly, the year saw the deaths of Peter McEvoy OBE, one of Britain's finest amateur golfers, and Judy Bell, an Honorary Member of the Club. The year also offered time for further reflection when the Club unveiled a new portrait of Sir Michael and Lady Bonallack in the Big Room of the Clubhouse, honouring their lifelong dedication to golf and their distinguished service to the Club and the sport.

As we now look ahead to an exciting year in 2026, I wish everyone at The R&A great success in the months ahead.

**Martin Hattrell**  
Chairman, The R&A

**“The sport is in a healthy position, with growing participation across the world and an increasing focus on making golf more accessible, appealing and inclusive across all formats.”**



# CHIEF EXECUTIVE REVIEW.

**“The surge in popularity golf has enjoyed and sustained is testament to the endeavours of so many involved in the sport.”**

**Reflecting on my first year with the organisation, it has been a very busy, rewarding time and I am pleased that we collectively continue to enhance the profile and reputation of golf to make it more open, accessible, appealing and inclusive.**

It is a huge honour to hold the roles of Chief Executive of The R&A and Secretary of The Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews. It has been such a thrill to work with so many dedicated, talented colleagues and immerse myself in golf. I have enjoyed meeting many of our key stakeholders, Patrons and partners in the sport, as well as attending a number of our championships around the world. I have been struck by the great passion for golf across the globe and the fantastic reputation that The R&A and Club hold.

It is a wonderful sport to work in and one that continues to blossom as evidenced by 108 million people now playing across all formats of golf worldwide (outside of the USA and Mexico). Over 100 million adults and juniors participating in golf is a significant milestone and one to be celebrated.

The growth in non-traditional formats such as golf simulators, pitch and putt and adventure golf is helping drive participation for adults and juniors on a global scale, while on-course golf also remains very popular. The surge in popularity golf has enjoyed and sustained is testament to the endeavours of so many involved in the sport. I would particularly like to thank national federations for their collective hard work to invest and support the game across the world.

However, it remains a critical time for golf and The R&A has a huge role to play in ensuring the sport continues to thrive. From the championships we oversee, the pathways we have established from the amateur level to the professional tiers, and the governance of the game more broadly, it is important we fulfil our role to maintain the sport's development and we remain on course to meet our commitment to investing £200 million into golf over a ten-year period (2017-2026).

Looking back to a year ago, I was honoured that my first announcement at The R&A was to confirm that The 155th Open will be played at St Andrews in 2027. There is something incredibly special about The Open being played on the Old Course and my own first memories of attending the Championship came at the home of golf in

1995. It promises to be another milestone occasion and, with a series of course enhancements being worked on, we will be doing everything we can to make it a memorable experience for everyone involved.

I was already aware of the magic of The Open and its rich, decorated history – indeed 17 October 2025 marked the anniversary of The 1st Open at Prestwick in 1860. Yet leading our team for the first time for the staging of The 153rd Open at Royal Portrush in July was very special. It was wonderful to see our teams come together and work in tandem to deliver a fantastic Championship, which attracted a record-breaking attendance of 278,000 – the largest outside of St Andrews and the biggest ever sporting event staged in Northern Ireland, generating more than £280 million in economic benefit. Of this, global exposure of the Championship – through linear television, digital platforms and online media – produced £191 million in destination marketing benefit.

This remarkable economic benefit again demonstrates the huge value The Open brings to the regions in which it is staged, as well as attracting an international audience to watch the world's best golfers compete at outstanding venues.

**“It was wonderful to see our teams come together and work in tandem to deliver a fantastic Championship, which attracted a record-breaking attendance of 278,000.”**



**“We have already seen the lasting impact of the Championship in Wales, including increases in junior membership at clubs.”**

World number one Scottie Scheffler excelled to lift the Claret Jug and it was a privilege to announce the American as Champion Golfer of the Year for the first time. Home favourite Rory McIlroy drew huge support on his homecoming after completing the career Grand Slam at the Masters Tournament in April. It was nice to see Rory cap his special year by winning the BBC Sports Personality of the Year Award, only the third golfer to do so and the first since 1989.

It was also a notable end to the year for Tiger Woods with his 50th birthday on 30 December and we were pleased to present Tiger with a specially commissioned portrait of his own memorable Grand Slam triumph at The Open in St Andrews in 2000.

Together with our colleagues at Augusta National Golf Club, we jointly announced plans to align aspects of the qualification criteria for the Masters Tournament and The Open, awarding invitations to winners and top finishers of select national opens. This approach builds on The R&A's longstanding and successful Open Qualifying Series and will ensure strong international pathways into both major championships from several professional tours and by doing so help to showcase and strengthen our sport in those countries.

This creates an outstanding opportunity for players in all parts of the world to qualify and continue to enrich the quality of the fields at both major championships. As we prepare for The 154th Open at Royal Birkdale in July, a winner-takes-all Last-Chance Qualifier and special Heroes Classic will feature among new enhancements being introduced as we increase the appeal of golf's original championship.

I was also delighted to see the AIG Women's Open continue to evolve by breaking new ground and making history in 2025 at Royal Porthcawl. It was the first time the Championship has been played in Wales and was the largest female sporting event ever held in the country, attracting more than 47,000 fans. We increased the prize fund for the AIG Women's Open by \$250,000 to \$9.75 million, meaning it has tripled since the partnership with AIG began in 2019 to highlight our shared commitment to elevating women's golf.

Japan's Miyū Yamashita was a worthy winner, staying firm to hold off the challenge of a number of players over the renowned links, including Charley Hull, for her first major title. Paula Martín Sampedro from Spain also excelled to win the Smyth Salver as leading amateur, highlighting the pathway for success at a major championship following her victory earlier in the summer at The Women's Amateur Championship at Nairn.

Golf in Wales also received a £1 million financial boost from the Welsh Government, helping support the Women's Golf Legacy Fund which aims to create long-lasting change by addressing barriers faced by women and girls in golf. We have already seen the lasting impact of the Championship in Wales, including increases in junior membership at clubs. We now look forward to the landmark 50th staging of the AIG Women's Open at Royal Lytham & St Annes this summer.

At both The Open and the AIG Women's Open, we continue to invest into the players' experience during championship weeks and have received fantastic feedback on the facilities and services

we provide from players and their teams. Indeed, in November, the AIG Women's Open received the LPGA Gold Driver Award for 'Best Player Experience' for the second consecutive year, reaffirming its status as one of the most athlete-centred events in world golf.

One Club members were able to relive the drama of The 153rd Open and the AIG Women's Open in 2025 with early access to the Official Films for both championships. Fans could enjoy all the key moments in addition to previously unseen footage and exclusive content, with both films available on R&A TV.

The support of our Patrons is hugely important to how we operate and I express my thanks to BOSS, Doosan, HSBC, Mastercard, Mercedes-Benz, Nikon, Rolex, AIG, Mitsubishi Electric, Suntory and Toyo Tires, as well as our Official Suppliers across The Open and the AIG Women's Open. I must also thank our philanthropic donors around the world with The R&A Foundation reaching a major milestone in June with £10 million pledged since 2022.

Peter Millar, an industry leader in luxury apparel, also become an official partner of The R&A in 2025. In addition to being a sponsor of some of our leading amateur championships, Peter Millar are kitting out all Great Britain and Ireland teams, including doing so for the sides at the 50th Walker Cup at Cypress Point Club last year and at the 44th Curtis Cup at Bel-Air Country Club in June.

Looking further ahead, we confirmed the championship dates for The Open, the ISPS HANEDA Senior Open and the AIG Women's

Open in 2028. The championships are being moved back for that year alone to avoid clashing with the golf competitions for the 2028 Olympic Games in Los Angeles which are being played from 19-29 July.

Lastly, it is a landmark year for The R&A in 2026 with the opening of our new Global Headquarters at St Andrews West. It was a year ago when I stood with David Rickman MBE, who led on the planning for the development of the staff building before retiring after a 37-year career with The R&A, to break ground to officially mark the start of construction. I've watched with interest as the building has taken shape and we are all thrilled to see the project coming to fruition. The global base will bring St Andrews-based staff together in one new state-of-the-art office location and allow greater collaboration among our teams.

As we look to the future, we are excited to be launching a new strategy for The R&A after successfully completing the previous five-year cycle. We must continue to ensure golf is open to all and enjoyed by people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds and I look forward to achieving our strategic objectives over the coming years.



**Mark Darbon**  
Chief Executive, The R&A

**“As we look to the future, we are excited to be launching a new strategy for The R&A after successfully completing the previous five-year cycle.”**



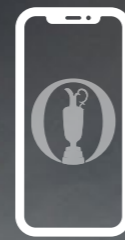
# HIGHLIGHTS 2021-25.

Key highlights following the end of the previous five-year strategy cycle.



Record attendances each year at The Open, including milestone 150th in 2022 in St Andrews.

Increased commercial success of The Open to reinvest more proceeds than ever before back into the sport – on target for **£200 million** from 2017-2026.



More than **1.2 million** applications for tickets in The 153rd Open ballot.



Total prize fund for The Open to a record **\$17 million**, with the winner receiving **\$3.1 million** in 2024 and 2025.



In the UK, Sky Sports recorded its most-watched Open ever in 2025 with **21.2 million** viewer hours, a 36% year-on-year increase.



Record-breaking crowds for the AIG Women's Open, with the 2025 staging the largest women's sporting event ever held in Wales.



Enhanced Festival Fan Village at the AIG Women's Open with two headline concerts from Ellie Goulding and Tom Grennan.



The Open delivers an annual economic benefit to its host region, including generating more than **£300 million** for Scotland at The 150th Open and over **£280 million** for Northern Ireland at The 153rd Open.

Prize fund for the AIG Women's Open increased by \$250,000 to **\$9.75 million** in 2025, with the winner receiving **\$1.46 million**. The prize fund for the Championship has tripled since the partnership with AIG began in 2019.



Global growth in participation to **108 million** adults and juniors playing golf across all formats of the sport (outside the USA and Mexico). Significant growth in adult (64.1m) and junior (43.9m) participation, driven by off-course flexible formats alongside on-course play.



Almost **1,500 signatories** to the Women in Golf Charter. 268 women from 46 countries have completed the Women in Golf Leadership Development and Foundation programmes.



In 2023, update issued to the testing conditions used for golf ball conformance under the Overall Distance Standard. Aims to reduce impact of increased hitting distances on golf's long-term sustainability while minimising impact on recreational game.



Over **£10 million** in philanthropic funding secured by The R&A Foundation by donors from more than 20 countries worldwide.



The 2023 Rules of Golf update focused on simplification, inclusion and sustainability, including integrating Rules for Players with Disabilities.



Over **2.3 million** downloads of the Rules of Golf App and translated into 28 languages.



Launch of the Africa Amateur Championship and Africa Amateur Women's Invitational in 2024 to complement global R&A amateur championships.



Launch of The G4D Open in partnership with the DP World Tour in 2023.

Launch of the Global Amateur Pathway in partnership with the DP World Tour and the PGA TOUR in 2024.



**GOLF IT!**  
Opening of Golf It! in Glasgow in 2023, a family-friendly entertainment facility – generated a total social value of **£20.8 million** in 2025.



Over **130 countries** using the World Handicap System™.

**7,116** WAGR® events in 2025 – an increase from 4,753 in 2021.



Launch of the 'Just Swing' participation campaign and over **5.5 million** visits to the game on Roblox reaching 220 countries.



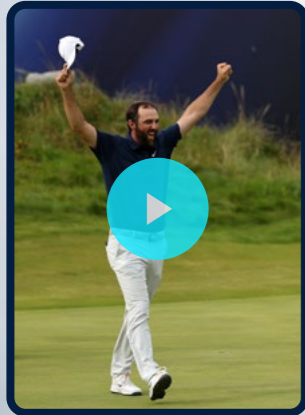
Sustainable and Championship Agronomy delivered **420** agronomy visits in 2025.



# PROFESSIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS.

## The 153rd Open

The 153rd Open at Royal Portrush proved hugely memorable with world number one Scottie Scheffler dominating the field to become Champion Golfer of the Year.



Scottie Scheffler shone over the links of Royal Portrush to win The 153rd Open.

The 29-year-old American delivered a masterclass on the Country Antrim coast to seal a four-shot margin of victory. A 17-under-par total of 267 saw Scheffler become the first player since Tiger Woods to lift the Claret Jug while holding top spot since the Official World Golf Ranking started in 1986.

The USA's Harris English finished in second place on 13-under with another American, Chris Gotterup, one shot further back after a gripping week.

The Championship attracted a record-breaking attendance of 278,000 – the largest Open ever held outside of St Andrews and the biggest sporting event staged in Northern Ireland. This included 90,000 spectators across sold-out practice days and 19,000 children attending through The R&A's 'Kids Go Free' initiative.

In a world-first for live professional golf coverage, Spidercam technology was deployed above the 18th green, bringing millions of viewers closer to the action than ever before.

In the UK, Sky Sports recorded its most-watched Open ever with 21.2 million viewer hours, a 36% year-on-year increase, while the final round delivered Sky's second-largest Sunday audience since 2021. In the USA, NBC's final-round coverage attracted 4.1 million viewers, a 21% increase on 2024 and its most-watched Open final round since 2022.

Staging The 153rd Open generated over £280 million in economic benefit for Northern Ireland, with £89.2 million directly impacting the local economy (including £43.7 million in the Causeway Coast & Glens area) and £191 million in destination marketing value from global media exposure.

Seven groups in Portrush, including a school, a football team and a bowling club, also benefitted thanks to support from The Open Legacy Fund. The initiative is run by The R&A to leave a positive and lasting legacy for the local community in which The Open is staged each year.

For the 11th time, The Open returns to Royal Birkdale in 2026. Since it first staged golf's original championship in 1954, no other course outside of St Andrews has hosted The Open more. It will be the first host of The Open Experiences – a new range of ticket options – giving fans innovative new ways to attend the Championship.

## AIG Women's Open

Japan's Miyū Yamashita earned her first career major title after a sensational performance in the AIG Women's Open at Royal Porthcawl.

The 24-year-old from Osaka, who led from the morning of the second round, finished the week with a final round of 70, ending two shots clear of Charley Hull and Minami Katsu on 11-under-par 277.

Yamashita earned \$1.46 million, the highest amount in the AIG Women's Open's 49-year history and the overall prize pot totalled \$9.75 million, an increase of \$250,000 on the previous year.

Women's Amateur Champion Paula Martín Sampedro also enjoyed an outstanding week, winning the Smyth Salver as the leading amateur.

The Championship was staged in Wales for the first time and welcomed more than 47,000 fans. It was the largest women's sporting event ever held in the country, with almost 2,500 children – around five per cent of the total attendance – gaining access through the long-established 'Kids Go Free' initiative.

Significant enhancements were made to the Festival Village, which proved extremely popular with spectators. The Championship itself also achieved record-breaking results across broadcast and digital platforms. In the UK, the first two rounds attracted the highest-ever average audience for days one and two of the AIG Women's Open on Sky Sports.

As testament to its growing profile, the Championship doubled its social following during the week whilst social impressions tripled year-on-year. It is now the most socially followed women's golf championship in the world.

In 2026, the AIG Women's Open will celebrate its 50th staging when it returns to Royal Lytham & St Annes. It will be the sixth time the Lancashire links has hosted the Championship, having last opened its doors for Georgia Hall's victory in 2018.

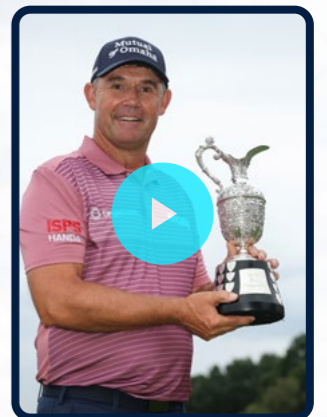
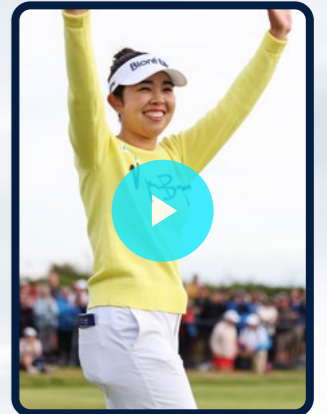
The R&A thank AIG for their continued support of the Championship.

## ISPS HANDA Senior Open

The Championship marked ISPS HANDA's first year as title sponsor. The new partnership proved highly successful, culminating in a popular victory for ISPS HANDA ambassador Pádraig Harrington.

The 53-year-old became the fifth player in history to win both The Open and the ISPS HANDA Senior Open, as he finished on 16-under-par 264 for a three-stroke win over Justin Leonard and Thomas Bjørn at Sunningdale. Harrington joined Sir Bob Charles, Gary Player, Tom Watson and Darren Clarke as a winner of the Claret Jug and the Senior Open trophy.

The King's Course at Gleneagles will host the Championship in 2026, where it was last held in 2022.



Miyū Yamashita secured her first career major title at Royal Porthcawl; Pádraig Harrington was a popular ISPS HANDA Senior Open winner at Sunningdale.



# AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIPS.

Two impressive Great Britain and Ireland team triumphs highlighted a successful year of R&A amateur championships and matches.

Under the captaincy of Maria Dunne, GB&I produced a stirring singles display to win the **Vagliano Trophy** against the Continent of Europe for the first time since 2005.

Following the Curtis Cup victory over the United States of America in 2024 led by Catriona Matthew OBE, GB&I women again held their nerve in a team contest to win 12½-11½ at the Royal Hague Golf & Country Club in the Netherlands.

There was also a notable success for the GB&I men's side at the **St Andrews Trophy** in Spain, easing to a 16½-8½ triumph over the Continent of Europe. At Real Club de la Puerta de Hierro, GB&I reclaimed the trophy won by their opponents at Royal Porthcawl in 2024.

England's Luke Poulter, son of Ian, took GB&I over the winning line in the singles, as Captain Dean Robertson watched his team win all four sessions over the two days of the match.

Robertson then confidently led his side to the 50th playing of the **Walker Cup** at spectacular Cypress Point in September. Only one point ahead going into the fourth and final session of matches, the USA underlined their strength in depth by claiming eight-and-a-half points from the ten singles. After the 17-9 defeat, Robertson will now bid for Walker Cup success at Lahinch in September. Prince's, meanwhile, will stage the 53rd Walker Cup in 2030.

Individually, the year began with victory for Justin Hastings of the Cayman Islands at the **Latin America Amateur Championship** at Pilar Golf in Argentina. Due to anticipated inclement weather for the final day, 36 holes were played on the third day as Hastings finished one shot clear of Patrick Sparks from Peru.

Bryan Newman of South Africa won the **Africa Amateur Championship** at Leopard Creek after cruising to a two-shot victory over Zimbabwe's Keegan Shutt, while Gia Raad claimed the **Africa Amateur Women's Invitational** title with a two-shot triumph over fellow South African Bobbi Brown.

They call Hoi An the city of lanterns and it was Jeneath Wong who shone brightest en route to winning the seventh edition of the **Women's Amateur Asia-Pacific championship** at Hoiana Shores in Vietnam. The 20-year-old became the first Malaysian winner of the championship, fashioning four rounds in the 60s for an 18-under-par aggregate to win by a stroke.

Domestically, Sabrina Wong, 13, who was born in Hong Kong but moved with her family to Glasgow to continue her golfing education in Scotland, created history by becoming the youngest winner of the **R&A Girls' U16 Amateur Championship**. At Gog Magog, she also became the first player to win both the Girls' U16 Amateur and the prize for the championship's leading player under the age of 14.

University of St Andrews scholars Judy Joo and Judd Sundelson achieved an historic double by being crowned **R&A Student**

**Tour Series Order of Merit** winners. It is the first time University of St Andrews students topped either the men's or women's table.

There was also a notable double at **The G4D Open** at Woburn, as Irishman Brendan Lawlor and the Netherlands' Daphne van Houten secured victories for a second time after both eased to memorable successes. Celtic Manor Resort in Wales will host the world's most talented golfers with disabilities when The G4D Open is staged there for the next three years from 2026.

Paula Martín Sampedro of Spain emerged victorious 2&1 from an absorbing contest with Farah O'Keefe from the USA to claim **The 122nd Women's Amateur Championship** at Nairn, while American Ethan Fang secured **The 130th Amateur Championship** after a tense one-hole win against Ireland's Gavin Tiernan at Royal St George's.

Scotland's Cameron Adam won the third-ever **Open Amateur Series** to tee up in The 153rd Open at Royal Portrush and went on to top the standings in the second year of the Global Amateur Pathway, powered by the World Amateur Golf Ranking® (WAGR®), earning a DP World Tour card for the 2026 season. Sampedro claimed the **AIG Women's Open Amateur Series** and then earned the Smyth Salver as leading amateur at Royal Porthcawl.

France's Lily Reitter secured a hard-earned victory at the **R&A Girls' Amateur Championship** at Conwy and Guus Lafeber of the Netherlands defeated Spain's Yago Horno on the first play-off hole to win the **R&A Boys' Amateur Championship** at County Louth. Lafeber then played a starring role as the Continent of Europe retained the **Jacques Léglise Trophy** with a 15-10 win over GB&I at the Royal Golf Club of Belgium.

Elsewhere, England's John Kennedy and Kathy Hartwiger from the USA enjoyed victories in the **R&A Senior Amateur and Women's Senior Amateur championships** at Walton Heath, while the Irish duo of Marie Walls and Michelle Hughes experienced the trip of a lifetime to win the **Coronation Foursomes Grand Final** in St Andrews.

The American pair of Kiara Romero and Jackson Koivun ended their years in style as the respective women's and men's winners of the Mark H McCormack Medal as the leading players on WAGR®.

There were 7,116 WAGR® events included in the women and men's ranking in 2025, an increase of 283 events on 2024. At the end of the year, there were 8,323 ranked players – up 219 on 2024.

There were also end-of-season victories for Fifi Laopakdee, the first Thai winner of the **Asia-Pacific Amateur Championship** after a play-off triumph at the Emirates Golf Club in Dubai, and Colombia's María José Marín, who finally claimed a long-awaited success in the **Women's Amateur Latin America championship** following her play-off victory over Emily Odwin at PGA Riviera Maya in Mexico.



Pictured from top: Cameron Adam competed in The 153rd Open after winning the Open Amateur Series; a St Andrews double in the R&A Student Tour Series; Ethan Fang holds aloft The Amateur trophy.

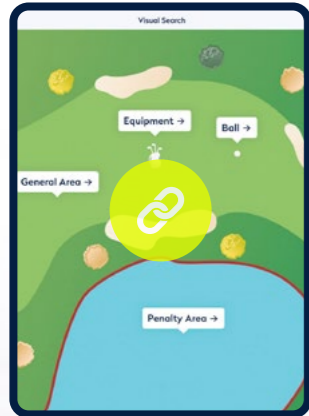


Pictured from top: Delight for Brendan Lawlor and Daphne van Houten at The G4D Open; GB&I celebrate winning the Vagliano Trophy; Paula Martín Sampedro clutches The Women's Amateur silverware.



# GOVERNANCE.

**It was a successful year for The R&A's governance team with sustained progress across key initiatives.**



Download the Rules of Golf App to aid your understanding when playing.

Making the Rules of Golf easier to understand and apply for players was central to governance activity. There have now been over 2.3 million downloads of the Rules of Golf App, an increase from just over 400,000 in 2019. This exceeds the number of Rule books that were previously printed, reflecting a digital-first approach to sharing the Rules. The App is also translated into 28 languages, believed to be the most translated set of Rules in any sport.

The year saw the launch of the modernised Level 2 Rules Seminar teaching materials to all affiliated national associations, providing new interactive materials and enhanced support for instructors. A training course for over 100 instructors was held to introduce the materials and provide guidance on how to deliver these in the most effective way.

Utilising these new materials, August marked a significant milestone in the development of golf in Central Asia as The R&A, in partnership with the Mongolian Golf Association, hosted its first-ever Level 2 Rules Seminar at Mt. Bogd Golf and Country Club in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.



The event brought together 30 delegates from all over the country for an intensive and hands-on learning experience aimed at deepening their understanding of the Rules of Golf.

Modernisation of the Level 1 and Club presentation materials also took place to provide national associations with a suite of teaching and educational materials to be used at local level.

The successful delivery of all refereeing functions and training of Referees at R&A championships continued, both at amateur and professional level. The Level 4 Advanced Referee Qualification has been developed over the past four years and now 86 Referees have qualified at the top level.

The Rules Newsletter continues to be a popular and effective way for the Rules team to communicate with core audiences, with over 40,000 people signed up to receive it. The R&A's 'Quick Guide to the Rules of Golf' has been designed to help golfers become familiar with the basic Rules and golfers of all levels of ability are encouraged to watch the short video, which is available in the App and on the website.

Working closely with national federations and partners, the Rules team officiated at and supported more than 20 elite level professional and amateur championships during 2025.

For the handicapping team, the first quarter of the year focused on education in Great Britain and Ireland. Working collaboratively with the national associations in GB&I, a bold and impactful awareness campaign was produced – including direct e-newsletters and social media 'flipbooks' – to highlight both player and club Handicap Committee responsibilities within the Rules of Handicapping™.

The campaign was designed to address feedback suggesting handicap manipulation in GB&I is a significant issue. An orchestrated media campaign highlighted the concerns, calling out the small minority of players who deliberately manipulate the Rules of Handicapping™ as 'cheats'.

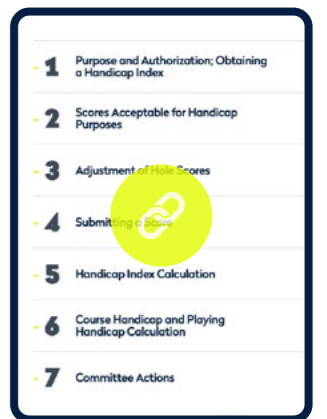
A follow-up GB&I campaign was produced in October preparing players for the handicap review process, which is a vital safeguard within the Rules of Handicapping™.

Throughout the year, the handicapping team also worked with the USGA to expand the reach of the World Handicap System™ (WHS™) Learning Hub, providing more opportunities for people to become involved in Course Rating.

The Hub includes a virtual course rating tool first piloted in 2024 and was used to conduct four virtual calibrations during 2025. In total, 57 national associations are now making use of the Learning Hub (a 137% increase from 2024), with 892 active users (a 52% increase) and 236 certified course raters at the intermediate level (a 293% increase). Work to develop an Advanced level certification is well under way with the aim to launch by mid-2026.

Together with the European Golf Association (EGA), The R&A and the USGA held a Course Rating Training and Calibration Seminar at Bogogno Golf Resort in Italy in October. The event was exceptionally well supported by the EGA's member federations, with 73 delegates attending from 24 countries.

It included a beginners session for those new to Course Rating and an advanced session for those wanting to mark their ratings against their instructors, with many attendees able to finalise their intermediate certification following participation in the calibration. Similar sessions are conducted regularly worldwide, which is vital in achieving consistency for the way the Course Rating System is applied and administered.



Pictured from top: Refereeing at championships across the world; inputting scores digitally for handicap purposes; check out the Rules of Handicapping™ on The R&A website.

# SUSTAINABLE GOLF.

**Across its strategic pillars of Championship Agronomy, Agronomy Services, Research, Education and Greenlinks, Sustainable Golf continued to grow its global reach, impact and customer support aided by key internal appointments.**

The R&A Sustainable Agronomy Service completed a successful year, reinforcing its position as a leading global authority in environmentally responsible, high-performance golf course management.

In Great Britain and Ireland, Sustainable Agronomy continued to work closely with many of the region's most influential venues, reflecting both the Service's footprint at the highest level and the trust placed in its guidance by leading facilities.

Championship support is central to the programme. The team provided agronomy input at The 153rd Open, the AIG Women's Open and leading amateur championships, ensuring sustainable championship

conditioning while showcasing world class course standards. This illustrates and educates how it is possible to deliver high performance in a sustainable way, testing the best players in the world with minimal inputs to the turfgrass surface. The team also use their expertise to help and support global Tours to deliver championship conditions across the globe.

Building on The R&A's strategy to support clubs with independent, science-led guidance that balances high performance and long-term environmental responsibility – with funds directed back into the game – the team expanded its reach and deepened its impact across GB&I, Continental Europe and Asia-Pacific.

Over the course of the year, The R&A's Sustainable and Championship Agronomy team delivered over 420 agronomy visits to new and existing venues worldwide, providing tailored support on course performance, resource efficiency and climate-resilient practices across multiple regions, with different objectives, climates, grass types and resources.

In Europe, a number of new clubs were onboarded – Aloha, Breitenloo and La Finca Resort, in addition to forthcoming work at several other high profile clubs, including Lofoten Links. This is alongside existing international partners such as Noordwijkse to underline rising demand for R&A expertise across continental markets.

Knowledge-sharing and industry engagement remained a major focus. The team delivered over 30 key presentations across golf nations – including Asia-Pacific markets, Finland, France, GB&I, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Spain and Switzerland – broadening the support offered by The R&A while providing practical agronomic guidance to clubs and industry bodies.

Across Asia-Pacific, client expansion continued with additions including Los Cabos San Diego Golf (Philippines) and Mamiya Group (Japan), alongside confirmation of Taiheiyō Club Gotemba Course as an official R&A venue for the next three years. Sustainable golf presentations were also delivered in China, Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand.

A Golf Course 2030 project advanced in Australia and New Zealand, reflecting the region's growing appetite for practical, research-linked solutions to long-term environmental pressures. Expanded Championship Agronomy support was also achieved in Asia-Pacific, including work confirmed for the 2026 Asian Games venue, Kasugai Country Club in Nagoya, Japan.

In October, the Scandinavian Turfgrass and Environment Research Foundation (STERF), The R&A and the USGA announced three research projects selected for funding under the International Turfgrass Research Initiative (ITRI). It is a global programme designed to advance sustainable golf course and sports turf management and achieve closer collaboration with the USGA across a number of initiatives. The projects address critical priorities shared by STERF, The R&A and the USGA, namely integrated

pest management and reduction of inputs; water conservation and efficiency; biodiversity, ecosystem services and landscape values; and climate adaptation and carbon balance.

The year also saw the staging of a second BioBlitz event. A BioBlitz is a great way to engage all the different communities surrounding a golf club, giving players and non-players the opportunity to see what actually lives on courses.

The R&A and Oleo Ecology were keen to build on the success of the inaugural BioBlitz at Carnoustie Golf Links, with Lindrick in South Yorkshire chosen as the host in 2025 due to its diverse range of calcareous grassland, woodland and scrub habitats. The event was made possible by a generous donation to The R&A Foundation in memory of a much-loved colleague, Helen Goodman.

In February, the Fairways to Nature Conference, a joint initiative by The R&A and the French Golf Federation, brought together leading voices from golf, sustainability and science to explore how the sport can play a crucial role in biodiversity conservation.

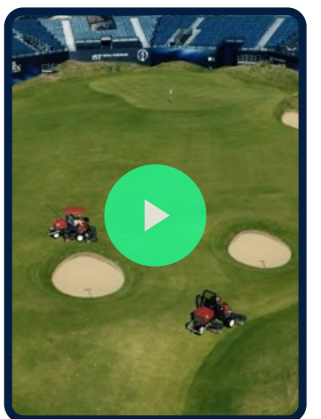
The Paris event, which was supported by the European Commission, saw key figures from across the golf industry, environmental science and major sporting events share insights from within golf and beyond and explore how the sport can be a champion for biodiversity conservation.

Greenlinks is The R&A's sustainable championship programme designed to drive leadership and innovation in sustainability through The Open, the AIG Women's Open and amateur championships. The use of electric cars, community reuse programmes and surplus food redistribution plans were in place at all professional championships, with free water refill stations available.

Mastercard's Priceless Planet Coalition partners with The Open and the AIG Women's Open for sustainability, supporting reforestation through initiatives like water bottle refill stations and tree planting to combat plastic waste and climate change. The year saw The R&A achieve a milestone of saving the use of over half a million plastic water bottles across its championships.



Pictured: Championship support across the world, including at The 153rd Open (below).



Pictured from top: Agronomic guidance in Vietnam; discovering nature with the BioBlitz activity at Lindrick; the Agronomy team play an important role at championships (video).

# GOLF DEVELOPMENT.

**The R&A continued to encourage participation in golf among people of all ages, abilities, backgrounds, genders and ethnicities through a range of strategic initiatives.**

Across The R&A's affiliated associations, participation climbed to a record 108 million adults and juniors playing the game across all formats, almost three million more than in 2023. Adult participation alone rose to 64.1 million, with an additional 1.8 million adults engaging in one or more formats of the sport year-on-year.

With global junior participation data collated for the first time thanks to new analytical tools, 43.9 million juniors are now playing golf, with 80% engaging through formats other than the traditional nine and 18-hole game. On-course participation also continued to grow, with 43.3 million adults and juniors playing nine and 18-hole golf in 2024, up from 42.7 million in 2023.

To further encourage participation, The R&A launched a new global participation campaign, Just Swing, in March 2025, voiced by Hollywood actor and R&A Global Development Ambassador Kathryn Newton. The campaign was created to broaden the appeal of golf to new audiences and to increase overall participation by highlighting the sport's positive benefits while addressing unhelpful barriers and perceptions.

The campaign specifically targets women, girls and individuals with an active interest in sport, as well as lapsed golfers, with the aim of encouraging them to return to the sport. It was initially piloted in Spain by the Royal Spanish Golf Federation across three local areas, where participating clubs reported increased interest from women and girls enrolling in beginner programmes. The campaign is now being replicated in other markets, including Australia, Canada and China.

The campaign formed part of The R&A's wider commitment to growing participation and built upon the launch of the Just Swing game, created in 2024 on Roblox, designed

to introduce young people to golf through the popular global gaming platform. It has enjoyed over 5.5 million visits to date reaching 220 countries.

In 2025, The R&A expanded its Global Golf Development Ambassador programme with cricketer Stuart Broad, Korean actor Song Joong-ki, four-time NBA Champion and two-time MVP Stephen Curry, and former Ladies' European Tour player and broadcaster Henni Zuël joining an established group of ambassadors including musician Niall Horan, footballer Gareth Bale and actor Kathryn Newton.

Throughout the year, ambassadors attended key events and used their platforms to raise awareness of the benefits of playing golf, inspire new audiences to engage with the sport, advocate for greater diversity, and amplify initiatives aimed at delivering meaningful and lasting change across golf. Former Olympic and World Champion triple jumper Jonathan Edwards, in his role as a Global Development Ambassador, again fronted the 'Walk to Win' initiative at Royal Portrush for The 153rd Open, encouraging participants to win prizes while boosting their health from steps walked around the course.

The R&A also partnered with the UNDERATED Golf European Tour, a purpose-driven junior tour founded by Stephen Curry. The collaboration, which supported two events at Foxhills Country Club in Surrey and at Fairmont St Andrews, focused on removing barriers, challenging perceptions and expanding opportunities for over 100 young golfers from all backgrounds, supporting an inclusive and accessible future for the sport while helping to nurture the next generation of players and leaders.

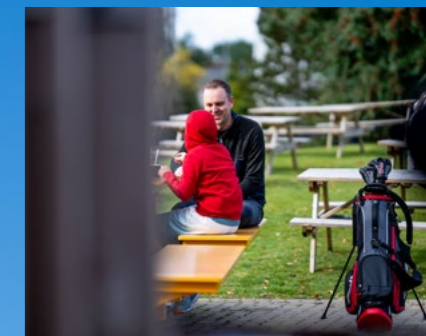
Golf It! in Glasgow continued to make golf more accessible and inclusive to both golfers and non-golfers alike since opening in 2023. Through the AIG Education Programme, over 18,000 children experienced in-curriculum golf coaching across 42 local schools, supported by more than 40 teachers trained through CPD sessions and equipped with Golfway kits funded by AIG. Six school festivals welcomed over 2,000 pupils, and the programme led to 5,000 children using Golf It! regularly. The social return on investment delivered in the local community in 2025 was £20.8 million.

The facility also has access to a Paragolfer, enabling users with spinal injuries and lower-limb disabilities to stand and swing, as well as Koalaa lightweight prosthetics for those with upper-limb differences. Fully accessible throughout, Golf It! benefits from the guidance of an Inclusive Golf Officer, ensuring staff are equipped to teach and support golfers of all abilities.

In 2025, EDGA (the European Disabled Golf Association) celebrated 25 years of advancing inclusion in golf, marking a significant milestone in expanding opportunities for individuals with a disability and supporting a more inclusive sport.



Pictured from top: Global participation continues to grow; Korean actor Song Joong-ki helped raise the sport's profile as a Global Development Ambassador; the Just Swing campaign encourages participation across the world.



Pictured from top: Golf It! in Glasgow continues to offer a wonderful environment for families; EDGA celebrated 25 years of working with partners like The R&A to provide opportunities for golfers with a disability.





Founded in 1997, EDGA has evolved from a grassroots initiative into the recognised international authority for golfers with a disability, working in partnership with organisations including The R&A, the DP World Tour and the European Golf Association.

The R&A also continued its mission to shape and promote public understanding of golf's health benefits in 2025. Golf's presence in the Dubai Fitness Challenge, a month-long initiative celebrating fitness, wellbeing and community, highlighted the focus, with a record-breaking three million people taking part.

Almost 1,500 organisations worldwide have signed the Women in Golf Charter, a global initiative led by The R&A to break down barriers and create a more inclusive culture in golf.

The first Women in Golf Forum Latin America, held at Pilar Golf in Argentina in September, brought together delegates from across the region to share ideas, tackle challenges and explore ways to grow women's participation in the sport.

In South Africa, GolfRSA also hosted the Women in Golf Charter Business Breakfast at Copperleaf Golf Estate, welcoming over 80 industry representatives under the theme "Driving Change: Women Shaping the Future of Golf". The event celebrated progress and reinforced the Charter's mission to increase women's involvement in golf and create an environment where everyone feels welcome and empowered. One of the standout moments of the event was 14 new signatories signing up to the Charter.

Thanks to the AIG Women's Open in 2025, the largest female sporting event ever held in Wales, and a landmark £1 million Women's Golf Legacy Fund from the Welsh Government to celebrate the Championship, transformative projects are being supported across Wales to help drive a cultural shift in the sport.

The fund recognises that encouraging more women and girls to take up golf involves actively breaking down physical, cultural and social barriers and ensuring every aspect of the golfing experience is welcoming, inclusive and open to all.

Golf clubs across Wales are also contributing, bringing the total investment to more than £3 million.

Building on the success of an initial pilot in Romania, the Community Golf Instructor (CGI) programme expanded its footprint into south-east Asia in 2025. The initiative was rolled out in Malaysia, Thailand and Indonesia, forming part of a broader strategy to make the sport more accessible by training a new diverse workforce of entry level instructors who can help grow participation at the community level.

Across the globe, the CGI programme enables federations to create a dedicated workforce to help attract more people to the sport through the independent delivery of beginner programmes for juniors and adults. CGIs can support the existing coaching workforce by extending their programme offerings at golf facilities and in the community. In addition, instructors can deliver programmes for facilities not serviced by a qualified Coach/PGA Professional, ensuring new golfers are provided with an entry point into the sport.

As part of its commitment to growing the game, increasing accessibility and inspiring a new generation of talent, The R&A has also supported the expansion of GolfSixes into new regions, helping more young people enjoy the sport in a fun, team-based format. More than 20 countries are now running the programme designed to encourage young people into playing, enjoying and remaining in the sport.

In nine-hole golf, the Irish duo Sharon Conway and Michael Wynne secured an emotional win in the R&A 9 Hole Challenge Final at Royal Portrush. Conway dedicated the win to her mother and father-in-law who passed away within days of each other. Golfers from all over the world played more than 711,000 nine-hole qualifying rounds in the hope of securing the opportunity to play the Championship course ahead of The 153rd Open.



Pictured from top: Women in Golf Leadership programmes continue to create a more inclusive culture in golf; the Dubai Fitness Challenge maintained focus on promoting the health benefits of the sport; winners of the R&A 9 Hole Challenge at Royal Portrush.

# THE R&A FOUNDATION.

**The R&A Foundation continued to go from strength to strength in 2025 and reached a major milestone with £10 million pledged by philanthropic donors around the world since 2022.**

This achievement provides crucial support to the Foundation's mission to harness golf for good by funding projects that promote opportunity, inclusion and growth across the sport.

To date, £5.4 million of the pledged £10 million has already been released to support a wide range of initiatives including, in 2024 alone, more than £1.4 million in unrestricted funding (funds that can be allocated for any purpose in line with The R&A Foundation's charitable objectives). This has enabled the Foundation to support programmes that deliver impact across five key areas: accessibility, sustainability, health, heritage and talent. This builds on the work The R&A Foundation has achieved since its inception in 2003, providing funding from the proceeds of The Open to develop the sport globally and support projects from grassroots to the elite level.

The Royal and Ancient Golf Club Scholarship is just one programme The R&A Foundation supports. The scholarship identifies, supports and develops the next generation of golf leaders through financial support and unique connections to The Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews and The R&A.

Thanks to the generous support of philanthropic donors, 11 outstanding young men and women from around the world were selected as the 2024 Royal and Ancient Golf Club Scholars. Chosen from more than 300 applicants aged 18–29, the current cohort represents a wide range of interests vital to the future of the sport including agronomy, golfers with a disability, golf development, business, administration and tourism, as well as nutrition and sports medicine.

The programme has welcomed a total of 21 young people from 12 countries across five continents in its first two years. The R&A Foundation look forward to seeing it grow year-on-year and following the Scholars' progress.

Improving access to golf remains a core focus of The R&A Foundation's work, with funding supporting facilities and programmes that help people from diverse backgrounds engage with the sport. New initiatives included a six-week programme with the Muslim Golfers' Association in the UK, introducing 350 children to golf alongside women-only sessions led by female instructors. The R&A Foundation has also enabled the expansion of the disability golf programme at Golf It!, as support from the Gerald Micklem Charitable Trust provided adaptive equipment for players with limb disabilities and training aids to support the coaching of players with visual impairments.

Internationally, funding has supported initiatives such as Golf Canada's She Plays Golf programme, the expansion of GolfSixes into new regions, and pathway development projects across Malaysia, the Philippines and India with a strong emphasis on youth engagement, female participation and creating dual opportunities for individuals to both play and caddy.

Alongside growing the sport, The R&A Foundation continues to support sustainability, health, heritage and talent development. Support for greenkeeping education through scholarships and professional conferences such as the BIGGA 'Continue to Learn' Greenkeeping Conference, focused on upskilling greenkeepers and encouraging environmental and agronomic best practices worldwide.

Health-focused funding facilitated a number of projects focused on designing adaptive golf equipment for individuals who use wheelchairs, as well as identifying the most suitable prosthetics for people with upper limb differences.

Philanthropic investment also played a part in the expansion and modernisation of The R&A World Golf Museum, improving accessibility and digital displays, enhancing storytelling and capturing new materials that bring the sport's history to life.

Developing golf talent around the world continued to be a key focus, with funding supporting international player development programmes across regions, including Asia-Pacific and Africa. These programmes have given emerging players the chance to train, learn and compete on the international stage.

In Vietnam, following the successful hosting of the Women's Amateur Asia-Pacific championship, further investment helped build on the growing interest in the sport and support initiatives aimed at developing young female players. The support provided builds on the momentum created by the championship and is helping to create more opportunities for youth players in a region where golf continues to grow in popularity.

Support was also provided to the Women in Golf Leadership Programme, which delivers tailored training, mentoring and networking opportunities to help develop female leaders across the golf industry.

For more information on The R&A Foundation, please contact the Philanthropy team at [foundation@randa.org](mailto:foundation@randa.org)

**“ Thanks to the collective commitment of The R&A Foundation's generous supporters, we can support meaningful initiatives around the globe that support The R&A's belief that golf can, and should, enrich people's lives. Together we are building a more inclusive, sustainable and inspiring future for the sport – because golf matters. ”**

CAROLINE WALLARD, DIRECTOR OF PHILANTHROPY AT THE R&A



Pictured from top: Recipients of The Royal and Ancient Golf Club Scholarship in St Andrews; a 'thank you' to the £10 million pledged by philanthropic donors.



Pictured from top: GolfSixes continues to thrive; support for greenkeeping education; helping grow the sport for golfers with a disability.

  
The R&A  
FOUNDATION

# PEOPLE.

**We are proud to have an engaged and talented workforce who are aligned on our purpose and aim high to both drive forward our ambitions and to best serve our key stakeholders.**

The R&A is committed to fostering an inclusive culture in golf and creating opportunities to work and volunteer in the industry.

We are proud to have an engaged and talented workforce who are aligned on our purpose and aim high to both drive forward our ambitions and to best serve our key stakeholders.

In November, Catherine Haynes was appointed as our new Chief People Officer, leading all people-related activities and supporting our strategic priorities as part of the executive leadership team.

Catherine, who joined us from The Premier League, is developing a revised people plan in line with the organisation's continued evolution. This plan will allow support to R&A employees to unlock their full potential. It will foster greater collaboration and clarity of purpose; it will support our ambition to evolve as a values-led equal opportunities employer; and it will continue to evolve an organisational culture where everyone thrives.

Alongside our core workforce, we recruit, train and support approximately 1,500 individual volunteers at R&A Championships. These events provide a platform to showcase job opportunities within our industry and we take pride in the success of this temporary workforce each year.

During the year the organisation also maintained its partnership with Career Ready, a social mobility charity in Scotland

who want every young person, regardless of background, to progress to a positive post-school destination and prosper in work and life.

Four young people from S5/6 in Fife were provided with a structured, impactful four-week internship across a number of different departments in The R&A during 2025 to develop work skills and boost empowerment. With four individuals upskilled as mentors at The R&A, they were paid the real living wage as part of the initiative. The partnership is continuing into 2026.

A number of work experience placements were also provided across the organisation in 2025, including in legal, golf development and at The R&A World Golf Museum.

Work also continued in collaboration with the leading golf organisations from across Great Britain and Ireland to deliver the 'Careers in Golf' Programme. It is designed to educate and inspire individuals from a range of backgrounds, at all stages of their career, and highlight the wide range of employment within the sport.

This includes attending schools, universities and careers fairs, as well as providing behind the scenes tours across various championships and extending volunteer opportunities.

# MUSEUM / HERITAGE.

The R&A World Golf Museum engages visitors with golf through an immersive gallery experience, bringing the past, present and future of the sport to life.

The Museum team was delighted to achieve 5-star recognition through the Association of Scottish Visitor Attractions' Quality Assurance grading scheme. Key contributors included the excellence of the Museum displays and story-telling; strong accessibility features, including sensory maps; the quality of the offering and service in the Niblick Restaurant & Bar; and knowledgeable and welcoming staff throughout the visitor journey.

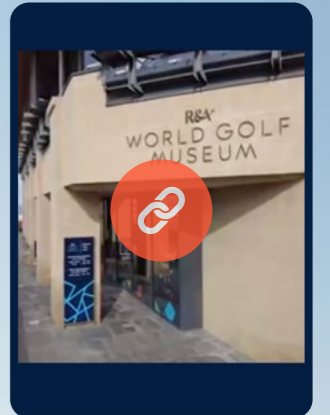
Marking the 80th anniversary of VE Day, the exhibition 'Bunker Shots: Stories of Golf and Conflict' led to collaborations with Project Ukraine, the Caddie School for Soldiers, and Black British Golfers, alongside many clubs and families, each sharing unique insights on the theme.

The annual 'Road to The Open' / 'Careers in Golf' Programme is a partnership between the Museum and People teams, targeting young people, aged five to 22, in the host regions of The Open and the AIG Women's Open.

With a presentation of the heritage of golf, the development of the championships and the career opportunities available, it aims to inspire young people into golf.

In 2025 for The 153rd Open at Royal Portrush, this involved attending primary schools, high schools and golf clubs in conjunction with Golf Ireland, who provided coaching activities. In addition, a guest lecture at the University of Ulster was given on the history of golf, followed by a careers fair for students.

A collaboration between the Museum and the British Golf Collector's Society resulted in the first Golf Club Heritage Conference, 'Looking Back, Moving Forward: Making the Most of your Golf Club's Heritage', with over 100 clubs across Great Britain and Europe represented.



Find out more about upcoming exhibitions and activities at The R&A World Golf Museum website.



# OUR WORLD OF GOLF.



149

COUNTRIES



30+

CHAMPIONSHIPS



108  
MILLION  
GOLFERS\*



248

EMPLOYEES\*\*



169

AFFILIATED  
ORGANISATIONS



2,400

ROYAL AND ANCIENT GOLF CLUB  
MEMBERS WORLDWIDE



8,300

PLAYERS IN THE WORLD  
AMATEUR GOLF RANKING®

\*Adult golfers (outside the USA and Mexico) engaging with the sport in some format  
\*\*R&A Group Services

# AFFILIATED ORGANISATIONS.

The R&A, through R&A Rules Ltd, governs the sport worldwide, outside of the United States and Mexico, on behalf of over 108 million golfers in 149 countries and with the consent of 169 organisations from amateur and professional golf.

The R&A works in partnership with national associations around the world to support the growth, sustainability and development of golf.



## Europe

Albanian Golf Federation  
Andorra Golf Federation  
National Golf Association of Armenia  
Austrian Golf Association  
Azerbaijan Golf Federation  
Royal Belgian Golf Federation  
Belarus Golf Association  
Golf Association of Bosnia & Herzegovina  
Bulgarian Golf Association  
Croatian Golf Association  
Cyprus Golf Federation  
Czech Golf Federation  
Danish Golf Union  
England Golf  
Estonian Golf Association  
Finnish Golf Union  
French Golf Federation  
Georgian Golf Federation  
German Golf Association  
Hellenic Golf Federation (Greece)  
Hungarian Golf Federation  
Golf Union of Iceland  
Golf Ireland  
Israel Golf Federation  
Italian Golf Federation  
Latvian Golf Federation  
Liechtenstein Golf Association  
Lithuanian Golf Federation  
Luxembourg Golf Federation  
Macedonian Golf Federation  
Malta Golf Association  
The Golf Association of Moldova  
Netherlands Golf Federation  
Norwegian Golf Federation  
Polish Golf Union  
Portuguese Golf Federation  
Romanian Golf Federation  
Russian Golf Association  
San Marino Golf Federation  
Scottish Golf  
Golf Association of Serbia  
Slovak Golf Association  
Slovenia Golf Association  
Royal Spanish Golf Federation  
Swedish Golf Federation  
Swiss Golf  
Turkish Golf Federation  
Ukrainian Golf Federation  
Wales Golf

## The Americas

Argentine Golf Association  
Bahamas Golf Federation  
Barbados Golf Association  
Belize Amateur Golf Association  
Bermuda Golf Association  
Bolivian Golf Federation  
Brazilian Golf Confederation  
Golf Canada  
Cayman Islands Golf Association  
Chilean Golf Federation

Colombian Golf Federation  
Costa Rican Golf Federation  
Curacao Golf Association  
Dominican Republic Golf Association  
Ecuador Golf Federation  
El Salvador Golf Federation  
Falkland Islands Golf Association  
Guatemala National Golf Association  
Guyana Golf Union  
Golf Federation of Haiti  
Honduras Golf Association  
Jamaica Golf Association  
Nicaraguan Golf Federation  
Panama Golf Association  
Paraguay Golf Association  
Golf Peru  
St Lucia Golf Association  
St Maarten Golf Association  
(Kingdom of the Netherlands)  
Trinidad & Tobago Golf Association  
Turks & Caicos Islands Golf Association  
Uruguay Golf Association  
Venezuela Golf Federation  
Virgin Islands Golf Federation

## Asia

Afghanistan Golf Federation  
Bahrain Golf Association  
Bangladesh Golf Federation  
Royal Bhutan Golf Federation  
Cambodian Golf Federation  
China Golf Association  
Chinese Taipei Golf Association  
Emirates Golf Federation  
Hong Kong Golf Association  
Indian Golf Union  
Indonesian Golf Association  
Islamic Republic of Iran Golf Federation  
Japan Golf Association  
Jordan Golf Association  
Kazakhstan Golf Federation  
Korea Golf Association  
Golf Federation in Kyrgyzstan  
Lao National Golf Federation  
Lebanese Golf Federation  
Malaysian Golf Association  
Mongolian Golf Association  
Myanmar Golf Federation  
Nepal Golf Association  
Oman Golf Committee  
Pakistan Golf Federation  
National Golf Association of the Philippines  
Qatar Golf Association  
Saudi Arabian Golf Federation  
Singapore Golf Association  
Sri Lanka Golf Union  
Thailand Golf Association  
Uzbekistan Golf Federation  
Vietnam Golf Association

## Africa

Algerian Golf Federation  
Angolan Golf Federation  
Benin Golf Federation  
Botswana Golf Union  
Cameroon Golf Federation  
Democratic Republic of Congo Golf Federation  
Egyptian Golf Federation  
Eswatini Golf Union  
Ethiopia Golf Association  
Gabonese Golf Federation  
Gambia Golf Association  
Ghana Golf Association  
Ivory Coast Golf Federation  
Kenya Golf Union  
Liberia Golf Association  
Libyan Golf Federation  
Madagascar Golf Federation  
Golf Union of Malawi  
Mauritius Golf Federation  
Royal Moroccan Golf Federation  
Namibia Golf Federation  
Nigeria Golf Federation  
Ladies Golf Association of Nigeria  
Rwanda Golf Union  
Seychelles Golf Federation  
Senegalese Golf Federation  
Sierra Leone Golf Federation  
Golf RSA  
Tanzania Golf Union  
Tunisian Golf Federation  
Uganda Golf Union  
Zambia Golf Union  
Zimbabwe Golf Association

## Oceania

Golf Australia  
Cook Islands Golf Association  
Golf Fiji  
Golf NZ  
Papua New Guinea Golf Association  
Samoa Golf Incorporated  
Vanuatu Golf Association

## Transnational Affiliated Organisations

Africa Golf Confederation  
Arab Golf Federation  
Asia-Pacific Golf Confederation  
Asian Tour  
Caribbean Golf Association  
Confederation of Professional Golf EDGA  
European Golf Association  
Ladies European Tour  
Oceania Golf Union  
European Tour Group  
Professional Golfers' Association  
South American Golf Federation  
Sunshine Tour



Miyū Yamashita celebrates winning the AIG Women's Open at Royal Porthcawl.

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# R&A

The R&A group of companies was formed in 2004 to take on The Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews' responsibilities for governing the Rules of Golf, staging The Open, golf's original championship, and developing the sport. The R&A World Golf Museum in St Andrews is part of The R&A group.

Together The R&A and the USGA govern the sport of golf worldwide, operating in separate jurisdictions with a commitment to a single code for the Rules of Golf, Rules of Amateur Status and Equipment Standards. The R&A, through R&A Rules Ltd, governs the sport worldwide, outside of the United States and Mexico, on behalf of over 108 million golfers in 149 countries and with the consent of 169 organisations from amateur and professional golf.

The R&A has responsibility for running a series of world class amateur events and international matches in women's and girls' as well as men's and boys' golf. The R&A stages The Open, the AIG Women's Open and works with the DP World Tour to stage the ISPS HANDA Senior Open.

The R&A is committed to investing £200 million over ten years in developing golf and supports the growth of the sport internationally, including the development and management of sustainable golf facilities. For more information, visit [www.randa.org](http://www.randa.org)

THE  
OPEN



WORLD  
GOLF  
MUSEUM

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