

R&A

GIRLS' AMATEUR

CHAMPIONSHIP

CRAIGIELAW
10 – 15 August 2026

Closing Date for Entries Thursday 16 July 2026
Entry Fee £85 (incl. of VAT)

TERMS OF COMPETITION

1. ENTRIES

- a) By submitting an entry for the R&A Girls' Amateur Championship (the "Championship") you are entering into an agreement with R&A Championships Limited (Company number SC247047), having its registered office at Beach House, Golf Place, St Andrews, Fife KY16 9JA ("The R&A") and you agree to be bound by these Terms of Competition. It is the responsibility of each competitor to ensure they have read and comply with these Terms of Competition.
- b) The Championship shall be open to female players born in any year from and including 2008 who:
 - (i) are members of a golf club affiliated to a National Golf Association, authorised to adopt manage and maintain the World Handicap System™ (WHS) within their jurisdiction; and
 - (ii) have Amateur Status in accordance with the current Rules of Amateur Status as published by R&A Rules Limited and the USGA, and who are also either (a) ranked within the Women's WAGR® listing 1 – 1000 (see wagr.com) at date of entry, or (b) hold a current Handicap Index® based on ratings for women of not more than 2.4 at date of entry, as issued by an Authorised Handicapping Body. Entrants that are relying on the handicap criteria set out above but who do not hold a Handicap Index® must hold a current equivalent exact handicap, as issued by a recognised Handicap Authority, that would demonstrate an equivalent playing ability to a Handicap Index® based on ratings for women of not more than 2.4 at date of entry.
- c) Competitors must be of the female gender and have been female at birth or had the female sex assigned prior to puberty and meet the conditions of The R&A's transgender and non-binary policy, including pre-clearance as stated below.

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

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

- d) Entrants holding both a Handicap Index® and a handicap issued by a recognised Handicap Authority, must enter the Championship using their Handicap Index®. The penalty for failure to enter the Championship in compliance with this section 1(d) is disqualification.
- e) The R&A may require independent certified evidence of the playing ability of entrants and it reserves the right to contact an entrant's current or previous golf club, National Golf Association or Federation to request their full handicap record for this purpose. An entry may be refused if, in the opinion of the Committee, an entrant's Handicap Index® is not reflective of their playing ability.
- f) One entry per player must be submitted electronically via randa.org and must be received by close of entries i.e. 23:59hrs BST on Thursday 16 July 2026. Entries by telephone will not be accepted. It is the responsibility of the entrant to ensure that their online entry is completed successfully, and all contact details are accurate. Late entries will not be accepted. In the event of duplicate entries being submitted, the first entry will be used for all purposes. Duplicate entry fees that have been collected by The R&A will be refunded. Entry fees will be refunded if intimation of withdrawal is received on or before

close of entries. After close of entries, entry fees will only be refunded to entrants who do not gain a place in the starting field. Any refund of entry fees will be processed within 28 days of the final day of the Championship to the card of original payment. If an entrant withdraws before or after close of entries, their withdrawal is final, and re-entry will not be permitted.

- g) Entrants may notify The R&A of any changes in handicap before close of entries by emailing amateurentries@randa.org. It is the responsibility of the entrant to ensure that any handicap changes have been received and subsequently adjusted prior to close of entries. The Handicap Index®/equivalent exact handicap at date of entry will be used for the purposes of determining the starting field and reserve list except where an update of handicap has been notified to The R&A as described above. After close of entries, any subsequent handicap changes received will be disregarded. Those entrants balloted out will be placed on a reserve list in order of handicap as described above. Unsuccessful entrants will have their entry fees refunded.
- h) Acceptance of an online entry or being within the WAGR® listing 1-1000 at date of entry does not guarantee a place in the starting field. Entrants successful in gaining a place in the starting field will be advised after close of entries.
- i) 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.
- j) All competitors must participate in the Championship in its entirety. Failure to do so may result in future entries being rejected.
- k) All competitors should comply with the Anti-Doping provisions of the International Golf Federation's Anti-Doping Policy. The Championship is not an IGF-defined international event. Details of the Policy, and the current List of Prohibited Substances and Methods, are available from the IGF's website (www.igfgolf.org). Entrants who are taking medication and in doubt as to their clinical status should seek advice from The R&A or their National Anti-Doping Organisation knowing that, should a Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) be required, an application must be applied for not later than 30 days before the start of the Championship.

2. FORMAT

- a) The starting field will comprise 144 competitors. Any entrant named in the following categories will be allocated a place in the starting field of the Championship. Exempt players must submit an online entry on or before close of entries:
 - (i) Winners of the R&A Girls' Amateur Championship 2021 - 2025.
 - (ii) *The top 3 competitors in the 2026 R&A Girls' U16 Amateur Championship.
 - (iii) Playing members of the winning team in the 2026 Queen Sirikit Cup.
 - (iv) Winner of the 2026 U.S. Girls' Junior Championship. A blank entry may be made on behalf of the competitor qualifying in this category.

*All ties, except in determining the winner of the Championship, will be decided by card count back using the 18 hole third round score (followed by last 9, 6, 3 or 1 of that round). If still a tie, the 18 hole second round score (followed by last 9, 6, 3 or 1 of that round) will be used. If a tie still arises, the 18 hole first round score (followed by last 9, 6, 3, or 1 of that round) will be used.

- b) After allocating places to entrants under sections 2(a) and 2(c), the remaining places in the starting field will be determined by order of WAGR® listing 1-1000 on completion of WAGR® week 2026/28 and, if still incomplete, by using the Handicap Index®/equivalent exact handicap of entrants as described in section 1(g). Unsuccessful entrants may be given the opportunity to compete in the event of withdrawals. The reserve list will be in order of unsuccessful entrants within the WAGR® listing 1-1000 at close of entries, and thereafter by handicap as described in section 1(g).
- c) The Committee reserves the right to exempt a player.
- d) A competitor who fails to give The R&A notice of their withdrawal by close of registration or who is absent from the Championship without giving The R&A notice of their withdrawal will have their entries to all R&A Championships rejected for the next calendar year. Exceptions may be made in the case of sickness and other special circumstances at the discretion of the Committee. If an entrant withdraws before or after close of entries, their withdrawal is final and re-entry is not permitted.
- e) Competitors must register no later than 15:00 hrs on the day prior to the first day of the Championship, or they will be withdrawn.
- f) The Championship will be played in accordance with the Rules of Golf as approved by R&A Rules Limited and the Local Rules as approved by the Committee.
- g) Any player who believes they are eligible to use the Modification for Players with Disabilities (Rule 25) should contact amateurentries@randa.org at entry to confirm their eligibility to use the specific modifications in Rule 25.
- h) Model Local Rule G-10 in the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf is in effect. In making a stroke, the player must not use a club, except for a putter, which exceeds 46 inches in length.

- i) Model Local Rule G-12 is in effect. Under this MLR, a player 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 will receive a general penalty for the first breach and disqualification for the second breach.
- j) The Model Local Rules (MLRs) in the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf are in effect regarding Conforming Driver Heads (MLR G-1), Groove and Punch Mark Specifications (MLR G-2) and Conforming Golf Balls (MLR G-3).
- 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 medical impairment and (ii) the player can demonstrate that there is a medical need for transportation that results from that qualifying medical impairment. Any requests by a player to use any form of transportation must be made on or before the closing date for entries. All requests must be submitted by emailing amateurentries@randa.org and made in accordance with the procedures outlined in The R&A's Transportation Policy, available on request from The R&A.
- l) A player is prohibited from having a caddie during a round.
- m) A copy of the Pace of Play Policy will be posted at the Championship venue and will be available on request.
- n) The qualifying rounds of the Championship will be played by stroke play over two rounds of 18 holes, one round to be played on each of the first two days. The competitors returning the 64 lowest scores over 36 holes shall qualify for match play. Ties for the last place(s) and all other ties for the automatic draw shall be decided by card countback using the 18 hole second round score. If still a tie, scores for the second 9 holes (or 6 or 3 or 1) of the second round will be used. If a tie still arises, the last 6 holes of the first 9 holes (or 3 or 1) of the second round will be used. If necessary, the first round will then be treated in the same way. If no definitive outcome can be reached, the Committee shall make a final decision. The draw for the match play stage will be seeded. If a competitor who qualifies for the match play stage, withdraws before or after the match play draw is made, that competitor's results will still be used to calculate the leading 64 places that will determine the cut mark.
- o) Each match will consist of one round of 18 holes except the Final which will be played over 36 holes. If the match is tied after the final hole, the round is deemed to extend one hole at a time until there is a winner.
- p) Immediately after the match is finished, the winner must report the result to an R&A Official or to The R&A Championship Office. Failure to comply with this section 2(p) may lead to disqualification.

3. PRIZES

Age category prizes will be awarded based on the principle of section 1(b).

- a) The Challenge Cup will be presented to the winner. The winner will be the R&A Girls' Amateur Champion and will receive a gold medal.
- b) The Leven Trophy will be presented to the runner-up. The winner will receive a silver medal. The losing semi-finalists will each receive a bronze medal.
- c) The Lady Heathcoat-Amory Memorial Medal will be presented to the competitor returning the lowest score for the 36 holes in the stroke play qualifying rounds. Ties will be decided by a card count back using the 18 hole second round score. If still a tie, the last 9 holes (or 6 or 3 or 1) will be used. If a tie still arises, the scores for the first 9 holes will be treated in the same way. If a tie still arises, the 18 hole first round score will be treated in the same way until a decision is reached. If still a tie the place will be shared.
- d) The Todd Bowl will be presented to the competitor under 16 years of age returning the lowest score for the 36 holes of the qualifying rounds. In the event of a tie the card count back procedure detailed in 3(c) above will apply.
- e) The Fairhaven Pheasant will be presented to the competitor under 14 years of age returning the lowest score for the 36 holes of the qualifying rounds. In the event of a tie the card count back procedure detailed in 3(c) above will apply.

4. GENERAL

- a) The R&A will not be liable for any loss, damage, cost or expense suffered by a competitor which was not reasonably foreseeable when participation was confirmed after the closing date, and/or was not directly caused by The R&A.
- b) The R&A will not be liable for any loss, damage, cost or expense suffered by a competitor as a result of a decision taken at any time by the Committee to amend, curtail or cancel the Championship.
- c) Competitors are subject to all safety protocols applicable at the Championship in relation to Health & Safety as issued and updated by The R&A and/or its safety advisers from time to time.

- d) All competitors are advised to have a personal public liability insurance policy in place to protect them from claims for damage to third party property or injury to third parties whilst participating in this Championship.
- e) All competitors are advised to have in place appropriate medical insurance and/or funding to cover routine medical and performance related healthcare such as musculoskeletal injuries, including outpatient investigation. This will include any competitors who may have travelled internationally and/or Federation Officials accompanying the competitor for the duration of their stay in the UK, in order that all such medical care is provided outside the NHS.
- f) Competitors must comply with any instructions or further guidance issued by The R&A in relation to the Championship.
- g) The R&A requires players and their teams to conduct themselves in a manner that is respectful of the Championship and the sport of golf. Players and their teams shall at all times act in the best interests of the sport and the Championship, and shall not conduct themselves in an unlawful or improper manner so as to bring the Championship, The R&A, the sport of golf or its governing bodies into disrepute and shall not use any one of or a combination of, violent conduct, threatening, abusive, indecent or insulting words or behaviour. Players and their teams shall comply with any Code of Conduct set by the Committee from time to time. For the purposes of this term, a player's team includes any agents, coaches or other support team (including family members) present at the Championship or in the environs of the Championship venue or otherwise acting in relation to the Championship. If a competitor acts contrary to the spirit of the game, the Committee will take appropriate action which may include reporting the facts to the competitor's Federation or National Golf Association. If the competitor is considered to have committed serious misconduct the competitor may be disqualified.
- h) All competitors are subject to the provisions of The R&A's Anti-Corruption and Betting Policy in force at the date of the Championship.
- i) All competitors are subject to the provisions of The R&A's Logos and Marks Policy in force at the date of the Championship.
- j) Any players gaining entry into the Championship who hold Russian and/or Belarussian nationalities and/or passports are subject to the Neutral Athlete Criteria set by the Committee from time to time.
- k) The R&A seeks media coverage and publicity for R&A Girls' Amateur Championship around and during the Championship in the press and by live and recorded radio and television broadcasting and filming and on the internet. Each competitor by entering the Championship and thereby agreeing to these Terms of Competition assigns to The R&A and its assignees and licensees the right in perpetuity throughout the world to make, use, edit, exhibit and reproduce in any way now known or hereafter devised (and to authorise others to do so) 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 Championship (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 irrevocably assigns to The R&A the right to use and reproduce, and to allow others to use and reproduce, the competitor's name, image, voice, likeness, signature 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 the name, image, voice, likeness, signature or biographical material: (i) is incorporated into any content or promotional material produced by The R&A or its sponsors or official suppliers, which may include the logo of a third party or of a sponsor or official supplier of the Championship or any subsequent Championship; or (ii) is used in relation to any other activities undertaken by The R&A. Competitors shall be responsible for ensuring that they hold all the necessary rights to grant the above assignments. The competitor shall release and discharge The R&A, its group companies, licensees, successors and assignees from any claims arising from use of their name, image, voice, likeness, signature and biographical material, including claims for misrepresentation of their character, or their person by any means. By entering the Championship and thereby agreeing to these Terms of Competition, the competitor hereby waives all privacy, publicity and proprietary rights. 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, image, voice, likeness, signature and biographical material in a way which constitutes the endorsement of a product or service, without first requiring such associated company to first obtain the competitor's authorisation. The R&A may also use any image of the competitor taken at the Championship to populate the relevant pages of the WORLD AMATEUR GOLF RANKING® website at wagr.com.
- l) All Championship information may be viewed at www.randa.org
- m) The Committee's objective is to complete the Championship as per the format outlined in these Terms of Competition. The Committee reserves the right to amend these Terms of Competition at any time before or during the Championship and/or cancel the Championship before or during play. The decision of the Committee is final in all matters.
- n) These Terms of Competition will be governed by and interpreted in accordance with the laws of Scotland.

MARK DARBON *Chief Executive*
CHARLIE MARAN *Chairman, Amateur Championships Committee*