



R&A  
**AFRICA AMATEUR**

R&A  
AFRICA  
**AMATEUR WOMEN'S**  
INVITATIONAL

4-7 February 2026  
Royal Johannesburg  
South Africa



# 2026 HOST VENUE.



## ROYAL JOHANNESBURG The East Championship Course

The East Championship Course, designed in 1939 by Robert Grimsdell is regarded to be in the top echelon of courses on the continent. After completing a full revamp in 2017, the course is now regarded as a contemporary parkland, delivering more of a challenge for the serious player as well as changes that ensures the club golfer enjoy their round. All this with emphasis on cost-effective maintenance and a fusion of environmental sensitivity with elevated aesthetic appeal.

In 2018, the East course received numerous international accolades including two World Golf Awards (South Africa's best course & Africa's best course), Golf Scapes Top 100 Courses in the world (25) and Course of the Year by Luxury Travel Guide.



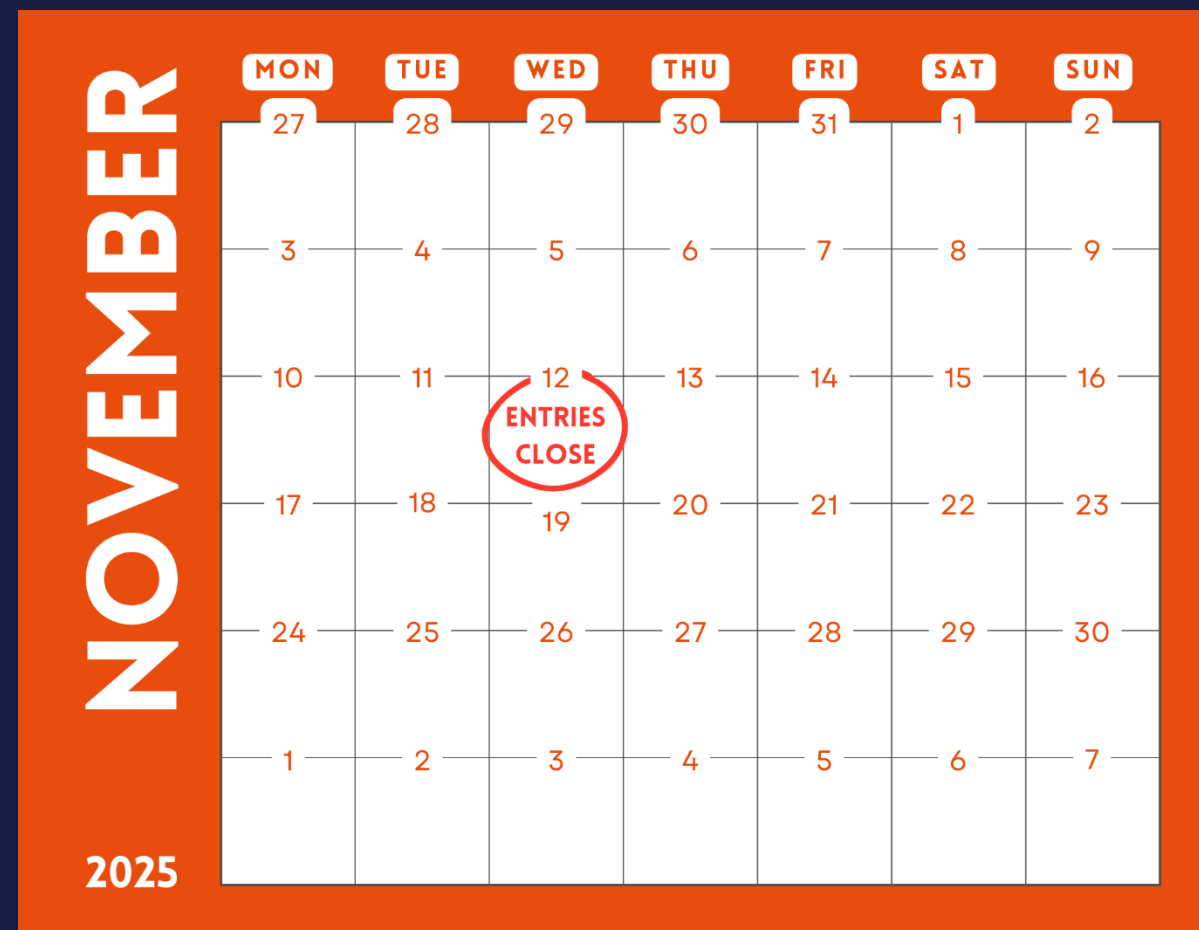
# ENTRIES.

## Eligibility

To be eligible to compete in the Africa Amateur Championship players must be from countries in Africa affiliated to The R&A who:

- (i) are members of a golf club affiliated to an R&A Affiliate;
- (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 WAGR® men's listing (see [wagr.com](http://wagr.com)) at date of entry, or (b) hold a current Handicap Index® based on ratings for men of not more than 5.4 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 men of not more than 5.4 at date of entry; and.
- (iii) are eligible to represent their national team.

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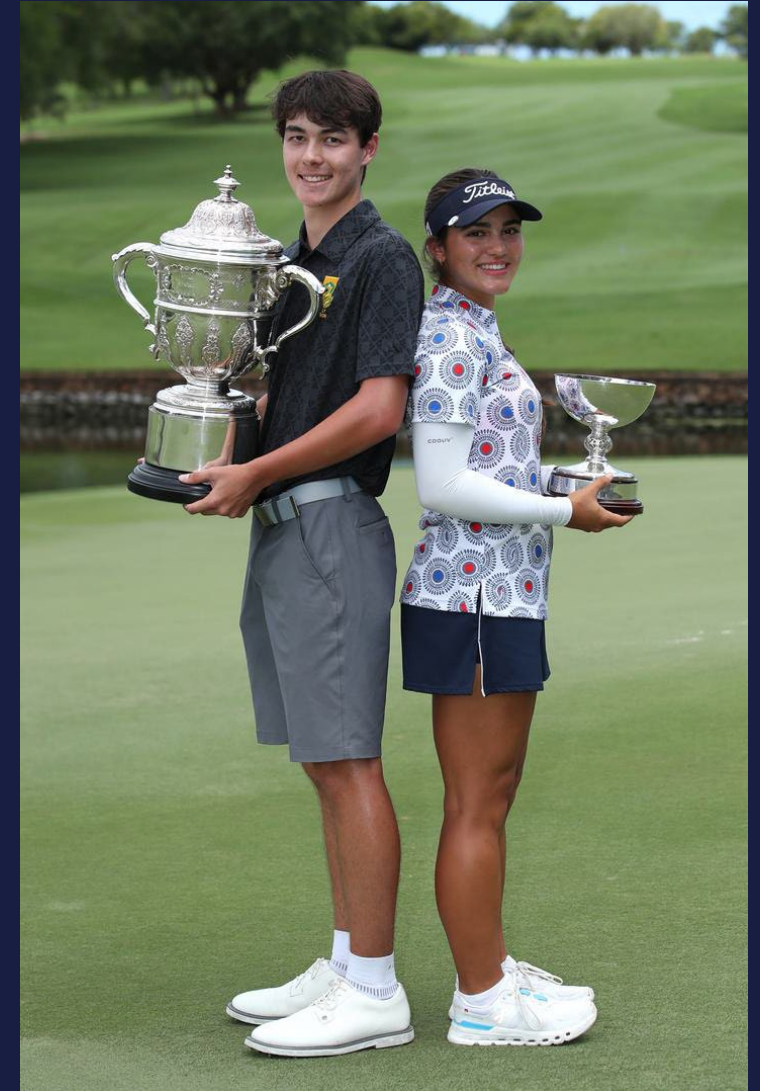
# THE AFRICA AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP.

The championship will feature 72 men from the region of Africa competing in a 72-hole stroke play format with the winner receiving an exemption in The 154th Open at Royal Birkdale and several other premium events.

In only its third year, this championship complements existing amateur championships jointly organised by The R&A in Asia-Pacific and Latin America. It enables players from Africa to play at the highest level, as well as creating a pathway for African golfers to develop and become an inspiration for others to follow.

The championship also builds on the Africa High Performance Programme established two years ago by The R&A. This programme is delivered to players and coaches in African countries as part of a wider effort to develop golf and provide support to players aspiring to reach elite levels of the sport.

To help establish the Championship it has been agreed by WAGR Committee that the Power will be protected to a level of 500.





# 2025 AFRICA AMATEUR CHAMPION.

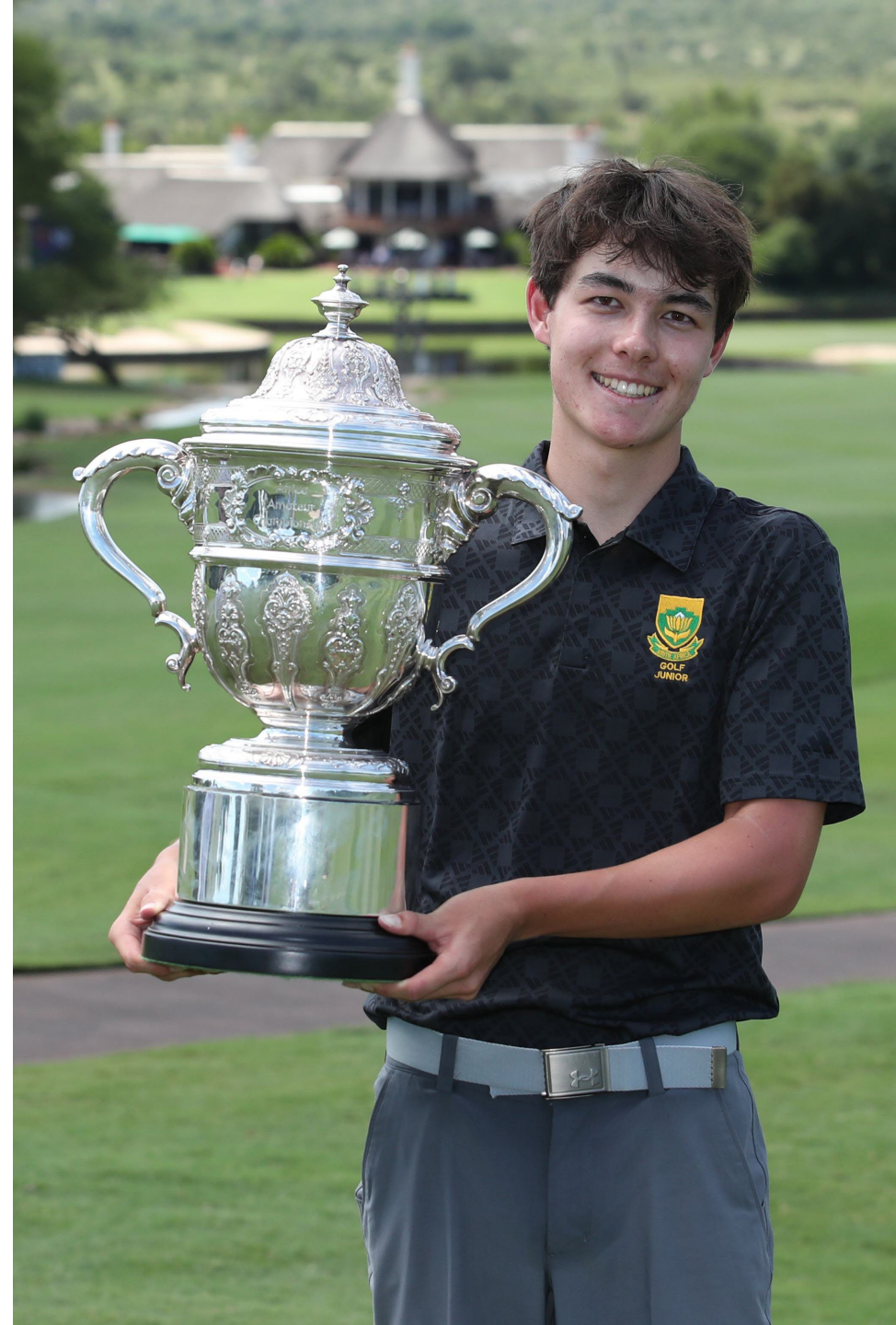
Bryan Newman of South Africa won the Africa Amateur Championship at Leopard Creek after cruising to a two-shot victory over Zimbabwe's Keegan Shutt.

Thanks to his victory in the second staging of the championship Newman earned an exemption into The 153rd Open at Royal Portrush as well as places in The Amateur Championship, the Alfred Dunhill Championship, The Investec South African Open and the Waterfall City Tournament of Champions powered by Attacq.

The 17-year-old began the final day with a five-shot lead over compatriot Roelof Craig and knew that someone from the chasing pack would have to make a serious run to challenge him.

Newman moved up a gear with a 20ft birdie putt at the 10th and another birdie at the 13th gave him a cushion which meant he could afford bogeys at the 16th and 17th. Newman laid up his second shot at the 18th and played a safe approach over the water to the left side of the green leaving himself a comfortable two putts to claim the Africa Amateur trophy with an eight-under-par total of 280.

Newman said, "(On being exempt for The Open) Yeah, it's really exciting. I can't wait and I'm really looking forward to it."



# 2026 AFRICA AMATEUR CHAMPION.

The winner will become the Africa Amateur Champion and will be awarded the Championship Trophy and medal. The runner up will receive a medal and those in third place(s) will each receive a memento.

The Champion will receive exemptions to;

- Investec South African Open Championship 2026
- Waterfall City Tournament of Champions powered by Attacq 2026
- The Amateur Championship 2026
- The Open 2026
- The Alfred Dunhill Championship 2026





# THE AFRICA AMATEUR WOMEN'S INVITATIONAL.

This invitational event will feature 21 women from the region of Africa competing in a 54-hole stroke play format with the winner receiving exemptions into several premium events.

In its third year, this event complements existing amateur championships jointly organised by The R&A in Asia-Pacific and Latin America and enables players from Africa to play at the highest level, as well as creating a pathway for African golfers to develop and become an inspiration for others to follow.

The event also builds on an Africa High Performance Programme established by The R&A and delivered to players and coaches in African countries as part of a wider effort to develop golf and provide support to players aspiring to reach elite levels of the sport.



# 2025 AFRICA AMATEUR WOMEN'S INVITATIONAL CHAMPION.

Gia Raad claimed the Africa Amateur Women's Invitational title at Leopard Creek with a two-shot victory over her fellow South African Bobbi Brown.

Raad, who finished third in 2024, took a three-shot lead over 2024 runner-up Brown going into the final round.

The 17-year-old made a nervy start and a double bogey seven on the par-5 2nd opened the door for her rival. The Golf RSA squad member settled down, however, and rallied with consecutive birdies on the 5th and 6th. She let a shot go at the 11th but holed a gutsy 12-footer at the 14th to stay two clear of Brown.

Both players parred the 17th and, although Brown produced a fine birdie at the last, Raad calmly rolled in her par putt for a two-shot victory and a four-under-par total of 212.

Raad said, "It's so amazing that we get these opportunities, even to play at this course and get to qualify for all those things. It's just crazy."





# 2026 AFRICA AMATEUR WOMEN'S INVITATIONAL CHAMPION.

The winner will become the Africa Amateur Women's Invitational Champion and will be awarded the Championship Trophy and medal. The runner up will receive a medal and those in third place(s) will each receive a memento.

The Champion will receive exemptions to;

- Joburg Ladies Open 2026
- The Investec South African Women's Open 2026
- Waterfall City Tournament of Champions powered by Attacq 2026
- The Women's Amateur Championship 2026
- AIG Women's Open Final Qualifying 2026





# PROGRAMME OF EVENTS.

DAY	EVENT	TIME
Sunday 1 February	Arrivals & Player Registration @ Official Hotel	11.00am – 5.00pm
Monday 2 February	Official Practice Day (two tee start) Player Registration @ Official Hotel	8.00am – 10.00am 7.00am – 10.00am
Tuesday 3 February	Official Practice Day (two tee start) Player Group Photo Welcome Reception	8.00am – 10:00am 5:15pm 5.30pm – 7.30pm
Wednesday 4 February	Round 1 – Men (72 players – one tee start) Round 1 – Women (21 players – one tee start)	7.30am – 1.06pm*
Thursday 5 February	Round 2 – Men (one tee start) Round 2 – Women (one tee start) Cut to 40 & ties for men's event only	7.30am – 1.06pm*
Friday 6 February	Round 3 – Men (40 players & ties – two tee start) Round 3 – Women (21 players – two tee start)	8.30am – 10.30am*
Saturday 7 February	Round 4 – Men (two tee start) Prize Presentation & Celebration Function	7.30am – 8.50am* 6.00pm approx.

\* Subject to change



# OFFICIAL AIRPORT.

Johannesburg - OR Tambo International Airport (JNB)  
is approximately (24km) from the Official Hotel.

[www.ortambo-airport.com](http://www.ortambo-airport.com)

In conjunction with your flight booking, the travel agent will organise your transfer from this airport to the Official Hotel.



# TRAVEL.

For those travelling by road, The R&A will cover mileage at a rate of ZAR5 per km for direct routes using your own vehicle. This payment may be claimed from The R&A after the Championship has been completed.

No car hire costs, or private transfers will be covered by the R&A.

Any additional costs incurred for changes to agreed travel and accommodation arrangements for players, regardless of the reason, will be the sole responsibility of the player or their association.

The R&A will not be responsible for arranging and/or paying for amendments to bookings or for any costs incurred as a result of the player missing a flight(s) unless out with their control.





# OFFICIAL HOTEL.



You will be accommodated free of charge in a twin room (sharing with another player) at the Protea Hotel Johannesburg Wanderers. You will be allocated a room and share with another player.

The hotel is located 25 minutes from Royal Johannesburg and a shuttle bus will operate daily to and from the golf club. Please refer to the bus timetable.

Should the player choose to stay in another hotel, all transportation, food and associated costs will be to their own account.

Hotel information



# HOW TO BOOK.

Only after the entry closing date, and your place in the Championship field has been confirmed, may you book travel by emailing or calling the Championship's official travel agent;

## AdP Travel Management

+27 (0) 82 857 2806

[amanda@adptravel.co.za](mailto:amanda@adptravel.co.za)

Please note that The R&A will only cover the cost of one return economy class flight for the player only\* using the most economical route / time. Should you wish to have a different route / day / time you will be liable for any cost difference. This difference must be paid in advance of any reservation being processed.

Any flight bookings costing in excess of £1000 must be authorised by The R&A in advance of the booking being made. Any flights not made through the travel agent, will be at your own cost and The R&A will not reimburse this travel. Transfers will be provided for those who have booked through the travel agent.

\*If you are under 18 years of age, The R&A will manage this appropriately.



# OTHER HOTELS.



The R&A has negotiated a preferential rate for officials and supporters at the Houghton Hotel located approximately 10 minutes from the golf club.

You must use the Promo Code: RA1860 to secure this discount.

[Click Here](#)

Any accompanying officials and supporters are welcome to utilise the services of the Championship's travel agent, but they must pay any costs directly to the travel agent. Unless they are acting in an authorised chaperone role for a minor player (aged under 18), accompanying officials will not be able to stay in the official hotel with the player(s).

Airport Transfers will not be provided for those staying in other hotels. A limited shuttle service will operate between the Houghton Hotel and the golf club each day. Any transport required outside of this schedule will be to the official's / supporter's own account.



# IMMIGRATION.

Players and/or their affiliated National Association or Federation are responsible for the organisation of, and any expenses incurred in, securing a travel visa.

The R&A will be happy to provide you with a letter detailing your Championship participation and accommodation in the official hotel should it be required to support your application for a visa.

The travel agent will be able to provide you with proof of your airline ticket if it is required to obtain your visa.

Please note the term of competition detailed below and ensure that you apply for your visa / permit as early as possible;

Any player who is required to obtain a travel visa or other authorisation to enter the host country and compete in the Championship must have secured such documentation no later than 11 days prior to the first round of the Championship (by 23:59 GMT on Friday 23 January 2026). Players must be able to provide satisfactory evidence of compliance with this requirement to The R&A on request. Failure to obtain the necessary visa or authorisation within the specified timeframe, or failure to provide evidence of such documentation when requested, may result in the player's disqualification from the Championship.

Please contact The R&A if you require assistance; [amateurentries@randa.org](mailto:amateurentries@randa.org)





# INSURANCE.

During the Championship, a Doctor and First Aid services will be available onsite during the Championship to assist with immediate medical issues. Players must ensure that they have medical insurance or the means to pay for any additional treatment that may be required

Players 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.



# CONDUCT.

- You must not leave the Official Hotel unless you have obtained the express permission of The R&A Officials or are travelling as part of an organised group.
- Players must not act in such a manner or pass remarks that disrespects or may harm or discredit officials, fellow participants, volunteers, contractors, a venue, or the event generally.
- Players are expected to leave all hotel rooms, locker rooms and transportation in a clean and tidy state.
- Players and their team are required to conduct themselves in a manner that is respectful of the Championship and the sport of golf.
- Players and their team shall at all times act in the best interests of the sport and the Championship and shall not conduct themselves in an unlawful or improper manner so as to bring the Championship, The R&A, the sport of golf or its governing bodies into disrepute and shall not use any one of or a combination of, violent conduct, threatening, abusive, indecent or insulting words or behaviour.
- Players and their team shall comply with any Code of Conduct set by the Committee from time to time. For clarity, 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 Official Hotel, Championship venue or otherwise acting in relation to the Championship.
- If a player acts contrary to the Code of Conduct in force during the Championship, the Committee will take appropriate action which may include reporting the facts to the player's Federation or National Golf Association. If the player is considered to have committed serious misconduct the player may be disqualified.



# SAFETY.



## WhatsApp

- Players will be asked to join a WhatsApp Community; this will be used for communication from Championship Officials.
- By using a WhatsApp community, your phone number will not be shared with other players. Only R&A staff will be able to see this information.



## Life360

- For your own personal safety, it is recommended that you download the app 'Life360', this is a location sharing app.
- Life360 is a location-sharing and safety app for families and friends, allowing users to create a private "Circle" to share their real-time locations, send group messages, and set up alerts for arriving and leaving designated places.
- You will be able to set up a "Circle" with your friends and family anywhere in the world. This app is also helpful for tracking any lost devices.

# CATERING.



## Catering

Buffet breakfast and evening meals will be provided for you free of charge at the Official Hotel.

Lunch each day will be provided at the golf club.

Drinking water will be provided. Please bring your own flask to reduce waste.

The R&A should be notified as soon as possible of any dietary requirements.





# EXPENSES.

We hope the following information and arrangements assist you when planning your trip.

The R&A will provide you with travel options, accommodation in the Official Hotel and catering. You will be allocated a twin room sharing with another player. For those under 18 years of age, a separate arrangement will be made.

You may if you wish, choose to stay in different accommodation, however, please note that you are responsible for all costs and you must organise the travel to and from Royal Johannesburg. The R&A will not cover the cost of this accommodation or co-ordinate travel to the golf club each day from other accommodation.

Any sundry expenses as noted below, incurred whilst at the Championship, will be the responsibility of players to settle prior to departure;

- Catering & snacks not provided by the Championship
- Room service catering
- Club repairs
- Pro Shop items
- Laundry

# PLAYER SERVICES.

## Water

The R&A supports sustainable practices which go hand in hand with protecting the future of our planet. On course water stations will be available for all players to use throughout the Championship. Please bring a reusable water bottle.

## Player Lounge

The Player Lounge is located in the clubhouse.  
It will be open all day for the exclusive use of players.  
Lunch and snacks will be provided in this facility each day.

Should you have any allergies please contact [amateurentries@randa.org](mailto:amateurentries@randa.org)

## Practice

### Official Practice Days

Monday 2 February  
Tuesday 3 February

Practice times will be allocated by The R&A and you will be notified of your time when you arrive onsite.

## Practice Range

Full practice range and short game facilities will be available at the venue.  
Balls will be provided.

## Further Information

All information, including pin positions and course length can be found [HERE](#)





# PLAYER SERVICES.

## Physiotherapy

A complimentary physiotherapist service will be provided and can be booked on arrival.

This service may be used for injury, recovery and therapeutic reasons.

## Caddies & Trolleys

No caddies or electric trolleys are permitted during the Championship.

A complimentary pull trolley will be available should you require one. Due to the extreme heat, you are advised not to consider carrying your golf bag.

## Gym

There will be an onsite gym for competitors only.  
The gym is located in the clubhouse.

## Strength and Conditioning

Strength and conditioning advice will be available to competitors and there will be experts onsite to assist with any questions or help you with a programme to improve your performance.

## Doctor and Medical Services

During the Championship, a Doctor and First Aid services will be available onsite.



# TV & MEDIA.

## TV Coverage

The championship will be shown live by broadcasters around the globe.

\*times subject to change

Outside of Africa, the events will be broadcast in the UK, USA, Australia, New Zealand, Europe, Canada and Asia.

The [R&A TV Channel](#) will be providing a live stream of championship

Date	TV on Air
Wednesday 4 February	1.00pm – 4.00pm*
Thursday 5 February	1.00pm – 4.00pm*
Friday 6 February	1.00pm – 4.00pm*
Saturday 7 February	10.00am – 1.00pm*

## Media Accreditation

For media accreditation please contact: [amateurchampionships@randa.org](mailto:amateurchampionships@randa.org)





# OFFICIAL FUNCTIONS AND GUESTS.

Each player may invite a maximum of two named Player Guests to the Championship.

## Official Functions

The R&A Welcome Reception will be held on Monday 2 February at Royal Johannesburg. You are required to wear your formal national uniform to this function.

The Closing Gala Function will be held on Saturday 7 February and the dress code for this function is smart / casual. There is no requirement for a shirt and tie or national uniform. Guests will not be permitted to join this function.

## Official Photo

Prior to the R&A Welcome Reception, a group photo will be taken in front of the clubhouse. Please arrive promptly and follow instructions to join this photo.





# SUNSCREEN

Protect your skin against skin cancer:

- Apply Sunscreen regularly (every 2-3 hours)
- Apply sunscreen to exposed areas, particularly your nose, ears, lips, head, back of legs and feet.
  - Use sunscreen F30 or greater.

## Early Detection

- Examine your skin regularly and get any new or changing skin blemished checked out.
  - Be aware of darkening colour, irregularity, bleeding or blemishes not healing.
- For people who have darker skin tones, it's especially important to look for these changes:
  - Bump, spot, or mole that grows, bleeds, itches, or changes in any way
    - Colour change on your skin, especially skin darkening
    - Sore that doesn't heal — or heals and returns
  - Nail changes, including a dark line or streak in your nail, or a spot under or around the nail that does not heal
    - A scaly or rough patch that doesn't go away
      - If in doubt – get it checked out.



# HYDRATION.

Optimal hydration can improve your golf game mentally and physically. Drinking the correct amount of water will ensure optimal blood flow to the brain, enabling you to focus on your golf game. When you are well hydrated, your muscles function better, and your brain stays alert.

This means:

- Improved concentration and decision-making
- Better coordination and control of your swing
- Increased stamina to last through 18 holes without fatigue

Even slight dehydration can reduce your focus and slow your reaction time, causing poor shots and bad decisions. So, keeping your fluids up is not just about thirst; it directly impacts your golf performance.

- Drink about 16-20 ounces (100ml) of water 2 hours before tee time to allow your body to absorb fluids properly.
- About 15-30 minutes before you start, drink another 8 ounces (50ml) to top off your hydration.
- Take small sips of water every 15-20 minutes while playing.





# EXTREME HEAT.

February is one of the hottest months in South Africa. Afternoon temperatures are usually around 32°C/90°F but can soar up to 40°C/104°F.

Golfers who spend several hours out on the course on a hot day put themselves at higher risk of an elevated body temperature, dehydration and heat illness, which can essentially impair not only performance, but also overall health. You can take action to reduce these risks by staying hydrated and seeking shade where possible.







R&A

# AFRICA AMATEUR

CHAMPIONSHIP

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