



GolfRSA Champion of Champions delivered by The Courier Guy 2025 Guidelines

These Guidelines will form the basis of the National Final "General Terms of Competition".

We are delighted to launch the 2025 GolfRSA Champion of Champions Tournament which will continue to be delivered by The Courier Guy to whom we express massive appreciation! Please use the services of The Courier Guy whenever possible in order to support the sponsors of amateur club golf.

Herewith the Tournament Guidelines to help with managing Club and Union Championships and whilst they are guidelines for the Golf Clubs and Golf Unions, they are the Rules of the Tournament for the National Final.

1. Divisions

The breakdown of the Divisions is as follows:

Division	Handicap Index <u>Men</u>	Handicap Index <u>Women</u>
A	6.0 & under	HI 6.5 & under
B	6.1 – 14.9	6.6 – 15.3
C	15.0 to 24.0	15.4 – 30.0
Caddies	Scratch Strokeplay	Scratch Strokeplay

Notes on Divisions:

- i) If a Club with limited numbers of players uses fewer than three Divisions, there is flexibility and the Divisional Champions will play in the appropriate Division at the Finals according to Handicap Index.
- ii) This flexibility in the Guidelines is to cater for clubs with fewer players and the golf club does **not have to** divide the field into three Divisions and can continue to run the Club Championships with fewer Divisions as they always have done with the Champion being allocated according to Point 1 above.
 - a) It is **not accepted practice** for a club that normally recognises a single or two Divisional Champions to create additional “divisions” comprising 2 or 3 players - where those winners are **not recognised bona fide divisional Champions** – just so that additional players can go through to the Final stages.
 - If there is **one Division**, it is only the player whose name goes on the Honours Board and / or **who receives the Champion’s trophy who is eligible** to contest the Regional Final.
 - If there are **two Divisions** with each **Divisional winner being recognised** by the club as the Divisional Champion with trophies and/or entry onto an Honours’ Board then the **same applies**.
 - If the club wants to include a “**new**” **Copper or D-Division**, then that is up to the club but there is **no National D-Division** so that Divisional Club Champion will not proceed.
- iii) Note that any Club (Divisional) Champions falling outside of the National Divisional structures will **not be eligible** to proceed to the Final stages. E.g. A B-Division Champion with a 4.1 HI may not progress.
- iv) GolfRSA will only accept Divisional Champions from the Golf Unions’ Regional Finals and cannot accept any entries directly from any Golf Clubs. To qualify for the National Final, golfers must have become the Divisional Champion at their Golf Union’s Regional Champion of Champions Final.
- v) At the National Final all players will contest the Division in which they won their Club Championship irrespective of current handicap.

Note: Please feel free to call Paul Adams with any questions on 072-3331886.

2. Handicaps

- i) It is a recommendation that at the Regional Finals where handicaps are applicable, (e.g. C-Division) then golfers should use the Handicap Index that was used to calculate their Course Handicap when they won their Club Championships; *or* their current Handicap Index if it is *lower*.

Notes on Handicaps:

- i) At the National Final players will be required to use the Handicap Index used to calculate their Course Handicap when they won their Club Championships; or the Handicap Index used at the Regional Final if lower - or current Handicap Index if now lower than either of the other two.
- ii) The maximum Handicap Index eligible at the National Final is HI 30.0 for Ladies and 24.0 for Men.

3. Participating Champions

- i) Players may only represent the Golf Club at which they are handicapped and become Divisional Club Champion if recognised as the official Divisional Club Champion by that golf club and subject to having paid their Golf Union Affiliation Fees.
- ii) If a player is a Member of more than one Golf Club but play in Club Championships at a club where they are not handicapped, such a player will not be eligible to participate in the GolfRSA Champion of Champions National Final if they become a Divisional Club Champion at that club.
- iii) *Only* the Divisional Champions can compete with no replacements except under Note ii) below.

Notes on Participating Champions:

- i) It is a Rule of the National Final that only the Divisional Regional Champions can take their place in the Tournament and *no replacements are allowed* if there is a withdrawal subject to Pt ii) below.
- ii) An exception has been made when a Champion passed away and the Golf Club appointed a replacement representative Champion for the year. Another possible exception is if a Divisional Club Champion, being a confirmed member of a Union Team, suffers a debilitating injury requiring emergency treatment just prior to the finals or is subjected to undergoing emergency surgery for a medical condition and which is verified by the attending Physician. In such cases that Golf Union *may* motivate to replace that player with the player who was placed second at the Regional Final for consideration.
- iii) It is up to the Golf Club as to whom they recognise as their Club Champions and GolfRSA accepts the participation of the recognised Divisional Club Champion only. In most cases it is the Strokeplay Champions in which case **only** the Strokeplay Champion and not the Matchplay Champion will be eligible to participate. There are a very small number of golf clubs who recognise their Matchplay Champions as the Divisional Club Champions in which cases **only** the Matchplay Champion is eligible to contest the Union Regional Final.
- iv) If, due to unavoidable circumstances, a Golf Club is holding their Club Championships on a date *after* the Union's Regional Champions Final, that Golf Club may enter their reigning Divisional Champions. For example, a club was forced to postpone their Club Championships until later in the year so were entitled to enter their reigning Divisional Club Champions. Note that any reigning Divisional Champions who participated in the previous calendar year's Finals will not be eligible to participate for a second year without having won their Division at the Club Championships.

4. Format

The Format that will be used for the different Divisions at the National Final is as follows:

Division	Format
A	Strokeplay
B	Strokeplay
C	Stableford
Caddies	Strokeplay
Team Challenge	Stableford

Notes on Format:

- i) Clubs are at liberty to **use the Format they want** or have traditionally used for their Club Champions. A Club may recognise their Matchplay, Strokeplay, Nett, IPS winners as their Club (Divisional) Champion/s if that is what they normally do as their bona fide recognised Club (Divisional) Champions.
- ii) At the National Final, the **Gross Strokeplay** winners in the A, B and Caddies Divisions plus the highest **Individual Stableford** points score in the C Divisions will be crowned National Champions.
- iii) At the National Final, the **Best Net** scores in the A, B and Caddies Divisions will be recognised.
- iv) At the National Final, the Team Challenge is decided by the best five scores on each day contributing to the Team total with the highest cumulative points total over the 36 holes being the Team Champions. Strokeplay scores will be converted to Stableford points for the purpose of calculating the best five scores on each day.

5. Caddies and Carts

Caddies and carts are allowed so as not to exclude anyone from taking their place in the field.

Notes on Caddies and Carts:

- i) If there are a limited number of carts, priority use of carts is given to senior players or those players having medical reasons. There have been players up to the age of 80 competing as well as a number of players with medical conditions; including one with a disability.
- ii) External caddies are not allowed unless a specific tournament rule exception is implemented for any reason as decided by the Tournament Committee. (This is in order to support the caddies at the host club as well as for HR, IR and other management reasons.)
- iii) Only participating players may drive golf carts and **no** supporter or parent may do so.

6. Distance Measuring Devices

Distance Measuring Devices *are* allowed but no wind or slope functions are allowed.

Notes on Distance Measuring Devices:

- i) Cell phones may be used as distance measuring devices but no other apps may be used to measure wind speed etc.
- ii) Under no circumstances may cell phones be used on the golf course for making calls, unless in an emergency or to contact a Tournament Official with the agreement of fellow competitors.

7. General

- i) If scores from a player's Club Championships or the Union Champions Final are not entered into the HNA Handicap System, the offending player will **not** be eligible to take their place in the National Final field.
- ii) Spectators are welcomed to witness the Champions playing but there are procedures in place that exclude any involvement of accompanying non-golfers. There are certain exceptions and Policies are available in respect of Accompanying Non-Golfers, Chaperones and Outside Caddies.

Best regards,

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