

TASMANIAN MEN'S PENNANT FINALS

CONDITIONS (AS AT MAY 2022)

THE FINALS

1. The State Finals will be played over 36-holes (division one) and 18-holes (division two and three) match play at a place and time determined by Golf Australia.
2. The three regions being Northern Golf, North West Golf Tasmania and South (comprising Southern Country Golf Association and Golf Southern Tasmania) are to advise Golf Australia the names of the clubs who will be representing them in the State Final.
3. The State Finals will rotate around the regions with the team representing the host region automatically progressing to the final. The remaining two teams will contest a preliminary final in the region that did not host the State Final the previous year.
4. The Rules of Golf, as adopted by R&A Rules Limited, will apply together with Local Rules as drawn up by the Match Committee.

MATCH COMMITTEE

1. The State Finals will be under the management and control of the Tournament, Rules and Ratings and Golf Operations Manager of Golf Australia with full power at any time to alter or vary any one of the Conditions.
2. In the absence of the full Match Committee such members thereof as may be present at any time may give a decision and any decision shall be deemed the decision of the full Match Committee.
3. The Match Committee of the day will settle any dispute or protest that may arise.
4. The decision of the Match Committee will be final in all matters relating to the tournament. Protests must be made by the protesting captain to the Match Committee not later than 30 minutes after the conclusion of the day's play or in the case of protest against a Match Committee ruling, within 30 minutes of this ruling.

ELIGIBILITY

1. Players must be male or female amateur golfers and have a current Golf Australia handicap.
2. Players may play for one club only in any individual pennant roster.
3. In the absence of special permission from Golf Australia, all players taking part in pennant matches, must be from a category of membership eligible to win their individual clubs championship event and have been a financial member for at least three (3) months immediately prior to their first match except when a player is legitimately transferred from another club, of which they have been a financial member, and have changed residence to another area.
4. Players attending golfing institutes or studying out of the state are deemed to be eligible if their state household address is retained as a major contact point by the area or state body.
5. All players must spend a majority of their actual physical residency within Tasmania.

RULES OF PLAY

1. State Final teams shall consist of seven (7) players.

2. A team must play if it can field a number of players greater than or equal to the percentage of 50% of the number of players required to fill a team.
3. State Final's games will proceed to a result unless the overall result of the match has been determined.
4. When teams do not have a player to fill all team positions then placement will be made from number one (1) down to the available number of players with no places missed.
5. Teams must be posted 10 minutes prior to commencement of play. No alterations will be accepted once teams are posted.
6. Any forfeits will apply as per named position in team order once teams have been posted. If after being posted to play at a position in the team a player fails to be able to play then their opponent will receive a w/o victory.
7. Matches will commence from the tee in reverse team order with Number One (1) players off last.
8. Where multiple teams and divisions are on one course the order of play will be determined by the State body. Multiple tees may be used if available.
9. If a player arrives at their starting point, ready to play, within five minutes after their starting time, in the absence of circumstances that warrant waiving the penalty of disqualification as provided in Rule 5-3, the penalty of failing to start on time is loss of the first hole instead of disqualification.
10. If a player arrives later than within five minutes of their starting time the penalty is disqualification.
11. All district, area and state final matches are to be played from the permanent distance markers or where not available, areas as determined by the Match Committee or their representatives.
 - i) Districts may determine which tees play will commence from for their district rosters.
12. Any player playing a match in a higher division may not drop back more than one division lower.
 - i) In the event of clubs not having teams in all divisions, one division lower refers to the clubs next lowest playing team provided handicap limit qualification is still satisfied.
 - ii) Exception may be made by the area pennant committee.
 - iii) Players may move from stroke match play teams to handicap match play teams due to the fundamental difference in the playing of the matches.
13. Any player that has played a percentage greater than 50% of the total available roster games of the season, excluding finals, in a higher division is ineligible to then play further games in a lower division.

ABANDONED PLAY

1. If play is abandoned the points will be shared if no matches have been commenced or if all matches have not finished at least 50% of the available holes comprising the match.
2. Abandoned matches will not be played at a later date unless they are a district, area or state final and on the provision a suitable date can be found.
3. If an area cannot provide a finalist for the state final the area with a finalist available will be declared the winner.
4. If a match cannot be completed and all players have completed a minimum of 50% of the available holes comprising the match then completed matches will stand and remaining matches will be declared as at their current standing on the course when play is suspended or cancelled.

AREA MATCH COMMITTEE & DISPUTES

1. On any day of play there will be a Match Committee for each match consisting of the two captains and a nominated contactable area representative.
2. The Match Committee of the day will settle any dispute or protest that may arise.
3. Protests must be in writing and signed by the protesting captain within 30 minutes of the end of play and submitted to the Match Committee, or in the case of protest against a Match Committee ruling, within 30 minutes of this ruling advising it will go to the district body.
4. In the event the Match Committee is unable to resolve the dispute it shall be referred to the Area Match Committee for consideration. Any decision made by an appointed rules official/s shall be deemed to be final unless that official/s refers the matter to the Tournament, Rules and Ratings Committee for consideration.

FINALS QUALIFICATION

(To ensure equality of progression to State Finals from all areas the following state condition applies)

1. To qualify for a district or area final, players must have played a percentage of matches at least equal to 25% of the available roster matches in that division or lower, excluding finals, in the district season for the club for which they would play the final if eligible and selected.
e.g. 2 of 9 Matches = 22.22% - Ineligible

Exception: if a team season consists of 4 or less roster matches, then a player is required to have played only one roster match to be eligible to play in the area final.

2. To be eligible for a State Final a player must qualify as under these rules to play in the area final. Players would remain eligible for the State Final of the division that they qualified for in their area as at the area cut-off date.
3. State or Australian representation coinciding with a pennant match will count as a played match for the player concerned.
4. Byes within a roster do not count as an available match.

AREA FINALS

(To ensure equality of progression to state finals all areas are requested to adhere to the following recommended state condition)

1. At the conclusion of the pennant, for areas not holding finals, the winner will be the team with the most matches won. If two or more teams tie in the number of matches, individual game wins for the entire season will be counted, and if this results in a tie, individual number of game wins in matches between the those two teams will be counted, and if still tied the size of the wins will be calculated with the highest total being the winner.

STATE FINALS

1. Divisions 1, 2 and 3 shall have a State Final.
2. All State Finals shall be played at a venue and date set by Golf Australia.
3. State Finals will be off the stick match play.
4. In relation to a State Final, all clubs can apply to Golf Australia for exemptions.

MULTIPLE TEAMS

1. All clubs have the right to combine to form teams in division pennant where two or more individual clubs do not have sufficient players to field a complete club team.
 - i) Intent is to increase participation.
2. Combined teams shall be eligible for their respective State finals.

PENALTIES (INELIGIBLE PLAYERS)

1. The minimum penalty for a team playing an ineligible player will be loss of the match by the minimum margin.
eg. 3&2 or 4&3 (as applicable to the overall team number of players)
2. If the non-offending team had already won the match by a greater margin than the minimum, then this greater margin will stand
e.g. 4&1 or 5½/1½
3. Additionally, the non-offending team will also be credited with a win in the ineligible players match if that player had previously lost against the ineligible player. This match will be added to any previously calculated total team minimum winning margin total.

CONFORMING GOLF BALLS, DRIVER HEADS AND TIME OF STARTING

The specimen conditions in the Rules of Golf are in effect as regards to Conforming Golf Balls, Driver Heads and Time of Starting.

PACE OF PLAY

Rule 5-6 will be strictly enforced. Each group must maintain its position on the course with respect to the group preceding it. Any group with a clear hole in front of it will be considered out of position. Penalties will be issued to individuals in such groups who by their pace contribute to such delay. Warnings may not be issued prior to penalties.

MOTORISED TRANSPORT

During play, it is prohibited for a player to ride in or on a motorised vehicle unless specific written permission has been granted by the Match Committee. (NB Subject to host club permission, a caddie may use motorised transport at any time.)

Procedure when breach discovered: Use of any unauthorised form of transportation must be discontinued immediately upon discovery that a breach has occurred.

Note i: Permission will only be granted to entrants who can provide a Medical Certificate.

Note ii: GA takes no responsibility for the availability of golf carts.

Note iii: Permission will be granted on the basis that the following requirements are adhered to. Players failing to adhere to these requirements are liable to have such permission revoked:

Players who drive at a pace which is clearly quicker than walking pace; and/or who drive to a point past their ball which is clearly unreasonable for a player who is not using motorised transport to reach, are in breach of these requirements.

At the conclusion of the hole at which the breach is discovered, the state of the match is adjusted by deducting one hole for each hole at which a breach occurred; maximum deduction per round – two holes.

In the event of a breach between the play of two holes, the penalty applies to the next hole. Use of an unauthorised form of transportation must be discontinued immediately upon discovery that a breach has occurred. Otherwise the player is disqualified.

ANTI-DOPING

The Golf Australia anti-doping policy applies for this event. The GA anti-doping policy is the Australian National Anti-Doping Policy, effective from 1 January 2021, and can be found here: <https://www.golf.org.au/competitionpolicies>

CODE OF CONDUCT

All entrants assent to be bound by Golf Australia's Code of Conduct. A copy of the code is available at www.golf.org.au.

MEMBERSHIP PRIVILEGES

All competitors will be made honorary members of the host club and are required to comply with the dress and mobile phone regulations.

PUBLICITY

Golf Australia and the sponsors arrange publicity before and during the State Finals in the press, by live and recorded radio, television broadcasting and by filming. The competitors assent to reference to them and pictures of them in practice and play being used for commercial purposes by Golf Australia and the sponsors. Golf Australia reserves the right to any press, broadcasting or television fees paid or payable for permission to broadcast, photograph or televise play.

NO SMOKING

All competitors and caddies are subject to State Government laws prohibiting the smoking of cigarettes, cigars or the like during the course of any round played in a competition.