

## ENTRY CONDITIONS

# 10-13 August 2023

Closing date for all entries – Thursday 6 July 2023



### A. QUALIFICATIONS

The AIG Women's Open Championship (the "Championship") shall be open to professional golfers of the female gender, who are members of the Ladies' European Tour (LET), Ladies' Professional Golf Association (LPGA), or other recognized professional associations/Tours and amateur golfers of the female gender, who have amateur status in accordance with the current Rules of Amateur Status and who hold a Handicap Index® of not more than 0.4 at date of entry, as issued by an Authorised Handicapping Body. In the absence of a Handicap Index® a current equivalent exact handicap, as issued by a recognised Handicap Authority, of not more than 0.4 at date of entry will be accepted, or who have been within the Women's WAGR® listing 1-1,000 (see [www.WAGR.com](http://www.WAGR.com)) during the period Women's WAGR® Week 2023/01 to date of entry.

### B. REGULATIONS

- 1) The Championship will be contested by 144 players (or up to 147, subject to a minimum of 3 playing places being available at Final Qualifying). In the event of entries exceeding 144 all players with the exception of those exempt under Section G. will be required to qualify for the Championship. For competitors not exempt under Sections F. or G. a Pre-Qualifying competition will take place on Monday 17 July 2023 at The Buckinghamshire. For competitors exempt under Section F. and those qualifiers from the Pre-Qualifying competition, Final Qualifying will take place on Monday 7 August 2023 at Hankley Common. The leading qualifiers will make up the field of 144 for the 2023 AIG Women's Open Championship, with a number of reserves as determined under Section E. 2)
- 2) The winner shall be named the 2023 AIG Women's Open Champion.
- 3) The Championship Committee reserves the right to arrange and/or alter starting times.
- 4) Two separate Pro-Am Tournaments will be held on Tuesday 8 August 2023 and Wednesday 9 August 2023. All Professionals entering the Championship will be expected to play, if required, in the Pro-Am Tournament.
- 5) The Championship Committee reserves the right to use films, photographs, pictures and similar references to competitors in practice and play in the publicity arrangements prior to, during and after the Championship as set out in Section H. 8)
- 6) If for any reason a ranking used to identify exempt golfers is not published on the printed date, the Championship Committee will delay the exemption until the ranking is published.
- 7) The Championship Committee reserves the right to amend these Entry Conditions (these "Conditions"). Any questions arising on the interpretation of these Conditions shall be determined by the Championship Committee and the decision of the Championship Committee shall, in all matters, be final.

### C. ENTRY FORM, ENTRY FEE, CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES

- 1) One entry per player must be submitted electronically via the Championship website and must reach The R&A, St Andrews, Fife, Scotland. KY16 9JD by 11:59pm (BST) on Thursday 6 July 2023. **The entrance fee is £95.** Late entries will not be accepted. In the event of duplicate entries being submitted, the first entry will be used for all purposes.
- 2) Entry fees will not be refunded unless written notification of withdrawal is received prior to the closing date for entries.
- 3) All entries shall be subject to the approval of the Championship Committee, which reserves the right to refuse or having accepted, subsequently reject any entry without giving a reason for its decision, which shall be final.
- 4) The Championship Draw will be available at the course and on the Championship website ([www.aigwomensopen.com](http://www.aigwomensopen.com)) from 12 noon (BST) on Tuesday 8 August 2023.

### D. REGISTRATION

- 1) Pre-Qualifying and Final Qualifying Competitions  
Competitors must register at The R&A Registration Desk on site at the relevant golf course at least 30 minutes prior to their starting time. In exceptional circumstances only, competitors may be permitted to register by telephone to The R&A Championship Office.
- 2) Championship exempt players and those who have qualified must register in person at Walton Heath, no later than 12 noon (BST) on Wednesday 9 August 2023. In exceptional circumstances only, competitors may be permitted to register by telephone to The R&A Championship Office.
- 3) Players who fail to meet the registration deadlines may be removed from the draw and replaced with the first available reserve.

### E. PRE-QUALIFYING AND FINAL QUALIFYING

For competitors who are NOT exempt from Pre-Qualifying and/or Final Qualifying as set out in sections F. and/or section G. the qualifying procedure shall be as follows:

- 1) Pre-Qualifying  
One round of 18 holes played at The Buckinghamshire on Monday 17 July 2023. The places available for Final Qualifying shall be determined by the number entered who are exempt under Section F. Ties for the last qualifying places will be decided by a hole-by-hole play-off as soon as practicable after the last competitors finish their round. Irrespective of play-off places, reserve places in case of subsequent withdrawals from FQ (to a maximum of 12) will be decided by a card countback. The card countback will use the back 9 holes of the course or 6 or 3 or 2 or 1 hole and if a tie still arises, the last 6 or 3 or 2 or 1 hole of the front 9 holes of the course and, if a tie still arises, by the drawing of lots.
- 2) Final Qualifying  
For those exempt under Section F. and qualifiers from the Pre-Qualifying round - One round of 18 holes played at Hankley Common on Monday 7 August 2023. The places available to make up the Championship field shall be determined by the number entered who are exempt under Section G. Ties for last places and reserves shall be decided by a hole-by-hole play-off immediately after the last card is returned.
- 3) In the event of play being either delayed or declared null and void for any round of Pre-Qualifying or Final Qualifying, additional play will be at the discretion of the Championship Committee and may take place on the day following each round of Pre-Qualifying or Final Qualifying.  
A minimum of 3 playing places in the Championship will be available from Final Qualifying.

### F. EXEMPTIONS INTO FINAL QUALIFYING

The following players shall be exempt into Final Qualifying:

- 1) First 30 and anyone tying for 30th place in the 2022 AIG Women's Open Championship at Muirfield.
- 2) Top 85 players from the 2023 LET Race to Costa de Sol rankings as at Monday 3 July 2023.
- 3) Top 120 players from the 2023 LPGA Race to CME Globe Season points list as at Monday 3 July 2023.
- 4) Top 25 players from the 2023 JLPGA Mercedes Rankings as at Monday 3 July 2023.
- 5) Top 10 players from the 2023 KLPGA money list as at Monday 3 July 2023.
- 6) The top 3 in the 2023 Women's PGA Professional Championship.
- 7) The top 2 in the 2023 Women's PGA Assistants' Championship
- 8) Playing members of the 2021 Solheim Cup teams.
- 9) The leading 10 Women's WAGR® ranked players, not already exempt as at WAGR® Week 2023/26.
- 10) Playing members of the 2023 Vagliano Trophy teams.
- 11) The 2022 & 2023 Women's Amateur Asia-Pacific runner-up. Ties will be decided in favour of the highest WAGR® ranked golfer.
- 12) The 2022 Women's Amateur Latin America runner-up.
- 13) The 2023 Women's Amateur runner-up. Blank entry will be made on behalf of competitor qualifying in this category.
- 14) The 2023 European Ladies' Amateur runner-up.
- 15) The 2023 Augusta National Women's Amateur runner-up.
- 16) The 2022 R&A Girls Amateur Champion.
- 17) The 2022 US Women's Amateur runner-up.

F. 8) to 17) are only applicable if the entrant concerned is still an amateur on 7 August 2023.

### G. EXEMPTIONS FROM FINAL QUALIFYING

The following players shall be exempt from Final Qualifying:

- 1) Past winners of the Championship, aged 60 or under on 13 August 2023, provided that the player is still an active member of a recognised professional Tour.
- 2) The top 10 and anyone tying for 10th place in the 2022 AIG Women's Open Championship at Muirfield.
- 3) The top 15 LET players in the 2022 Final LET Race to Costa del Sol rankings.

- 4) The top 5 players, not already exempt, from the 2023 LET Race to Costa del Sol rankings as at Monday 17 July 2023. Blank entries will be made on behalf of players becoming exempt, after the closing date, in this category.
- 5) The top 35 players in the 2022 LPGA Final CME Points List.
- 6) The top 25 players, not already exempt, from the 2023 LPGA Race to CME Globe Season as at Monday 17 July 2023. Blank entries will be made on behalf of players becoming exempt, after the closing date, in this category.
- 7) The top 50 players on the 2023 Rolex Rankings Week July 3.
- 8) The top 3 players, not already exempt, from the 2023 JLPGA Mercedes Ranking, not already exempt, on completion of the JLPGA 2023 Suntory Ladies Open.
- 9) The top 2 players, not already exempt, from the 2023 KLPGA money list as at Monday 3 July 2023.
- 10) The winners of any recognised individual LET or LPGA Tour event in 2023. Blank entries will be made on behalf of players becoming exempt, after the closing date, in this category.
- 11) The winner of the 2022 JLPGA Money List.
- 12) The winner of the 2022 KLPGA Money List
- 13) The Chevron Championship (ANA Inspiration) Champions for 2019 to 2023.
- 14) The KPMG Women's PGA Champions for 2019 to 2023.
- 15) The US Women's Open Champions for 2019 to 2023.
- 16) The Evian Championship Champions for 2018 to 2023.
- 17) The leading 2 golfers, who make the cut, not already exempt, in the 2023 Suntory Ladies Open.
- 18) A minimum of the leading 3 golfers, who make the cut, not already exempt, in the 2023 Trust Golf Women's Scottish Open. Blank entries will be made on behalf of competitors qualifying in this category.
- 19) The 2022 US Women's Amateur Champion
- 20) The 2022 Mark H McCormack Medal Winner
- 21) The 2022 & 2023 Women's Amateur Asia-Pacific Champion
- 22) The 2022 Women's Amateur Latin America Champion
- 23) The 2023 Augusta National Women's Amateur Champion
- 24) The 2023 Women's Amateur Champion
- 25) The highest Women's WAGR® ranked GB&I golfer as at Women's WAGR® Week 2023/26
- 26) The 2023 European Ladies' Amateur Champion
- 27) Any Player who did not compete in the 2022 AIG Women's Open due to maternity, as approved by The R&A in conjunction with the player's home tour, provided she was otherwise qualified to compete in the previous year's Women's Open.
- 28) The balance of the field shall be filled from the Final Qualifying competition.

G. 19) to 26) are only applicable if the entrant concerned is still an amateur on 13 August 2023.

Players may be exempt in more than one category unless specifically stated otherwise.

In the event of an exempt player withdrawing from the AIG Women's Open or further places becoming available in the starting field after close of entries, the Open Championships Committee may at its discretion allocate these places to FQ players and/or in ranking order of entrants from the Rolex Ranking at the time that such places become available.

#### H. TERMS OF COMPETITION

- 1) Players must be of the female gender and have been female at birth or have had the female gender assigned. For the avoidance of doubt, The R&A reserves the right to carry out a confidential case-by-case evaluation at any time either prior to or after the Championship if in its reasonable opinion such an evaluation is or becomes necessary. Any player in breach of this condition may be disqualified.
- 2) The Championship shall be decided by stroke play over four rounds of 18 holes over Walton Heath in accordance with the Rules of Golf as approved by R&A Rules Limited and in accordance with the Local Rules approved by the Championship Committee.
- 3) One round of 18 holes shall be played on each of the first two days for which one draw shall be made. The players returning the 65 lowest scores, and anyone tying for 65th place over the first 36 holes shall qualify for the 3rd round on Saturday 12 August and the 4th round on Sunday 13 August. For the final 36 holes, the pairings and starting times shall be determined in accordance with the qualifying scores, players with the lowest scores starting last.
- 4) In the event of a tie for the Championship after four rounds, the competitors who tie shall play a hole by hole play-off to determine the Champion. Details of the play-off will be posted on the Championship notice board during the event and will be available on request.
- 5) The Model Local Rules in the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf are in effect for Conforming Driver Heads (MLR G-1), Conforming Golf Balls (MLR G-3), One Ball Rule (MLR G-4) and Groove, Punch Mark Specifications (MLR G-2) and Prohibiting Use of Clubs Longer than 46 Inches (MLR G-10).
- 6) Each player is responsible for playing without undue delay. The pace of play policy detailing Time Allowance and Procedure when groups are out of position will be issued to competitors prior to play together with details of penalties for breach of such policy.
- 7) Model Local Rule G-6 is in effect. A player or caddie must not ride on any form of motorised transportation except as authorised, or later approved by the Championship Committee. The Championship Committee will only consider requests for use of motorised transportation where (i) the player making the request has a qualifying disability and (ii) the need for transportation results from that disability. Any requests by a player to use any form of transportation must be made not less than 60 days in advance of the Championship or the relevant qualifying event. All requests must be made in accordance with the procedures outlined in The R&A's Transportation Policy, available on request from The R&A.
- 8) R&A Championships Limited ("The R&A") arranges publicity before and during the Championship in the Press and by live and recorded radio and television broadcasting and filming and on the Internet. Each competitor agrees to make reasonable efforts during the Championship to attend press conferences and to co-operate with the media in support of the Championship, including appearances for The R&A's broadcast partners. Each player by entering the Championship and by agreeing to these Conditions assigns to The R&A and its assignees and licensees the right in perpetuity throughout the world to make, use, exhibit and reproduce in any way now known or hereafter devised (and to authorise others to do so) for commercial and 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 and/or their caddie made during or in connection with the Championship (including, without limitations, during practice and play) without compensation for the competitor or caddie or their respective heirs, successors, executors, administrators or assignees. The competitor also assigns to The R&A the right to use and reproduce the competitor's and/or caddie's name, voice, likeness and biographical material in any way now known or hereafter devised by The R&A for the purpose of promoting the Championship and any subsequent Championships, without compensation for the competitor or caddie or their respective heirs, successors, executors, administrators or assignees of the competitor including in circumstances where it may include the logo of a sponsor or patron of the Championship or any subsequent Championship or any other activities undertaken by The R&A. Players shall be responsible for ensuring that they hold all the necessary rights to grant the above assignments, including appropriate agreements with their caddies. The R&A and its assignees and licensees agree that, other than as permitted in this Section H. 8), they will not authorise any company contractually associated with The R&A to use the competitor's or caddie's name, voice, likeness and biographical material to endorse a product or service, without first requiring such associated company to obtain the competitor's authorisation. In addition, to comply with certain contractual limitations relating to advertising on television, competitors agree that they or their caddies will not, without the prior approval of The R&A, display any commercial identification on clothing or equipment other than that customarily affixed to and of the normal size and in the normal position on any such clothing or equipment.
- 9) Any player who believes they are eligible to use the Modification for Players with Disabilities (Rule 25) should contact [entries@randa.org](mailto:entries@randa.org) at entry to confirm their eligibility to use the specific modifications in Rule 25.
- 10) Competitors agree to abide by all health and safety and other instructions given by The R&A, IMG and/or the Championship Committee and to generally follow good practice as regards safety on a golf course, including being aware of any risks posed to spectators and shouting "fore" where necessary.
- 11) All competitors gaining entry to the AIG Women's Open are subject to the LPGA's Anti-Doping Program and Protocol in force at the time of the Championship. Any competitor found to be in violation of the LPGA's policy may be disqualified and shall be subject to any sanction(s) brought by the LPGA and LET. The LPGA's Anti-Doping Policy, TUE application and procedures, and other relevant information including the applicable Prohibited Substance lists, may be found at <http://www.lpga.com/anti-doping-information> All TUE applications should be submitted to LPGA in accordance with the LPGA TUE Application Procedures and in no event later than 45 days prior

to the Championship. If you have any questions about the LPGA's Anti-Doping Policy (which may be referred via The R&A), please contact the LPGA's Legal Counsel at (386) 274 6284 or [Matt.Cornwell@LPGA.com](mailto:Matt.Cornwell@LPGA.com)

12) All competitors gaining entry to the Championship (and Qualifying) are subject to The R&A's Anti-Corruption and Betting Policy in force at the date of the Championship.  
 13) The R&A expects players and their team 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 or 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 Open Championships Committee from time to time. For the purposes of this condition, a player's team includes their caddies as well as 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.

14) Any amateur who comes through qualifying that wishes to play as a professional at the next stage (whether that be FQ or AIG Women's Open) must declare that intention in writing to the Championship Committee prior to close of Registration (no later than 2pm). If they do so, they will play as a professional and can be allocated prize money. If they don't declare an intention in writing to play as a professional they are playing as an amateur for that stage of the championship and do not qualify for prize money.

Any amateur who enters at Pre-Qualifying, but wishes to play as a professional, must declare that intention in writing to the Championship Committee before teeing off on the date of PQ.

15) These Conditions shall be governed by and be interpreted in accordance with the law of Scotland.

#### **I. CADDIES**

1) All players must use a caddie for the four days of the Championship. The use of a trolley will not be permitted (excluding practice or qualifying rounds).

2) A competitor shall at all times be liable for the actions of her caddie and shall ensure that the caddie complies with the Terms as they apply to the caddie.

3) A competitor shall ensure that her caddie wears clothing of a golf type appropriate to the Championship and in particular a caddie shall be required to wear a Championship over-garment or bib of a type and design as shall be supplied by the Championship Committee. Caddies will be required to wear such an over-garment or bib during official practice rounds and during the Championship.

4) A competitor's caddie may not wear headgear, visors or any other items of clothing which displays a logo other than the official AIG Women's Open Championship logo unless such logo represents a contract to which the competitor was bound at the commencing date of the Championship.

5) Caddies must not wear spike sole shoes. Footwear with a closed toe is required. Flip flops, open-toed sandals and other similar shoes are not permitted. Golf spikes are prohibited.

#### **J. TROPHIES AND PRIZES**

1) The winner shall be awarded the Championship Trophy. She shall also receive a replica trophy and a gold medal which she shall retain.

2) The leading amateur, provided she has completed 72 holes, shall receive the Smyth Salver which she will hold for one year. She will also receive a silver medal. In the event of a tie for the leading amateur, each player will receive a silver medal. The Smyth Salver shall be awarded to both players and held for an equal period of time by each player. Any other amateur players who have completed 72 holes shall receive a bronze medal.

3) Prize money shall be allocated to professional golfers. Any prize money, which would have been won by an amateur golfer, shall be allocated to the professional golfer next in order of merit as her prize and all subsequent place monies shall be renumbered accordingly.

4) In addition to the leading amateur all other amateurs completing 72 holes will receive a prize voucher. All amateur places will be shared.

#### **K. PRIZE FUND (subject to alteration by ties for places)**

1) The published prize fund distribution is based upon 76 players making the cut and being eligible to receive prize money. In the event of less than or more than 76 players making the cut and being eligible for prize money then the prize money distribution will be adjusted accordingly, except for the prize money allocated to the winner which will not change.

2) Prize monies won by LET or LPGA members will be paid to their respective associations for distribution by them. All monies won by other professionals will be paid direct to the competitor.

3) All professional players who do not qualify for the final 36 holes shall receive expenses of approximately US\$1,000 (exact amount to be confirmed prior to the start of the Championship).

#### **CHAMPIONSHIP COMMITTEE**

Johnnie Cole-Hamilton  
Executive Director – Championships, The R&A

Austin Tilsley  
Director – Championships, The R&A

Zoe Ridgway  
Tournament Director, The R&A

Peter Zaffino  
President and Chief Executive Officer, AIG

Lucy Fato  
Executive President, General Counsel & Global Head of Communications and Government Affairs, AIG

Tim Erensen  
Managing Partner, Outlyr

Alexandra Armas  
Chief Executive, LET

Ricki Lasky  
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#### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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