



2025 WORLD AMATEUR TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS TERMS OF THE COMPETITION

The Rules of Golf as approved by the United States Golf Association (USGA) and R&A Rules Limited govern play.

This document details the *Terms of the Competition and Local Rules* that teams need to be aware of in advance of the Championships. Additional Local Rules will be published at the time of the Championships.

Complete text of the Rules of Golf and Model Local Rules can be found in the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf, effective January 2023.

Unless otherwise noted, the IGF Championship Committee reserves the right to determine the sanction for breach of a Term. The decision of the IGF Championship Committee with respect of such breach shall be final. Unless otherwise stated, the penalty for breach of a Local Rule is detailed in the relevant Model Local Rule. In the case of any matters that arise in relation to the Rules of Golf (i.e., technical matters on the field of play), the IGF Chief Referee shall make the final decision.

Having been given a decision on the Rules of Golf or the Terms of the Competition and Local Rules, by a referee, a player may request a second opinion. It is at the discretion of the IGF referee whether they grant such a request.

The official language of the World Amateur Team Championships (WATC) is English.

TERMS OF THE COMPETITION

1. Format

Each Championship will be 72 holes of stroke play. Teams are comprised of 2-3 players. In each 18-hole round, the total of the two lowest scores by players of each team constitutes the team score for that round. The total of the two-player team scores for the four rounds is the team's score for the Championship. The Champion is the team with the lowest such total score for 72 holes.

2. Team representatives

A team must have a Captain, who may be one of the players. The team may also have a Coach or Manager.

3. Nationality

A player must be a National of the country the player is representing as defined in the International Golf Federation's (IGF) [Nationality Policy](#).

4. Amateur status

All players nominated to teams by their national federations must be amateur golfers in accordance with the Rules of Amateur Status as approved by the USGA and R&A Rules Limited.

5. Thirty-six (36) team limit

Teams will qualify according to the [2025 World Amateur Team Championship Qualification System](#).

6. Practice prior to the Championship



For the Espirito Santo Trophy, no team may practice on or walk the courses between 29 August 2025 and 28 September 2025 inclusive. Championship practice areas must not be used by team members between 29 August 2025 and 27 September 2025 inclusive.

For the Eisenhower Trophy, no team may practice on or walk the courses between 29 August 2025 and 28 September 2025 inclusive. Teams may walk the courses while spectating during the Espirito Santo Trophy week but must not practice on the course. Championship practice areas must not be used by team members between 29 August 2025 and 4 October 2025 inclusive.

The IGF Championship Committee reserves the right to determine the sanction for a breach of this policy. The IGF Championship Committee reserves the right to withdraw the entry of a team at any time before or during the Championships.

Team practice rounds for the Espirito Santo Trophy will be on Monday 29 September and Tuesday 30 September. Team practice rounds for the Eisenhower Trophy will be on Monday 6 October and Tuesday 7 October. Each team will be assigned one morning and one afternoon practice round time. Practice round schedules will be allocated by the IGF; requests for specific times will not be accepted. Teams missing their assigned practice round times will not be permitted to play at another time unless there are exceptional circumstances, in which case any changes must be approved by the IGF in advance. Please note that it will not be considered exceptional circumstances if players/teams choose to travel on practice round days. Further, if inclement weather causes delay or cancellation of a practice round, that round will not be re-scheduled.

7. Registration

Teams should register as soon as possible upon arrival at the Championship site. Teams will not be permitted to start play of the second practice round until they have registered. All team representatives (that is, Players, Captain, and Coach/Manager) must be present together at registration, unless otherwise approved by the IGF due to exceptional circumstances.

Any team that does not register for the Espirito Santo Trophy or contact the on-site IGF office before 2:00pm (local time) on Monday 29 September may be withdrawn from the Championship.

Any team that does not register for the Eisenhower Trophy or contact the on-site IGF office before 2:00pm (local time) on Monday 6 October may be withdrawn from the Championship.

All team members must sign the Entry and Eligibility Conditions Form prior to the Championships. Additionally, the Parent/Legal Guardian Acknowledgement for Minors Form must be completed by the parent/legal guardian of a participant who has not reached the age of majority under the applicable national laws and regulations of the participant's country of citizenship.

8. Nomination of teams and substitutions

At registration, the names of the 2 - 3 players who will represent the team must be given and only those players are permitted to practice on the Championship courses and the practice areas. No change to the team submitted at registration is permissible, except in the event of illness or injury to one of the named players (see below), or in the event of exceptional circumstances with the permission of the IGF Championship Committee.

Please note, although alternates are welcome to attend the Championships, they may not register, play official practice rounds, practice at the Championship site, be included in the official team photo, or participate in Opening and Closing Ceremonies.

If one of the players named in a team at registration suffers an illness or injury which is serious enough to cast doubt over the player's ability to participate in the Championships, and there is a substitute player available for that team, the team captain should consult the IGF Championship Committee which will decide whether the substitute player will be allowed to practice in the absence of the ill or injured player. A substitute must not practice without the permission of the IGF Championship Committee.

In coming to a decision on whether the substitute player may practice, the IGF Championship Committee will base its decision on the likelihood of the ill or injured player participating in the Championships and will take into account any independent medical advice it wishes to obtain. The fact that a substitute player is permitted to practice would not automatically exclude the ill or injured player from participating in the Championships. If the original player becomes able to practice again, the IGF Championship Committee must be so advised in advance, and the substitute may no longer practice.

If a player, who is not eligible to practice, does practice without the permission of the IGF Championship Committee (including using the practice areas), the sanction taken against the team concerned will be decided by the IGF Championship Committee. The IGF Championship Committee reserves the right to withdraw the entry of a team at any time before or during the Championships.

Once a team has commenced its first round of the Championship (that is, one of the players has teed off), no change may be made to the team players for the duration of the Championship.

If a player suffers an injury or illness after the start of the Championship that keeps that player from competing in a given round, the player may return to the Championship if the player recovers in time.

If a team does not have two players registered on site at the time of the first scheduled starting time for that team for the first Championship round, that team will not be permitted to participate and will be withdrawn from the Championship, even if players arrive after that time.

If a team of two players starts the Championship, a team's third player who has missed a round or rounds may participate in the remainder of the Championship and have his/her score count for those remaining rounds, provided that player's name was confirmed to the IGF at team registration.

9. Prizes

Winning Teams: Gold medals and custody of the Espirito Santo Trophy (for women) and the Eisenhower Trophy (for men) for the ensuing two years, subject to such conditions as the IGF may establish.

Runner-Up Teams: Silver medals

3rd Place Teams: Bronze medals

10. IGF policies

The following IGF Codes and Policies must be adhered to at all times:

- i. [IGF Code on the Prevention of the Manipulation of Competitions](#)
- ii. [Safeguarding Participants from Harassment and Abuse Policy](#)
- iii. [IGF Code of Conduct for all Athletes and Athlete Support Personnel](#)
- iv. [IGF Code of Conduct for Tournament Support Personnel](#)
- v. [IGF Code of Ethics](#)
- vi. [IGF Tribunal](#)
- vii. [IGF Appeals Panel Policy](#)

viii. [Nationality Policy](#)

11. Motorised Trolleys

A player is not allowed to use a motorised push cart or motorised pull cart during a round. A player found to be using such a trolley will have it removed immediately.

12. Motorised Transportation

Model Local Rule G-6 is in effect.

If a player requires the use of motorised transportation for medical purposes, the IGF must be notified by 15 August 2025. The IGF will provide a form that must be returned in order for the case to be considered. The use of motorised transportation for players will generally only be granted to individuals with a disability or long-term degenerative medical condition.

If a captain or coach/manager requires the use of motorised transportation for medical purposes, the IGF must be notified by 15 August 2025. If the request for motorised transportation is as a result of an injury sustained after 15 August 2025, or a disability or long-term degenerative medical condition diagnosed after 15 August 2025, the request must be received by the IGF Office as soon as the injury is sustained, or the disability or condition diagnosed. In all cases, the IGF will provide a form that must be returned in order for the request for motorised transport to be considered.

It should be noted that the use of motorised transportation for a captain or coach/manager will generally only be granted to individuals with a disability or long-term degenerative medical condition.

Any captain or coach/manager granted the use of motorised transportation must adhere to the regulations that will be provided. In addition to other points, these regulations state that only the individual with motorised transportation privileges may drive or ride in the motorised transportation. The IGF Championship Committee reserves the right to determine the sanction for a breach of this policy, including the removal of motorised transportation privileges.

In all cases, the IGF will review each case on its own merits and reserves the right to refuse use of motorised transportation.

13. Anti-doping

As regulated by the [World Anti-Doping Code](#), the use of Prohibited Substances and Prohibited Methods is strictly forbidden. Also evading, refusing or failing to submit to sample collection by an athlete or possession of a prohibited substance or prohibited method by any team members are considered as anti-doping code violations. Any anti-doping code violation is subject to sanctions. For reference, IGF sanctions for violating anti-doping regulations may range from a reprimand to a lifetime ban. The period of ineligibility may vary depending on the type of anti-doping violation, the circumstances of an individual case, the substance, and the possible repetition of an anti-doping rule violation.

All competitors are subject to the provisions of the [IGF's Anti-Doping Policy](#). Details of the Policy, the [2025 Prohibited List](#) and related documents are available on the [IGF's website](#). Competitors who are taking, for a legitimate medical reason, a medication that is on the Prohibited List must apply in advance for a *Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE)*. The TUE Application process is outlined on the [IGF website](#).

14. Order of play within teams

Team members will be assigned in three continuous groups each day (for example, one team member in each time at 10:30, 10:40, and 10:50). On the first two days of the Championship,

the captains will determine the order of play within their teams (via forms provided at team registration). If a team does not submit a form, or if the form is not returned by the deadline, the order of play will be determined alphabetically by surname. For example, Alvarez will play at 10:30, Brown will play at 10:40, and Lee will play at 10:50.

On the last two days of the Championship, the order of play within teams will be based on score, that is, the player with the lowest cumulative individual score will have the latest starting time. In the case of a tie, the order of play will be the same as the designated order of play for the first two rounds.

15. Breaking team ties for the 3rd and 4th round draws

For the purpose of breaking team ties for the 3rd and 4th round draws, the “first in, last out” method will be used. The order of finish will be determined by the order of the previous round’s draw. A team with an earlier starting time will be considered to have finished before a team with a later time. If two teams have the same starting times, the team listed as starting off Hole 1 will be considered to have finished before those listed off another starting hole. If two teams are in the same starting times from the same starting hole, the order that they are listed in the draw will be the order that will be considered to have finished.

16. Implementing a cut

If, after the 2nd or 3rd rounds of the Championships, it becomes clear that for some reason it will not be possible for all teams to complete the last round of the Championship (whether that be the 3rd or 4th round), the IGF Championship Committee may implement a cut. The purpose of such a cut would be to enable the leading teams to complete an additional 9 or 18 holes. The decision on whether to implement a cut is at the discretion of the IGF Championship Committee.

For those teams that do not make the cut, final placings will be determined on the basis of the rounds completed.

17. Minimum of 36 holes

Subject to the safety of all persons at the golf course, the first priority of the IGF is always the Championship and the completion of 72 holes. Every effort will be made to achieve this objective by the final scheduled competition day.

In no circumstances will either Championship be extended beyond a fourth day. The Champion will be the team that returns the lowest score for the number of rounds played, except that, if it is not possible to play at least 36 holes in the four available days, the Championship will be concluded without a Champion being determined.

18. Procedure to be adopted in the event of a tie for first place

The following procedure will be adopted in the event of a tie for 1st place only:

If two or more teams tie for the Championship, the order of finishing will be decided as follows:

- (a) Firstly, by taking into account the non-counting score for the 4th round
- (b) If still tied, the non-counting score for the 3rd round
- (c) If still tied, the non-counting score for the 2nd round
- (d) If still tied, the non-counting score for the 1st round
- (e) If still tied – joint winners will be declared

If fewer than 4 rounds are completed, (a) above does not apply. If fewer than 3 rounds are completed, (a) and (b) above do not apply. In any of the above situations, a team returning a non-counting score will always achieve a better position than a team that does not return a

non-counting score (for example, due to disqualification, withdrawal due to illness or injury, or a team that only has two players).

In the case of ties for 2nd or 3rd place, duplicate medals will be awarded.

19. Returning of scorecards

The paper scorecard is the only official scoring record. Scorecards are verified in the score recording area by an official scorer together with the player, as each player finishes their round. The player is responsible for the correctness of the score recorded for each hole on their scorecard.

The scorecard of the player or side is officially returned to the Committee 15 minutes after the scorecard is accepted into the electronic scoring system. Exceptions apply as outlined in the notice "Return of Scorecard", which is available from the IGF Office.

20. Disqualification penalties and withdrawals

A penalty of disqualification for a breach of the Rules of Golf or Local Rules applies only to the round where the breach occurred, unless the IGF Championship Committee determines otherwise.

Similarly, a player who withdraws for one round may return for a subsequent round, unless the IGF Championship Committee determines otherwise.

21. When competition is final

Each competition is final when the trophy has been presented to the winning team at the Closing Ceremony or, in the absence of a prize ceremony, when all scores have been approved by the Committee.

22. Uniform Guidelines

Clothing and shoes worn by the team should be consistent with currently accepted golf fashion. Guidelines are as follows:

Women - Prohibited items of clothing shall include jeans, cut-off shorts, shirts of a transparent material/design, work-out gear, and all tank tops including racerback tops without collars.

Men - Prohibited items of clothing shall include jeans, cut-off shorts, work-out gear, collarless or sleeveless shirts, shirts of a transparent material/design or shirts worn outside trousers. Knee-length tailored shorts are permitted.

All teams are subject to the IGF's [2025 WATC Logo and Marks Guidelines](#) which governs the use or display of names, brands, logos, images and other marks and identifiers on their person, equipment or apparel.

23. IGF Championship Committee

The IGF Championship Committee for the Espirito Santo Trophy consists of the following:

Antony Scanlon, IGF **John Bodenhamer**, USGA **Claire Hargan**, The R&A

The IGF Championship Committee for the Eisenhower Trophy consists of the following:

Antony Scanlon, IGF **John Bodenhamer**, USGA **Claire Hargan**, The R&A

These Committees shall make any decisions relating to the conduct of the Championships and settle any disputes.