IGF Regulations for Youth Olympic Games

Buenos Aires 2018

Released in August 2018

Prepared by International Golf Federation
IGF REGULATIONS FOR BUENOS AIRES YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES GOLF COMPETITION

The scope of this document is to define the rules for the golf events at the Youth Olympic Games which are conducted in accordance with these Regulations and its appendices and the Rules of Golf as approved by R&A Rules Limited and The United States Golf Association, available [here](#). These Regulations must be read in conjunction with the Olympic Charter applicable at the time of the Youth Olympic Games.

Document contents are specified in the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. Date and Venue</th>
<th>3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2. Competition Format</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Individual Events (Both Men’s and Women’s)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Mixed Team Event</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Athletes</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Quotas, Eligibility Criteria and Entry</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Age</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Additional IF Requirements</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Caddies</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Code of Ethics</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Anti-Doping</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Equipment</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Groove and Punch Mark Condition</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. List of Conforming Driver Heads</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. List of Conforming Golf Balls</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Distance Measuring Devices</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. One Ball Condition</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Competitions</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Pace of Play</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Suspension of Play Due to a Dangerous Situation</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Advice</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Transportation</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Method for Deciding Ties</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Returning of Score Cards</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Close of Competition</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Technical Organization and Competitions Committee</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Competition Management</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. IGF Youth Olympic Golf Competition Committee</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. IGF Rules and Regulations</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Olympic Charter</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Attachments/Links</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. Date and Venue
The 3rd Youth Olympic Games will be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, from the 6th October to the 18th October. Golf competitions will be held at the Hurlingham Club, Buenos Aires.

Following the agreement of the IFs and of the OCOG and the approval of the IOC Executive Board, the Competition Schedule should be released in compliance with the Olympic Charter - Rule 49.

The Golf Competition will be held from 9th to 11th October (Men/Women individual) and from 13th to 15th (Mixed Gender Team): no training will take place on the day in between the individual and mixed competitions, as was also the case for the Nanjing 2014 Games.

2. Competition Format
There are three events at the Buenos Aires Youth Olympic Games Golf competition: Men’s Individual Stroke Play, Women’s Individual Stroke Play and Mixed Team. All competitions are conducted in a stroke play format. There is a maximum of 32 players in both Men’s and Women’s Individual events: 32 men and 32 women will make up the maximum 32 teams of the Mixed Team event.

a. Individual Events (Both Men’s and Women’s):
Individual stroke play events are played over 54 holes (3 rounds of 18 holes) over three consecutive days. Each player plays against every other player. Players complete each hole on the course, over three rounds and, after each round, return a score card with a gross score for each hole. The player who plays the stipulated rounds
in the fewest strokes is the winner. A seeded draw is applied for the final round with the leading players teeing off last.

**b. Mixed Team Event:**
72-hole mixed gender team competition. Each team will be grouped with a different team for rounds 1 and 2, and then there will be a seeded draw for round 3, with the leading teams teeing off last. The competition consists of teams completing each hole on the course, over three rounds and, after each round, returning a signed scorecard with a score for each hole. The team competition to be all stroke play as follows:

- **First round:** Four-ball stroke play (pairs of players play as partners, with each playing their own ball. The lower score of the partners is the score for the hole. If one partner fails to complete a hole, there is no penalty. The IGF Event Delegate will stipulate the tees to be used by women and men.)
- **Second round:** Foursomes stroke play (pairs of players play as partners, and each pair plays a single ball, taking alternating strokes. The IGF Event Delegate will stipulate the tees to be used by women and men.)
- **Third round:** Cumulative team play score based on women’s individual scores, 3(F) and men’s individual scores, 3(M)

The scores for all three rounds (4 x 18 holes scores) will be combined to form the team score. The team that has the lowest cumulative score for the three rounds is the winner.

Note: In the event of circumstances or conditions which make the playing of all scheduled rounds impossible, the Event Delegate may decide to reduce the number of rounds. In both events, one completed round is sufficient to award medals.

As per the Olympic Charter, medals will be awarded as competition prizes.

### 3. Athletes

**a. Quotas, Eligibility Criteria and Entry**
To be eligible for participation at the Youth Olympic Games, competitors must comply with all current IGF Regulations. All athletes must comply with the provisions of the Olympic Charter currently in force, including but not limited to, Rule 41 (Nationality of Competitors). Only those athletes who have complied with the Olympic Charter may participate in the Youth Olympic Games.

**b. Age**
To be eligible to participate in the Youth Olympic Games, athletes must have been born between 1 January 2000 and 31 December 2003.

**c. Additional IF Requirements:**
All athletes must be amateur golfers who hold a recognised Handicap Index not exceeding 6.4. All players must be amateur golfers in accordance with the Rules of Amateur Status as approved by R&A Rules Limited and The United States Golf Association (available [here](#)).

A complete copy of the Qualification system is enclosed [here](#): timelines agreed with BAYOCOG on Sport entries process are provided below.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Milestone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>31 March 2017</td>
<td>Validation of final allocation of Universality Places by the YOG Tripartite Commission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 April 2017</td>
<td>Start of YOG 2018 qualification period for Golf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 May 2018</td>
<td>Accreditation deadline (All potential athletes must be registered in the system by NOCs)</td>
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<tr>
<td>22 July 2018</td>
<td>End of YOG2018 qualification period for Golf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 July 2018</td>
<td>Publication of Youth Olympic Golf Rankings</td>
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<tr>
<td>27 July 2018</td>
<td>IGF to inform NOCs &amp; NFs of their allocated quota places and provide Quotas Confirmation Form for completion.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 August 2018</td>
<td>NOCs to confirm use of allocated quota places to IGF and BAYOGOC</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 August 2018</td>
<td>Host Country to confirm the participation of athletes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From 10 August 2018</td>
<td>IGF to reallocate all unused quota places to NOCs for confirmation (within 48 hours of notice)</td>
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<tr>
<td>30 August 2018</td>
<td>End of reallocation period</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 August 2018</td>
<td>Buenos Aires 2018 Youth Olympic Games Sport Entries deadline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 September 2018</td>
<td>Buenos Aires 2018 Youth Olympic Games DRP deadline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 – 18 October 2018</td>
<td>Buenos Aires 2018 Youth Olympic Games</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

d. **Caddies**
Players are prohibited from using caddies during the stipulated round and will be permitted to use push/pull trolleys provided by the Club. Automotive carts are not permitted.

e. **Code of Ethics**
Players agree to comply with the IOC Code of Ethics, in particular with the 'Olympic Movement Code on the Prevention of the Manipulation of Competitions'. Players should not participate in, support (including by disclosing inside information) or promote betting related to the Youth Olympic Games, and should comply with the IOC Social Media, Blogging and Internet Guidelines for Persons accredited at the Youth Olympic Games in Buenos Aires in 2018.

f. **Anti-Doping**
Players are required to comply with the provisions of the World Anti-Doping Code in force at the time of the Youth Olympic Games as well as the IOC Anti-Doping Rules applicable to the Youth Olympic Games in Buenos Aires in 2018.
4. **Equipment**

Equipment shall be in conformance with the Rules of Golf and the Olympic Charter, in particular in accordance with the golf-specific application of the Guidelines regarding Authorised Identifications (Olympic Charter, Rule 50).

Equipment Manufacturers will be on site to provide services to athletes as per standard practice.

   a. **Groove and Punch Mark Condition**
      The specimen Condition in Decision 4-1/1 of the Decisions on the Rules of Golf is in effect.

   b. **List of Conforming Driver Heads**
      The specimen Condition in the Rules of Golf is in effect: see Annex 1 or the R&A page, updated on a weekly basis.

   c. **List of Conforming Golf Balls**
      The specimen Condition in the Rules of Golf is in effect: see Annex 2 or the R&A page, updated on a monthly basis.

      **Note:** It is strongly recommended that any player in doubt as to whether their equipment conforms to these conditions consult with the Championship Committee. This should be done as far in advance of the Championship as possible.

   d. **Distance Measuring Devices**
      The specimen Local Rule permitting the use of Distance Measuring Devices will be in effect as per the Rules of Golf, available here.

   e. **One Ball Condition**
      The “One Ball” Condition is not in effect. Players may change brands and models of golf balls during a stipulated round.

5. **Competitions**

   a. **Pace of Play**
      Each hole has been given a maximum completion time based upon the length and difficulty of the hole. The maximum time allotted for the completion of 18 holes will be available prior to play.

      The first group will be considered to be “out of position” if, at any time during the round, the group’s cumulative time exceeds the time allowed for the number of holes completed. Any following group will be considered “out of position” if it is more than the starting interval behind the group in front and has exceeded the time allowed for the number of holes played.

      If a decision is taken to time a group that is out of position, each player in the group will be advised that they are “out of position” and are being timed.
The maximum time allocated per shot is 40 seconds. 10 extra seconds are allowed for the first player to play:

- on a par three hole;
- an approach shot; and
- a chip or putt

The timing will start when a player has had sufficient time to reach his/her ball, it is his/her turn to play and he/she is able to play without interference or distraction.

On the putting green, timing will start when the player has had a reasonable amount of time to lift, clean and replace his/her ball, repair ball marks and move loose impediments on his/her line of putt. Time spent looking at the line from beyond the hole and/or behind the ball will count as part of the time taken for the next stroke.

Timing ceases when a group is back in position and players will be advised accordingly.

Note: In some circumstances, an individual player or team may be timed instead of the entire group.

Penalty for Breach of Condition:

- One bad time: Verbal warning and advised that if he/she has a further bad time he/she will be penalised
- Two bad times: One Stroke Penalty
- Three bad times: Two Stroke Penalty
- Four bad times: Disqualification

If a group is “out of position” more than once during a round, the above procedure will apply on each occasion. Bad times and the application of penalties in the same round will be carried forward until the round is completed. A player will not be penalised if he/she has a second bad time before being advised of his/her earlier bad time.

b. Suspension of Play Due to a Dangerous Situation

When play is suspended by the Committee for a dangerous situation, if the players in a match or group are between the play of two holes, they must not resume play until the Committee has ordered a resumption of play. If they are in the process of playing a hole, they must discontinue play immediately and not resume play until the Committee has ordered a resumption of play: refer to Rule 6.

If a player fails to discontinue play immediately, he is disqualified, unless circumstances warrant waiving the penalty as provided in Rule 33-7. Refer to Rule 6, here.

The following signals will be used when suspending or resuming play:

- Discontinue Play Immediately: One prolonged note of siren.
- Discontinue Play (in accordance with Rule 6-8b): Three consecutive notes of siren, repeated.
- Resume Play: Two short notes of siren, repeated.

c. Advice

Rule 8-1 "Advice; Indicating Line of Play", available here applies.

d. Transportation

Players must not ride on any form of transportation during the stipulated round unless authorised by a referee. For penalties for breach of this Condition, see the specimen Condition in the Rules of Golf, Appendix I, available here.

e. Method for Deciding Ties
In the event of a tie for any of the medal positions after three rounds in the Individual or Team events, the medal(s) will be decided by a hole-by-hole play-off to take place immediately after completion of the final round. Any players tied for other positions will remain tied.

The play-off will commence on a sequence of holes as approved by the Event Delegate and identified prior to the competition beginning.

In the Individual event, if two players are tied for the first position, a play-off will be conducted to determine the gold and silver medals. If three or more players are tied for the first position, a play-off will be conducted to determine the gold, silver and bronze medals. If two or more players are tied for the second position, a play-off will be conducted to determine the silver and bronze medals. If two or more players are tied for the third position, a play-off will be conducted for the bronze medal. In any case, only one gold, one silver and one bronze medal will be awarded.

At the conclusion of each play-off hole, players will be grouped according to score on that hole if it is necessary to play another hole to determine a medal.

A play-off in the Team event will follow the same format as the Individual event, except that both members of the team will play in the play-off and it will be the cumulative score for the two members of team that will determine the team’s score on a play-off hole.

f. Returning of Score Cards
The player’s card is deemed officially returned when the player has left the recording area.

Exception: In the Team event, in the foursomes and four-ball rounds, the team’s card is deemed officially returned when both players have left the recording area.

g. Close of Competition
Each event is deemed to have closed when the medals have been presented to the winning players/teams at the Victory Ceremony.

6. Technical Organization and Competitions Committee

a. Competition Management
The Competition shall be under the direction and control of the IGF and in co-operation with Buenos Aires 2018.

The IGF is responsible for the general management including the approval of the Regulations and the interpretation of those Regulations.

The duties of the IGF shall include:
- Appointing the Chief Referees for the Youth Olympic Golf Competitions.
- Deciding on any disputes among National Federations participating in the Youth Olympic Golf Competition.
- Appointing an IGF Tribunal, to settle any disputes during the Youth Olympic Golf Competition, other than technical matters on the field of play which are settled directly by the Chief Referee.
- Suspending from the Youth Olympic Golf Competition for such period of time as it may determine, any athlete, or Official who it is considered does not maintain at all times the high ideals of the Sport and/or the Competition.
- Applying the Rules of Golf or other policies as laid down in these Regulations.
b. IGF Youth Olympic Golf Competition Committee
The Competitions Committee consists of four members: Mr Mark Lawrie, IGF Event Delegate; Ms Shona McRae, IGF Chief Referee, Mr Tommy Tangtiphaiboontana and Mr Antony Scanlon, IGF Executive Director.

The duties of the IGF Olympic Golf Competitions Committee shall include:
• Responsibility for overseeing the management and presentation of the Youth Olympic Golf Competition.
• Ensuring that all athletes nominated to compete in the Youth Olympic Golf Competition are eligible to participate.
• Recommending Referees/Officials for the Youth Olympic Golf Competition.
• Undertaking such other duties as may be laid down in these Regulations.

The duties of the Event Delegate shall include:
• Acting on behalf of the IGF, to oversee the technical control and direction of golf in the 3rd Youth Olympic Games.
• Reporting to the IGF Executive Director and/or the Youth Olympic Golf Competitions Committee on all matters relating to the staging and operation of the Youth Olympic Golf Competition.
• Confirming the list of participating players.

The Chief Referee shall be responsible for all Rules of Golf related matters during the competition. Unless the penalty is otherwise noted, the Competitions Committee reserves the right to determine the penalty for a breach of a Condition.

c. IGF Rules and Regulations
The Youth Olympic Golf Competition will be conducted in accordance with these Regulations and its appendices and the Rules of Golf as approved by R&A Rules Limited and The United States Golf Association, available [here](#). Any modification to the Rules of Golf contained in the IGF’s Local Rules and Conditions of Competition for the Youth Olympic Golf Competition will be made available to athletes prior to their starting times.

Failure to comply with the Rules of Golf, as established by the R&A and USGA, and as amended by Local Rules in force at the competition or any conditions of competition, regulations or other rules, by-laws, directions or instructions as specified by the IGF shall be referred to the Event Delegate or Chief Referee for decision, as appropriate.

Any unforeseen incidents not covered by the Regulations and its appendices shall be dealt with as follows:
• Cases of a general nature shall be resolved in accordance with the Olympic Charter.
• Technical questions shall be resolved according to the Rules of Golf.
• On-site appeals shall be resolved by the Event Delegate or Chief Referee for decision, as appropriate.

Enforcement of the Regulations
The Regulations and its appendices shall be binding on all concerned. The IGF Executive Director may supersede these Regulations in extraordinary conditions and may delegate this responsibility to the Chief Referee and Event Delegate on site.

Amendment of the Regulations
These Regulations and the Appendices to the Regulations may be amended by the IGF Executive Director. The information provided within these Regulations was correct at the time of publication; however, please note that amendments may be made at a later date.

d. **Olympic Charter**
Players are required to have full knowledge of the provisions of the Olympic Charter currently in force and agree to comply with all such provisions and, in particular, with the provisions of the Olympic Charter regarding eligibility for the Olympic Games (including Rule 40 and its Bye-law), the mass media (Rule 48 and its Bye-law) and the prohibition on forms of publicity or propaganda on persons or on clothing and equipment worn or used at the Youth Olympic Games (Bye-Law to Rule 50). The complete Olympic Charter is available as attachment to this document and on line here.

7. **Attachments/Links**
- Rules of Golf
- Amateur Status
- Qualification system
- Condition for Caddies in the Rules of Golf
- Conforming Club List
- Conforming Balls
- Distance-Measuring-Devices
- Olympic Charter