



# EUROPEAN SENIOR MEN'S TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

## Conditions of Competition

### 1. GENERAL

#### 1.1 Eligibility of Teams

Teams are nominated by European Golf Association (EGA) member national golf authorities.

If the number of entries should exceed the maximum (20), the Committee shall decide which teams will be invited to participate based on past participation, past results or both until a Challenge Trophy is officially introduced.

#### 1.2 Eligibility of Players

All players nominated to teams by their national golf authority must be:

- amateur golfers in accordance with the Rules of Amateur Status as approved by R&A Rules Limited;
- citizens of the country represented. Players with dual citizenship may only represent one country per year;
- playing with a handicap of **9.0** or better.
- 55 years or over as of Day 1 of the Championship.

**Penalty for Breach of Condition:** Disqualification of player

#### 1.3 Format

A maximum of 20 teams shall be eligible to participate, each comprising six players with an option of a seventh player to allow interchange.

The Championship will be played in accordance with the Rules of Golf as approved by R&A Rules Limited and the Local Rules as approved by the Championship Committee in two stages.

##### 1.3.1 Stroke Play

There shall be two rounds of 18 holes stroke play on Days 1 and 2 to decide the draw for the match play, which commences on Day 3.

##### a) Order of Play

Team captains will determine the order of play within their teams for Days 1 and 2 using an official order of play form. If the order of play form is not submitted:

- For Day 1, by 17h00 on the day preceding the Championship, the order of play will be determined alphabetically by surname.
- For Day 2, by 17h00 on Day 1, the order of play will be the same as for Day 1.

##### b) Scoring

The lowest five scores from each team's six players will count each day. The aggregate of the five lowest stroke play scores from play on Days 1 and 2 will constitute each team's score for determining the match play stage seeded draw.

##### c) Decision of Ties

A tie for any place in the match play order shall be decided using the lowest total of the two non-counting scores. If a tie still exists, the sum of the two lowest scores, one from each day, shall be used. Then, for further ties, the sum of the two second lowest scores, the third lowest scores, the fourth lowest scores and, finally, the sum of the two fifth lowest scores, one from each day, shall be used. Any further tie will be decided based on the final stipulated 18, 9, 6, 3 holes or last hole, in that order, of the best score from each of the tied teams.

##### d) Substitutes

If a substitute is required on either Day 1 or 2, the Committee must be notified, at the latest, 20 minutes before the first tee time. A substitute is permitted for any reason, but must be the seventh player if one is registered by the team. The seventh registered player may practice, but a further substitute may not until he has been officially substituted for a team member with permission from the Committee.

##### e) Absentee Player

In the event that a registered team member cannot participate in a stipulated stroke play round, the team's five scores will count. In the case of a decision of ties, the team with the absentee player shall finish last. If more than one player is absent, the team shall automatically assume last place in the match play draw. The remaining players shall be permitted to play their stroke play rounds, which the committee may use to determine match play seeding when more than one team have two or more absentee players.

##### 1.3.2 Match Play

The stroke play will determine a seeded order for the match play. A maximum of 20 teams will be divided into a first flight of eight teams: 1 vs. 8; 2 vs. 7; 4 vs. 5 and 3 vs. 6, second flight of eight teams: 10 vs. 15; 14 vs.

11; 12 vs. 13 and 9 vs. 16 and a third flight of four teams who will play a round-robin with the team qualifying 17<sup>th</sup> playing the teams qualifying 20<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> on Days 3, 4 and 5 respectively.

The results of the round robin will be determined based on points accumulated, with 1 point awarded for a win. In the event of a tie, the final positions will be decided by number of individual matches won and then, if necessary, by number of holes won (see 1.3.2 (e) Exception).

If there are fewer than 20 teams, the structure of the draw will change according to a standardised EGA format.

All teams will play a one foursome and four singles match format.

##### a) Order of Play

On the eve of each match, team captains must provide the Committee with the order of play, using the official order of play form, for the foursomes and singles matches:

- for Day 3 matches, no later than 30 minutes after the completion of the second round of stroke play.
- for Day 4 and 5 matches, no later than 30 minutes after the completion of their team's flight the previous Day.

Failure to submit the official order of play form on time will result in the order of play being determined alphabetically by surname.

##### b) Substitutes

- Foursomes - the Committee must be notified of a substitution no later than 20 minutes prior to the team's first foursomes tee time. The substitute will take the position of the player he substitutes.
- Singles - the Committee must be notified of a substitution no later than 20 minutes prior to the team's first singles tee time. The substitute will take the last position in the team's order of play. The other team players maintain their respective order, with those positioned below the replaced player moving forward one position.

A substitute is permitted for any reason, but must be the seventh player if one is registered by the team.

**Penalty for Breach of Condition 1.3.2 (b):** Disqualification of all players out of the pre-stated order of play.

##### c) Halved Match

In the event of a halved match in any round, players shall continue to play until a player wins a hole, when the match will be considered won.

**Exception:** Condition 1.3.2 (e).

##### d) Concession of Matches

When a final team match result is already decided, an individual match may be halved if all participants in that match agree.

**Note:** After 18 holes or any extra hole(s), if the players in an individual match remain all square and the final result of the team match has been decided, the match in question will be halved.

**Exception:** If the matches are in a flight of three competing nations or in the third flight, players must play until there is a winner, including the playing of extra holes if necessary.

##### f) Absentee Players

In the event that a registered team member cannot participate in a stipulated match play round, that player's match shall be forfeited at a position within the order of play determined by the captain. If the captain has not submitted an order of play, the final singles match will be forfeited. Up to two singles games may be forfeited owing to player absence by any one team. Foursomes matches must not be forfeited in favour of singles matches. If fewer than four players are available to represent a team, that team must forfeit its match.

#### 1.4 Practice

A player who is competing in the championship will not be allowed to practice on the championship course for a period of thirty days before the first official practice day, unless he is a member of the golf club at which the championship is being played. Only registered team players will be permitted to practice during the official practice rounds and in official practice areas.

See Section 1.3 1(d) for information on practice for substitutes.

#### 1.5 Advice (Note to Rule 8-1)

Each team may appoint a "Team Advisor" who may give advice to members of that team from either:

- a Team Captain, who must be an amateur golfer in accordance with the Rules of Amateur Status as approved by R&A Rules Limited; or
- another person who may or may not be a professional golfer.



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If appointed, a Team Advisor must be identified to the Committee prior to the start of the Championship.

**Note:** A Team Captain may be named in addition to a Team Advisor, but then, only the Team Advisor may offer advice. Please refer to 1.7 (a) for caddying permissions.

### 1.6 Driving Clubs / Conforming Golf Balls / Time of Starting

The specimen conditions in the Rules of Golf are in effect regarding Conforming Driver Heads and Golf Balls (page 141) and Time of Starting (page 143).

### 1.7 Caddies / Transportation

- A player is prohibited from having a professional golfer serve as his caddie during any stipulated round.
- Players must not ride on any form of transport during a stipulated round unless authorised by the Committee.

**Penalty for Breach of Condition:** Match Play - At the conclusion of the hole at which the breach is discovered, the state of the match must be adjusted by deducting one hole for each hole at which a breach occurred; maximum deduction per round: two holes.

Stroke Play - Two strokes for each hole at which any breach occurred; maximum penalty per round: four strokes.

Match or stroke play – In the event of a breach between the play of two holes, the penalty applies to the next hole.

For 1.7 a): A player having a caddie in breach of this Condition must immediately upon discovery that a breach has occurred ensure that he conforms with this Condition for the remainder of the stipulated round. Otherwise, the player is disqualified.

For 1.7 b): Use of any unauthorised form of transportation shall be discontinued immediately upon discovery that a breach has occurred. Otherwise, the player is disqualified.

### 1.8 Pace of Play

In the absence of mitigating circumstances, a group is liable to be timed if it is in excess of the time allowed and, in the case of second or subsequent groups, out of position.

From the commencement of timing, if any player exceeds 50 seconds on a first to play approach shot (including a Par 3 tee shot), chip or putt, or 40 seconds if it is a tee shot or second or third to play shot, he is deemed to have a "bad time".

The time allowed to play each hole and stipulated round will be determined by the Committee and published on the official notice board. Out of position is defined as being more than the starting interval behind the group in front in the absence of mitigating circumstances.

A player whose group is timed will have a bad time carried forward in the round even if the group subsequently arrives back in position or within time.

#### **Penalty for Breach of Condition:**

One bad time	Verbal warning from official;
Two bad times	One stroke penalty; Loss of hole;
Three bad times	Two stroke penalty; Final warning;
Four bad times	Disqualification.

### 1.9 Suspension of Play

A minimum of 18 holes stroke play must be completed by all players in order to attain a Championship result.

### 1.10 Suspension of Play due to a Dangerous Situation (Note to Rule 6-8b)

The specimen condition in the Rules of Golf is in effect (page 144).

**Note:** A suspension of play for a dangerous situation will be signalled by a **prolonged note of a horn**. All other suspensions will be signalled by **three consecutive short notes** of a horn repeated. In either case, resumption of play will be signalled by **two short notes** of a horn repeated.

### 1.11 Anti-Doping

Players shall not make use of any drug to enhance their performance. In this respect, the attention of players is drawn to the prescribed list of prohibited drugs issued by the host country's national sports council. Any player infringing this Condition or refusing to take a test may be disqualified.

### 1.12 Use of Electronic Devices

See Decision 14-3/16.

### 1.13 Return of Scorecards

Following each of the stroke play rounds on Days 1 and 2, players must return their scorecards to an area designated by the Committee as the "Scoring or Recording Area" in accordance with Rule 6-6b. The scorecard is considered

returned when the player has left the Scoring or Recording Area.

### 1.14 Results of the Competition / Competition Closed

When the final results are placed on the official notice board, the results of the Championship shall be deemed to have been officially announced. Any dispute or doubtful point on the Rules must be referred to the Committee before the conclusion of play on the final day and not later than 15 minutes after play concludes on the preceding days.

### 1.15 Disqualification

A penalty of disqualification for a breach of the Rules or the Conditions of Competition applies only to the round in which the breach occurred unless otherwise determined by the Committee.

A disqualified team will assume last place in the Championship.

## 2. COMMITTEE

### 2.1 Composition of Authority

The EGA Championship Committee members present are responsible for the sporting aspects of the Championship and reserve the right to amend the Championship Conditions.

The Committee may appoint a Referee whose decision on the Rules of Golf will be final.

### 2.2 Competition Cancelled or Altered

The Committee reserves the right to reduce or cancel any stipulated round, suspend or postpone play, cancel the competition or come to an equitable decision to achieve a result.

## 3. ENTRIES

### 3.5 Entry Form

Entries will only be accepted on the official entry form and must be received at the EGA office with full entry fee payment before the closing date. Partially completed or late entries will not be accepted. A team's entry form will not be considered to have been officially received until the country's name has been posted on [www.ega-golf.ch](http://www.ega-golf.ch).

### 3.6 Payment

No team may compete in the Championship until the entrance and team fees have been paid.

### 3.3 Refunds Following Withdrawal

Entrance fees will only be refunded following withdrawal if notice is received no later than 21 days before Day 1 of the Championship, unless there is a valid reason that is acceptable to the EGA.

## 4. PRIZES

### 4.1 Title and Awards

The winning team of the Championship shall be the European Senior Men's Team Champion for a period of one year. The Championship Trophy shall be held by the winners' national golf authority, which will be responsible for the cost of engraving, insuring and maintaining the Trophy and should return it, before the next Championship, to an address named by the EGA Secretary.

The EGA will present medals to the members of the winning team and to the members of the second and third placed teams. Professional golfers nominated as Team Advisors may receive a medal in the absence of a non-playing amateur Team Captain.

The EGA will present the host club with a memento.

The host country will present all participants with a memento.

## 5. REGISTRATION

### 5.1 Registration Deadline

Team players' names should be submitted to the hosting national golf authority no later than 10 days prior to the first official practice round. Participating teams must register as soon as possible following their arrival at the championship venue. Team captains may register players' names on behalf of their team.

## 6. DISCLAIMER

All nominated team players agree that there are certain risks inherent in the game of golf and accept personal and sole liability for all such risks.

EGA Championship Committee  
March 2010

