

# Golf Australia Rookie Program

## Applications now open for the Golf Australia Rookie Program for 2022

The purpose of the Golf Australia Rookie Program is to support athletes who are in the final stages of their amateur golf through to athletes in the first five years of their professional golf careers.

There are essentially two streams of funding:

1. **Training and preparation funding.** This is to support you with coaching, strength and conditioning, biomechanics, sports psychology, physiotherapy services etc. Through the Rookie Program Golf Australia will pay the agreed costs which are part of your annual plan with no requirement for you as the athlete to repay any of those agreed costs (outside the Golf Australia Give Back Program).
2. **Competition expenses.** An allocation of funding to assist you to play in the events which form part of your competition schedule. This can include, but is not limited to travel expenses, caddie fees, entry costs as well as qualifying tournaments.

Fully funded Golf Australia rookies may receive up to \$100,000 AUD in reimbursed funding to cover the above expenses. Partial scholarships may also be offered.

For further details regarding the Golf Australia Rookie Program, please contact me at [Emily.McLennan@golf.org.au](mailto:Emily.McLennan@golf.org.au) or on 0451 713 006.

Yours sincerely



Emily McLennan  
High Performance Operations Coordinator  
Golf Australia

# About the Rookie Program

## Overview

The Golf Australia Rookie Program has over the last nine years provided funding to young professional golfers which prior to its inception was unavailable.

Each scholarship will be offered for a funding period of one year (January 1<sup>st</sup> – December 31<sup>st</sup>). As the scholarship holder can be part of the program until their fifth year of professional golf, it is theoretically possible for an athlete to be a scholarship holder for five years.

## Criteria for Consideration

For an athlete to be eligible for selection the following criteria are used to help make selections, but is not limited to:

- Be an Australian citizen
- Complete rookie squad application
- Have a successful amateur record at national and international level
- Be in the final six months of their amateur golf careers or;
- Have turned professional within the past five years
- Have in place a team of service providers
- Be hard working and highly self-motivated to achieve their objectives
- Submit a detailed budget (*see application*)
- Exceptional time management and organisational skills
- Competing on a recognised professional golf tour

*\*There will be no minimum or maximum number of Rookie Squad members. The program is looking for internally motivated individuals who are 100% committed to the process of reaching their full potential on and off the golf course.*

## Expectations of Scholarship Holders

Scholarship holders will be expected to:

- Abide by the Golf Australia Athlete “Code of Ethics” and by the code of ethics of their professional organisation/tour
- Abide by the Golf Australia Rookie Contract
- Sign the Golf Australia ‘Give Back’ contract

## Key Performance Indicators

The overarching long-term goal of the High Performance program for Golf Australia is to create Major and Olympic Champions and increase the number of Australians in the World Top 100 Rankings.

Examples of KPI's can include but are not limited to:

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| Athletes | - Retain or improve full playing rights on recognised tours annually                                      |
|          | - Improve current world ranking status annually   |
|          | - Adhere to all aspects of training and competition program set out by service providers or coaching team |
| Program  | - Agreed communication occurs between athletes & their service team                                       |
| Services | - Services provided in a timely fashion   |
|          | - Follow up details occurs within two days of consultation.   |

### **Application Process**

Applications will be distributed throughout November by the PGA, ALPG and GA. The closing date for applications will be **January 10, 2022**. Applications should be forwarded to High Performance Operations Coordinator, Emily McLennan by email at [Emily.McLennan@golf.org.au](mailto:Emily.McLennan@golf.org.au)

### **Selection Process**

All applications will be assessed by the Golf Australia selection committee. It may also be necessary for the selection committee to gain further information on each applicant, such as speaking with their coach, PGA, WPGA, service team, etc.

The selection of squad members for 2022 will be completed early February.

### **Induction Process**

The induction will be organised as soon as is practical following the selection of the squad members.

### **Performance Plans/Reviews/Evaluations**

It will be expected that players' service provider and coaching teams submit reports when deemed appropriate and attend face to face performance planning sessions and annual reviews with the Golf Australia HP staff. *(If reports are not handed in by the athlete, service provider or coaching team in a timely manner, reimbursement for expenses will be placed on hold).*