

Play 9 – Northern Territory Qualifying Competition and State Final Terms of Competition

1. Qualifying Competition

- a) Play 9 at the 2022 Australian Open *Northern Territory Qualifying* will be played from 1 July to 30 September 2022.
- b) Any 9-hole score returned at a club affiliated with Golf Australia (GA) and processed through GolfLink within the qualifying period is deemed one entry into the *Northern Territory Qualifying Competition*. For clarification, scores by a Northern Territory affiliated golfer played at a club outside of Northern Territory count as an entry.
- c) A player may return as many 9-hole scores as they like during the qualifying period and each 9-hole score counts as one entry into the *Northern Territory Qualifying Competition*.
- d) Any 9-hole score must be played under the Rules of Golf, and the Local Rules and any supplementary Local Rules of the club where the score is returned, or in accordance with the Conforming Social Scores regulations as per the World Handicap System. For 9-hole club competitions, a club may also have Terms of Competition applicable to competitions they conduct.
- e) There is no entry fee for the Play 9 *Northern Territory Qualifying Competition*, however club competition fees may be payable for club competitions.

2. Eligibility

- a) The Play 9 *Northern Territory Qualifying Competition* is open to any amateur golfer whose GolfLink number is attached to that of a Northern Territory affiliated club and who holds a GA Handicap and at the time of their 9-hole score and has opted into the GA database*. For clarification, if a player's GolfLink number is attached to a Northern Territory affiliated club, but they are also a member of a Victorian affiliated club and reside in Victoria, they are only eligible for the Northern Territory Final.
- b) The maximum GA handicap is 54.4 for men and women.
- c) Entrants must conform in all respects to the Rules of Amateur Status, as adopted by R&A Rules Limited.
- d) To be eligible for the State and National Final, players must adhere to GA's Covid-19 vaccination policy, found [here](#).

*Note: to determine if a player has opted into the GA database, please contact golfparticipation@golf.org.au.

3. Northern Territory Play 9 State Final

First method:

- a) At the end of the qualifying period (30 September 2022), two winners (one woman/one man) will be selected at random from those who have entered the competition. One regional club and one metropolitan club will be selected at random, with one player from each of those clubs then selected at random.
- b) If for any of the categories listed in 3.a) there is no eligible player, the Championship Play Committee will determine how the qualifier will be determined.

Second method:

- a) Eighty (80) players will be selected at random to contest the Northern Territory Play 9 State Final:
 - At the end of each month (July, August and September) thirteen (13) men's scores and thirteen (13) women's scores will be selected at random from all those who have participated in the competition in the respective month. The selected players will be notified by Golf Australia that they have qualified for the State Final and must enter the State Final within 14 days of being notified. Failure to enter will result in their position being awarded to the next available player.
 - If the field is not full following the monthly draw the remainder of the players to make up the full state final field will be selected at the end of the qualifying period (30 September) from all those players who have contested the event in the qualifying period.

Notes: The selected players will be notified via email within two (2) weeks of their selection.

The field may also include up to four (4) players as nominated by the Northern Territory Play 9 State Final host club.

- b) The Northern Territory Play 9 State Final will be played on Saturday 22 October at Darwin Golf Club.
- c) The Northern Territory Play 9 State Final will be played over 9-holes of individual Stableford.
- d) The entry fee for the Northern Territory Play 9 State Final is \$30 (incl GST), payable within 14 days of them being notified of their qualification. It is the sole responsibility of the entrant to ensure their entry has been received. A player's registration has not officially been received until their name has been posted at www.golf.org.au/events.
- e) Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the Championship Play Committee.
- f) The Championship Play Committee has the right to withdraw any person from the event at any time for COVID-19 related circumstances.
- g) The draw for the competition will be sent to players and available at www.golf.org.au/events approximately one week before the event.

4. Prizes

- a) The male and the female returning the best score at the Play 9 Northern Territory Final will be the Northern Territory Play 9 men's and women's winners and will each receive a memento. The runners-up and third placegetters in the men's and women's sections will also each receive a memento.
- b) In the event of a tie for any positions, ties will be decided by the system of count-back as specified by GA.
- c) The men's and women's winners will qualify to play in the 2022 Play 9 National Final to be held in conjunction with the Australian Open in Melbourne, week commencing 28 November 2022.
- d) The four (4) players will receive the following:
 - a. Two nights' accommodation.
 - b. Local meal and transport allowance (up to the value of \$200).
 - c. Attendance at the 2022 Play 9 function.
 - d. A player gift pack.
 - e. Two (2) x Season Passes to the 2022 Australian Open.
- e) Should any of the four (4) players be unavailable, the third placegetters will be eligible for the National Final.

5. Championship Play Committee

- a) The Championship Play Committee will comprise GA's General Manager - Golf Development, GA's General Manager - Events & Operations, and the State Event Manager.
- b) In the absence of a full Championship Play Committee, such members thereof, as may be present at the time, may give a decision so given shall be deemed to be a decision of the full Championship Play Committee.
- c) The Championship Play Committee will have the sole management and control of the Championship, with full power at any time to alter or vary any of the terms.
- d) The Championship Play Committee's decision on matters affecting the Championship will be final.

6. Refund Policy

Any entrant may withdraw and have the entrance fee refunded provided notification is received 5 days prior to the event. To be eligible for a refund after this time players must provide GA supporting documents regarding their withdrawal from the event (eg. medical certificate). In the case of the State Final commencing but not being completed (for example due to weather delays) refunds will not be provided.

7. Rules of Golf

The Rules of Golf, as adopted by R&A Rules Limited, will apply, together with any additional Local Rules as drawn up by the Championship Play Committee.

8. Distance Measuring Devices

A player may obtain distance information by use of a distance-measuring device. If, during a stipulated round, a player uses a distance-measuring device to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect their play (e.g. elevation changes, wind speed, etc.), the player is in breach of Rule 4.3.

9. Motorised Transport

A player or a caddie will only be permitted to ride on motorised transportation in circumstances expressly described in (a) or (b) or (c) below.

- (a) When authorised (or later approved) by the committee in charge of the competition due to circumstances that arise during the playing of a round. For example, a player who is about to play (or who has just played) under penalty of stroke and distance, and their caddie, is automatically authorised to ride on motorised transportation.
- (b) When approved by Golf Australia as a person who currently requires the use of motorised transportation in order to participate in the game of golf. To be considered for approval, the player or caddie must provide to Golf Australia written advice from a medical practitioner, or a physiotherapist, or a chiropractor, or an osteopath, or the like, stating they currently require the use of motorised transportation to participate in the game of golf. The advice must be emailed to golfoperations@golf.org.au before the event's commencement. The advice from the health professional must specify the period of time that use of the motorised transportation is required (i.e., 1 week, 1 month, 1 year, or indefinitely). When an exemption is granted, the use of motorised transportation must solely serve the purpose of transportation.
- (c) Any player or caddie aged 75 years or over is permitted to use motorised transportation without needing to apply to Golf Australia for approval.

10. Anti-Doping Policy

The GA anti-doping policy applies for this event. The GA anti-doping policy is the Australian National Anti-Doping Policy, effective from 1 January 2021, and can be found by [clicking here](#).

11. Database of Competitors' Details

The personal data contained in this entry is permanently retained by GA. This data may be utilised by GA or its sponsors for the distribution of correspondence, in both electronic and hard copy means. From time to time players may be sent entry forms, event literature, the GA e-newsletter, or marketing material by the sponsor(s) of GA events, or information about events conducted by GA approved bodies. Upon receipt by GA of a written request, a player may either have access to their details, or have their details deleted from the database. For further details, please refer to our privacy policy by [clicking here](#).

12. Code of Conduct

All entrants are bound by GA's Code of Conduct ("the Code"). A copy of the Code is available by [clicking here](#). Any breach of the Code may be recorded on the Central Register of the Code ("the Register"). The Register may be accessed (and published from time to time) by any State Association or GA for the purposes of administering Competitions or state championships, events, competitions, practice sessions or major activities conducted or sanctioned by a State Association, or any State Association or GA codes of conduct and/or other related matters.

13. Legal Policies (E.g. Match Fixing Policy)

All entrants are bound to comply with all of GA's legal policies. These policies relate to the golfer's behaviour and the behaviour of their associates during the tournament. Any breach of these policies may result in the competitor being withdrawn from the competition and subject to investigation and disciplinary proceedings. It is the duty of the competitors and their associates to familiarise themselves with the relevant policies and ensure they comply. [Click here](#) to view GA's Legal Policies.

14. Smoking & Consumption of Alcohol Policy

Players and caddies are prohibited from smoking and consuming alcohol during a round. (Note: In addition to the more traditional forms of smoking, this policy is also considered to cover vaping and the like).

The following penalty structure applies for a breach of the above policy:

- o First breach: Warning
- o Second breach: One-Stroke Penalty
- o Third breach: General Penalty
- o Fourth breach or any subsequent misconduct: Disqualification

The Championship Play Committee will impose any penalty, where applicable. Their decision is final.

NATIONAL FINAL

- 1) The 2022 Play 9 National Final will be played over 9-holes of individual Stableford in Melbourne, the week commencing 28 November 2022.
- 2) The field will consist of 28 players who have qualified via their State/Territory qualifying competition during the 2022 Play 9 competition. In the event of a withdrawal of one of those 28 players, a substitution is permitted as determined by the Championship Play Committee.

Notes:

- i) If a player under the age of 18 years qualifies for the National Final, they MUST bring a chaperone at their own cost.
- ii) Motorised Transport Policy for the National Final
 - A player will only be permitted to ride on motorised transportation in circumstances expressly described in (a) or (b) or (c) below.
 - a) When authorised (or later approved) by the committee in charge of the competition due to circumstances that arise during the playing of a round. For example, a player who is about to play (or who has just played) under penalty of stroke and distance, is automatically authorised to ride on motorised transportation.
 - b) When approved by GA due to one of the 10 eligible disability impairments recognised by the International Golf Federation.
 - Details of the 10 eligible impairments are provided by [clicking here](#).
 - A player seeking authorisation to ride on any form of motorised transportation as a result of one of the 10 eligible disability impairments recognised by the International Golf Federation must email GA (golfoperations@golf.org.au) to obtain information on procedures for submitting requests.
 - All such requests and required information must be submitted to GA before the date of the National Final.
 - c) Any player who is not covered by one of the 10 eligible disability impairments recognised by the International Golf Federation (see clause (b)), but who believes they are impacted by exceptional circumstances, has the option of applying to GA for special approval to use motorised transportation. To be considered, such applications must be received via email by GA's General Manager – Events & Operations before the date of the National Final (email: golfoperations@golf.org.au).