THE ENGLISH WOMEN’S OPEN
AMATEUR STROKE PLAY
CHAMPIONSHIP

Burnham & Berrow Golf Club
18–20 August 2020

Entry Fee £75
Closing Date: 12 noon, Wednesday 22 July

Terms of the Competition

1. **Rules of Golf**

   All Championships shall be played in accordance with the Rules of Golf and such Local Rules and Terms of the Competition as shall be approved by England Golf.

   In the case of entry by a golfer with disability, she can apply to England Golf for adoption of the Modification of the Rules for Golfers with Disability.

2. **Eligibility**

   2.1. All players must be of Amateur Status as defined by The Rules of Amateur Status.

   2.2. Open to female amateur golfers of all nationalities.

   2.3. In possession of a competition “c” handicap not exceeding 6.4 under the CONGU Unified Handicapping System or a comparable scheme operated by a recognised overseas Golf Union, Federation or Association.

3. **Format**

   3.1. The Championship shall consist of 72 holes of Stroke Play. One round of 18 holes shall be played on each of the first two days. After 36 holes the leading 40 competitors and all those tying for 40th place shall play a further 36 holes on the third day.

   3.2. The winner shall be the competitor who returns the lowest score over 72 holes. In the event of a tie, there will be a sudden death play-off over holes to be decided by the Championship Committee.

4. **Entries**

   4.1. A maximum of 144 competitors shall play in the Championship.
4.2. Entries may be made online at the England Golf website (www.englandgolf.org). In order to enter online, a competitor must possess a CDH (Central Database of Handicaps) ID number. Payment will be taken when the online entry is submitted. Unsuccessful entrants will be refunded to the same card after the closing date.

4.3. If Online Entry is not possible, a PDF entry form may be downloaded from the England Golf website or from the England Golf Championship Department and emailed to championships@englandgolf.org, or by post.

4.4. Entries by telephone are not accepted.

4.5. No entry fee will be refunded unless written/email notice of withdrawal is received before the closing date for entries, except to any entrant who may be balloted out and who does not subsequently compete. Withdrawal of an entry prior to the closing date will incur an administration charge of £5.

4.6. When entering any England Golf event by any of the methods in 4 above, a player’s exact handicap must be recorded on the entry form. Any entry ballot will be based on the exact handicap of the relevant players, as at the closing date of entries using the Central Database of Handicaps (CDH). Where a CDH number is not available players are required to notify the Championship department of any changes prior to the closing date.

Note: It is the player’s responsibility to ensure that their exact handicap on the CDH is up to date. England Golf shall take no responsibility for any out of date handicap used for balloting purposes.

4.7. Players holding both a CONGU and an overseas authority’s handicap must enter the Championship using their CONGU handicap. Failure to comply will result in entry being denied.

4.8. If a player has relinquished their CONGU handicap in favour of a lower overseas handicap, they will be requested to provide a playing record comprising at least 10 scores from the previous 12 months showing they are able to meet the required playing standard for entry into England Golf Championships. Otherwise, entry will be denied.

4.9. Overseas entries will only be accepted when the player’s handicap has been verified by their Home Union/Federation/Association.

4.10. All entries shall be subject to the approval of the Championship Committee, which reserves the right to accept, refuse, or cancel an entry without giving reason for its decision. The Committee’s decision shall be final. In such cases, any entry fee will be refunded.

4.11. Ballot: If entries exceed 144, they shall be reduced to 144 by eliminating the higher handicaps by ballot or in such other way as the Championship Committee shall determine. Players eliminated by ballot will be kept on a reserve list. If such players are not subsequently offered a place or are unable to accept such an offer, entry fees will be returned.
5. **Withdrawals**

5.1. Withdrawals will only be accepted if:

Written confirmation is received in to championships@englandgolf.org

5.2. If a player withdraws prior to the closing date an administration charge of £5 will apply.

In the event of a competitor withdrawing after the closing date the entry fee will not be refunded.

5.3. Any player who:

i. withdraws from an event after the draw has been published, or

ii. fails to register at the England Golf Championship Office or other designated location, or online or by telephone by 12:00 on the day before a Championship starts, or

iii. fails to appear on the tee at their appointed start time, or

iv. having qualified to continue in an event, fails to do so*

will be subject to an automatic ban from entering or playing in England Golf Championships for such period as the Championship Committee may decide.

*If a competitor withdraws from the competition before the cut is made the players score shall still be included in determining the cut mark.

6. **Reserves**

6.1. A reserve list will be maintained and managed by the Championship Department. Should a place or places in the draw become available, reserves will be invited to play in the order they are listed on the reserve list.

6.2. In order to ensure a full field for a Championship and at the sole discretion of the Championship Department, a reserve or reserves may be offered a place depending on whether they can be contacted, i.e. irrespective of their place on the reserve list.

6.3. In the event of a late withdrawal of a player in the draw, a reserve who has entered the event in accordance with 4 above and is present at the venue on the first day of the Championship may be offered the vacated start place. Should there be more than one reserve in attendance, such reserves will be invited to play in the order they are listed on the reserve list.

6.4. At the discretion of registration officials at the venue, and depending on a practice round space being available, a reserve who is present at the venue may play a practice round. They may also use practice facilities at the venue.

7. **Registration**

Players must register their intention to compete in a Championship by 12:00 on the day before the event starts, either in person at the Championship Office or by telephone.

Failure to do so will result in the player forfeiting their place, which will be offered to a reserve. The player concerned will also forfeit their entry fee.
8. **Transportation**

During a round (including practice), a player or caddie must not ride on any form of motorized transportation except as authorized or later approved by the Committee.

Penalty for Breach of Local Rule: The player gets the general penalty for each hole during which there is a breach of this Local Rule. If the breach occurs between the play of two holes, it applies to the next hole.

Note: Prior approval for the use of motorized transport is required. Please see England Golf’s Transportation Policy ([www.englandgolf.org](http://www.englandgolf.org)), which includes provisions for people with disabilities, for further details.

9. **Dress Code**

Players and caddies may wear standard golf apparel, including tailored shorts, unless otherwise specified in the Players Information.

10. **Inclement Weather**

If, in the opinion of England Golf, it becomes impossible to complete a Championship in accordance with that Championship’s Conditions because of adverse weather or other circumstances, England Golf may vary the format to the extent necessary to achieve a result within the time available.

11. **Winner, Prizes and Decision of Ties**

11.1. The Winner shall be presented with the Trophy at the Prize Presentation.

11.2. Prize vouchers shall be awarded to the top 5 places.

11.3. Ties for first place will be decided by a sudden death play-off over holes to be determined by England Golf.

Note: If a play-off involves more than two players, those eliminated will be deemed to have tied for second place, regardless of the order in which they were eliminated, and will receive Second Place vouchers of equal value.

11.4. Ties for prizes (with the exception in 11.3) above, will be decided as follows:

i. Shall be decided on the 4th round, then the 3rd round, then the 2nd round and then the 1st round.

ii. Should that fail to produce a result, ties shall be decided on the last 9, 6, 3 or 1 holes of the last completed round. If a tie still arises it shall be decided on the last 9, 6, 3 or 1 holes of the first nine holes of the last completed round. If a tie still arises, each of the preceding rounds played shall be treated in the same way (taking each round in the reverse order to that in which they were played) until a decision is reached.

12. **Policies & Procedures**

12.1. All England Golf policies apply, as appropriate, to England Golf Championships. They include but are not limited to:
• Anti-Doping Regulations
• Code of Conduct
• Equality Policy
• Gender Policy
• Pace of Play Policy
• Safeguarding Adults Policy
• Children and Young People Safeguarding Policy
• Transportation Policy (including provisions for people with disabilities)

All relevant policies are available to be viewed at www.englandgolf.org/competitions

13. Photography Consent

By entering an England Golf event all players are consenting to being filmed or recorded (images and sound) by or on behalf of England Golf, or another authorised third party, and consent to these images (or likenesses) being used in any film, recording, photograph or other footage (“recording”) in the promotion of England Golf activities. All rights in the recording shall be owned by England Golf or the authorised third party. Players agree that any recording may be used by England Golf or an authorised third party in any media and for any purpose throughout the world, including, without limitation, for promotional materials and activities, merchandise, or other commercial activities. Players acknowledge that no payment or compensation for use of their image or likeness shall be payable to them.

Please contact the Championship department at championships@englandgolf.org if you have any queries.

14. Liability

Neither the Club nor England Golf can be held responsible for the loss of or damage to, equipment or personal possessions.