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2-1/2

Employment as Shop Assistant in Professional's Shop

Q. May an amateur golfer take a job as a shop assistant with a professional, for which he receives a weekly wage, without forfeiting his Amateur Status?

A. Yes, provided he does not infringe the Rules in any way, e.g. he must not play golf with anyone for a fee, give golf instruction as part of his duties as a shop assistant or play for prize money. He may learn how to repair clubs and give instruction free of charge outside his employment.

The same answer applies to people who may be attached to professional golfers in work experience trainee programmes. (Revised)

2-1/5

Employment as Salesman of Golf Equipment

Q. May an amateur golfer of golf skill or reputation be employed by a golf equipment manufacturer to sell golf merchandise?

A. Yes, provided he does not infringe the Rules in any other way, e.g. he must not allow his name or likeness to be used to promote the golf equipment (Rule 6-2). (Revised)

2-1/6

Former Golf Professional Wishes to Run Retail Golf Shop and Join Golf Club

Q. A former professional has resigned from the PGA and applied for reinstatement to Amateur Status. While awaiting reinstatement, is he permitted to run a retail golf shop and join a Golf Club and, with the permission of the Committee at the Club, play in Club competitions?

A. Yes, subject to the following important provisos:

1. When running his shop, he must not promote the fact that he had previously been a professional by advertising the availability of "professional advice" or by referring to the fact that he had previously been a professional; if he did so, he would be guilty of "Professionalism" in breach of Rule 2-1.
2. He must not allow his golf skill or reputation as a professional to be used in any way for the advertisement or sale of anything in breach of Rule 6-2.
3. When he joins a Golf Club, which he is entitled to do, he must not play with members for the purpose of selling them golf clubs, golf equipment, etc. or giving them instruction in breach of Rule 2-1 and Rule 5-1.

If the person concerned was found to be in breach of any of the three provisos listed above, his application for reinstatement would become null and void. (Revised)

2-1/7

Educational Courses: Participation in Courses for Prospective Professionals or Golf Coaches

Participation in a programme (e.g. Professional Golf Management Programmes) designed to or having the purpose of preparing students to become golf professionals or golf coaches does not, by itself, breach Rule 2-1. However, a student must ensure that he does not breach any other Rule. (Revised)

2-1/12

Amateur Golfer Enters for Professional Tour; When Breach Occurs

Q. Does an amateur golfer forfeit his Amateur Status if he files an application for a qualifying competition to become a professional tournament player, without waiving his right in writing to any prize money?

A. No. An amateur golfer forfeits his Amateur Status only when he participates in a qualifying competition to become a professional tournament player without first waiving his right in writing to any prize money. Therefore, an amateur golfer who enters such a competition without first waiving his right to prize money remains eligible to play in amateur competitions before the qualifying competition, provided he conforms to the Rules (e.g. he does not identify himself as a professional golfer). (Revised - Formerly 2-2/4)

3-1/2

Prize Money Placed in Trust Fund

Q. Is it permissible for an amateur golfer to compete with professionals for prize money, with any prize money that is won by the amateur golfer put in a trust fund for the future development of amateur golfers?

A. No. Such an act would be a breach of Rule 3-1. (Revised)

3-1/5

Amateur Golfer Plays for Cash Prize in Golf Skills Challenge

Q. May an amateur golfer take part in a "golf skills challenge" with a cash prize?

A. No, unless he waives his right in writing to the cash prize in advance of participating. Otherwise, the amateur golfer would forfeit his Amateur Status. (Revised – Formerly 3-1/7)

3-1/6

Shares, Stocks or Bonds as a Prize

Q. May an amateur golfer take part in a competition where there are shares, stocks or bonds as a prize?

A. No. As such shares, stocks or bonds are convertible into cash, the format would be considered the equivalent of playing for prize money in breach of Rule 3-1, unless the player waived his right in writing to the shares, stocks or bonds in advance of playing in the competition. (Revised – Formerly 3-1/8)

3-2a/2

Whether “Retail Value” Includes Discount Prices

Q. The sponsor of a Pro-Am, who is a dealer in electrical goods, wishes to offer the winning amateur golfer a prize of a television. The television is available to the dealer at below the limit laid down in Rule 3-2a, but he would normally sell it at more than the prize limit. Is this permissible?

A. No. The definition of "retail value" of a prize is "the price at which the prize is generally available from a retail source at the time of the award." This includes discount sources, but the merchandise must be available over a reasonable period of time, from a number of outlets, be publicly advertised and available to everyone. Specially discounted or short term offers, or those restricted to certain customers, do not fall within this definition. (Revised)

3-2a/3

Participation in Event with Improper Prize

Participants in nearest to the hole and long drive contests that offer non-conforming prizes (including cash prizes) are not in breach of the Rules unless they accept such prizes, because such contests are not matches, competitions or exhibitions — see Rule 3-1.

Participants in an event (e.g. an 18 or 36 hole competition) which offers a non-conforming prize (other than a cash prize), are not in breach of the Rules unless they accept such a prize. (Revised)

3-2a/5

Prize for Quiz Not Involving Playing Golf

Q. An amateur golfer wins a golf quiz, which does not involve playing golf. Does the prize limit referred to in Rule 3-2 apply to a quiz of this kind?

A. No. The Rules do not apply to such a quiz (but see Decision 4-1/1). (Revised)

3-2a/6

Prizes at Driving Ranges or Golf Simulators

Q. Do the Rules in general and Rule 3-2 in particular apply to competitions held at driving ranges or on indoor golf simulators?

A. Yes. The Rules apply to all competitions where the player is asked to replicate a shot similar to one he would encounter during a round of golf, whether at a golf course, driving range or golf simulator. The Rules do not apply to activities involving golf feats not encountered on a golf course (e.g. pitching a ball into a bucket or striking a moving target) which take place at a carnival, fun fair or fund-raising event where the playing of golf is not a major factor in attracting people to the event as a whole. (Revised)

3-2a/7

Definition of "Golf Course"

Q. With regard to Decisions 3-2a/6 and 3-2b/1 and the application of the Rules, what constitutes a "golf course"?

A. Although the term "golf course" is not defined, it is generally accepted to be an area of ground which has been specifically prepared for the purpose of playing golf, e.g. an 18-hole or 9-hole golf course or pitch and putt course. If a sports stadium has six golf holes temporarily laid out within it (i.e. with tees, greens, hazards, etc.), this would be, for the purposes of applying the Rules, considered a "golf course". (Revised)

3-2a/8

Award of Prize to Club by Commercial Sponsor

Q. Is it permissible for a company sponsoring an event to award a prize to the Club of the amateur golfer winning the event, in addition to the individual prize won by the amateur golfer under Rule 3-2?

A. A Club may accept a prize based on the performance of its members in a golf competition provided it is not a cash prize and the total value of the prizes accepted by both the player and the Club is not greater than the prize limit laid down in Rule 3-2. (Revised)

3-2a/10

Clarification of “Total Prizes or Prize Vouchers in Any One Competition or Series of Competitions”

Q. How does the prize limit in Rule 3-2 apply to the total prizes won in a single competition or series of competitions?

A. The total in a competition would include the primary competition as well as any secondary contests (e.g. longest drive, nearest to the hole, etc.).

The prize limit in Rule 3-2a would also apply to the total prizes won in two concurrent competitions (e.g. low gross and low net) even if there is a separate entry fee for each.

Each qualifying stage of a tournament constitutes a separate competition provided there is a realistic entry fee at each level. (Revised)

3-2a/11

Two 36-Hole Competitions Also Run as 72-Hole Event; Prizes Individuals May Accept

Q. An event is run over the two days of a weekend. It consists of:

- (a) a 36-hole individual stroke play competition played at X Golf Club on the Saturday;
- (b) a 36-hole individual and team stroke play competition played at Y Golf Club on the following day (Sunday); and
- (c) on the basis of the results, a 72-hole aggregate trophy is awarded to the best individual score among competitors who compete in both (a) and (b).

Competitions (a) and (b) are completely separate, with separate entry fees and optional sweepstakes; it is only when a competitor plays in both that he is eligible for (c).

Rule 3-2a refers to the retail prize limit "for any one competition or series of competitions". Does this mean that prizes up to the limit can be awarded for each competition?

A. As (a) and (b) are completely separate competitions played on different courses and with separate entry fees, the maximum retail prize limit applies in each case, e.g. a competitor may win a voucher for the maximum in (a) and the maximum in (b).

However, if a competitor in (a) also plays in (b) and thereby qualifies for an award in the aggregate trophy competition (c), he may only accept a prize or voucher for (c) up to the amount which, when added to the value of the prizes he has won for (a) and (b), does not exceed the maximum in Rule 3-2. On the other hand, if he has already won prizes of the maximum in (a) and (b), he can accept a prize of symbolic value in (c) as such prizes (e.g. an engraved silver trophy), are not included in the maximum retail value of prizes.

With regard to the individual and team competitions in event (b), the maximum overall prize limit covers both competitions, e.g. if a player wins a prize of retail value of £300 in the individual competition, then the maximum he can receive in the team competition is a prize of retail value of no more than £200, i.e. a total of £500. (Revised)

3-2a/12

Prize for Order of Merit

Q. An "Order of Merit" is based upon a player's performance in a number of pre-selected, but otherwise separate individual events. In addition to any prizes a player may have won in the events themselves, may he win a prize due to his position in the Order of Merit?

A. Yes, provided it is a genuine order of merit and not a method of circumventing the Rules. (Revised)

3-2a/13

Policy on Raffles, Prize Draws, etc.

General

The Rules of Amateur Status do not apply to a raffle or prize draw run in conjunction with a golf event provided:

- (a) it is a genuine draw;
- (b) it is open to a substantial number of people;
- (c) golf skill is not a factor in being allowed to participate in the draw; and
- (d) it is not a subterfuge for circumventing the Rules.

Therefore, the limit referred to in Rule 3-2a is not applicable to the prizes of such a raffle or prize draw (but see Decision 4-1/1).

The following are examples of raffles or prize draws where the Prize Rule applies:

Raffle or Prize Draw Limited to Players in Event for Skilled Players

If a raffle or prize draw is limited to the players in a golf event where golf skill is a condition of entry, the Rules of Amateur Status apply and an amateur golfer must not accept a prize in such a raffle or draw of retail value in excess of the limit laid down in Rule 3-2a.

In addition, when the retail value of such a raffle or draw prize is added to any other prize won by the same person in the same event, this must not total an amount in excess of the limit laid down in Rule 3-2a.

Raffle or Prize Draw Limited to Players in a Golf Event Who Achieve Longest Drive, Nearest to the Hole, etc.

If a raffle or prize draw is limited to those players in a golf event who achieve a particular feat (such as a longest drive and nearest to the hole), golf skill is an entry requirement.

Therefore, the Rules apply and an amateur golfer must not accept a prize in such a raffle or draw of retail value in excess of the limit laid down in Rule 3-2a.

In addition, when the retail value of such a raffle or draw prize is added to any other prize won by the same person in the same event, this must not total an amount in excess of the limit laid down in Rule 3-2a. (Revised)

3-2a/18

Club Permitting Competition for Excessive Prizes

Q. What action could be taken by a golf union or association in a case where a Club or Society is aware of, but makes no effort to discourage, competition for an excessive prize?

A. Any sanctions which might be taken will depend on the constitution of the relevant golf union or association. For example, a constitution may state that Clubs which do not enforce the Rules are subject

to disaffiliation. Alternative sanctions may include refusal of entries from members of that Club for the relevant golf union or association events and removal of recognition of their handicaps. (Revised)

3-2a/19

Conditions Under Which Expenses-Paid Trip as Prize Permissible

An amateur golfer may accept an expenses-paid trip as a prize provided it is worth no more than the prize limit and it is not for the purpose of participating in a golf competition, including a subsequent stage of the same event. The prize should be in the form of airline tickets, hotel vouchers, etc. and must not be in the form of cash (but see Rule 4-2g for sponsored handicap competitions). (Revised)

3-3/1

Examples of Testimonial Awards

Testimonial awards relate to notable performances or contributions to golf, as distinguished from tournament prizes.

It would be permissible, for example, for a state or county union or association to give an award of retail value up to the prize limit to its Golfer of the Year and for the national golf union or association to do the same. See also Decision 3-2a/12. (Revised)

4-1/3

Loan of Motor Car by Sponsor

Q. May an amateur golfer of golf skill or reputation accept the loan of a motor car for travel to a golf competition?

A. Yes, provided the car on loan is not from a sponsor organising an event and thereby an inducement to compete in the event (Rule 6-3) and there is no advertising involved (Rule 6-2). (Revised)

4-2a/1

Family Member of Player Accepts Money from Outside Source to Pay Player's Competition Expenses

Q. May a family member or legal guardian of a player accept money from an outside source to pay the player's competition expenses?

A. No. However, the money may be provided if the competition expenses are approved and paid in accordance with Rule 4-2c, otherwise the player would be in breach of Rule 4-1. A family member or legal guardian must pay for a player's competition expenses from his own resources. Examples of unacceptable outside sources include, but are not limited to, private individuals, companies, sports agents and equipment manufacturers. (Revised)

4-2b/1

Junior Golfer Accepting Expenses from Sponsor for Golf Visit to Another Country

Q. A junior golfer (see Definition) plans to visit another country for three months during the winter to practise and receive coaching from a prominent professional and to participate in a competition limited to junior golfers. May he receive financial assistance towards his expenses from a sponsor?

A. Yes. He may receive financial assistance towards the practice and coaching aspect of the trip as this does not involve a golf competition or exhibition. In addition, as the golf competition is limited exclusively to junior golfers he may receive competition expenses under Rule 4-2b. However, the golfer may not advertise the fact that he is receiving such assistance – see Rule 6-2. (Revised)

4-2c/3

Competition Expenses of Junior Golfers to Non-Junior Events

Q. May a fund be created by friends of a junior golfer to pay the competition expenses of the junior golfer to take part in a competition not limited exclusively to junior golfers in the player's own country?

A. Yes, provided the funds are lodged with and disbursed by the player's national, regional, state or county golf union or association. (Revised)

4-2c/5

Payment of Competition Expenses in Kind

Q. If an airline donates air tickets (or a hotel donates free accommodation) could such donations be used to assist with the payment of a player's competition expenses under Rule 4-2c?

A. Yes. Expenses do not have to be monetary and may be accepted in kind provided the provisions of Rule 4-2c are applied. (Revised)

4-2c/6

Payment of Competition Expenses by University or College

Q. May a university or college pay the competition expenses of an amateur golfer who is a member of the university or college team to compete in individual events?

A. No. If an amateur golfer either received the expenses directly from the university or college or the university or college paid the expenses on his behalf, the amateur golfer would be in breach of Rule 4-2c. However, the university or college may fund the expenses provided they are approved and paid through the player's national, regional, state or county golf union or association. (Revised)

4-2c/7

Expenses Limited to Specific Number of Competitive Days

Q. Rule 4-2c provides that a Governing Body "may limit the receipt of expenses to a specific number of competitive days in any one calendar year". Is a Governing Body under an obligation to lay down such limits?

A. No. The intent of the Rules is to restrict an amateur golfer to accepting competition expenses only for the number of days specified by the Governing Body, but the Governing Body is under no obligation to impose such a restriction. (Revised)

4-2c/8

Meaning of "Other Similar Source"

Q. The Exceptions to Rule 4-2c and Rule 4-3 provide that an amateur golfer must not accept expenses provided by a professional agent "or other similar source as may be determined by the Governing Body." What is meant by "other similar source"?

A. The provisions of the latter part of the Exception are purposely broad so as to allow each Governing Body to determine what it believes to be an inappropriate source of expenses because of concern for indirect sponsorship of a specific individual. In particular, care should be taken when expenses are received by an individual (as opposed to a team) from a source which historically has used golf as a medium to advertise or promote its goods or services. For example, if an equipment manufacturer that has traditionally used players to promote its products were to pay the expenses of a prominent amateur

golfer, there would be concern whether there is an indirect agreement between the manufacturer and player, and the burden of proof to the contrary would rest with the player. (Revised)

4-2c/9

Approval of Competition Expenses for Disabled Amateur Golfers

Q. May a Governing Body permit an organisation of disabled golfers to approve and pay competition expenses on behalf of its members and otherwise act in accordance with the provisions of Rule 4-2c?

A. Yes. Any such organisation should be officially registered and hold charitable status, or the equivalent, and be able to provide an annual statement of the expenses administered to the Governing Body on request to do so.

A disabled golfer may have his competition expenses administered by such an organisation irrespective of whether the competition in which he is participating is restricted to disabled golfers or not. (Revised – Formerly 4-2c/10)

4-2d/2

Clarification of “Team Competition”

Q. What is meant by “team competition” in Rule 4-2d?

A. In order for a competition to be considered a “team competition” and the provisions of Rule 4-2d to apply, the following criteria must be met:

(a) The competition must be between or among teams representing the bodies detailed in Rule 4-2d.

(b) If there is a concurrent individual competition this must be incidental to the team competition.

(c) At least two players must be nominated for each team. However, in cases where the Rules of Golf allow a single player to represent his side (e.g. in a four-ball match), he may do so if his partner is unable to compete for reasons such as injury. (Revised)

4-2d/3

Meaning of “Union”, “Association” and “Golf Club”

Q. Within the context of Rule 4-2d, what is meant by the terms “union”, “association” and “golf club”?

A. A “union” or “association” is an organisation of golf clubs operated under a constitution or bye-laws and formed for the purpose of conducting competitions and otherwise promoting the development and best interests of and conserving the true spirit of the game of golf in a country, region, state or county.

A “golf club” is an organisation of individual golfers that operates under a constitution or bye-laws. The members must have a reasonable and regular opportunity to play golf with each other. (Revised)

4-2d/4

Sponsorship of International Team Match

Q. Is it permissible for a company to sponsor an international team match by paying the travel and hotel expenses of the visiting team?

A. Under Rule 4-2d a player representing his country in a team match can only have his expenses paid either by the body he represents or the body controlling golf in the territory he is visiting. Therefore, provided the company donates the funds in the first instance to either the host or the visiting national

golf union or association, the national golf union or association could then cover the expenses of the members of the team. (Revised)

Related Decision:

- 6-2/15 Commercial Sponsorship of Amateur Golf – Policy on Publicity for Sponsors

4-2d/5

Sponsored Club Team Competition with Final Abroad

Q. A sponsor wishes to organise a competition in which teams from various Clubs enter and on a knock-out basis eventually arrive with two teams as winners. These two teams would go abroad for one week to play the final with travelling and accommodation expenses for the winning teams being paid by the sponsor. Is this permissible?

A. It is not permitted for a sponsor to pay the expenses of members of a Club team under Rule 4-2d to take part in a team competition, nor may the sponsor offer as a prize an expenses paid trip. Such expenses can only be paid by the body the players represent, in this case, their Club.

However, under Rule 4-2g, if the event is a handicap event it would be permissible for the sponsor to pay the competitor's travel and accommodation expenses, provided the approval of the Governing Bodies have first been obtained, as prescribed in Rule 4-2g(ii). (Revised)

4-2d/6

Payment of Expenses to Club Teams at Training Camps

Q. May a Club or a national, regional, state or county golf union or association pay the expenses of its team at a training camp?

A. Yes (see Rule 4-2d). It is important that the camp is genuine preparation for team events and that the expenses paid do not exceed the actual expenses incurred. In particular, compensation for loss of earnings must not be paid. (Revised)

4-2d/7

Payment of Substitute Teacher When Representing Regional or County Golf Union or Association

Q. A teacher, who plays amateur golf for his regional or county golf union or association, has to find a substitute teacher and pay his salary if the match is during term time.

May the regional or county golf union or association pay the salary of the substitute teacher either in full or make a contribution towards it?

A. No. Under Rule 4-2d the regional or county golf union or association may pay reasonable expenses to the teacher when representing his region or in team matches, but it would not be in order to compensate the amateur golfer for the expense of the substitute teacher, or to pay the substitute teacher directly. Such an outlay is not considered competition expenses. (Revised)

4-2g/1

Guidelines for Organisers and Commercial Sponsors of Amateur Golf Events; Whether Expenses May be Paid

Under Rule 4-1, an amateur golfer is not permitted to accept expenses (e.g. free travel or hotel accommodation) to take part in a golf competition, except in certain circumstances (see Rule 4-2).

Rule 4-2g permits an amateur golfer to accept expenses, not exceeding those actually incurred, to take part in a handicap individual or handicap team event, provided the event has received the necessary annual approval.

The organiser or sponsor must obtain the approval of the event in advance from the Governing Body in the country where the qualifying events are to be played. The Governing Body may require the submission of the event's proposed conditions of competition (including the venue of the final) and an estimate of the level of expenses to be paid by a sponsor on behalf of amateur golfers competing in the event. The Governing Body may restrict all stages of the event to its own country.

If the final is to be played elsewhere, it is the responsibility of the Governing Body where the qualifying events are taking place to seek the approval of the Governing Body where the final of the event is to be played.

It is a matter for the appropriate Committee of the Governing Body to decide whether or not a particular event qualifies for approval under Rule 4-2g and the Governing Body has considerable discretion in this respect. However, an event can only be approved if the following requirements are met:

1. It must be a handicap individual or a handicap team event where the handicaps are applied. Events designed primarily for low handicap players where gross scores count, do not qualify;
2. The event must have a sponsor who financially supports the event for charitable or promotional reasons;
3. If an entry fee is to be paid, the event must not be approved if it is entirely financially supported by these fees;
4. All prizes must conform with Rule 3 and in particular, the total prizes received by any one person throughout the event must not exceed the limit laid down in Rule 3-2 as determined by the Governing Body in the country concerned; and
5. The level of expenses must be considered 'reasonable'. There are no specific limits referred to in the Rules, but a Governing Body may deny approval on the grounds that the 'level of expenses' or the number of days on which expenses are covered are excessively high.

All events approved under Rule 4-2g should be given a reference number (e.g. "Approved for the payment of expenses Rule 4-2g/01/2012"), which should be included on all of the event's advertising literature and entry forms. (Revised – Formerly 4-2g/2)

5-1/4

Donation to Charity at Suggestion of Instructor

Q. May an amateur golfer who has given golf instruction on a voluntary basis suggest to his pupils that they make a donation to a recognised charity after each lesson or coaching session?

A. Yes, provided pupils are under no obligation to do so and the amateur golfer does not benefit, directly or indirectly, from the donation. (Revised)

5-2a/2

Meaning of "Educational Institution or System" and "Camp or Similar Organised Programme"

Q. Within the context of Rule 5-2a, what is meant by the terms "educational institution or system" and "camp or other similar organised programme"?

A. An "educational institution or system" may be a school, college or university, or a similar body. A "camp or other similar organised programme" may be a day or overnight camp in which there may or may not be activities other than golf included in the programme, such as a summer camp organised for young people. (Revised)

5-2b/1

Payment for Golf Instruction as Part of Approved Programme

Rule 5-2b is written in deliberately broad terms to enable it to apply to a variety of coaching programmes, which may be appropriate in different countries.

The intention of the Rule is to encourage the involvement of volunteers with programmes aimed at introducing young people to golf, with such volunteers providing support to qualified members of a Professional Golfers' Association. However, the Rule is not limited in its application to apply only to the coaching of junior golfers and may be applied by a Governing Body to programmes aimed at developing the game at all levels. It is considered reasonable to compensate volunteers for their time in coaching as part of such a programme.

It is a condition of Rule 5-2b that the programme must be approved in advance by the Governing Body thereby ensuring that the programme is co-ordinated or sanctioned appropriately.

It is a matter for the appropriate Committee of the Governing Body to decide whether a particular programme qualifies for approval under Rule 5-2b and the Governing Body may set certain criteria for a programme to follow in order for it to be approved. For example, it may limit the number of hours that an amateur golfer may receive payment or compensation for coaching or it may limit the amount payable in a given period.

The following matters must be considered in determining guidelines for the approval of such programmes by a Governing Body:

- (a) The national Professional Golfers' Association in the country concerned should be consulted and the programme should be co-ordinated between the Governing Body and the national PGA.
- (b) An age limit may be applied to those receiving coaching. However, in countries where golf is a relatively new sport or the number of qualified PGA professionals is limited, it may not be appropriate to apply an age limit.
- (c) A reasonable limit should be put on the length of time an amateur golfer may coach as part of an approved programme, e.g. the number of hours in any week, month or year, and/or a reasonable limit should be put on the amount of remuneration paid to an amateur golfer e.g. the maximum amount in any week, month or year.
- (d) A programme's approval should be reviewed annually by the Governing Body.

An amateur golfer of golf skill or reputation must not lend his name or likeness to the promotion or advertisement of the programme (Rule 6-2). (Revised)

5-3/1

Conditions Under Which Well-Known Amateur May Write Instructional Articles for No Compensation

Q. Rule 5-3 states that an amateur golfer may receive payment or compensation for instruction in writing, provided his ability as a golfer was not a major factor in the commission or sale of his work. It is clear that if a well-known amateur golfer writes instructional articles he must not receive any payment or compensation for doing so. However, Rule 6-2 states that an amateur golfer of golf skill or reputation may not receive a personal benefit from the promotion, advertisement or sale of anything or allow his name or likeness to be used by a third party for those purposes. May a well-known amateur golfer write instructional articles without payment or compensation without breaching Rule 6-2?

A. The answer depends on the circumstances. A well-known amateur golfer considering such an action should consult his Governing Body prior to the publication of such an article.

Examples of actions which constitute a breach of Rules 5 and 6-2 are:

- writing instructional articles or tips in any promotional material (including newsletters to clients) for a player's firm or any other business; and
- writing a series of instructional articles for a publication.

Examples of actions which do not constitute a breach of Rules 5 and 6-2 are:

- writing a single instructional article for a publication with which the player has no connection; and
- writing an instructional pamphlet for free distribution (e.g. for junior clinics and programmes).
(Revised)

6/1

Meaning of “Competes at an Elite Level”

Q. The Definition of “Golf Skill or Reputation” provides that an amateur golfer is considered to have golf skill or reputation if, among other things, he “competes at an elite level.” What is meant by “an elite level”?

A. The phrase “elite level” is purposely broad so as to take into account the great variety of competitions around the world. In general, national championships and other gross stroke play competitions that draw top players from outside the state or county are considered to be of an “elite level.” (Revised)

6/2

Definition of Golf Skill for Disabled Amateur Golfer

Q. The Definition of “Golf Skill or Reputation” provides guidance in determining whether, for the purposes of the Rules, a particular amateur golfer has golf skill or reputation. How does this guidance apply in the case of a disabled amateur golfer?

A. From an Amateur Status perspective, a disabled amateur golfer's golf skill should be determined by a Governing Body based on his ability as a golfer rather than his ability as a disabled golfer. This interpretation has the benefit of being less restrictive in terms of raising sponsorship and publicity for disabled golf. (Revised)

6-2/1

Writing Articles to Advertise Own Business

Q. An amateur golfer of golf skill and reputation has been asked to write a series of articles for a magazine concerning his business experiences. It is proposed to publish a photograph of the golfer in the articles. Would this be in breach of Rule 6-2?

A. The writing of such articles is not, in itself, a breach of the Rules. However, it would be contrary to the Rules if an amateur golfer were to use his golf skill or reputation to advertise his business. If an amateur golfer wishes to write such articles, reference to his skill as a golfer must be omitted and any photograph included in the article must not be of him as a golfer. (Revised)

6-2/2

Employee Appears as Golfer in Company Advertisement

Q. An amateur golfer of golf skill or reputation appears as a golfer in an advertisement for his company. Would this be in breach of Rule 6-2, even if he is not directly compensated for the advertisement?

A. Yes. (Revised)

6-2/3

Company Brochure Containing Reference to Golfing Achievements

Q. A company contains a number of employees who have represented their country as amateur golfers. They have also taken a prominent part in golf administration in their golf unions or associations. Is it permissible to make reference to their achievements in a company brochure?

A. It would be a breach of Rule 6-2 for golfing achievements to be mentioned in connection with the various employees if they remain golfers of golf skill or reputation. However, even in these circumstances, it would not constitute a breach of the Rules to include reference to specific administrative posts held by them. (Revised)

6-2/4

Amateur Golfer Promotes Own Company in Magazine

Q. In view of Rule 6-2, is it a breach for an amateur golfer of golf skill or reputation to advertise or promote his own company in an article which he has written for a magazine?

A. Yes. While it is not a breach of the Rules for a golfer of golf skill or reputation to write an article in a magazine the player would be in breach of Rule 6-2 if he used the article to promote his own company. (Revised)

6-2/5

Amateur Golfer Appears in Advertisement Without Payment or Compensation

Q. May an amateur golfer of golf skill or reputation lend his name or likeness as such a golfer in an advertisement if he does not receive any payment or compensation for doing so?

A. No. An amateur golfer appearing in an advertisement is deemed to receive a personal benefit, e.g. enhanced personal profile, for such an appearance in breach of Rule 6-2, unless the Exception to that Rule applies. (Revised)

6-2/6

Magazine Competition

Q. A competition in a golf magazine sponsored by a golf ball manufacturer asks entrants a series of questions on the history of golf. The first prize is worth over £500. Entrants are also asked the following question: "In 15 words say why you think 'brand X' is the best ball". Does such a competition jeopardise the Amateur Status of entrants?

A. As this is not a golf competition, the Rules do not apply in so far as the prizes are concerned. Therefore, there is no objection to receiving a prize in excess of the prize limit (Rule 3-2).

However, an amateur golfer of golf skill or reputation may be in breach of Rule 6-2, irrespective of whether he wins a prize or not, if he was quoted stating why he considered a particular brand of ball to be the best. (Revised)

6-2/7

Celebrity Advertising Golf Wear

Q. A sportswear company proposes to enter into an agreement with a well-known celebrity who is a keen amateur golfer (Handicap 10), to advertise golf wear in sales brochures. It wishes to use his name in advertisements and pay him to attend company exhibitions. Is this a breach of Rule 6-2?

A. No. The person concerned is not a player of "golf skill or reputation" and, therefore, there is no objection to him advertising sportswear in the manner indicated.

However, if the person were to improve his golf to the extent that he gained golf skill or reputation (see Definition), the provisions of Rule 6 would be applicable to that person. Consequently, any advertising of golf-related products may be considered a breach of Rule 6-2. (Revised)

6-2/8

Proposal to Invite Leading Golfers to Advertise Golfing Holidays

Q. A national golf union or association has received a request from the Tourist Board of another country inviting seven prominent amateur golfers to visit the country as their guests, using interviews and photographs for the promotion of the tourist trade. Would the Amateur Status of such golfers be jeopardised?

A. Yes. Any golfer of golf skill or reputation would forfeit his Amateur Status for a breach of Rule 6-2 if he were to lend his name or likeness in advertising golfing holidays in this way. However, there would be no breach of the Rules in the case of amateur golfers who are not golfers of golf skill or reputation. (Revised)

6-2/9

Policy on Issue of Free Equipment to Amateur Golfers

Q. Is it permissible for an amateur golfer to accept free merchandise?

A. Yes. An amateur golfer of golf skill or reputation may accept golf balls, clubs, merchandise, clothing or shoes free of charge from anyone dealing in such equipment provided no advertising is involved – see Note 1 to Rule 6-2. (Revised)

6-2/10

Guidelines for Issue of Free Equipment to Amateur Golfers

Note 1 to Rule 6-2 permits an amateur golfer to accept free equipment. However, a Governing Body might consider issuing guidelines to manufacturers on the quantity of equipment that may be provided. For example, in any one year, a Governing Body may request that an amateur golfer should not receive in excess of the following:

- (1) 24 dozen golf balls.
- (2) 1 set of golf clubs.
- (3) 1 pair of golf shoes.
- (4) 1 set of waterproofs / rain suit.

Note: Any restriction placed on the receipt of golf equipment should only cover the issue of golf equipment free of charge directly to individual amateur golfers and should not cover any issue to golf unions or associations for their teams. (Revised)

6-2/11

Gift of Golf Clubs and Clothing to Encourage Amateur Golfer

Q. A company wishes to assist an amateur golfer of golf skill and reputation in the development of his golf. It is proposed to present him with a set of golf clubs and golf clothing. Is this permissible?

A. Yes, provided the golfer does not advertise the fact that the company has given him the equipment and clothing and there is no reference to the company on the equipment or clothing (other than the standard logo of the company if the company is the manufacturer of the equipment or clothing). (Revised)

6-2/12

Meaning of “Equipment”

Q. What is meant by the term “equipment” in Note I to Rule 6-2?

A. Equipment is considered to be anything which may be reasonably purchased from a golf professional’s shop or golf store. (Revised)

6-2/13

Policy on Names on Golf Equipment and Clothing

Q. May a player of golf skill or reputation arrange for his own name to appear on his golf equipment, clothing or shoes, in addition to the name and/or logo of the manufacturer of the equipment, clothing or shoes?

A. Yes. The golf equipment, clothing or shoes must be of the type that is normally available at a retail source and may bear only the name and/or logo of the manufacturer in addition to the name of the player.

Furthermore, it is permissible for a golf bag, umbrella, golf shoes or clothing of a player representing an educational institution to bear, in addition to the manufacturer’s name and/or logo, the player’s name and the name and/or logo of the educational institution.

Note: The player’s name must not appear more than once on each item of equipment or clothing or on each shoe. With regard to golf bags and umbrellas, the name must not exceed a perimeter measurement of 500 mm or 20 inches. With regard to clothing and shoes, the name on each garment or shoe must not exceed a perimeter measurement of 220 mm or 9 inches (see Decision 6-2/15). (Revised)

6-2/14

Commercial Logos on Golf Bags

Q. Is it permissible for an amateur golfer of golf skill or reputation to carry a golf bag with a commercial logo on it?

A. Generally, a golfer of golf skill or reputation would be in breach of the Rules if he used a golf bag with a commercial logo on it (Rule 6-2). However, in the following specific circumstances there would be no breach of the Rules:

1. The bag was purchased with the logo as an intrinsic part of the bag (e.g. the manufacturer’s name); or
2. The bag was issued to him as a member of a team (see Decision 6-2/15). (Revised)

6-2/15

Commercial Sponsorship of Amateur Golf – Policy on Publicity for Sponsors

In general, an amateur golfer of golf skill or reputation is not permitted to have the name and/or a logo of a sponsor on any of his golf equipment or clothing unless the sponsor is the manufacturer of the golf equipment or clothing; with members of a team or squad the situation is somewhat different and is detailed below.

National, regional, state, county golf unions or associations and Clubs sometimes accept commercial sponsorship for international, inter-club or similar important events for teams, squads or individuals. To what extent may commercial sponsors receive publicity, both on and off the course?

I. Golf Bags

(a) Individuals

The name of a commercial sponsor must not appear anywhere on a golf bag (unless the sponsor is also the manufacturer). A golf bag may bear both the player's name and/or logo of the manufacturer - see Decision 6-2/13.

(b) Teams / Squads

Where a national, regional, state, county or Club team or squad is sponsored, the members of the team or squad may have on their golf bags the name and/or emblem of the team or squad and the name and/or logo of either or both the sponsor and the bag manufacturer. However, the golf bag must be of the type that is normally available at a retail source and must not bear both the player's name and/or logo of a sponsor and/or manufacturer (other than the bag manufacturer - see Decision 6-2/13).

Note: If the sponsor is not the bag manufacturer, the sponsor's name and/or logo must not appear more than once on the bag and must not exceed a perimeter measurement of 500 mm or 20 inches.

(c) Prizes

The sponsor's name and/or logo should not appear on a golf bag presented as a prize in a sponsored event unless the sponsor is also the bag manufacturer.

2. Luggage Carried by Teams / Squads

When off the course, e.g. in transit, the name and/or logo of the team or squad sponsor and the name and/or logo of the team or squad may appear on luggage belonging to a team member, e.g. over-bag, hold-all, etc. Such luggage bearing the name and/or logo of the sponsor may bear the name of the player in small letters for identification purposes only (or it may appear on the bag tag). This is not applicable to individual events.

3. Golf Clothing (including golf shoes and head gear)

(a) Individuals

Clothing (including golf shoes and head gear) issued by a commercial sponsor to individuals may only bear the small name and/or logo of the clothing (or golf shoes / head gear) manufacturer and the event concerned (which may or may not include the name and/or logo of the sponsor of the event). Clothing (including golf shoes and head gear) supplied by the manufacturer of that clothing, shoes or head gear may bear both the player's name and the name and/or logo of the manufacturer, provided the name or logo of any sponsor (including the sponsor of the event) is not displayed.

If the clothing, golf shoes or head gear is issued by a sponsor to individuals in an event, it must be available to all and not just selected players.

Note: The player's name must not appear more than once on each shoe or each garment and must not exceed a perimeter measurement of 220 mm or 9 inches (see Decision 6-2/13).

(b) Teams / Squads

Where a national, regional, state, county or Club team or squad is sponsored, the members of the team or squad may have on their uniforms the name and/or logo of the team or squad and the small name and/or logo of either or both the sponsor and the manufacturer. However, the clothing, golf shoes or head gear must be of the type that is normally available at a retail source and must not bear both the player's name and the name and/or logo of a sponsor and/or manufacturer (other than the clothing, shoes or head gear manufacturer – see Decision 6-2/13).

Note: A sponsor's name and/or logo must not exceed a perimeter measurement of 220 mm or 9 inches. Each garment may have multiple sponsors' names and/or logos, provided the total perimeter measurement of all names and/or logos does not exceed 220 mm or 9 inches.

4. Umbrellas

An individual player may carry an umbrella bearing the name of a commercial firm, including that of either a team or an event sponsor or a manufacturer, but such name must not be linked with a particular squad, team or individual, e.g. the name of a commercial firm may appear on the umbrella but the words “The GB and I Team flies/uses” must not appear. The name of an individual player must not appear on an umbrella bearing the name of a commercial firm unless the firm concerned is the actual manufacturer of the umbrella.

5. Caddie Bibs

Caddie bibs bearing the name and/or logo of a sponsor may not be worn by those caddying for a single team, squad or player; a sponsor’s name and/or logo may appear on bibs made available by the tournament sponsor to the caddies of all the players.

6. Acknowledgements and Publicity

(a) Team, Squad and Individual Events

Commercial sponsors may receive acknowledgements through the press, official programmes, etc. and their names or emblems may appear on banners, flags, tee-markers and scoreboards if approved by the organisation staging the event.

(b) Team / Squad Events Only

When a team or squad event is commercially sponsored, an acknowledgement to the team sponsor may be published along the following lines:

“Thanks to the generosity of (commercial sponsors) the Golf Union/Association is sending a team to to take part in the World Amateur Team Championship for the Eisenhower Trophy.”

7. Exhibition Tents

Sponsors may have a tent etc. at the course displaying their business.

8. Photographs

Photographs may not be published by commercial sponsors with the names of individual team or squad members or competitors for advertising or promotional purposes, but normal coverage by the press or other media cannot be prevented.

9. Hospitality

Sponsors may give hospitality (i.e. meals and drinks, but not accommodation) to all competitors at the course. (Revised)

6-2/16

Clothing or Equipment Supplied for Team / Squad Used in Individual Event

Q. May an amateur golfer of golf skill or reputation wear, during an individual event, a garment bearing a sponsor’s logo which was issued to him as a member of a national, regional, state, county or Club team or squad or use a golf bag which bears the name of the team or squad sponsor?

A. Yes. (Revised)

6-2/17

Vehicle with Advertising Slogan Used by Amateur Golfers Representing Team or Squad

Q. (a) May a national, regional, state, county golf union or Club make available a vehicle for use by members of its team or squad during a team or squad event which has been supplied by a commercial sponsor and on which words along the following lines have been prominently printed:

“The (national/regional, etc.) Golf Team Drives
..... (name of vehicle)”?

(b) Is it permissible for such a vehicle to be used by individual players from that country (or equivalent) taking part in individual events in other countries?

(c) When not being used as above, may the vehicle with advertising be used by an amateur golfer of golf skill or reputation?

(d) May it be used by a golf administrator from the national, regional, state, county golf union or Club who does not possess golf skill or reputation?

A. (a) Yes. Provided the names of the team or squad members are not displayed.

(b) Yes. Provided the host golf union or association staging the event has approved the entry of the players concerned with expenses paid under Rule 4-2.

(c) No. This would be considered a breach of Rule 6-2.

(d) Yes. (Revised)

6-2/18

Names on Motor Car

Q. May the car of an amateur golfer of golf skill or reputation bear the golfer’s name, or, if sponsored, the sponsor’s name, in large letters?

A. No. Neither the name of the golfer nor a sponsor may appear on the car – see Rule 6-2.

However, an employee may use a company car bearing its name provided it is the normal practice of the company to have its name on company cars. (Revised)

6-2/19

Fund Raising to Create Trust Fund for Amateur Golfer

Q. May a Golf Club, group of friends or sponsor organise a competition for the sole purpose of raising money to create a trust fund for an amateur golfer of golf skill or reputation to either be used towards his expenses as an amateur golfer or to be used when he becomes a professional golfer?

A. No. It would be a breach of Rule 6-2 because he would be using his name and likeness to promote a benefit for himself either at that time or at some time in the future.

However, it would be permissible to hold such an event before a qualifying competition to help the expenses of those who advance, as in such a case the players who will advance to the next stage have not yet been identified (so there is no breach of Rule 6-2). (Revised)

6-2/20

Meaning of “Golf Competition or Other Event” and “in the Best Interests of, or Would Contribute to the Development of the Game” in Exception to Rule 6-2

Q. Within the context of the Exception to Rule 6-2, what is meant by the terms “other event” and “in the best interests of, or would contribute to the development of the game”?

A. The term “other event” is purposefully and necessarily broad in order to cover activities such as exhibition matches, talks, organised functions, promotional events and the like.

With regard to determining whether to allow an amateur golfer of golf skill or reputation to promote a golf competition or other event, it is a matter for the national union to decide whether or not this would be in the best interests of the game or would contribute to its development. The national union should look at each case on its individual merits and the following factors should be taken into consideration:

- Whether such promotion will generate publicity for golf (particularly amateur golf) that would not otherwise be the case.
- Whether the promotion will encourage others to take up the sport.
- Whether the golf competition or event is commercially driven or not.

For example, a Club may wish to promote an amateur competition by distributing posters with the image of one of the amateurs competing in the event. It would be reasonable for the national union to permit such publicity, provided there would be some wider consequential benefit, such as generating additional funds for the junior section of the Club. (Revised)

6-3/1

Amateur Golfers Offered Free Meals and Remission of Entry Fee

Q. May a Club offer free meals and remission of entry fees to amateur golfers of golf skill and reputation to encourage them to enter a competition and thus increase the status of the event?

A. No. An amateur golfer who accepts such incentives is, because of his golf skill and reputation, indirectly accepting compensation for a personal appearance in a golf competition and is thereby in breach of Rule 6-3.

However, it would not be a breach of the Rules if the incentives (i.e. free meals and remission of entry fee) were offered to all competitors. (Revised)

6-3/2

Amateur Golfer Accepts Expenses as Leader of Golf Tour

Q. May an amateur golfer of golf skill or reputation who is not regularly employed by the travel company or organiser accept an expenses-paid trip on a golf tour provided he acts as tour leader?

A. No. Such action would constitute a breach of Rule 6-3. (Revised)

6-3/3

Payment of Fee and Expenses for Television Appearance

Q. Is it permissible for an amateur golfer of golf skill or reputation to accept a fee and have his expenses covered for an appearance on a television quiz show when he has been chosen because of his golf skill or reputation?

A. It would be a breach of Rule 6-3 for an amateur golfer of golf skill or reputation to accept a fee for such an appearance. In the event of it being necessary for the television company to pay such a person a fee under their own regulations the fee must be gifted to charity. It must be paid direct to the charity, no cash transaction can take place between the company and the golfer concerned and the golfer must not benefit directly or indirectly from the charitable donation.

However, the actual expenses incurred by the golfer may be covered as no golf competition or exhibition is involved - see Exception to Rule 6-3. (Revised)

6-3/4

Amateur Golfer Offered Free or Reduced Subscription for Representing Club

Q. May a Club offer a free or reduced subscription to members of golf skill or reputation on the condition that they represent the Club in competitions?

A. No. An amateur golfer of golf skill or reputation would be in breach of Rule 6-3 for accepting such an offer as he would be considered to be accepting compensation for representing the Club. (Revised)

6-3/5

Personal Appearance by Celebrity for Fee

Q. May a celebrity be paid a fee for taking part in a golf competition or exhibition?

A. Yes. Provided the celebrity is being invited for reasons unrelated to his skill or reputation as a golfer, it would not be a breach of the Rules for such a person to accept a fee. (Revised)

6-4/1

Writing Article on Fitness and Golf

Q. An amateur golfer of golf skill or reputation plans to write a series of articles on the relationship between fitness and golf for publication under his name in a golf magazine. He will receive a small payment for expenses, and also some royalties from the sale of the magazine. Is this permissible?

A. Yes, there is no objection to the action proposed provided:

- (a) His skill and reputation as a golfer is not advertised;
- (b) He is the author of the articles; and
- (c) No instruction in golf is given. (Revised)

6-4/2

Royalties for Instructional Publications Written Prior to Reinstatement to Amateur Status

Q. May a golfer who has been reinstated to Amateur Status receive royalties for instructional books or articles written by him before applying for reinstatement?

A. Yes. An amateur golfer may receive royalties for work published prior to the period awaiting reinstatement or being reinstated to Amateur Status. He may also receive royalties for any re-published works, including where the golfer has been asked to write a new foreword, provided no new or additional instructional material is included.

However, an applicant for reinstatement to Amateur Status, or a reinstated amateur golfer, may not receive royalties from any new instructional work written after the commencement of his period awaiting reinstatement. (Revised)

6-5/3

Golfer in Receipt of NCAA Scholarship Accepts Expenses from Other Source

Q. May an amateur golfer in receipt of an NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association) approved golf scholarship in the USA accept expenses from a different source in addition to his NCAA scholarship?

A. Whilst such actions are not necessarily a breach of the Rules, it may be contrary to NCAA regulations for a player in receipt of an NCAA approved scholarship to accept expenses of any kind from a different source, e.g. a representative of a university in addition to his NCAA scholarship. NCAA scholars, or prospective scholars, are advised to contact the NCAA for further details. (Revised – Formerly 6-5/5)

7-2/1

Deferring Acceptance of Excessive Prize

Q. May an amateur golfer defer acceptance of an excessive prize in order to compete in amateur competitions?

A. No. Such action would be contrary to the purpose of the Rules (Rule 7-2).

An amateur golfer would be permitted to defer temporarily the acceptance of a prize for legitimate reasons (e.g. in order to take further advice regarding the effect of loss of Amateur Status or to consider donating the prize to a recognised charity). (Revised)

7-2/2

Meaning of “Sweepstake”, “Auction Sweepstake” and “Calcutta”

Q. Within the context of the Policy on Gambling (Appendix) and Rule 7-2, what is meant by the terms “sweepstake”, “auction sweepstake” and “calcutta”?

A. A “sweepstake” is one of the most common forms of gambling or wagering in golf in which each player has an option of placing a sum of money on himself. The same sum of money is placed by each player and the total sum collected is normally disbursed among the prize winners (assuming they have entered the sweepstake). Sweepstakes are approved provided the amount of money involved is not excessive.

An “auction sweepstake” or “calcutta” is a form of gambling or wagering in which the players or teams are sold by auction beforehand to the highest bidder. Bidding is not restricted to the players and each player or team is generally offered the right to purchase a percentage of the bet from the successful bidder before play commences. An auction sweepstake or calcutta can often involve considerable sums of money and such gambling or wagering is considered contrary to the purpose and intent of the Rules (Rule 7-2). (Revised)

7-2/3

Participation in Auction Sweepstake / Calcutta

Q. Does participation in a golf competition with a compulsory auction sweepstake or calcutta automatically cause forfeiture of Amateur Status?

A. It would be a matter for the Governing Body to determine the appropriate course of action in accordance with Rule 8. The Policy on Gambling (see Appendix) states that forms of gambling such as auction sweepstakes and calcuttas are not approved and an amateur golfer participating in such organised gambling may jeopardise his Amateur Status. (Revised)

7-2/4

Acceptance of Compensation for Competing in Calcutta

Q. An auction sweepstake or calcutta is held in conjunction with an amateur competition. The players do not participate in the gambling but some accept gratuities from their buyers. Are the players in breach of the Rules?

A. Yes. Acceptance of such gratuities constitutes financial gain and is a breach of the Definition of an “Amateur Golfer”. (Revised)

8-1/1

Whether Committee Should Consider All Possible Breaches of Rules

Q. Under Rule 8-1, should the appropriate Committee of the Governing Body consider all possible breaches of the Rules or should it only consider cases of doubt?

A. The Committee should consider all cases which come to its attention. Each case must be dealt with on its merits and the Committee has the option under Rule 8-2, upon a decision that a person has breached the Rules, to declare the Amateur Status of the person to be forfeited or to warn the person concerned.

(Revised)

8-1/2

Procedure for Enforcement of Rules When Breach Occurs Outside Country in Which Amateur Golfer Resides

Q. In accordance with Rule 8, it is a matter for the Committee to investigate a possible breach of the Rules and determine whether a breach has occurred. In the event that the possible breach takes place in a country other than that in which the amateur golfer resides, under whose jurisdiction should the breach be investigated and any action taken on enforcement of the Rules?

A. An amateur golfer must uphold both the Rules of the country in which he resides and the Rules of the country in which he is competing. It is a matter for the Committee of the Governing Body of the country in which the golfer resides to investigate a possible breach of the Rules and make a decision on enforcement of the Rules, as appropriate. (Revised)

9-2b/1

Applicant for Reinstatement Worked as Professional Golfer During Summer Only

Q. An applicant for reinstatement worked as an assistant professional or professional golfer from June to August for five consecutive years. He did not breach the Rules in between these periods each year. How long is he considered to be in breach of the Rules?

A. The applicant is considered to have been in breach of the Rules from the June of the first year to the August of the fifth year, a period of just over five years, resulting in a two year period awaiting reinstatement. (Revised)

9-2b/4

Guidelines for Breaches of Rules Not Relating to Professionalism

Rule 9-2b(ii) provides that a period awaiting reinstatement of one year will normally be applied to an applicant awaiting reinstatement for breaches of the Rules not relating to Professionalism. However, the Rule also provides that the period may be extended if the breach is considered serious.

In accordance with the Rule, it is the R&A's policy to apply the following guidelines to breaches of the Rules relating to the acceptance of an improper prize or the receipt of unauthorised expenses:

Value of Prize (£)	Period Awaiting Reinstatement
501 – 5000	1 year
5001 +	2 years
Non-Approved Expenses (£)	Period Awaiting Reinstatement
Up to 5000	1 year
5001 +	2 years

(Revised)

9-2e/2

Prize Limits for Applicants Awaiting Reinstatement

Q. Although Rule 9-2e provides that an applicant awaiting reinstatement participating in a competition not limited to amateur golfers must not play golf for prize money and must not accept any prize reserved for an amateur golfer, may the applicant accept any other prize in the competition?

A. Yes. An applicant awaiting reinstatement may accept a prize not exceeding the retail value prescribed in Rule 3-2a, or a hole-in-one prize (achieved under the specifications of Rule 3-2b), provided in both cases the prize is not reserved for amateur golfers only. (Revised)