



R&A GUIDELINES FOR APPROVAL OF EVENTS UNDER RULE 4-2g

Each year The R&A's Amateur Status Committee is asked to approve a number of events under Rule 4-2g of the Rules of Amateur Status, thereby allowing the organisers or sponsors of such events to pay expenses (i.e. travel and accommodation costs) on behalf of participants.

Events which are approved receive a reference number which must be included on all advertising literature and entry forms.

It is worth noting that The R&A grants approval for the payment of expenses only in terms of the Rules of Amateur Status and such approval should not be considered as any general approval or endorsement of the competition or its organisers and/or promoters.

In order for an event to qualify for approval under Rule 4-2g, The R&A's Amateur Status Committee, as Governing Body for the Rules of Amateur Status in Great Britain and Ireland, considers that the following criteria must be met:

*1. The event must be an appropriately organised handicap individual or 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. An event is considered to be sponsored provided the sponsor's contribution is sufficient to at least cover the costs of all participants who have their expenses paid at the final stages of the event;

*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 to Rule 3-2 and in particular, the total prizes received by any one person throughout the event must not exceed the limit laid down in Rule 3-2a as determined by the Governing Body in the country concerned;

5. A participant may only have expenses covered in connection with the event for a maximum of seven days. This includes travelling, practice and competitive days and also includes any 'free' days incorporated within the expenses paid trip;

6. The level of expenses covered for each individual must not exceed £1000. The relevant expenses are limited to travel and accommodation costs only. Other costs, such as green fees and meal costs are not included in the expenses total. This is not a "retail value" figure: if organisers can, for example, arrange a reduced cost block booking, it is the reduced cost that is used in determining the level of expenses. However, The R&A reserves the right to apply special provisions in this regard to sponsors of events who can arrange travel and accommodation at unusually low prices, (e.g. airline or hotel groups), and who may thereby attempt to circumvent this level of expenses.

7. There are no geographical restrictions on the venues of finals. However, The R&A will obtain the approval of the Governing Body in the country in which the final will be held.

Note: These requirements should be read in conjunction with the guidelines set out in Decision 4-2g/2 of the Rules of Amateur Status.

*** Denotes criteria which must be applied by all Governing Bodies approving such events.**