



THE
AMATEUR
CHAMPIONSHIP

MAY 2018

THE 123rd AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP

ROYAL ABERDEEN AND MURCAR LINKS

MONDAY 18 TO SATURDAY 23 JUNE 2018

NOTICE TO COMPETITORS

Dear Sir

I extend, on behalf of the Chairman and Members of the Amateur Events Committee, a very sincere welcome to The 123rd Amateur Championship.

Attached is a copy of the draw for the first stage of the Championship which will be decided by stroke play over two rounds. The 64 lowest scores over the 36 holes and ties for 64th place will compete in the match play stage. The remainder will be eliminated. The leading qualifiers will be seeded.

1. REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION DESK

Competitors are required to register for the Championship. Registration for all Competitors will be located in the Members Lounge at Royal Aberdeen Clubhouse.

Hours of opening

Saturday 16 June	8.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.
Sunday 17 June	8.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

A Competitor who does not register by 4.00 p.m. on Sunday 17 June may be withdrawn from the Championship. If you are unable to register in person, please telephone + 44 (0) 1334 213 400 Ext. 1 or email uanmordaunt@randa.org.

At Registration, you must return both the completed Photo & Video Consent Form and Competitor Registration Form. You will be issued with a Registration pack including a competitor's badge, bag tag and complimentary distance guides for Royal Aberdeen and Murcar Links. Please note, distance guides will only be provided in yards.

Please allow sufficient time to complete the Registration process; a suggested time to allow would be approximately 15 minutes.

Competitors are advised to read the Official Player Noticeboard at each venue on arrival and throughout the Championship.

2. TRAVEL & PARKING

The nearest airports and approximate drive times to Royal Aberdeen and Murcar Links are as follows:

Aberdeen	20 minutes approx.
Edinburgh	2 hours 30 minutes approx.

The nearest train station to Royal Aberdeen and Murcar Links is Aberdeen Station.

Parking at Royal Aberdeen and Murcar Links will be signposted and close to the Clubhouses.

Please note that vehicles will be parked at the owner's own risk.

3. PRACTICE ROUNDS

To book one practice round at Royal Aberdeen please e-mail admin@royalaberdeengolf.com or reservations@royalaberdeengolf.com or telephone +44 (0) 1224 702 571 (Option 1 or 3). To book one practice round at Murcar Links please e-mail golf@murcarlinks.com or telephone the Professional Shop on +44 (0) 1224 704 370.

Official practice times

	Royal Aberdeen	Murcar Links
Saturday 16 June	8.00 a.m. – 4.00 p.m.	8.00 a.m. – 4.00 p.m.
Sunday 17 June	8.00 a.m. – 2.30 p.m.	8.00 a.m. – 2.30 p.m.

ONE BALL ONLY MAY BE PLAYED DURING THE PRACTICE ROUNDS WITH THE FOLLOWING EXCEPTION:

If a player misses the green with his shot to the green, he may play one additional practice shot.

Competitors wishing to practice outwith the official practice times may do so at the discretion of the host venues. At Royal Aberdeen, the agreed rate for a practice round outwith official practice times is £50 per round. At Murcar Links, the agreed rate for a practice round outwith official practice times is £20 per round. Competitors **must** contact the venues in advance to check on availability.

Practice Ground

A controlled practice ground, with balls free of charge, will be operated at both Royal Aberdeen and Murcar Links.

The R&A are indebted to Titleist for providing practice balls for the Championship.

PRACTICE BALLS MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM THE PRACTICE GROUNDS UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES. ANY PLAYER FOUND GUILTY OF THIS ACTION MAY BE LIABLE TO DISCIPLINARY ACTION BY THE AMATEUR EVENTS COMMITTEE.

The opening and closing times will be as follows;

Saturday 16 & Sunday 17 June	7.00am – 6.00pm (both venues)
Monday 18 & Tuesday 19 June	6.00am – 7.00pm (both venues)
Wednesday 20 June	6.00am – 7.00pm
Thursday 21 June	6.30am – 6.00pm
Friday 22 June	7.00am – 8.30am and 11.45am – 1.15pm
Saturday 23 June	7.00am – 8.30am and 12.00pm – 1.00pm

At Royal Aberdeen, a mini bus shuttle service will be provided to transport competitors between the clubhouse car park and practice ground. Competitors **must** use this shuttle service and not walk or drive to the practice ground.

Competitors using any of these practice facilities do so at their own risk.

4. RESERVES

The first ten reserves on the published list will be entitled to a practice round on both courses and any other player privileges.

5. CLUBHOUSE(S)

Access to both the Royal Aberdeen and Murcar Links clubhouses is open to all competitors and guests with no requirement for clubhouse access badges. The clubhouses will be open one hour before play on each Championship and Official Practice Day and will remain open for a minimum of one hour after play has finished.

Locker Room and Bag Store

At Royal Aberdeen and Murcar Links, the men's locker room will be available for use by competitors. Showers and towels are available. If bag storage is required competitors should speak to a member of the professional shop staff for assistance.

A limited number of lockers are available to competitors at Royal Aberdeen. At Murcar Links should a competitor require a locker please contact the Club Secretary.

6. DRESS

A minimum standard of smart casual dress is expected within the Clubhouses and around the venues. Competitors must not wear tracksuits, denim clothing, collarless t-shirts or training shoes / sneakers. Headwear and waterproofs are confined to outside the Clubhouses.

The wearing of clean soft spikes within the clubhouses is permitted. However, competitors are requested to bring shoes to change into following golf.

In both clubhouses, mobile phones are permitted but must be used respectfully and on silent at all times. Phone calls should be made outwith the public areas.

7. CADDIES & TROLLIES

A limited number of caddies will be available at both venues but must be booked well in advance of the Championship to avoid disappointment. To book a caddie at Royal Aberdeen, please contact the Professional Shop on +44(0) 1224 702 571 (option 3) and ask for Joel Hopwood. To book a caddie for Murcar Links, please contact the Professional Shop on +44(0) 1224 704 370. Caddie fees will apply at both venues.

Complimentary pull trolleys are available at both venues courtesy of The R&A. There are also limited electric trolleys available at a cost to the competitor.

8. CATERING OPTIONS

Catering facilities for competitors and their guests are available in both clubhouses throughout the Championship. Catering will be available in all facilities as per the opening/closing times noted in Item 5, Clubhouse(s).

All catering will be at the cost to competitors.

9. DISTANCE MEASURING DEVICES

The specimen Local Rule permitting the use of Distance Measuring Devices will be in effect for The Amateur Championship – see page 153 in the Rules of Golf.

For additional guidance on permissible and non-permissible Distance Measuring Devices, see <http://www.randa.org/en/Equipment/Distance-Measuring-Devices.aspx>

If you have any queries, please contact the Championship Office.

10. PACE OF PLAY

It is the responsibility of each competitor to understand the Pace of Play policy (see Page 7). **Failure to comply with the Pace of Play policy may result in you being penalised.** With this in mind you are asked to read carefully the following Pace of Play policy. It is the responsibility of each group to play within the published maximum times allowed (as defined on the noticeboards and on the hole position charts) and keep up with the group in front. In an effort to eradicate slow play, players may also be subject to random timing even when not out of position. Players are also strongly encouraged to play 'Ready Golf' during the stroke play qualifying stage of the Championship.

Should you have any questions regarding the Pace of Play policy then please visit the Championship Office at either Royal Aberdeen or Murcar Links where R&A Officials will be happy to assist your query.

11. GROOVE CONDITION

The condition requiring golf clubs to conform to the 2010 groove and punch mark specifications will be in effect. All competitors' equipment must conform to the groove regulations which apply to all clubs, apart from drivers and putters. Full details can be found in Decision 4-1/1 of Decisions on the Rules of Golf. For any queries on specific clubs, please visit the web page <http://www.randa.org/RulesEquipment/Equipment/Equipment-Explorer>, contact Clive Roberts equipmentstandards@randa.org or call +44 (0) 1334 460 000.

12. ANTI-DOPING

As you will know from the conditions of competition, The R&A has adopted the International Golf Federation's Anti-Doping Policy for The Amateur Championship 2018. Accordingly, all competitors are subject to the provisions of the International Golf Federation's Anti-Doping Policy and may be subject to drug testing conducted in accordance with that Policy. Details of the Policy, and the Prohibited Substances and Methods, are available from the International Golf Federation's website (www.igfgolf.org).

Competitors who are taking medication and in doubt as to their clinical status should seek advice from R&A Championships Limited not later than 30 days before the start of the Championship.

Please find following information (see Pages 8 & 9) regarding the Anti-Doping policy. Competitors are asked to read this policy in advance of the Championship.

13. RECORDING

In the stroke play qualifying rounds, players MUST report to the Recorder's office immediately after completing their round.

During the match play stages, it will be the responsibility of the **winner** of a match to report the result to the Recorder's Office as soon as possible after the match is completed. A winning player will be asked to complete a match result card in the Recorder's Office following the conclusion of their match.

No play is permitted after completion of a match.

14. WITHDRAWALS

Competitors seeking to withdraw from the Championship should advise Angus McBride of the R&A Amateur Events Department by, telephone +44 (0)1334 213 400 Ext. 2 or +44 (0)7789 373 218 or email: amateuries@randa.org

15. FUNCTIONS

The R&A will host a Hog Roast welcome reception with complimentary food and refreshments. This will take place, weather permitting, within the spectator village at Royal Aberdeen from 6.00 to 8.00 p.m. on Sunday 17 June. In the event of adverse weather the reception will take place inside the clubhouse at Royal Aberdeen. Invitations will be issued at Registration and it is hoped that as many Competitors as possible will attend.

16. ACCOMMODATION

Local accommodation options are listed on the following website:

<https://visitabdn.com/plan-your-trip/where-to-stay>

Accommodation options close to both courses are as follows:

<p>Holiday Inn Express Aberdeen Exhibition Centre Parkway East Bridge of Don Aberdeen AB23 8AJ</p> <p>www.ihg.com/holidayinnexpress/hotels</p> <p>Info@hieaberdeensexhibitioncentre.co.uk</p> <p>Tel: +44 1224 227250</p>	<p>Premier Inn Aberdeen North (Bridge of Don) Ellon Road Murcar Bridge Of Don AB23 8BP</p> <p>www.premierinn.com</p> <p>Tel: 0871 527 8010</p>
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17. COMPETITOR INSURANCE

Competitors are advised to have a personal public liability insurance policy in place to protect them from claims for damage to third party property or injury to third parties whilst participating in this event.

18. CONTACTS

Royal Aberdeen Golf Club
Links Road
Bridge of Don
Aberdeen
AB23 8AT

Ronnie MacAskill
Secretary
Email: admin@royalaberdeengolf.com
Website: <http://royalaberdeengolf.com/Home.aspx>
Tel: +44 (0) 1224 702571 (Ext. 5)

Murcar Links Golf Club
Bridge of Don
Aberdeen
AB23 8BD

Carol O'Neill
Secretary
Email: golf@murcarlinks.com
Website: <http://murcarlinks.com/>
Tel: +44 (0) 01224 704 354 (Ext.2)

The R&A Based at Royal Aberdeen

Peter Cowell (Chairman, Amateur Events Committee)
Euan Mordaunt (Director - Amateur Events)
Elaine Campbell (Events Administrator - Amateur Events)
Daniel Somerville (Manager - Rules)

Mob: + 44 (0) 7557 765 071
Tel: + 44 (0) 1334 213 400 (Ext.1)

The R&A Based at Murcar Links

Neil McConachie (Deputy Chairman, Amateur Events Committee)
Ed Johnson (Assistant Director - Amateur Events)
Angus McBride (Manager – Amateur Events)
Kevin Barker (Director – Golf Development)

Mob: + 44 (0) 7557 949 651
Tel: + 44 (0) 1334 213 400 (Ext. 2)

I hope you have a very successful and enjoyable Championship.

Yours faithfully



EUAN MORDAUNT
Director – Amateur Events

All players in R&A amateur championships are required to read the following at registration:

PACE OF PLAY – YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

Your Responsibilities

- Always be ready to play when it is your turn
- Play within the published maximum times allowed and keep up with the group in front
- Even if you lose a ball, have a lengthy search or a ruling, it is still the responsibility of your group:
 - to play to the scheduled time, and
 - to get back into position as soon as possible
- If you keep up with the group in front, your group will not be timed

Ready Golf (Stroke Play)

- In stroke play, “Ready Golf” should be played, but in a safe and responsible way
- Play when you are ready - you don’t have to wait until the farthest away player has played
- For example, play Ready Golf:
 - When the player farther away has a difficult shot and is assessing options
 - When a longer hitter has to wait for a green to clear
 - On the tee if the player with the honour is delayed
 - By playing your shot before helping to look for a lost ball
- You will be encouraged by a referee to play “Ready Golf” if your group falls behind
- Where possible, advise other players that you are going to play first

When Your Group is Out of Position:

- A referee will ask your group to get back into position (but if your group is significantly out of position, the referee may start timing immediately)
- If your group is not back into position within two holes or no effort was made after one hole, your group will be “timed”

Procedure When You are Being Timed:

- The maximum time allocated per shot is 40 seconds. 10 extra seconds are allowed if you are the first player to play:
 - on a par three hole;
 - an approach shot to the green; and
 - a chip or putt
- The timing starts almost as soon as you reach your ball
- Obtaining a yardage and selecting a club are included in the time allocated for your shot
- If you exceed the allocated time you get a “bad time”
- If you play your shot within 40 seconds, you cannot get a bad time

Random Timing When You are Not Out of Position

- You may be timed without warning, including when your group is not out of position
- In such cases of “random timing” without warning, you risk a bad time if you exceed 60 seconds to play a shot, with an extra 10 seconds given (i.e. 70 seconds in total) for a “first to play” shot

Penalties for Bad Times:

- 1 Bad Time = You are warned
- 2 Bad Times = You get a one stroke penalty (stroke play) or lose the hole (match play)
- 3 Bad Times = You get an additional two stroke penalty (stroke play) or lose the hole (match play)
- 4 Bad Times = Disqualification

Note: The full Pace of Play Condition and explanation of the timing procedures are available from the Championship Office.

May 2018

NOTICE TO COMPETITORS IN THE 123RD AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP

ANTI-DOPING POLICY

In support of golf's anti-doping efforts, the International Golf Federation (IGF) has designated The Amateur Championship as an international event covered by its Anti-Doping Policy. Compliance with this Policy is a condition of entry for, and participation in, The Amateur Championship 2018. Accordingly, all competitors gaining entry into The Amateur Championship are subject to the provisions of the IGF Anti-Doping Policy and may be subject to drug testing conducted in accordance with that Policy.

We recommend that you review the IGF Anti-Doping Policy and supporting information available on the IGF website www.igfgolf.org and familiarise yourself with the following:

1. IGF Prohibited Substances and Methods.

A copy of the applicable Prohibited List of Substances and Methods is available at <https://www.wada-ama.org/en/resources/science-medicine/prohibited-list>. You are advised to make your health care provider and nutritional advisor aware that you are subject to the IGF Anti-Doping Policy and as such, are not permitted to use prohibited substances or methods.

2. Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) Procedures

If you currently take a prohibited substance due to a legitimate medical condition as certified by your physician, you should apply for and obtain an approved TUE for the substance, in advance of The Amateur Championship. The IGF TUE application form and further guidance is available on the referenced website. If you currently hold a valid TUE (issued by a recognised Anti-Doping Organisation), for the period of The Amateur Championship, bring a copy of the TUE approval with you to the Championship. It may be required if you are selected for testing. To check if your medication is permitted under the IGF Anti-Doping Policy, consult the relevant national drug information database website from the country the medication is obtained. <http://igfederation.s3.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/IGF-Anti-Doping-Medication-Check-20141.pdf>

3. Testing Procedures

Familiarise yourself with the procedures for Testing. Information about your rights and responsibilities is available to download from the IGF website. There are links to video and others resources on testing procedures, available in several languages.

Finally, consult the IGF website and links to various education resources. Ensure you have read and understood the requirements of the IGF Anti-Doping Policy. If you have not already done so, you may wish to complete the WADA Play True Quiz before The Amateur Championship, <http://quiz.wada-ama.org/>

It will be necessary for you to sign an Anti-Doping Policy Agreement at the time of registration for the Championship itself.

If you have any specific enquiries about the Anti-Doping Policy or its requirements, please contact The R&A's Anti-Doping Advisor, Michele Verroken either by e-mail michele@sportingintegrity.com or by telephone +44 7785 326569, SKYPE michelev0510.

EUAN MORDAUNT

Director – Amateur Championships

THE 123RD AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP
COMPETITOR ANTI-DOPING POLICY NOTICE

Policy:

In support of golf's anti-doping efforts, The R&A has adopted the International Golf Federation's Anti-Doping Policy for The Amateur Championship 2018. Accordingly, all competitors in the Championship itself may be subject to drug testing conducted by The R&A in accordance with that Policy.

Compliance with this Policy is a condition of entry for, and participation in, The Amateur Championship 2018. By submitting your entry for the Championship, you have agreed to comply with this Policy. However you will also be required to acknowledge that you have read, understood, and will abide by the IGF Anti-Doping Policy at the Championship by signing a form at registration.

The R&A will honour the findings and sanctions rendered by other leading golf organisations for anti-doping violations. Competitors may access the IGF Anti-Doping Policy by logging onto the IGF website www.igfgolf.org.

Information:

Compliance with the IGF's Anti-Doping Policy is a condition of entry for, and participation in, The Amateur Championship 2018. This means that:

1. Drug testing pursuant to the IGF Anti-Doping Policy may be conducted on competitors at The Amateur Championship 2018;
2. You agree to abide by the IGF Anti-Doping Policy, which includes submitting to drug testing upon request at The Amateur Championship 2018;
3. You consent and agree to be bound by all requirements of the Policy;
4. You agree to provide a urine sample to any testing agency authorised by The R&A at any time or place (including during practice days) at The Amateur Championship 2018, without advance notice;
5. Refusal to provide a sample, if requested, will constitute an anti-doping rule violation;
6. You agree that the Results Management provisions of the Policy shall provide the sole and exclusive method for resolving any dispute related to drug testing;
7. By signing the entry form and the agreement at registration, you confirm that you have read and understood the IGF Anti-Doping Policy, its requirements regarding Prohibited Substances and Methods and, if relevant, have in place an approved Therapeutic Use Exemption;
8. By signing the entry form and the agreement at registration, you confirm you have no outstanding Anti-Doping Rule Violation for which you are currently suspended or have been charged with.