



General Regulations for Swiss Golf Championships

Version 3.0, valid from 1.1.2026

Bern, 23 February 2026

INTRODUCTION

These regulations govern the following championships:

- Swiss Golf Championships
- Swiss Golf National Championship
- Swiss Golf International Amateur Championship
- Swiss Golf Open Championships
- Swiss Golf Open Championship 25+
- Swiss Golf Open Championship 50+
- Swiss Golf Junior Championships
- Swiss Golf Regional Championships

Other championships

- Any championship played in Switzerland that is listed in the Swiss Golf calendar.
- Any championship played in Switzerland that counts towards the Order of Merit (Ladies, Men, Boys, Girls, Seniors, Senior Ladies, Mid-Am):
- Swiss Golf Interclub Championships
- Coupe Helvétique

The organizing clubs of the championships are responsible for enforcing the general rules and guidelines of Swiss Golf. These rules complement the specific regulations established for each Swiss Golf championship.

RULES

The championships will be conducted in accordance with the Rules of Golf approved by the R&A Ltd, these Swiss Golf General Regulations, the specific regulations of each championship, the Swiss Golf Hard Card, and any additional local rules approved by the Championship Committee.

The regulations and Swiss Golf Hard Cards (available in English, French, German, and Italian) can be accessed on our website: <https://swissgolf.ch/fr/jouer-au-golf/comment-jouer/reglements/>

CHAMPIONSHIP COMMITTEE

The Championship Committee is responsible for all aspects related to the sporting organization of the championship and the conduct of the game. It ensures compliance with the Rules of

Swiss Golf

Thunstrasse 110 | 3006 Bern
T +41 31 358 08 00 | info@swissgolf.ch | swissgolf.ch





Golf, the general rules, and the specific regulations of each Swiss Golf championship. Additionally, this committee resolves any disputes arising during play and makes any necessary decisions imposed by circumstances.

Swiss Golf Championships

Swiss Golf Championships are managed by a championship committee composed of at least:

- 1 Swiss Golf delegate, appointed by Swiss Golf
- 1 official referee, appointed by Swiss Golf
- 1 delegate from the host club, appointed by the club

When making decisions, the Swiss Golf delegate's vote is decisive. If necessary, they may authorize exceptions to the general rules or specific regulations of Swiss Golf. However, such exceptions must not violate the rules established by The R&A.

Other Championships

These championships are managed by a championship committee composed of:

- 1 official referee, appointed by Swiss Golf
- At least 2 delegates from the host club, appointed by the club

GENDER POLICY

Competitors in the women's and girls' championships of Swiss Golf must be female and either born as women or assigned the female sex at birth.

Competitors in the men's and boys' championships of Swiss Golf must be male and either born as men or assigned the male sex at birth.

To avoid any ambiguity, Swiss Golf reserves the right to conduct a confidential case-by-case assessment to determine whether a competitor's participation could result in unfair competition at any time, before or after the Championship, if, in its reasonable judgment, such an assessment is or becomes necessary. The Committee reserves the right to disqualify any competitor who does not meet the admission requirements for the Championship.

CHAMPIONSHIP ORGANIZATION

Registration

For players holding a Swiss Golf ID number, registration is generally done online via the Swiss Golf website (www.swissgolf.ch). Registration opens one month before the championship and remains open until Wednesday at 11:00 PM, 10 days before the start of the championship.

If the tournament is not full after the registration deadline, the registration period will be extended by a maximum of four days (usually until Sunday at 11:00 PM). Players who register on time have priority over late registrations, even if this leads to an adjustment in the number of male and female participants. For registrations after the initial deadline, the "first come, first served" principle applies. After the second registration deadline, no further registrations will be accepted. The championship committee reserves the right to accept or reject any registration. If the number of registered players is fewer than nine, the tournament will be canceled, and no title will be awarded.

No scorecard will be issued until the registration fee has been paid.

Withdrawal Before the Start of the Championship – No Show

A player who wishes to withdraw from a championship must inform the organizing club before the draw. A player who fails to appear at the start remains liable for the entry fee. In case of repeated no-shows, the Swiss Golf Disciplinary Commission will decide on possible sanctions against the player.

Handicaps

Only handicaps established according to the current regulations are recognized. The handicap as of the day after the registration deadline is considered valid. The organizing club is always entitled to request proof of a player's exact handicap. Unless otherwise specified in the specific rules of a Swiss Golf championship, championships are played without handicap adjustments. In multi-round championships, the handicap is only adjusted after the competition has concluded.



Course Preparation

(See also Guidelines for Course Preparation for a Championship)

The Championship Committee is responsible for ensuring compliance with Swiss Golf's guidelines for course preparation during championships on the Swiss Golf calendar.

In stroke play championships, after the first tee time of the round, no modifications to the course may be made (except for those expressly permitted by the Rules of Golf).

Official Referee(s)

The official referee is solely responsible for marking the course and drafting the local rules. The Championship Committee will ensure the distribution of local rules, organize refereeing, and, if necessary, with the help of the referee, select the pin positions.

The referee must instruct the starter, while the Championship Committee is responsible for instructing other volunteers on their duties.

Any dispute that may arise during a championship will be decided by the referee or, if the referee defers the decision, by the Championship Committee. The decision of either the referee or the Championship Committee is final.

TIE-BREAKING PROCEDURES

Unless otherwise specified in the specific rules of the relevant Swiss Golf championship, the following rules apply:

Stroke Play

In the event of a tie for first place or the national title: competitors will compete in a hole-by-hole stroke play playoff.

In the event of a tie for a subsequent position:

For 72-hole championships: the last 36 holes will determine the ranking. If the tie persists, the last 18 holes will be considered, followed by the last 9, the last 6, the last 3, and finally the last hole, in the order of the scorecard.

For 54-hole or 36-hole championships: the last 18 holes will determine the ranking. If the tie persists, the last 9 holes will be considered,

followed by the last 6, the last 3, and finally the last hole, in the order of the scorecard.

Prizes and Challenges

Swiss Golf provides the challenges for the Swiss Golf championships. Swiss Golf challenges cannot be permanently awarded. The challenges made available by Swiss Golf are presented to the winners during the prize-giving ceremony. They must then return them immediately to the organizing club, which is responsible for sending them back to the address indicated by the Swiss Golf secretariat.

The organizing club must carry out the prize distribution no later than 45 minutes after the last competitor has finished.

Pace of Play – Slow Play

A player must play without undue delay and must follow the Pace-of-Play guidelines established by the Committee. Each group is allotted a specific amount of time to complete a number of holes and the round. When "Player Scoring" is in operation, each hole is considered a checkpoint hole !

Definition of "Out of Position":

The **first group** to start is considered out of position if it exceeded the allotted time to complete a checkpoint hole.

Any **following group** is out of position if it:

- a) is, after completion of a checkpoint hole, more than their starting interval behind the group in front **and**
- b) has exceeded the time allowed to complete this checkpoint hole.

In stroke play, a group that is out of position is liable to receive a verbal warning from a rules official appointed to the tournament.

Penalty for Breach of Local Rule: If the group has received a verbal warning and is out of position at a checkpoint indicated by the rules official, all the players in the group may – either individually or collectively – receive the following penalties, subject to the final decision by the Committee as to whether a breach has occurred:

- 2 missed checkpoints – one-stroke penalty
- 3 missed checkpoints – additional two-stroke penalty
- 4 missed checkpoints – disqualification



Play of a hole is deemed completed when all players in the group have completed play of the hole (see Rule 6.5).

MISCELANEOUS

Wild Cards

Upon request, the organizing club of a Swiss Golf amateur championship may receive one Wild Card for women and one Wild Card for men. Wild Cards must be approved by Swiss Golf.

For the Swiss International Championship, 8 Wild Cards for women and 10 Wild Cards for men will be granted. Only players who have registered within the deadlines specified in the regulations will be eligible to receive a Wild Card.

Practice Round

Participants are entitled to one free practice round on the day before the competition.

Information Board Display

The following documents must be displayed in the clubhouse on a designated board for the entire duration of the championship:

- The composition of the championship committee
- These general rules
- The tournament regulations
- The Swiss Golf Hard Card and any additional local rules
- The pace of play guidelines
- The playoff holes
- The evacuation plan

Player Information

Players must receive, along with their scorecard, the Swiss Golf Hard Card, any additional local rules, pin positions, and timing checkpoints.

Results Publication

The organizing club is responsible for publishing the results list online no later than two hours after the end of the competition. This final list must also include the names and results of players who did not make the cut. Tournaments counting towards an Order of

Merit must be exported to ensure that the results are properly recorded.

Caddies

A player may act as a caddie for another player before or after their own round. The caddie may be a professional.

Golf Carts

During championships, players or their caddies must not use motorized transportation unless authorized or later approved by the championship committee. The player incurs the general penalty for each hole where the infraction occurs. If the infraction takes place between two holes, the penalty applies to the next hole.

ETHICS AND DOPING

Swiss Golf is committed to a clean, respectful, fair-play, and high-performing sport. As a member of Swiss Olympic, Swiss Golf adheres to the Ethics Charter, the Ethics Statutes, and the Doping Statutes of Swiss Olympic, as well as other related documents.

The Ethics Charter, the Ethics Statutes, the Doping Statutes, and other related documents are mandatory for Swiss Golf, its employees, its governing bodies, its members, its sub-organizations (e.g., partial, regional, or cantonal associations, sections, associations), as well as their governing bodies, members, employees, athletes, coaches, advisors, doctors, and officials.

Organizations affiliated with Swiss Golf (clubs, PGO, DPI [golf facility operators], and affiliated or regional associations) explicitly refer to the Ethics Charter, the Ethics Statutes, and the Doping Statutes of Swiss Olympic in their statutes and ensure compliance by their employees, athletes, coaches, therapists, doctors, officials, and representatives.

Suspected violations of the Doping Statutes and the Ethics Statutes are investigated by Swiss Sport Integrity (SSI) and may be sanctioned as defined by the Ethics Statutes. The Swiss Sports Tribunal is the sole competent authority to legally adjudicate and sanction violations of the Doping Statutes as a first instance. The tribunal follows its procedural regulations.

Decisions regarding doping violations made by the Swiss Sports Tribunal can only be appealed



to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne, within 21 days of receiving the reasoned decision, excluding state courts. The Swiss Sports Tribunal is also the sole competent authority, excluding state courts, to adjudicate and sanction violations of the Ethics Statutes, following its procedural regulations.

Swiss Sport Integrity retains the authority to impose measures and sanctions in cases defined by the Ethics Statutes.

SPECIFICATION OF BALLS AND CLUBS

All equipment must conform to the rules published by R&A (Rules 4.1 & 4.2).

PRIVACY

By registering, participants of any Swiss Golf championship agree to be filmed, photographed, and interviewed during the event without any claim to compensation. Participants' personal data may be used for marketing purposes and shared with third parties for this purpose. Swiss Golf undertakes to comply with Swiss data protection legislation when processing personal data.

Swiss Golf Championship Committee
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