

# 26<sup>th</sup> Carolinas Women's Match Play Championship

Mill Creek Golf Club, Mebane, NC  
July 31-August 3, 2024

## Fun, ALL Match Play Format Adopted in 2023!

The Top 32 registrants (accepted into the field based on the exemption criteria) are guaranteed 3 rounds of match play!

The new Format follows PGA Tour's WGC Match Play Championship and LPGA T-Mobile Match Play formats.

The Carolinas Women's Match Play is an exciting CGA Championship that utilizes golf's original match play format. Accepted players will be placed in groups of four where they will play three matches: one match against every other player in their group. Points are awarded to winners (1 points) and ties (0.5 points each) in each match and the top point earner in each group will advance to bracket play for the Carolinas Women's Match Play title (8 total players). The 8 group winners will be seeded and placed into a traditional match play bracket.

### Schedule of Events

July 31: Round 1 and Round 2 of Group Play Matches (2 matches)

August 1: Round 3 of Group Play Matches and playoffs to determine Group Winners (if necessary)

August 2: Quarterfinal Matches, Semifinal Matches (AM and PM)

August 3: Final Match (AM)

*This championship is being held in conjunction with the 15<sup>th</sup> North Carolina Amateur Match Play Championship (men).*





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## ELIGIBILITY

Entry is open to any female amateur golfer who has reached her 13<sup>th</sup> birthday by July 31, 2024, maintains a residence in North Carolina or South Carolina, is a member in good standing of a club which is a member of the Carolinas Golf Association (CGA) and has an active USGA Handicap Index® at a CGA member club. Entries are subject to rejection at any time, including during the event, by the CGA or the host club. The reason for rejection may include unbecoming conduct as defined by the [CGA Code of Conduct Policy](#) or cell phone use during a round. All players must conform to the "USGA Rules of Amateur Status" as specified in the "Rules of Golf". For complete residency and eligibility requirements, refer to the [CGA Tournament Manual](#).

**Tournament Field Size:** 32 players

## FORMAT & SEEDING

32 players are formed into 8 groups of 4 to begin the championship and compete in match play *Group Play*.

All players in a group will play a match versus the three other players in their group in rounds one through three of the Championship.

- The winner of each match will receive one (1) point
- Tied matches result in each player receiving a (0.5) half point

The 32 players will be seeded 1-32 using the criteria listed below called *Group Play Seeding*.

The 8 players with the most points from each group after 3 rounds of Group Play will advance to the final 8 Championship Bracket, called *Bracket Play*.

- In the event of a tie in the group after three rounds, the tied players will have a sudden death stroke play play-off to see who will advance.

The 8 group winners will be seeded into a traditional 8-player bracket based on the group number they won, not based on their original seeds. For more details, see *Championship Bracket* below.

## ENTRY WINDOW AND ONLINE REGISTRATION

All players, including those exempt, must register online at [www.carolinagolf.org](http://www.carolinagolf.org). Mail-in applications are not accepted for this event. Fax, mail, e-mail, telephone, incomplete, illegible, or entries received before the opening date and after the closing date, are not accepted.

**Entry Fee:** \$215

**Entries open on May 20, 2024 for ALL players.**

Entries will be accepted based on the **Exemption Criteria** (next page).

**Entries close on July 15, 2024.**

Entries from Exemption Category A will be accepted at time of entry. In the event that more than 32 players from Exemption Category A register, entries are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis within that exemption category.

Entries from Exemption Category B will be accepted in the order they are listed (below) when entries close on July 15.

The final field will be announced on July 17, 2024.

Players who do not gain entry to the final field will be placed on a waitlist in order from Exemption Category A, then Exemption Category B, if necessary.

*All interested players are encouraged to apply with the understanding that all players who match either exemption category may not apply and the final entry acceptance may be based on Handicap Index.*



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The CGA is not responsible for errors or delays by any internet service provider. Entries are only accepted between the open and close dates as stated above. Confirmation of acceptance is sent to players when their status is determined. The appropriate entry fee must be paid at time of registration. **Players who "Did Not Show" (DNS) or "No Card" (NC) are suspended from next year's Carolinas Women's Match Play Championship.**

## EXEMPTION CRITERIA

### EXEMPTION CATEGORY A

Players in this exemption category will be automatically accepted into the tournament field at the time of entry. In the event that more than 32 players from this category register, entries are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

1. Top 8 from Bracket Play in the 2023 Carolinas Women's Match Play Championship.
2. Carolinas Women's Match Play Champions since 2019.
3. Carolinas Women's Amateur Champions since 2019.
4. 2023 Carolinas Women's Player of the Year.
5. 2023 & 2024 North Carolina Women's Amateur Champions.
6. 2023 South Carolina Women's Amateur Champion.
7. 2024 Vicki DiSantis Junior Girls' Champion.
8. 2024 Carolinas Junior Girls' Champion.
9. Top 25 in the Carolinas Women's Player Rankings as of May 15, 2024.

### EXEMPTION CATEGORY B

Players in this exemption category will be accepted based on their ranking within each of the following criteria, in order as listed. Players in this exemption category will be accepted into the tournament field on July 16 based on the number of spots available.

1. Top 250 ranked players in the World Amateur Golf Rankings (WAGR) as of July 16, 2024.
2. Players ranked 26-75 in the Carolinas Women's Player Rankings as of May 15, 2024.
3. Handicap Index.

## GROUP PLAY SEEDING

Some categories could have multiple seeds. Players who are in multiple categories will assume the seed/category that is highest.

- Defending Champion of the Carolinas Women's Match Play Championship
- 2024 Champion of the Carolinas Women's Amateur Championship
- 2023 Carolinas Women's Player of the Year
- Semifinalists of the 2023 Carolinas Women's Match Play Championship (in order of original seed)
- Top 250 ranked players in the WAGR (could be multiple seeds, seed is based on ranking)
- Quarterfinalists of the 2023 Carolinas Women's Match Play Championships (in order of original seed)
- 2024 North Carolina Women's Amateur Champion
- 2023 South Carolina Women's Amateur Champion
- 2023 North Carolina Women's Amateur Champion
- 2024 Vicki DiSantis Junior Girls' Champion
- 2024 Carolinas Junior Girls' Champion
- Top 25 ranked players in the Carolinas Women's Player Rankings (could be multiple seeds, seed is based on ranking)
- Past Champions of the Carolinas Women's Amateur, in order from most recent to least recent



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- Past Champions of the Carolinas Women's Match Play, in order from most recent to least recent
- Players ranked 26-75 in the Carolinas Women's Player Rankings (could be multiple seeds, seed is based on ranking)
- Handicap Index

## GROUP PLAY SEEDING POSITION

The Championship will consist of 8 groups of 4 players per group. Groups will be seeded up and down based on the following chart:

<i>GROUP PLAY SEEDING</i>				
Group Number	Position 1	Position 2	Position 3	Position 4
Group 1	1	16	17	32
Group 2	2	15	18	31
Group 3	3	14	19	30
Group 4	4	13	20	29
Group 5	5	12	21	28
Group 6	6	11	22	27
Group 7	7	10	23	26
Group 8	8	9	24	25

## WITHDRAWALS AND WAITLIST

Once the group play seeds are set, any players accepted from the waitlist will assume the seed of the player they are replacing.

## WITHDRAWAL DURING GROUP PLAY

Due to the nature of this match play event, and to ensure that all players have a match to compete in and in fairness to the field in group play, a player who withdraws during the group play rounds will be *suspended for 3 months or their next CGA Championship they are signed up for*, whichever comes first. It is unfair to your fellow players who spend their own time and money to travel to the Championship, and are subsequently left to sit in their hotel room because another player has chosen to withdraw out of frustration or previous round loss. When entering the Championship, please take this into consideration. If you believe you cannot fulfill the tournament schedule, please leave the spot open for another player.



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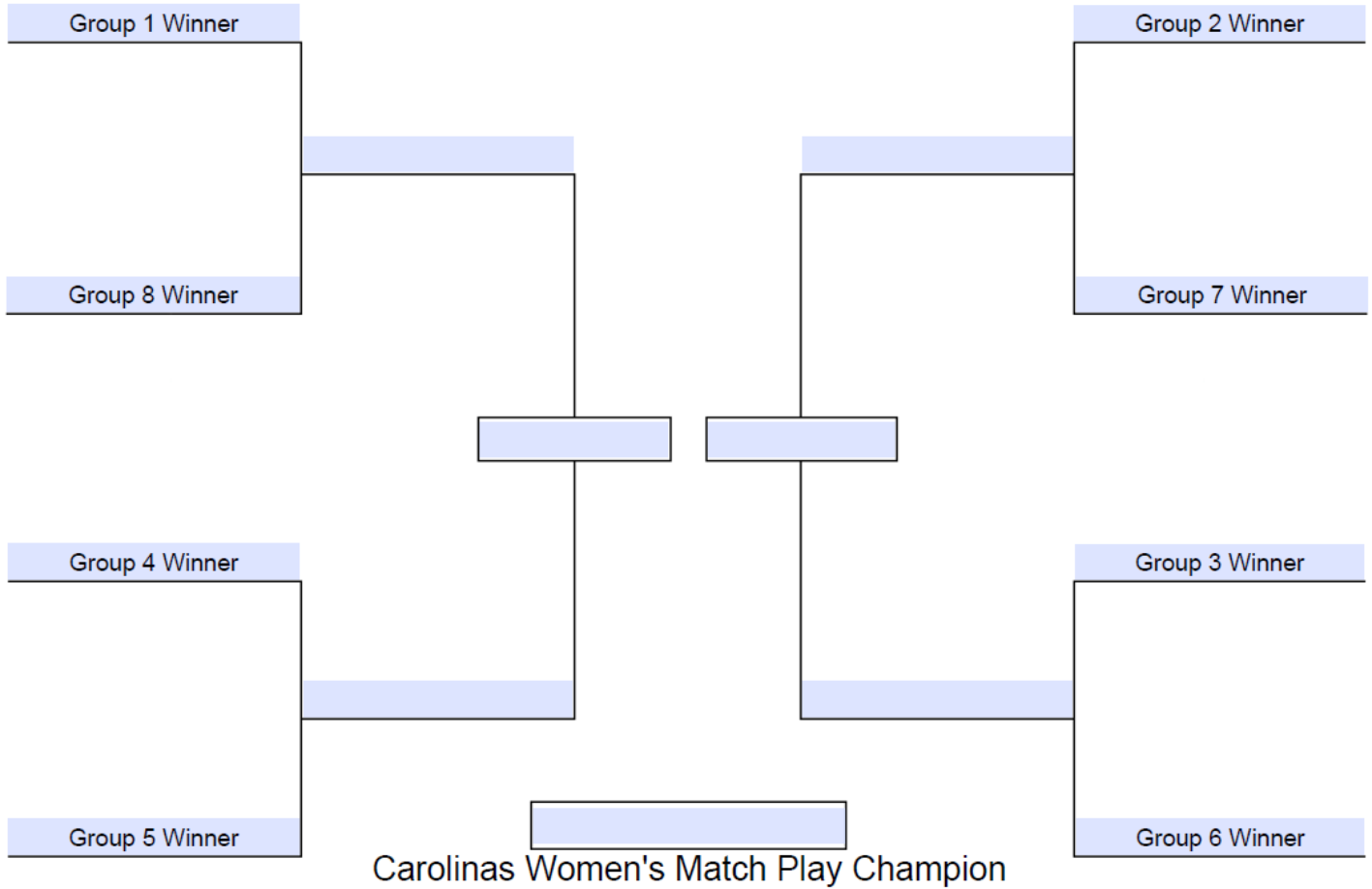


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## BRACKET PLAY – CHAMPIONSHIP BRACKET

The 8 group winners will be seeded into a traditional 8 player bracket based on the group number they won, not based on their original seeds, example below.

The winner of the Championship Bracket will be named the Carolinas Women's Match Play Champion.







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## PRIZES

Prizes are awarded to the champion and finalist of the Championship Bracket. Merchandise is awarded to all players advancing to the Championship Bracket.

## VIRGINIAS-CAROLINAS WOMEN'S TEAM EXEMPTION

The champion will automatically qualify for the 2025 Carolinas Team that will compete in the Virginias-Carolinas Women's Team Matches (site and date TBD).

## RULES

USGA Rules of Golf govern play. Questions will be decided by the on-site Rules Committee whose decision will be final. Notice to Players will be distributed at the starting tee(s). The CGA reserves the right to alter the conditions or schedules as stated, including alteration of the round(s) at any time during the championship. The competition is closed when the championship trophy has been presented. Special requests for starting times or pairings are not granted.

## INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

Every effort will be made to complete all scheduled rounds. There are no refunds if the tournament is shortened due to weather. If the entire tournament is cancelled, a full refund will be issued to all players.

## REFUND POLICY (NEW)

Entry fee refund policy schedule:

**Open Date – Saturday, July 28 at 11:59 p.m.:** Full refund minus \$30.00 administrative fee refunded regardless of reason if entry accepted into championship.

**Withdraw Sunday, July 29 or later:** No refund for any reason.

**Waitlist:** Full refund if player does not gain entry into championship.

## CART/RANGE FEES; GOLF CARTS; CADDIES; SPECTATORS

**Practice Rounds:** Practice round fees are as listed, regardless of cart rental.

**Championship Rounds:** Daily cart and range fees are included in the entry fee.

Competitors have the option to either walk or use a golf cart during championship rounds.

**(NEW) Caddies:** Caddies are prohibited from all CGA championships.

**Spectator Cart Policy:** Spectators are not allowed to ride in a player's golf cart at any time. Spectator carts will not be allowed at CGA women's championships.