



One-Day Four-Ball Series

2026 Terms of Competition



Eligibility

Entry is open to any amateur golfer who has reached his or her 13th birthday by the tournament date, is a member of a club that is a member of the Carolinas Golf Association and has an active Handicap Index® at CGA member club. Entries are subject to rejection at any time, including during the event, by the CGA, or by the club hosting the tournament. The reason for rejection may include unbecoming conduct, or failure to follow the *Rules of Handicapping*.

Format and Rules

USGA® *Rules of Golf* govern play. Any local rules will be announced on the day of play. The tournament format is 18 holes of four-ball stroke play (or 36 holes of four-ball stroke play if a two-day tournament), both gross and net scores. Player's Handicap Index calculated as of the close of entries. Following the *Rules of Handicapping*, 85 percent of a player's Course Handicap™ is used to determine net scores. A player's Playing Handicap™ is limited to 30 strokes. Further Playing Handicap reductions are applied based on the *CGA Four-Ball Handicap Reduction Policy*.

*Maximum Score: During play in One-Day Four-Ball Tournament, a player is allowed a maximum score of **9 GROSS STROKES** on any hole. Please refer to [Rule 21.2](#) for more information.*

The CGA monitors handicap score posting and reserves the right to adjust a Playing Handicap and/or withhold prizes for competitors whose handicaps are considered unrealistic or who have participated in a disproportionate share of CGA prize distributions. CGA will automatically post tournament scores to the player's scoring record in the World Handicap System™. Players or teams failing to list all individual hole-by-hole scores for both players may face suspension from future CGA one-day tournaments.

Links to: [World Handicap System™](#) | [CGA Code of Conduct](#) | [CGA Tournament Manual](#) | [Rules Sheet](#) | [Pace of Play Policy](#)

Divisions & Tournaments

Teams may choose to compete in any division in which they are eligible. Division options and yardage*:

- Long Tee Division (any gender, all players play the same tee from 6300-6900 yards)
- Regular Tee Division (any gender, all players play the same tee from 5800-6400 yards)
- Short Tee Division (any gender, all players play the same tee from 5400-6000 yards)
- Mixed Division (one male player plays from 5400-6000 yards)/one female player plays from 4600-5200 yards)
- Women's Division (Women only, all players play the same tee from 4600-5200 yards)

Flights are created in divisions with more than 16 entries. A division with less than 4 entries will either compete based on net scores only or be combined with another division. Division changes are not allowed after entries close. Teams are pre-flighted within their division based on the low **Handicap Index®** of the two teammates. In the case of a tie to split flights, the combined **Handicap Index®** of the two teammates is used.

*Yardage may vary outside of range based on the tournament site and tees available at the host site.

Partner substitutions made within five days of the tournament date must be approved in advance by the CGA office. Any on-site partner substitutions are subject to eligibility requirement verification and may result in the side competing with just one player. Competitors must subscribe to all host club restrictions concerning dress, coolers, etc. Cart use is recommended for tournament rounds and caddies are not allowed. Availability of spectator carts is at the discretion of the host club. Practice round availability and rate is at the host club's discretion.

Entry Information

Entries are accepted online only. The entry fee is **\$190/team**, which includes all golf fees and prizes. One-Day Four-Balls have two forms of registration: First-Come Registration (FCR) and Lottery Registration (LR). Each are defined below.

Regardless of the type of registration, entries open at 8:00 p.m. on the entry open date. Teams who are a "No Show" (DNS) or "No Card" (NC) are subject to suspension from future one-days. Tee time and pairing requests are not accepted.

Late Entries

Late entries are not guaranteed entry into a tournament.

After the close of entries, a player may contact the CGA at tournaments@carolinasgolf.org or contact the official in charge (listed on the tournament website) to request a late entry. Late entries will be accepted at the discretion of the CGA and only if a spot is available in the field.

Accepted late entries will be charged a \$30 late fee in addition to the entry fee of the tournament. The late fee is non-refundable, regardless of participation in the tournament.

First-Come Registration (FCR)

For most events, entries are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis (FCR). In FCR, alternates are ranked in the order which entries are received and placed on the waitlist. Entries close when the allotment of accepted and alternate teams is filled or at 11:59 p.m. on the entry close date.



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Lottery Registration (LR)

For select events clearly identified on the online schedule, a lottery will be used to determine entries (LR). LR will open at 8:00 p.m. on the open date and teams will have a 3-day window to register. If the event is over capacity after the entry window, all entries will be placed into a randomized lottery. The max capacity (usually 52 teams) will receive entry to the event based on lottery order and the remaining teams will be placed on the waitlist based on lottery order. Division selection has no bearing on lottery selection.

If the event does NOT meet max capacity in the 3-day LR window, all registered teams will receive entry into the event. The event will then revert to FCR and teams who register after the window will receive entry based on a first-come, first-served basis. In this scenario, entries will close when the allotment of accepted and alternate teams is filled or at 11:59 p.m. on the adjusted entry close date.

There is no advantage to signing up earlier or later in the 3-day LR window. All entries, regardless of registration time in the 3-day LR window, are equal and will be placed in the randomized lottery. Teams will be notified of their status (registered or waitlisted) within 48 hours after the lottery closes.

All events are treated as separate events and no preference is given to any team for back-to-back events. LR does not affect or change any withdrawal or refund procedures (see below).

Refund Policy

Any withdrawal within three (3) days of the day of the tournament will not receive a refund. All other withdrawals are subject to a \$30 administrative fee. An entry on the wait list may withdraw at any time for no administrative fee.

Deadline for Refund (less \$30 admin fee) at 11:59 pm	First Day of Tournament
Thursday	Monday
Friday	Tuesday
Saturday	Wednesday
Sunday	Thursday
Monday	Friday
Tuesday	Saturday
Wednesday	Sunday

Wait List Status

The waitlist for a tournament will be filled based the order the entry was received or the order of the lottery registration while entries are open. Once entries close (or in case of lottery events, pairings are created), the waitlist will for the tournament will be filled based on the division of the player to withdraw.

A waitlist entry does not pay the entry fee until being added to the tournament field, subsequently, an entry may be removed from the waitlist at any time without being subject to the Refund Policy.

Once an entry is moved from the waitlist to the field, the entry is subject to the Refund Policy. A waitlisted entry will receive an email notification when moved to the field. This can occur at any time up to and including the day before the tournament. To avoid the possibility of being subject to an admin fee once added to the field, an entry should be removed from the waitlist as soon as there is no desire or ability to play in the tournament if that entry was later added to the field.

Prizes and Merchandise

Merchandise certificates are awarded for low gross and net scores in all divisions. As a general guide, merchandise certificates are awarded to 1/3 of the entries in each division/flight with a bias of more net prizes than gross. Merchandise certificates are redeemable only at the host club's golf shop. Ties for 1st place or last place will be broken using the following method; matching scorecards using the back nine (holes #10-#18), last 6 holes (holes #13-#18), last 3 holes (holes #16-#18), 18th hole, then 18th hole going backward.

The CGA and the Host Facility are not responsible for any unclaimed or unredeemed merchandise certificates after a tournament play date. It is the player's responsibility to claim or redeem a certificate or golf shop credit before leaving a tournament site. The CGA and the Host Facility will not replace any lost or unclaimed merchandise certificates/gift cards after a tournament is played.

CGA Four-Ball Handicap Reduction Policy

Individuals or teams who record a Lowest Net Scores (LNS) in two or more tournaments within the 12-month period prior to the tournament will be subject to reduced playing handicaps. The reduction may be reduced for an individual if that player's ratio of LNS to the number of Four-Ball competitions is less than 1 in 5. The Lowest Net Score (LNS) is defined as being a member of a team with the lowest net team score (includes ties) in a division in a CGA four-ball tournament with net scoring. This rule is in effect for CGA One-Day Four-Ball tournaments, CGA One-Day Senior Four-Ball tournaments, and Ladies Four-Ball Play Days or in a combination of these programs. Competitors who qualify for this reduction will be subject to the following playing handicap reduction for any CGA Four-Ball tournament using net scoring: 2 LNS = 10% reduction of Playing Handicap; 3 LNS = 20% reduction of Playing Handicap; 4 LNS = 30% reduction of Playing Handicap (minimum of 1 stroke); 5 LNS = 40% reduction of Playing Handicap (minimum of 1 stroke), and so forth.



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One-Day Series Championships

The One-Day Four-Ball Series Championships will be announced by March 2026.

The Tournament of Champions has been discontinued, and the One-Day Series Championships will be the only year-end event for the One-Day Tournament program.