

66TH NORTH CAROLINA AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP



USGA EXEMPTION EVENT

ELIGIBILITY AND FIELD SIZE

Entry is open to any male amateur golfer who has reached his 13th birthday by June 17, 2026, is a legal resident of North Carolina, is a member in good standing of a club that is a member of the Carolinas Golf Association (CGA) and has an active USGA Handicap Index[®] at a CGA member club that does not exceed **7.0**. 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 in the [CGA Code of Conduct Policy](#) for current or future championships. 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](#).

College Student Eligibility: A college student is considered a resident of their parent(s)/guardian(s) "Legal Residency Criteria" as stated in the CGA Tournament Manual unless said student lives full-time in North Carolina.

Championship Target Field Size: 144 players

ENTRY FEES (All Course Fees Paid by the CGA to the Host Club)

Sectional Qualifying Entry Fee: \$130 (includes sectional qualifying cart/range fees)

Championship Entry Fee (For Exempt and Successful Qualifiers): \$285 (includes all championship site cart/range fees)

ENTRY WINDOW AND ONLINE REGISTRATION

Entry Window: Open April 6 at 8:00pm | Close May 20 at 11:59pm (Catawba CC Qualifier closes May 12)

All players, including those exempt from qualifying, must register online at www.carolinagolf.org. Mail-in, email, or telephone applications are not accepted for this event.

Exempt Players: Accepted into the championship proper at the time of entry.

Non-exempt Players: Gain entry into the championship proper through sectional qualifying (see "Exemptions from Sectional Qualifying" and "Sectional Qualifying and Alternates" sections).

The CGA is not responsible for errors or delays by any internet service provider. Confirmation of acceptance is sent to players when their status is determined. Status may be checked at www.carolinagolf.org. The appropriate entry fee must be paid at the time of registration. **Players who "Did Not Show" (DNS) or "No Card" (NC) are suspended from next year's championship.**

LATE REGISTRATION

Late entries are not guaranteed entry into a tournament.

After the close of entries, a player may contact the CGA at tournaments@carolinagolf.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.

REFUND POLICY

Entry fee refund policy schedule:

Any withdrawal within three (3) days before the first day of the qualifier or championship proper will not receive a refund. All other withdrawals are subject to a \$30 admin fee. Refer to the table below for the deadline to withdraw with a refund less the admin fee.

Deadline for Refund (less admin fee) at 11:59 pm	First Day of Qualifier or Championship Proper
Thursday	Monday
Friday	Tuesday
Saturday	Wednesday
Sunday	Thursday
Monday	Friday
Tuesday	Saturday
Wednesday	Sunday

Withdraw within 3 days before or on the Championship First Round or Qualifying Date: No refund for any reason.

Wait List/Alternates: No entry fee is charged if the player does not gain entry into the championship or qualifier.

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*Note: Refund policy and deadlines apply to each entry fee stage. Example: Player pays \$130 entry fee to qualify. The player is successful in qualifying (\$130 entry fee has been used) and is automatically charged the \$285 championship entry fee balance due to their credit card. The player withdraws from the championship proper four days before the first round. The player receives a refund of \$255 (\$285 championship entry fee balance-\$30 admin fee). Any withdrawals within three days prior or on the first round date do not receive a refund.

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 and local rules are posted at host club and 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 including sectional qualifying. The competition is closed when the championship trophy has been presented. Special requests for starting times or pairings are not granted.

CART/RANGE FEES; GOLF CARTS; CADDIES; SPECTATORS

Sectional Qualifying: Qualifying round cart/range fees are paid by the CGA and are included in the entry fee. Competitors have the option to either walk or use a golf cart during a qualifying round. Cart rental is mandatory for practice rounds.

Championship Site: Championship site cart/range fees are paid by the CGA and are included in the entry fee. Competitors have the option to either walk or use a golf cart during championship rounds. Cart rental is mandatory for practice rounds.

Caddies: Caddies are prohibited.

Spectator Cart Policy: Spectators are not allowed to ride in a player's golf cart at any time. Refer to Player Information for specific qualifier or championship site for spectator information. **Due to cart limitations, Spectator/Handicap Carts are not allowed during the first 2 rounds of the championship.**

CHAMPIONSHIP FORMAT

The championship format is 72 holes of stroke play. After 36 holes, the field is cut to the low 60 scorers and ties. A tie for the overall championship is decided by an on-course playoff.

PRIZES

Championship: Merchandise prizes are awarded to the top 30 finishers at the championship proper. The champion receives a trophy, merchandise, and name engraved on the *Billy Joe Patton Trophy*.

Sectional Qualifying: Merchandise prizes and medals awarded to the lowest scorer and ties, duplicate medals, and merchandise certificates will be awarded.

EXEMPTIONS FROM SECTIONAL QUALIFYING

Players in the following categories are exempt from sectional qualifying if otherwise eligible. A complete list of exempt players is available on the championship website.

1. Champions of the Carolinas Amateur since 2016.
2. Champions of the North Carolina Amateur since 2016.
3. Champions of the North Carolina Mid-Amateur since 2021.
4. Champions of the Carolinas Mid-Amateur since 2021.
5. Champions of the North Carolina Amateur Match Play since 2016.
6. 2025 Dogwood State Junior champion.
7. 2025 Carolinas Senior Amateur champion.
8. 2025 North Carolina Senior Amateur champion.
9. 2025 North Carolina Junior champion.
10. 2025 Carolinas Junior Boys champion.
11. 2026 Carolinas Four-Ball champions.
12. Players who finished **30th** or better at the 2025 North Carolina Amateur.
13. 2025 Carolinas Men's Player of the Year.
14. 2025 Carolinas Senior Men's Player of the Year.
15. 2025 Carolinas Junior Boys Player of the Year.
16. Players ranked in the **Top 65** of the CGA Carolinas Men's Amateur Rankings as of April 1.
17. USGA individual or four-ball champions since 2021.

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18. Players who competed in the 2025 US Amateur Championship Proper, 2025 US Open Championship, 2025 US Senior Open Championship Proper, or 2025 US Open Final Qualifying.
19. Players who made Match Play in the 2025 US Amateur Four-Ball Championship, 2025 US Mid-Amateur Championship, 2025 US Junior Amateur Championship, or the 2025 US Senior Amateur Championship.
20. Most recent Walker Cup team members.
21. 2025 Captain's Putter Carolinas Regular Team members.
22. 2025 North Carolina Four-Ball Champions.
23. Players ranked in the top **3,000** of the World Amateur Golf Rankings as of April 1, 2026.
24. Two exemptions for the championship host club.
25. Special exemption bestowed by the CGA.

SECTIONAL QUALIFYING AND WAIT LISTS

Sectional qualifying is 18 holes of stroke play. The number of qualifying spots at each site is determined by the CGA after entries close, based on the size of the field when pairings are created. Qualifying site assignment is based on the date/time the CGA receives and processes each entry form. **Qualifying site assignments after the close of entries can only be changed if a spot opens up in another qualifying site. No Qualifying Sites may be changed the day of or the day before the qualifier.**

If a qualifying site is full at the time of registration, a player may opt to be placed on that site's waitlist or register at another qualifying site. **A player may only register for one qualifying site and attempt to qualify once.** Waitlist alternates are ranked according to the date/time an entry is received and processed.

Qualifying site player information is sent after entries are accepted.

Qualifying Spots: All ties for the final qualifying position qualify for the championship. No playoffs are conducted on-site at a qualifier. The CGA will now build an "alternate list" comprised of players who missed the cut by one stroke at all qualifying sites. Once the final qualifier is complete, any open spots in the championship (if available) will be filled from this "alternate list" by blind draw. This provision only applies if the championship field size is less than the target field size (above).

SECTIONAL QUALIFYING SCHEDULE

- May 19 - Catawba CC, Newton, NC (entries close May 12)
- May 27 - Mid South, Southern Pines, NC
- May 27 - Eagle Ridge GC, Raleigh, NC
- June 1 - Colonial CC, Thomasville, NC
- June 2 - Lane Tree, Goldsboro, NC
- June 8 - Bayonet at Puppy Creek, Raeford, NC
- June 8 - Pine Island CC, Charlotte, NC

CHAMPIONSHIP SCHEDULE

Tuesday, June 16 – Tee times available for practice.

Wednesday, June 17 – First round. 18 holes of stroke play.

Thursday, June 18 – Second round. 18 holes of stroke play. The field cut to low 60 scores and ties.

Friday, June 19 – Third round. 18 holes of stroke play.

Saturday, June 20 – Final round. 18 holes of stroke play.

CONTACT INFORMATION

CGA: 910-673-1000 or e-mail: tournaments@carolinagolf.org

Championship Site: Bermuda Run Country Club 336-998-8154

WITHDRAW

Players who wish to withdraw may do so via the following link:

<https://www.golfgenius.com/pages/5919060>