



CUTTER CREEK | MAY 5-7, 2026

# 40<sup>TH</sup> NORTH CAROLINA SENIOR AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP

## **ELIGIBILITY AND FIELD SIZE**

Entry is open to any male amateur golfer who has reached his **55<sup>th</sup>** birthday by May 5, 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 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](#).

**Championship Field Size:** 132 (approximately)

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

**Sectional Qualifying Entry Fee:** \$110 (includes sectional qualifying cart/range fees)

**Championship Entry Fee (For Exempt and Successful Qualifiers):** \$260 (includes all championship site cart/range fees)

## **ENTRY WINDOW AND ONLINE REGISTRATION**

**Entry Window:** Open February 9 at 8:00pm | Close March 23 at 11:59pm

All players, including those exempt from qualifying, must register online at [www.carolinasp.org](http://www.carolinasp.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.carolinasp.org](http://www.carolinasp.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@carolinasp.org](mailto:tournaments@carolinasp.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.

\*Note: Refund policy and deadlines apply to each entry fee stage. Example: Player pays a \$110 entry fee to qualify. The player is successful in qualifying (a \$110 entry fee has been used) and is automatically charged the \$260 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 \$230 (\$260 championship entry fee balance-\$30 admin fee). Any withdrawals within three days before or on the first round date do not receive a refund.



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## **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 the 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 fee payment 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 fee payment is mandatory for practice rounds.

**Caddies:** Caddies are **prohibited** in qualifying and championship rounds.

**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.

## **CHAMPIONSHIP FORMAT**

The championship format is 54 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 *Peter V. Tufts 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 North Carolina Senior Amateur since 2015.
2. Champions of the Carolinas Senior Amateur since 2016.
3. Champions of the Carolinas Amateur since 2016.
4. Champions of the North Carolina Amateur since 2021.
5. Champions of the North Carolina Amateur Match Play since 2021.
6. 2025 Carolinas Men's and Senior Men's Player of the Year.
7. Players who finished 30th or better at the **2025** North Carolina Senior Amateur Championship.
8. Players ranked in the Top 60 of the CGA Carolinas Senior Men's Amateur Rankings as of February 1, 2026.
9. Past CGA individual champions are exempt in all CGA senior individual events for a period of one year from the date of their 55th birthday.
10. 2025 Carolinas Four-Ball champions.
11. 2025 Carolinas Senior Four-Ball champions.
12. USGA individual or four-ball champions since 2015.
13. Players who competed in a 2025 USGA Championship.
14. Individual champions of CGA and SCGA gross championships since 2021 (65+/Championship Divisions only).
15. 2025 Captain's Putter Team members, 2026 Tar Heel Cup Team members.
16. Players who finished 30th or better at the 2025 Carolinas Senior Amateur Championship.
17. 2025 North Carolina Senior Four-Ball Champions.
18. Players ranked in the World Amateur Golf Ranking® as of the entry opening date.
19. 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.**



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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**

March 30 - Coharie CC, Clinton, NC  
March 31 - Warrior GC, China Grove, NC  
April 6 - Bentwinds CC, Fuquay-Varina, NC  
April 14 - Stoney Creek, Whitsett, NC

## **CHAMPIONSHIP SCHEDULE**

<b>Monday, May 4</b>	Tee times available for practice. No Registration for this Championship.
<b>Tuesday, May 5</b>	First round. 18 holes of stroke play. Lunch for players provided by the CGA.
<b>Wednesday, May 6</b>	Second round. 18 holes of stroke play. Field cut to low 60 scores and ties for final round.
<b>Thursday, May 7</b>	Final round. 18 holes of stroke play. Awards Ceremony immediately after.

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

CGA: (910) 673-1000 or e-mail: [tournaments@carolinasp.org](mailto:tournaments@carolinasp.org)

**Championship Site:** Cutter Creek - (252) 747-4653

## **WITHDRAW**

Instructions on how to withdraw automatically may be found at the following link:

<https://www.carolinasp.org/images/Carolina'sGolf/site/tourn/2022/entry/WDInstructions.pdf>