

28TH CAROLINAS WOMEN'S MATCH PLAY CHAMPIONSHIP

PINEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB, ASHEBORO, NC
AUGUST 3-5, 2026



The top 32 Players that are exempt and/or register for the Carolinas Women's Match Play Championship are guaranteed three rounds of Match Play.

The Carolinas Women's Match Play Championship is an exciting CGA Championship that utilizes golf's original match-play format.

All players will play three matches in group play on Monday & Tuesday. The 8 group winners advance to bracket play on Tuesday afternoon & Wednesday, with single elimination match play until the Champion is crowned!

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ELIGIBILITY

Entry is open to any female amateur golfer who has reached her 13th birthday by August 3, 2026, is a legal resident of North Carolina or South 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. 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 the *Championship Bracket* below.

ENTRY WINDOW AND ONLINE REGISTRATION

All players, including those exempt, must register online at www.carolinascgolf.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: \$250

Exempt entries open on May 18, 2026.

Exempt players should register by June 8 to ensure acceptance.

Entries open for ALL PLAYERS on June 9, 2026.

Entries will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis after they open for all players on June 9, 2026.

Entries close on July 20, 2026.

Exempt entries will be accepted at the time of entry. If more than 32 exempt players register during the exempt window, entries will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis, and a waitlist will be created. Once entries open for all players, ALL entries will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis or placed on the waitlist in the order entries are received.

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.

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EXEMPTIONS

Players in the following categories are exempt if otherwise eligible.

1. Top 8 from Bracket Play in the 2025 Carolinas Women's Match Play Championship
2. Carolinas Women's Match Play Champions since 2021
3. Carolinas Women's Amateur Champions since 2021
4. 2025 Carolinas Women's Player of the Year
5. 2025 & 2026 North Carolina Women's Amateur Champion
6. 2025 South Carolina Women's Amateur Champion
7. 2026 Vicki DiSantis Junior Girls' Champion
8. 2025 & 2026 Carolinas Junior Girls' Champion
9. 2025 & 2026 North & South Women's Amateur Champions
10. Players who competed at the Augusta National Women's Amateur Championship in 2026
11. Top 35 in the Carolinas Women's Player Rankings as of May 1, 2026
12. USGA individual champions since 2021
13. 2025 USGA Championship qualifiers at the U.S. Women's Open, U.S. Women's Amateur, and U.S. Women's Mid-Amateur
14. Top 1000 ranked players in the World Amateur Golf Rankings (WAGR) as of May 13, 2026

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
- 2026 Champion of the Carolinas Women's Amateur Championship
- 2025 Carolinas Women's Player of the Year
- Semifinalists of the 2025 Carolinas Women's Match Play Championship (in order of original seed)
- 2026 North Carolina Women's Amateur Champion
- 2025 South Carolina Women's Amateur Champion
- Top 1000 ranked players in the WAGR (could be multiple seeds, seed is based on ranking)
- Players who competed at the Augusta National Women's Amateur Championship in 2026 (in order based on finish)
- 2026 North & South Women's Amateur Champion
- 2025 North & South Women's Amateur Champion
- Quarterfinalists of the 2025 Carolinas Women's Match Play Championship (in order of original seed)
- Top 35 ranked players in the Carolinas Women's Player Rankings (could be multiple seeds; seed is based on ranking)
- 2025 USGA Championship qualifiers at the U.S. Women's Open, U.S. Women's Amateur and U.S. Women's Mid-Amateur (in order of championship as listed, then by Handicap Index)
- Past USGA Individual Championships (in order from most recent to least recent)
- Past Champions of the Carolinas Women's Amateur (in order from most recent to least recent)
- Past Champions of the Carolinas Women's Match Play (in order from most recent to least recent)
- 2026 Vicki DiSantis Junior Girls' Champion
- 2026 Carolinas Junior Girls' Champion
- If not seeded by the above criteria, players will be seeded based on their CGA Women's Rankings, then CGA Junior Girls' Rankings, then Handicap Index in that order

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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:

GROUP PLAY SEEDING				
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 without a valid reason may be ***suspended from all CGA events they are signed up for***. It is unfair to your fellow players who spend their own time and money travelling 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. In order to be reinstated to play in CGA events, players will be subject to a \$150 penalty payable to the Carolinas Golf Foundation. If a player withdraws before the third group play match and will not factor into the final group standings, or who advances to the bracket play, that player may NOT be subject to the suspension. Any player wishing to withdraw during group play must consult with the Official in Charge regarding the potential for any penalty to be enforced. If a player withdraws without completing all three group play matches, in equity to the group, all points will be forfeited by the withdrawn player.

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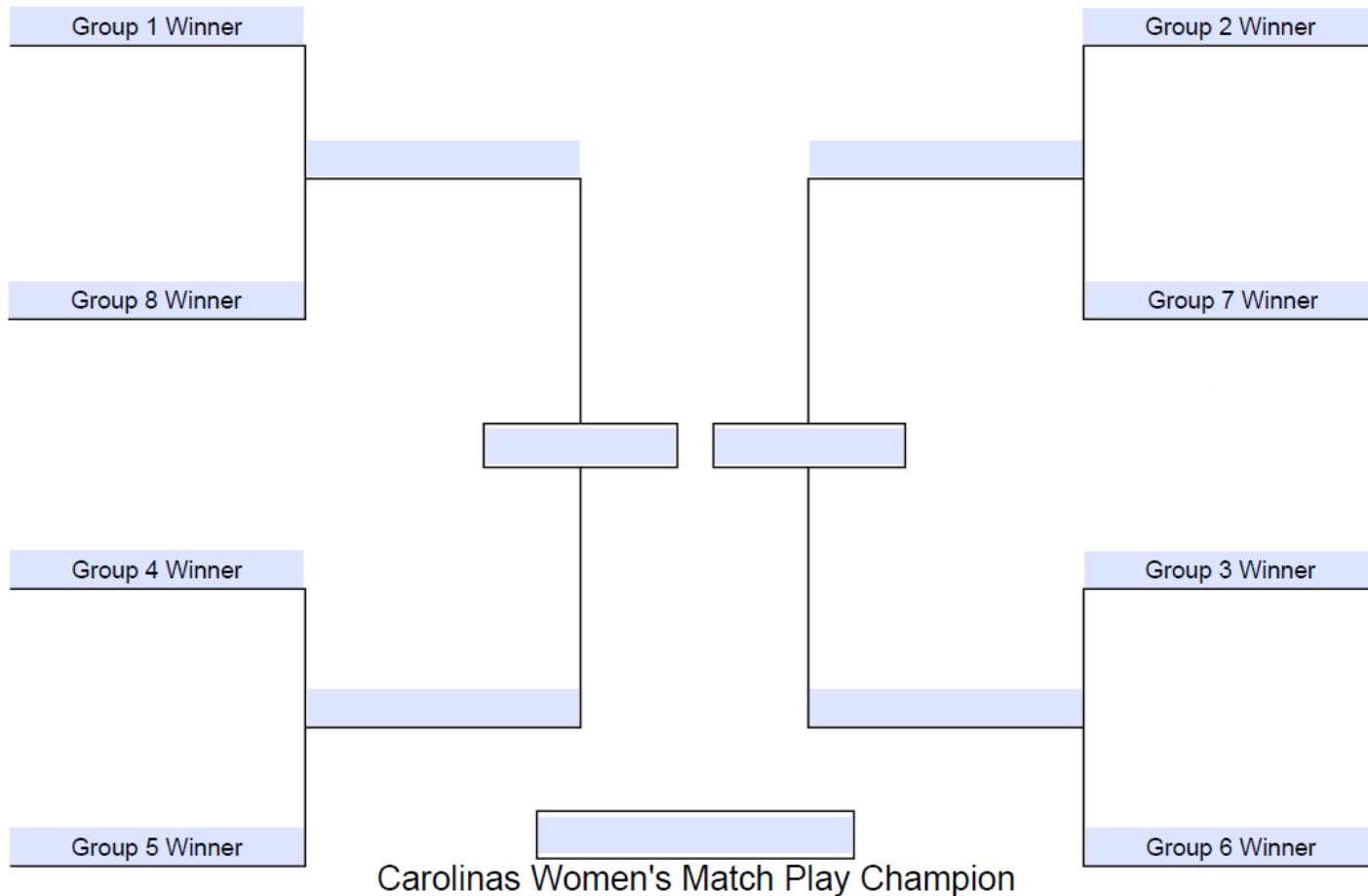
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BRACKET PLAY – CHAMPIONSHIP BRACKET

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 2027 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

Entry fee refund policy schedule:

Open Date – Thursday, July 30 at 11:59 p.m.: Full refund minus \$30 administrative fee refunded regardless of reason if entry accepted into championship.

Withdraw Friday, July 31 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.

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.