

## GNQ Mens Open Championship Terms of Competition

**Mens Open Championship** - will be played over 36 holes of stroke play - 18 holes Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May and Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May. Venue: Rowes Bay Golf Club

Golf North Qld will not be held liable, should Golf Australia cancel this Event. Any players who have qualified for a cancelled event, shall also lose their qualifier to said event.

- 1. HANDICAPS:** Players will play on their **Daily handicap** for the entirety of the championship.  
Golf North Queensland will take note of each player's handicap through Golflink prior to event to determine playing grades for draw purposes.
- 2. REFUND POLICY:** Any entrant may withdraw and have the entrance fee refunded provided notification is received 5 days prior to the first round. To be eligible for a refund after this time players must provide GNQ supporting documents regarding their withdrawal from the event (e.g. medical certificate). In the case of an event not being completed (for example due to weather delays) refunds will not be provided.
- 3. CHAMPIONSHIP COMMITTEE:** The Championship will be under the management and control of the Championship Committee, consisting of representatives of Golf North Queensland and Host Club Match Committee. In the absence of the full Championship Committee, such members thereof as may be present at any time may give a decision and any decision shall be deemed the decision of the full Championship Committee. The Championship Committee reserves the right to vary any condition of this event.
- 4. PUBLICITY:** Golf North Queensland arranges publicity before, during and/or after this Championship. It is a condition of entry that all players assent to references to them, and pictures of them in practice and play being published via any medium (including the internet).
- 5. PRIVACY:** Golf North Queensland may retain the personal details (i.e. name, address, handicap) of entrants in this Championship on its records. The purpose of doing so is such that information on other future events conducted by Golf North Queensland can be forwarded as deemed appropriate by Golf North Queensland. This information will not be available to any other organisation. Any person may have their details removed from this database by phoning the Golf North Queensland on 0456 847 566.
- 6. DRESS REGULATIONS:** It is a requirement of this tournament that all players must comply with the dress regulations of the Host Club.
- 7. PRACTICE:** The provision of practice rounds will be by arrangement with the host clubs, under whatever terms and conditions they determine.

- 8. RULES:** The Rules of Golf, as adopted by R&A Rules Limited, will apply, together with, any additional Local Rules as drawn up by the Championship Play Committee.

In addition – Distance Measuring Devices **will be permitted**.

- 9. COURSE MARKERS:** During practice or during the Championship a player shall not place on the course, or cause to be placed on the course, any artificial marker or other device designed to indicate course measurements. A player in breach of this condition shall be disqualified.
- 10. DRAW AND STARTING TIMES:** A draw for each day's play will be published. Players shall start at the time and in the order arranged by the Championship Committee. Rule 5-3 provides "The player shall start at the time laid down by the Committee". The penalty for breach of Rule 5-3 is disqualification. However, it is a condition of this Championship that, in the absence of circumstances which warrant waiving the penalty of disqualification, if the player arrives at his starting point, ready to play, within five minutes of his starting time, the penalty for failing to start on time is two strokes at the first hole, instead of disqualification.
- 11. BALL:** It will be obligatory for all competitors in all events to play with a ball which is named in the current list of Conforming Golf Balls issued by the R&A. Penalty for breach of this condition: Disqualification.
- 12. USE OF MOTORISED VEHICLES:** There is no restriction on the use of motorised vehicles for this Event.
- 13. CADDIES:** Players will at all times be liable for the actions of their caddies.

Caddies may

- Carry golf clubs
- Give advice on club selection
- Clean clubs
- Rake sand bunkers
- Determine the distance
- Fix divots and ball marks
- Tend the pin
- Caddies cannot mark a player's cards.
- Caddies are not permitted to stand behind their player during a shot

- 14. PACE OF PLAY:** Rule 5.6 will be strictly enforced.
- 15. DRUG TESTING:** All competitors are subject to drug testing by the Australian Sports Drug Agency for banned substances as laid down in Golf Australia's Doping Policy - endorsed by Golf North Queensland. Any competitor infringing this policy or refusing to take a test, may be disqualified.
- 16. TIES:** In the event of a tie after 36 holes, unless the Championship Committee otherwise determines, play shall continue over such holes as the Championship Committee shall decide in a sudden-death, hole-by-hole play-off until the winner is determined.

**17. PROTESTS:** Protests must be lodged in writing with the Championship Committee no later than 10 minutes after the conclusion of the player's round on each day.

**18. TROPHIES:** A Competitor shall not be eligible to win more than one major trophy but may win one minor trophy each day plus pin shots. Trophies will be presented at the host Club after close of play on last day of play.

**19. CODE OF CONDUCT:** All entrants are bound by Golf North Australia's Code of Conduct ("the Code"). A copy of the Code is available at [www.golfnq.org.au](http://www.golfnq.org.au)

Any breach of the Code must be recorded with the Championship Committee.

**20. DISTANCE MEASURING DEVICES:** For all play in this Championship a player may obtain distance information by use of distance-measuring device. If, during a stipulated round, a player uses a distance-measuring device to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect his play (e.g., elevation changes, wind speed, etc), the player is in breach of **Rule 14-3**.

**21. HOLE IN ONE:** There will be one winner only. First person to score a Hole in One on the designated hole on the designated day will be the winner.

**22. ADVISE:** Any verbal comment or action (such as showing what club was just used to make a stroke) that is intended to influence a player in:

- a. Choosing a club
- b. Making a stroke, or
- c. Deciding how to play during a hole or round.

**But advise** does not include public information, such as:

- a. The location of things on the course such as the hole, the putting green, the fairway, penalty areas, bunkers or another players ball.
- b. The distance from one point to another
- c. Wind direction, or
- d. The rules

**23. ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS: Course unplayable**

If the committee or its authorised representative considers that for any reason the course is not in a playable condition or there are circumstance that render the proper playing of the game impossible or players safety, it may, in match play or Strokeplay, order a temporary suspension or cancellation of play, declare a round null and void and cancel; all scores for the round in questions.

**24. FAILURE TO SIGN CARD:** The scorecard must be signed by you and your marker (or markers if another person has had to take over) and returned as soon as possible on completion of the round.

Sometimes, this will be to a recorders' area, but often simply to a box in the clubhouse.

Once it has been returned to the scoring Area and the players has left the Scoring area, no alterations can then be made to the scorecard. If one or both of the required signatures are missing, you will be disqualified under Rule 3.3b.

And even if computerised scoring is in operation, it is what is recorded on the physical scorecard that is all-important, rather than what might be input in error into a computer.

## **25. SIGNALS FOR SUSPENSION OF PLAY:**

It is recommended that Committees use the universally recognised signals for suspension of play.

Discontinue play immediately: One prolonged note of siren

Discontinue play: Three consecutive notes of siren, repeated;

Resume play: Two short notes of siren, repeated.

Careful decision making, prompt action and clear communication by the Committee can not only provide for safety of the players by may also assist in alerting any spectators to the need to take shelter.

**26. DATABASE OF COMPETITORS DETAILS:** - The personal data contained in this entry is permanently retained by GNQ. This data may be utilised by GNQ or its sponsors for the distribution of correspondence, in both electronic and hard copy means. From time-to-time players may be sent entry forms, event literature, the GNQ e-newsletter, or marketing material or information about events conducted by GNQ approved bodies. Upon receipt by GNQ of a written request, a player may either have access to their details, or have their details deleted from the database. For further details, please refer to our privacy policy.

**27. READY GOLF:** The Championship is a “Ready Golf” event. “Ready Golf” should be played, but in a safe and responsible way. Play when you are ready – you do not have to wait until the farthest away player has played.

For example, play “Ready Golf”

- When the player farther away has a difficult shot and is assessing options
- When a longer hitter has to wait for the green to clear
- On the tee if a player with the honour is delayed
- By playing your shot before helping to look for a lost ball

**28. COVID-19:** Participants and supporters must comply with any COVID Safe Event Checklist including:

- Do not attend the event if, at the time of the event, you have been instructed by a relevant authority to self-isolate; or if you are feeling unwell or sick; or you have confirmed COVID-19 or COVID-19 symptoms. A full refund will be provided for any of these circumstances.

- Maintain good hygiene practices at all times, including regular hand washing and sanitisation when entering venues, after using the bathroom and before and after handling food; and covering your mouth and nose if you need to cough or sneeze. ■
- Comply with any relevant government health direction.