



PROFESSIONALS GOLF POLICY – 2024

(In exercise of powers conferred in the CLAUSE 17.14 of PGF Constitution, The Professional Golf Policy will come into force with effect from 1st Jul 2024 and it supersedes all the previous Professionals Golf Policies / Instructions.)

CLAUSE 1

1. Eligibility to Play Professional Golf

- a. Any golfer who is a citizen of Pakistan may participate in the Q School, provided his capability is recognized and verified through a personal ability test (PAT) by the respective associations.
- b. Any expatriate professional golfer can participate in the PGF pro circuit, provided he holds a valid tour card of the country where he is based and also participates and qualifies PGF's Q School.
- c. PGF can invite any foreign pro to participate in any championship/tournament in Pakistan. Such players shall be eligible to all/any prizes on offer.
- d. Winners of Pakistan Open Championship shall be exempted for five years to appear in the Q School, starting from the year he wins the event.
- e. Winners of Association Open Championships (i.e., Punjab Open, KP Open, Sind Open, Baluchistan Open & President Golf Medal), shall be exempted for two years to appear in the Q School, starting from the year they win the event.



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CLAUSE 2

2. How to Obtain a PGF Professionals' Playing Card

- a. **Exemption.** The top 50 ranked professionals, 15 top ranked senior professionals and 5 top ranked from Jinnah Tour (JT) plus exemptions mentioned in Para 1 d and e above, shall be issued a playing pro card for one golfing year i.e., 1 Jan to 31 Dec next year on payment of annual registration fee as decided by PGF. **All exemptions, whether related to cards or any other matter, apply only to the specific category. A player exempted in any Professional category cannot claim exemption in any other category.**
- b. Annual Ranking will be announced each year in the month of Jan (Ranking Period 1st Jan – 31st Dec each year).
- c. Rest of the playing field for all categories of professionals will be selected through qualification in the Q School (3/4 days trials), each year in the month of June.
- d. List of professional players who intend to participate in the Q School will be sent through respective clubs/associations to PGF. **No direct entries by the new player will be entertained.**
- e. Q School will be held at a place; where at least two 18 holes golf courses are available, this to accommodate the number of participants. Essentially that means Karachi, Islamabad-Rawalpindi and Lahore.
- f. The venue for Q-school will be planned by PGF on the basis of equal opportunity to all on rotation basis.
- g. Total field for Q School will be divided randomly into two groups. On Day 1, Group A shall play Course A and Group B will play Course B. On Day 2, the groups will



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- swap golf courses so that Group A plays on Course B and Group B play on Course A.
- h. **Cut.** It will be implemented after Day 2 and all categories will play the final round(s), on one of the courses as decided by the Committee conducting the trials: -
- (1) Professionals. Top 110 and ties.
 - (2) Senior Professionals. Top 35 and ties.
 - (3) Junior Professionals. Top 35 and ties.
- i. **Playing Cards.** Playing professional cards issued by PGF will be: -
- (1) Professionals (Field of 100). Top 50 exempt on the money list, plus other exemptions if any and the balance from Q School to complete the field.
 - (2) Senior Professionals (Field of 35). Top 15 exempt on money list and 20 top from Q School).
 - (3) Junior Professionals. Top 20 from Q School.
- j. **Reserve Playing Cards.** Reserve playing professional cards will be issued by PGF: -
- (1) Professionals (60 Reserve Cards). Positions 46 to 105 from Q School (*depending on the exemptions*).
 - (2) Senior Professionals (10 Reserve Cards). Positions 21 to 30 from Q School.
 - (3) Junior Professionals (10 Reserve Cards). Positions 21 to 30 from Q School.
- k. **Tie.**
- (1) Professionals: In case of a tie during Q School, the matching score-card procedure (last 36, 18, 9, 6, 3, and 18th hole respectively) to break TIE will be followed in all such cases for Professional categories and their positions.



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- (2) **Senior & Junior Professionals:** In case of a tie during Q School, the matching score-card procedure (last 18, 9, 6, 3, and 18th hole respectively) to break TIE will be followed in all such cases for Senior & Junior categories and their positions.
- l. PGF will ensure that Q School/trials are conducted under the supervision of PGF, respective Association and top Professionals of the country.
- m. **Associations.** The associations will ensure: -
 - (1) In order to organize pro tournaments/championships in an orderly and efficient manner a deadline of 96 hours shall be strictly imposed for receiving participation entries prior to the commencement of a tournament.
 - (2) The invitation to reserve players will be strictly based on the order of merit and no exception shall be made by the organisers of the tournament.
- n. Each Pro-card will include the information that it is a playing card and not a teaching card. CNIC number on each card will be used as PGF playing pro-card ID (tour membership number).



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CLAUSE 3

3. Size of the Field

a. 36/27/18 Hole Golf Course (as per Professional Card seeding)

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| (1) <u>Professionals:</u> | Top 100 Main Professionals |
| (2) <u>Senior Professionals:</u> | Top 35 Senior Professionals |
| (3) <u>Junior Professionals:</u> | Top 20 Junior Professionals |
| (4) <u>Wild Card Entries:</u> | Maximum 6 in a championship. |

Total Field 155 + 6 Wild Card (if practiced) in a championship.

b. 9 Hole Golf Course

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| (1) <u>Professionals.</u> | Top 60 ranked. |
| (2) <u>Senior Professionals.</u> | Top 15 ranked. |
| (3) <u>Junior Professionals.</u> | Top 15 ranked. |
| (4) <u>Wild Card Entries:</u> | Maximum 6 in a championship. |

c. The reserves card holders will fill in the vacancy if required. The filling will be strictly based in the order of merit, {Professional Card Seeding Basis}. The reserve card holder will be extended an invitation only when a playing professional from the given field drops out.

d. Non-card holders will not be allowed to take-part in the PGF tournaments / championships under any condition unless they get Wild Card Entry as given below in Para 3 e.

e. **Wild Card Entry.** This will be over and above size of the field if and when exercised. The nomination will be done in writing. Following can do these nominations: -

- (1) President PGF. President PGF can nominate two for any given tournament.
- (2) Title/Main Sponsor. Two nominations by the Title/Main sponsor of the match.
- (3) Association/Club Conducting the Tournament. A nomination each by the Association and the Club.



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CLAUSE 4

4. Prize Money in Open Tournaments/Championships

- a. The prize money for professionals will be announced / published in advance and must also be included in the tournament poster.
- b. 5% PGF Share will be submitted as per Para 5 (i) Share of PGF.
- c. Prize Money for Main Professionals', prize money will be 72.5% of the total prize money.
- d. Prize Money for Senior Professionals' prize money will be 15% of the total prize money.
- e. Prize Money for Junior Professionals' prize money will be 7.5% of the total prize money.
- f. Professionals' Purse In Ranking Championships, Cut will be implemented on Top 50 and Ties, All the players who made the cut will share the Prize Money as per the Ratio chart at Annexure A.
- g. **Senior Professionals' Purse.** In Ranking Championships, Cut will be implemented on Top 20 and Ties, All the players who made the cut will share the Prize Money as per the Ratio chart at **Annexure A.**
- h. **Junior Professionals' Purse.** In Ranking Championships, Cut will be implemented on Top 10 and Ties, All the players who made the cut will share the Prize Money as per the Ratio chart at **Annexure A.**
- i. **Share of PGF.** The clubs are responsible to deduct five percent (5%) of the total prize money; it must be paid to PGF as Open Tournament Fee and it is a mandatory



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- subscription. This amount must be deposited in PGF's account immediately at the termination of the event.
- j. Associations are requested to please ensure compliance as given in our letter No PGF/05/OTF dated 28 Jun 2018 on Distribution/Calculation of Open Tournaments Prize Money.
- k. Cheques of prize money should be handed over to the winners present on the same day after the prize distribution ceremony. For those not present, their money preferably should be remitted online in their bank accounts within one week or sent to their respective clubs.



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CLAUSE 5

5. **The Ranking Matches.** All tournaments/championships must offer minimum prize money of **Rupees 3 million**. All such matches will be considered as ranking tournaments of Pakistan. Annual ranking will be based only on the tournaments/championships that fulfil the above-mentioned prize money. However, all clubs must hold at least 1 open Golf Championship, if they arrange less than 3 million it shall be considered Jinnah Tour, and second tier golfers will participate in the Championship. The minimum Prize Money for JT would be 1.0 million.

CLAUSE 6

6. **Cut for All Categories**

- a. A cut will be implemented for a 54/72 holes tournament/championship, only after 36 holes of play (2nd round).
- b. On a 9 holes golf course, a cut will be imposed after 18 holes (for 36 holes match) of play (1st round).

CLAUSE 7

7. **Annual Registration/Card Fee**

- a. In order to participate in the Q School each participant must deposit the fee as decided by PGF. No further charges will be levied on the players who will make the cut. They will be issued with pro playing/reserve category cards.
- b. Top 50 main professionals, Top 15 Senior Professionals who are exempted as per the annual ranking or any other winning exemption(s) will deposit registration fee as decided by PGF for getting the Pro Playing Card.
- c. PGF will issue professional playing/reserve cards which will include the player's ranking, his photograph, CNIC and other essential details.



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CLAUSE 8

8. Senior and Junior Pro Players' Participation in the Main Professional Event

- a. A senior pro, who does not fall in the Exempt list of players (top 15 as per annual ranking), must establish his ranking through participation in the Q School.
- b. A senior professional has a choice to participate in only one event of a tournament/ championship where the dates overlap for main and senior pro categories.
- c. A senior professional may participate in both professional and senior professional events for the same tournament/championship, provided both the events are being held on totally different dates and he has registered himself, beforehand for both the events.
- d. If a Main Professional wishes to participate in the Senior or Junior Professional field under any exemption or wild card, the player must choose a single category from Main, Senior, or Junior for said championship.



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CLAUSE 9

9. Age Criteria for Professional Players

- a. Professional Players. No age limits.
- b. Senior Professionals. 50 years of age or more on 1st date (1st Jan) of the golfing year
(*not when the Q School was held*).
- c. Junior Professionals. Less than 21 years of age on last date (31st Dec) of the golfing year.
- d. During the year, a Player cannot change his category on the basis of Age during the golf session. However, this rule cannot affect Wild Card entries.



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CLAUSE 10

10. Policy for International Qualifying Schools

- a. The Number One ranked player of Pakistan as per the annual ranking will reserve the first right to accept/reject an opportunity to enter the Asian/Chinese/MENA Tour Q School, whenever the invitation is extended. In case he rejects the offer, the rejection must be based on cogent reasons, otherwise he will not be considered for this opportunity for the next golfing year too, even if he still holds the top position in the ranking.
- b. The secretariat of PGF will closely monitor the implications of such non acceptance reasons.
- c. In case the top player rejects the invitation the offer shall be extended to the next player on the order of merit and so on. Conditions of Sub Para a above shall be applied to all who refuse.
- d. Among top 15 ranked players, as per procedure mentioned above, if any player accepts the offer, he will be provided with: -
 - (1) One return air ticket + \$ 1,000/- (1st and 2nd ranked players).
 - (2) One return air ticket + \$ 750/- (3rd to 5th ranked players).
 - (3) One return air ticket + \$ 500/- (6th to 10th ranked players).
 - (4) One return air ticket + \$ 250/- (11th to 15th ranked players).
- e. If the player qualifies in the Asian/Chinese Tour Q School, he will be reimbursed Q School entry fee in addition to the incentive mentioned above.
- f. Similarly, if country exemption vacancy is allotted for Asian/Chinese Tour the procedure described in Sub Paras a, b, c, and d above will be adhered to for the top 10 ranked players only. This facility will be available only for one time to each such player in a golfing year.



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CLAUSE 11

11. Jinnah Tour (JT)

a. Field JT

(1) 36/27/18 Hole Golf Course

- (i) Junior Professionals: 30 (All Card holders)
- (ii) Professionals: Card No. 101 – 160

(2) 9 Hole Golf Course

- (i) Junior Professionals: 30 (All Card holders)
- (ii) Professionals: Card No. 101 – 160

(3) 90 players for eighteen and above holes golf course and 90 for nine Hole Golf Course.

(4) Junior professionals 1 to 30 in ranking from Q School.

(5) Second tier Professionals who have earned the card from PGF Qualifying School for the current year. Therefore, first the junior professionals will be accommodated and then the rest of the field by the professionals according to their merit from Q School.

(6) All players will compete as one category so that junior pros learn the game from their colleagues from the main round.

b. Each Association and PGF shall hold one exclusive match each (54 holes) of the JT in each Golfing Year.

c. **Prize Money.** Minimum prize money will be Rs 1,000,000/- (one million). It can be more if the organisers can manage/arrange.

d. Top 40 and ties will play the final day after the cut on completion of two rounds. Prize money shall be distributed as per the ratio chart at **Annexure A.**

e. Top 5 Professionals, based on prize money earned during the year through the JT tournaments will earn exemption from the next year's Q School.



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CLAUSE 12

12. Discipline/Conduct of Players

- a. Dress Code: All professional players during the national golf events/Q School, must wear proper golf gear (*shorts are not allowed*).
- b. Anti-Doping Policy: PGF abides by World, IGF and Pakistan Anti-Doping Policy. A player can be subjected to the test procedure at any time by the PGF.
- c. Misbehave: Misbehaviour on the golf course will not be tolerated; any player who shall indulge in such behaviour will be warned and subsequently disqualified.
- d. Disqualification from the Championship: Using unfair means will make the offender liable to disqualification from the championship as per R & A Rules and may also result in a ban to enter any golf event for up to five years subject to the approval of PGF secretariat.
- e. Cheating & Use of Unfair Means: Clubs/Associations will ensure that a case of using unfair means/cheating must be reported to PGF for strict disciplinary action.
- f. False Accusation: Anyone who falsely accuses someone can face a ban of up to two years with approval of PGF Secretariat. Everyone should ensure that they have concrete evidence to support their allegations before making it. If someone is found guilty of making false accusations without evidence, he will face the same penalty. In case the cheating or any unfair means found, the complete flight who has seen, listened, or kept quiet will face the punishment of a ban up to five years subject to the approval of PGF secretariat. This clause is also in force in personal chat groups and conversation.
- g. PGF card holders cannot be banned by any authority. Any misconduct or any other related issue must be reported to PGF for further necessary action along with all findings. PGF is the sole authority to put a ban on any Professional if required.



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CLAUSE 13

13. **Rules of Golf during National Tournaments/Championships.** All matches / championships will be held under the rules written by R&A in conjunction with local club rules (supplementary rules).

CLAUSE 14

14. **Policy to Turn Amateur from Professional Status.** If a player wants to turn amateur from a professional status, PGF will consider every case on its merits and will adhere to the R & A amateur status rules.

CLAUSE 15

15. **Playing Rights of Professionals in the Clubs:** All affiliated clubs are requested to accommodate the Professionals at their convenience so that they can improve their skills and ability to play Golf.

Note: This policy is effective forthwith and from Professional Golfing Year 1st Jul 2024, and it supersedes all the previous Policies on the subject.

-----Sd-----

Brigadier
Honorary Secretary
(Sajid Akram, Retd)

06 Aug 2024

Prize Money

Prize Money Distribution for all categories including ties. (<https://www.pgf.com.pk/Professionals.php>)