



Elite Amateur
GOLF SERIES

118th Southern Amateur Championship

July 17-20, 2024

Idle Hour Country Club, Lexington, KY

Entries Open: March 11 Entries Close: *May 20

*On-Site Qualifier Entries Open: May 21st; On-Site Entries Close: July 8th

Entry Fee: Sectional Qualifying = \$195; On-Site Qualifier = \$225 (Includes Qualifying Round Course Fee)

ELIGIBILITY

Entries are open to any male amateur golfer who has a current Handicap Index® not exceeding **3.4** under the World Handicap System as of the close of entries.

EXEMPTIONS FROM SECTIONAL QUALIFYING

Players extended a *Bobby Jones Invitation* by the SGA Amateur Competition Committee are exempt from sectional qualifying. Otherwise, a player must compete in a sectional qualifier or the On-Site Qualifier to earn a spot in the championship field.

ENTRIES AND ONLINE REGISTRATION

All players must register online at www.southerngolf.org. Fax, mail-in, or telephone applications are not accepted.

- Non-exempt players must compete in a sectional qualifier to gain a spot in the championship starting field.
- To submit an entry, click [HERE](#) to view sectional qualifying site schedule and click the "Register" link for that site.
- Players must have a Golf Genius profile with the SGA to register. To create a profile, select a sectional qualifier, click the specific event's "Register" link. On the qualifier site portal page, click the "Register Now" button on the left margin. Under the login fields, click the "Click Here to Register" under "Don't have an account?" header.
- An application for a player who is a minor upon the date of submission, in the state in which he resides (e.g., Alabama, under the age of 18) must be submitted by a parent/guardian, and list parent/guardian's name, phone number, and email address. The parent/guardian must agree to be bound by all terms and conditions on their behalf and on behalf of the minor player.
- **All entries must be RECEIVED in the SGA office no later than 11:59pm CST on Monday, May 20, 2024. Exceptions: Late registrations (see "Late Registration" section) and On-Site Qualifier entry close date is 11:59pm CST on Wednesday, July 10, 2024.**
- An entry fee in the amount of \$195.00 for Sectional Qualifying, \$225.00 for On-Site Qualifier is payable by **credit card** and must accompany the entry application.
- For players who successfully qualify, the SGA will charge the remaining championship entry fee balance of \$155.00 (\$125.00 for On-Site Qualifier) to the credit card used for qualifying.
- Registration Priority: Sectional Qualifying and On-Site Qualifier = First come, first served (waitlist for each qualifying site ordered by entry time/date).
- Upon successfully completing the entry procedure, an email confirmation will be automatically generated and sent to your email address.
- Confirmation of acceptance is sent to applicants when their status is determined. Status may be checked at www.southerngolf.org.

***NEW. Late Registration**

- Following the close of entries on May 20, if a sectional qualifying site has less than 10 waitlisted players or open spots in the field, a player may submit a "Late Registration" application up until three days prior to the scheduled sectional qualifier date.
- "Late Registration" applications are subject to a \$30.00 non-refundable fee in addition to the stated refund policy for that qualifying site.
- Players not gaining entry into a qualifying site will receive a full refund minus the \$30.00 non-refundable "Late Registration" fee.

The SGA 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. Entries are subject to rejection or withdrawal at any time, including during the event, by the SGA or the host club. The reason for rejection may include unbecoming conduct during a stipulated round. All players must conform to the "[USGA Rules of Amateur Status](#)" and abide by the "[SGA Code of Conduct](#)".

REFUND POLICY

Sectional Qualifying

Withdrawals and Transfers: If an accepted player withdraws for any reason before the close of registration at **11:59pm CST on Monday, May 20, 2024**, the entry fee will be refunded, subject to a \$50.00 service fee. A player may transfer to another qualifying site without penalty if the

SGA is notified prior to the close of registration on May 20. Sectional Qualifying site transfers are not allowed after the close of registration on May 20. Exception: Waitlisted players as of May 20 may transfer to another sectional qualifying site up until three days prior to a qualifier date that has open spots in the field but may not transfer to another waitlist or the On-Site Qualifier.

If an accepted player withdraws for any reason after the close of registration and before the deadlines listed below for any reason, 50% of the entry fee will be refunded. No refunds will be made for withdrawals after the deadlines listed below:

- Cypresswood Golf Club, Spring, TX: **11:59pm CST on Saturday, May 25, 2024**
- Mountain Brook Club, Birmingham, AL: **11:59pm CST on Monday, May 27, 2024**
- Dallas Athletic Club, Dallas, TX: **11:59pm CST on Saturday, June 1, 2024**
- University Club of Baton Rouge, Baton Rouge, LA: **11:59pm CST on Saturday, June 1, 2024**
- North Ridge Country Club, Raleigh, NC: **11:59pm CST on Sunday, June 2, 2024**
- Sunnehanna Country Club, Johnstown, PA: **11:59pm CST on Thursday, June 6, 2024**
- Country Club of Virginia, Richmond, VA: **11:59pm CST on Sunday, June 9, 2024**
- Golden Ocala, Ocala, FL: **11:59pm CST on Sunday, June 9, 2024**
- Black Creek Club, Chattanooga, TN: **11:59pm CST on Sunday, June 16, 2024**
- Buckhorn Springs Golf & Country Club, Valrico, FL: **11:59pm CST on Friday, June 21, 2024**
- Champions Trace, Nicholasville, KY: **11:59pm CST on Friday, June 21, 2024**
- Diamante Country Club, Hot Springs Village, AR: **11:59pm CST on Friday, June 21, 2024**
- University of Texas Golf Club, Austin, TX: **11:59pm CST on Monday, June 24, 2024**
- Oak Hills Golf Club, Columbia, SC: **11:59pm CST on Friday, June 28, 2024**
- Rivermont Golf Club, Johns Creek, GA: **11:59pm CST on Saturday, June 29, 2024**

On-Site Qualifier

Withdrawal: If an accepted player withdraws for any reason before the close of registration at **11:59pm CST on Monday, July 8, 2024**, the entry fee will be refunded, subject to a \$50.00 service fee. If an accepted player withdraws for any reason after the close of registration and before **11:59pm CST on Friday, July 12, 2024**, 50% of the entry fee will be refunded. No refunds will be made for withdrawals after **11:59pm CST on Friday, July 12, 2024**.

No Shows: Players that fail to notify the SGA of their withdrawal and “No Show” their starting time will not receive a refund for any reason. “No Show” players may be subject to suspension from future SGA events.

Alternates: Full refund if player does not gain entry into the qualifier.

Championship

Successful Qualifier Withdrawal: If a successful qualifier withdraws for any reason after paying his remaining championship balance of \$155.00 and before **11:59pm CST on Sunday, July 14, 2024**, 50% of the remaining championship balance will be refunded. No refunds will be made for withdrawals after **Sunday, July 14, 2024**.

No Shows: Players that fail to notify the SGA of their withdrawal and “No Show” their starting time will not receive a refund for any reason. “No Show” players may be subject to suspension from future SGA events.

All dates and time refer to **date and time of receipt** at the SGA office.

SCHEDULE

Competition will be in two stages:

1. **Sectional and On-Site Qualifying** - 18 holes of stroke play for non-exempt players.
2. **Championship** - 156 players (includes exempt players and sectional qualifiers).

CHAMPIONSHIP FORMAT

- 72 holes of stroke play. The field will be cut to the low 50 players and ties after 36 holes.
- The lowest score for 72 holes will be the Champion.
- In the event of a tie for the Championship, a “sudden-death” hole-by-hole play-off will be held immediately following play. The play-off holes and their order of play will be determined by the Rules Committee.
- Initial groupings will be for first two rounds; the field will be cut and grouped by score after the second round for the third round; grouped by score after third round for the fourth round.

SECTIONAL QUALIFYING AND ALTERNATES

- Sectional qualifying is 18 holes of stroke play.
- The number of qualifiers' places at each site is determined by the SGA after entries close, based on the size of the field. Ties for the final qualifying position will be determined by sudden death playoff immediately following the conclusion of play. Unless otherwise determined in a sudden death playoff, alternates will be ordered by the scores at each qualifying site using the USGA recommended scorecard playoff procedure to break ties (last 9 (Holes 10-18), last 6 (Holes 13-18), last 3 (Holes 16-18), 18th hole, 1st hole, 2nd hole, etc. until the tie is broken).

- If a successful qualifier from a Sectional Qualifying site withdraws, the spot will be filled with the alternate from that sectional qualifying site until Saturday, July 13th at 11:59pm EST. After that time, the spot will be filled by the Amateur Competition Committee. On-Site championship alternates are ranked by current WAGR ranking.
- 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 for another qualifying site. A player may only register for one Sectional Qualifying site.
- Any player, regardless of whether they have competed in a Sectional Qualifier, may compete in the On-Site Qualifier. Each player must complete a separate On-Site Qualifier entry application and pay the \$225.00 entry fee.
- Waitlist alternates are ranked according to date/time an entry is received and processed. Qualifying site player information is sent after entries are accepted.
- Qualifying sites may be cancelled due to a lack of participation.
- **Rain-Out Policy:** If a Sectional Qualifying site is cancelled and cannot be rescheduled due to weather, qualifier(s) and alternate spot will be selected using current WAGR rankings. Full entry fee refund to players not earning a place in the championship field.

SECTIONAL QUALIFYING SCHEDULE

May 28	Cypresswood Golf Club, Spring, Texas
May 30	Mountain Brook Club, Birmingham, Alabama
June 4	University Club of Baton Rouge, Baton Rouge, Louisiana
June 4	Dallas Athletic Club (Blue Course), Dallas, Texas
June 5	North Ridge Country Club, Raleigh, North Carolina
June 9	*Sunnehanna Country Club, Johnstown, Pennsylvania (Dual Qualifier with Sunnehanna Amateur Championship)
June 12	Country Club of Virginia (Creek Course), Richmond, Virginia
June 12	Golden Ocala, Ocala, Florida
June 19	Black Creek Club, Chattanooga, Tennessee
June 24	Champions Trace, Nicholasville, Kentucky
June 24	Diamante Country Club, Hot Springs Village, Arkansas
June 24	Buckhorn Spring Golf & Country Club, Valrico, Florida
June 27	University of Texas Golf Club, Austin, Texas
July 1	^Oak Hills Golf Club, Columbia, South Carolina (Dual Qualifier with South Carolina Amateur Championship)
July 2	Rivermont Golf Club, Johns Creek, Georgia
July 15	On-Site Qualifier: Idle Hour Country Club, Lexington, Kentucky

* Dual qualifier with the [South Carolina Golf Association's South Carolina Amateur Championship](#). Players may register to participate in only the Southern Amateur qualifier or, if eligible, participate in both qualifiers with the SCGA but must register with both organizations.

^ Dual qualifier with the [Sunnehanna Amateur Championship](#). Players must register with both organizations and be accepted into the qualifier's final field to compete in both events.

CHAMPIONSHIP SCHEDULE

Monday, July 15

On-Site Sectional Qualifier. Player Registration in Clubhouse Foyer.

Tuesday, July 16

Player Registration in Clubhouse Foyer. Tee times available for practice round. Hosted lunch for championship contestants.

Wednesday, July 17

First round of stroke play. Hosted breakfast and lunch for championship contestants.

Thursday, July 18

Second round of stroke play. Hosted breakfast and lunch for championship contestants.

Field cut to low 50 scores and ties.

Friday, July 19

Third round of stroke play. Hosted breakfast and lunch for championship contestants.

Saturday, July 20

Final round of stroke play. Hosted breakfast and lunch for championship contestants.

COURSE FEES

- *Sectional Qualifying and On-Site Qualifier:* Course fees are paid by the SGA and included in the entry fee. Competitors have the option to either walk or use a golf cart during qualifying rounds except as noted at qualifying sites that require mandatory carts. Practice rounds fees are payable individually at the host club.
- *Championship Site:* Championship site practice and championship round course fees paid by the SGA.

HOSTED BREAKFAST AND LUNCH

- Hosted breakfast is provided by the SGA to championship contestants each day of the championship from July 17-20 and lunch is provided from July 16-20.

TRANSPORTATION; PUSH/PULL CARTS

- Competitors and caddies must walk during championship rounds. Optional condition prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures: *Model Local Rule: G-6 Prohibiting Use of Motorized Transportation* will be in effect.
- Personal Push/Pull carts are allowed.

CADDIES; SPECTATORS; GOLF CART REQUESTS

- *Caddies*: Caddies are allowed for Sectional Qualifying, On-Site Qualifier, and championship rounds.
- *Sectional Qualifying Caddie/Spectator Cart Policy*: During the play of a hole, either the player or his caddie may ride in a golf cart but not both at the same time. Spectators are not allowed to ride in a player's golf cart at any time.
- Caddies are required to wear an SGA issued caddie bib at the championship proper. Caddie bibs will be provided to each player during registration.
- *Spectators*: SGA welcomes spectators at our championships. For your safety, we request that spectators walk near the cart path at all times. For disabled spectators, there will be viewing areas behind #1 tee and #18 green to view play from those locations.

PRIZES

- *Sectional Qualifying*: Lowest Score at each qualifying site: Silver medal. If a tie, duplicate medals will be awarded.
- *Championship*: A silver medal will be presented to the three lowest scores after 72 holes. Champion will have his name engraved on the *George W. Adair Trophy*, which is enshrined in the Atlanta Athletic Club clubhouse and a Calamity Jane Putter.

EXEMPTIONS EARNED

- Champion earns an exemption into the 124th U.S. Amateur Championship at Hazeltine National Golf Club in Chaska, MN from August 12-18, 2024.
- Champion receives a five-year exemption in the Southern Amateur Championship (2025-2029).

RULES OF GOLF

USGA Rules of Golf govern play. Questions will be decided by the SGA Rules Committee whose decision will be final. Notice to Players and Conditions of Competition are posted at host club and distributed at the starting tee(s). The SGA reserves the right to alter the conditions or schedules as stated, including alteration of the stipulated round(s) at any time during the championship including sectional qualifying.

CLOSE OF COMPETITION

The competition is closed when the *George W. Adair Trophy* has been presented to the winner.

SPECIAL REQUESTS

Special requests for starting times or pairings may not be granted.

