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*Elite Amateur*  
GOLF SERIES

# 119<sup>th</sup> Southern Amateur Championship

July 16-19, 2025

Blessings Golf Club, Johnson, AR

Entries Open: March 10    Entries Close: \*May 19

\*On-Site Qualifier Entries Close: July 9

Entry Fee: Sectional Qualifying = \$215; On-Site Qualifier = \$235 (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.

## ENTRIES AND ONLINE REGISTRATION

All players must register online at [www.southerngolf.org](http://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., Arkansas, 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 19, 2025. Entries will not be accepted after that time. Exception: On-Site Qualifier entry close date is 11:59pm CST on Wednesday, July 9, 2025.**
- An entry fee in the amount of \$215.00 for Sectional Qualifying, \$235.00 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 \$180.00 (\$160.00 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). **Johnstown, PA Qualifier: All Players will be put onto a pending list until confirmation of acceptance into the Sunnehanna Amateur qualifier final field.**
- 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](http://www.southerngolf.org).

## **\*NEW. Late Registration**

- Following the close of entries on May 19, 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 \$20.00 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 \$20.00 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 withdraw 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 or Transfers:** If an accepted player withdraws for any reason before the close of registration at **11:59pm CST on Monday, May 19, 2025**, 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 close of registration. Exception: A player may transfer to the On-Site Qualifier by May 19<sup>th</sup> for an additional \$20.00 fee. Sectional Qualifying site transfers are not allowed after close of registration on May 19<sup>th</sup>.

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:

- University of Texas Golf Club, Austin, TX, **11:59pm CST on Tuesday May 20, 2025**
- Tradition Golf and Country Club, Houston, TX, **11:59pm CST on Saturday, May 31, 2025**
- Country Club of Virginia (Creek Course), Richmond, VA, **11:59pm CST on Sunday, June 1, 2025**
- University Club of Baton Rouge, Baton Rouge, LA, **11:59pm CST on Tuesday, June 3, 2025**
- \*Sunnehanna Country Club, Johnstown, PA, (Dual Qualifier with Sunnehanna Amateur) **11:59pm CST on Thursday, June 5, 2025**
- Lonnie Poole Golf Course, Raleigh, NC, **11:59pm CST on Friday, June 6, 2025**
- Vestavia Hills Country Club, Birmingham, AL, **11:59pm CST on Friday, June 13, 2025**
- Black Creek Club, Chattanooga, TN, **11:59pm CST on Sunday, June 15, 2025**
- Buckhorn Springs Golf and Country Club, Valrico, FL **11:59 CST on Friday, June 20, 2025**
- Dallas Athletic Club, Dallas, TX, **11:59pm CST on Saturday, June 21, 2025**
- The Club at Olde-Stone, Bowling Green, KY, **11:59pm CST on Sunday, June 22, 2025**
- Diamante Country Club, Hot Springs Village, AR, **11:59pm CST on Friday, June 27, 2025**
- Mark Bostick Golf Course at UF, Gainesville, FL **11:59pm CST on Friday, June 27, 2025**
- \*Oak Hills Golf Club, Columbia, South Carolina (Dual Qualifier with South Carolina Amateur), **11:59pm CST on Friday, June 27, 2025**
- Rivermont Golf Club, Johns Creek, Georgia, **11:59pm CST on Saturday, June 28, 2025**

### On-Site Qualifier

**Withdrawal:** If an accepted player withdraws for any reason before the close of registration at **11:59pm CST on Wednesday, July 9, 2025**, 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 11, 2025**, 50% of the entry fee will be refunded. No refunds will be made for withdrawals after **11:59pm CST on Friday, July 11, 2025**.

**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 sectional qualifier.

### Championship

**Successful Qualifier Withdrawal:** If a successful qualifier withdraws for any reason after paying his remaining championship balance of \$180.00 and before **11:59pm CST on Sunday, July 13, 2025**, 50% of the remaining championship balance will be refunded. No refunds will be made for withdrawals after **Sunday, July 13, 2025**.

**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 participate in the championship.

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

### SCHEDULE

Competition will be in two stages:

1. **Sectional 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.

### EXEMPTIONS FROM SECTIONAL QUALIFYING

Players extended a *Bobby Jones Invitation* by the SGA Amateur Competition Committee are exempt from sectional qualifying.

### 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), 18<sup>th</sup> hole, 1<sup>st</sup> hole, 2<sup>nd</sup> hole, etc. until the tie is broken).

- If a successful qualifier from a Sectional Qualifying site withdraws, the spot will be filled with an alternate from that sectional qualifying site until Saturday, July 13<sup>th</sup> 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.
- Qualifying site assignment is based on the date/time the SGA receives and processes each entry form. **Qualifying site assignments cannot be changed after close of registration on Monday, May 19<sup>th</sup>.**
- If a qualifying site is full at the time of registration, a player may opt to be placed on that site's alternate wait list or register at another qualifying site. A player may only register for one qualifying site.
- Wait list alternates are ranked according to date/time an entry is received and processed. Qualifying site player information is sent after entries are accepted.
- 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.
- 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 22	University of Texas Golf Club, Austin, Texas
June 3	University Club of Baton Rouge, Baton Rouge, Louisiana
June 3	Tradition Golf and Country Club, Houston, Texas
June 4	Country Club of Virginia (Creek Course), Richmond, Virginia
June 8	*Sunnehanna Country Club, Johnstown, Pennsylvania (Dual Qualifier with Sunnehanna Amateur Championship)
June 9	Lonnie Poole Golf Course, Raleigh, North Carolina
June 16	Vestavia Hills Country Club, Birmingham, Alabama
June 18	Black Creek Club, Chattanooga, Tennessee
June 23	Buckhorn Springs Golf and Country Club, Valrico, Florida
June 24	Dallas Athletic Club, Dallas, Texas
June 25	The Club at Olde-Stone, Bowling Green, Kentucky
June 30	Diamante Country Club, Hot Springs Village, Arkansas
June 30	Mark Bostick Golf Course at UF, Gainesville, Florida
June 30	*Oak Hills Golf Club, Columbia, South Carolina (Dual Qualifier with South Carolina Amateur)
July 1	Rivermont Golf Club, Johns Creek, Georgia
July 14	On-Site Qualifier: Blessings Golf Club, Johnson, Arkansas

\* Dual qualifier with the [South Carolina Golf Association & Sunnehanna Amateur Championship](#). Players may register to participate in only the Southern Amateur qualifier or, if eligible, participate in both qualifiers with the SCGA. Players must register with both organizations and pay both entry fees for the Sunnehanna Amateur Championship Qualifier.

### **CHAMPIONSHIP SCHEDULE**

#### **Monday, July 14**

On-Site Sectional Qualifier. Player Registration in Clubhouse.

#### **Tuesday, July 15**

Player Registration in Clubhouse. Tee times available for practice round.

#### **Wednesday, July 16**

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

#### **Thursday, July 17**

Second round of stroke play. Hosted breakfast and lunch for championship contestants.  
Field cut to low 50 scores and ties.

#### **Friday, July 18**

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

#### **Saturday, July 19**

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

### **COURSE FEES**

- *Sectional Qualifying and On-Site Qualifier:* Sectional Qualifying 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 (Houston, Baton Rouge, Bowling Green qualifying sites are mandatory carts). Cart rental is mandatory for practice rounds payable at the host club.
- *Championship Site:* Championship site practice and championship round course fees paid by the SGA.

### **HOSTED BREAKFAST AND LUNCH**

- Hosted breakfast and lunch are provided by the SGA to championship contestants each day of the championship from July 16-19 and (Lunch 15-19).

#### **TRANSPORTATION; PUSH/PULL CARTS**

- Competitors and caddies must walk during championship rounds. Optional condition prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures: *Model Local Rules: G-6 Prohibiting Use of Motorized Transportation* will be in effect. See "Golf Cart Requests" section below for disabled golf cart requests.
- Personal Push/Pull carts are allowed.

#### **CADDIES; SPECTATORS; GOLF CART REQUESTS**

- *Caddies*: Caddies are allowed for sectional qualifying 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. 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. Spectator carts are not available for any reason at this championship.

#### **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, Johns Creek, Georgia and a Calamity Jane Putter.

#### **EXEMPTIONS EARNED**

- Champion earns an exemption into the 125<sup>th</sup> U.S. Amateur Championship at The Olympic Club in San Francisco, CA from August 11-17, 2025.
- Champion receives a five-year exemption in the Southern Amateur Championship (2026-2030).

#### **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.



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