



PGA PROFESSIONAL — CHAMPIONSHIP — SECTION

ENTRY INFORMATION

**REFER TO THE SECTION
CHAMPIONSHIP DATES, DEADLINE DATES, SITES & ENTRY FEES
DOCUMENT FOR YOUR SECTION'S SPECIFIC INFORMATION**

Presented By



Every applicant (except exempt applicants) must go through a two-stage process as follows:

1. Enter and compete in your Section PGA Professional Championship. See "Section Championship Dates, Deadline Dates, Sites & Entry Fees" document for your Section's specific information.
2. A pre-determined number of top finishers from each Section, plus exempt players, will then advance to the 2018 PGA Professional Championship scheduled to be played June 17-20, 2018 (Sunday through Wednesday) at Bayonet Black Horse, Seaside, California. An additional \$100 entry fee will be required to enter the PGA Professional Championship and eligibility deadline must also be met.

All members who wish to play in the 2018 PGA Professional Championship, and/or the 2018 PGA Championship (both of which will have an eligibility deadline you must meet) must first enter your 2017 Section PGA Professional Championship (unless exemption status applies).

Provided all eligibility requirements are met, exemptions are as follows:

- Former Champions through 1996 have a lifetime exemption. Former Champions beginning in 1997 forward are exempt into the national Championship until he/she reaches the age of 60 or for a minimum of 10 years from such victory, whichever is the later.
- Top 20 and ties in the 2017 PGA Professional Championship.
- The 2017 Assistant PGA Professional Champion.
- Member of the 2017 PGA Cup team (additional requirements must be met for a member of the 2017 PGA Cup team to earn an exemption).
- 2017 Senior PGA Professional Champion.
- 2016 OMEGA PGA Professional Player of the Year.
- 2016 OMEGA Senior PGA Professional Player of the Year.

Exempt players have the option, but are not required, to play in their Section Championship provided entries are made prior to the deadline and eligibility is met.

ELIGIBILITY

Eligibility is limited to PGA members who meet all of the following criteria:

1. Must be eligibly employed in and classified in one of the following active membership classifications at the time of entry and their Section's entry deadline date. The PGA of America headquarters records must reflect this status at time of entry and as of their Section's entry deadline date.

*MP	Master Professional	A-14	Director of Instruction at a PGA Recognized Facility
A-1	Head Professional at a PGA Recognized Golf Course	A-15	Ownership or Management of a Retail Golf Facility
A-2	Head Professional at a PGA Recognized Golf Range	A-16	Golf Course Architect
A-4	Director of Golf at PGA Recognized Golf Facilities	A-17	Golf Course Superintendent
*A-5	Past Presidents of the Association	A-18	Golf Media
A-6	Golf Instructor at a PGA Recognized Facility	A-19	Golf Manufacturer Management
A-7	Head Professional at a PGA Recognized Facility Under Construction	A-20	Golf Manufacture Sales Representative
A-8	Assistant Golf Professional at a PGA Recognized Facility	A-21	Tournament Coordinator/Director for Organizations, Businesses or Associations
A-9	Employed in Professional Positions in Management, Development, Ownership Operation and/or Financing of Facilities	A-22	Rules Official
A-10	Golf Clinician	A-23	Club Fitting/Club Repair
A-11	Golf Administrator	A-24	Employed within the golf industry and not eligible for another Active classification
A-12	College or University Golf Coach	LMA	Life Member Active
A-13	General Manager	LMMA	Life Member Master Professional Active

*Must be eligibly employed in one of the above mentioned active membership classifications to be eligible.

- Must not have played in more than ten (10) combined Adams Pro Tour, Asian Tour, Australia/New Zealand Tour, Dakotas Tour, European Challenge Tour, European Senior Tour, European Tour, JPGA Senior Tour, JPGA Tour, Ladies European Tour (LET), LPGA Futures Tour (Symetra Tour), LPGA Tour, Mackenzie Tour-Canada, OnCore Gateway Tour, PGA TOUR, PGA TOUR Champions, PGA TOUR LatinoAmerica, SwingThought Tour, The Safari Tour, The Sunshine Tour and web.com TOUR tournaments one year prior to Section deadline. The U. S. Open, U. S. Senior Open, PGA Championship and Senior PGA Championship are not included in the 10-tournament count.

PGA Tournament Corporation, Inc., reserves the right to determine whether or not any player meets eligibility and to reject any player who does not meet these requirements.

The PGA member will not be eligible to participate if:

- the member is serving a suspension from membership;
- the member is suspended from tournament participation for National tournaments; or
- the member is classified as Class F, LM, LMM, LMC, RM, Inactive, A-3, or Honorary.

TO ENTER

To enter your Section PGA Professional Championship, each player may enter online at www.PGA.org or call **800.474.2776**. Entries will be accepted beginning May 31, 2017.

If you enter by telephone, please ask for a confirmation number or if you enter online, please print your confirmation. A confirmation will be emailed to the current address in your membership file.

Confirmation # _____

American Express, MasterCard, or Visa will be accepted for payment. Please be prepared to provide the following information when calling to enter.

- PGA membership number.
- Name, city and state (as you wish it to appear on the starting times, scoreboard, etc.).
- Corporation information (if applicable). If prize money is to be paid to a corporation, you must provide the corporation's name and its federal identification number.
- Number of (must not have played in more than ten (10) combined) combined Adams Pro Tour, Asian Tour, Australia/New Zealand Tour, Dakotas Tour, European Challenge Tour, European Senior Tour, European Tour, JPGA Senior Tour, JPGA Tour, Ladies European Tour (LET), LPGA Futures Tour

(Symetra Tour), LPGA Tour, Mackenzie Tour-Canada, OnCore Gateway Tour, PGA TOUR, PGA TOUR Champions, PGA TOUR LatinoAmerica, SwingThought Tour, The Safari Tour, The Sunshine Tour and web.com TOUR tournaments one year prior to Section deadline. The U. S. Open, U. S. Senior Open, PGA Championship and Senior PGA Championship are not included in the 10-tournament count.

Section entry fee is \$110 (although Sections may set additional fees to add to the purse or to cover expenses related to playing the Championship). See “Section Championship Dates, Deadline Dates, Sites & Entry Fees” for your Section’s specific information.

SECTION INFORMATION

The PGA Board of Directors has determined that the allocation of the number of players advancing from each Section PGA Professional Championship to the PGA Professional Championship will be based on the average number of players over the last five (5) years (using actual number of eligible players starting their Championship).

All applicants must compete in the Section in which they are affiliated on their Section’s entry deadline date unless they have transferred to a new Section.

Applicants who have transferred into a new Section after their Section’s entry deadline have the option of competing in their original Section or in their new Section, but not in **both**. In order to compete in their new Section, they must inform their new Section of their intention at least seven (7) days prior to that Section’s event.

A “no refund” policy is in effect. Please notify your Section directly if you need to withdraw after their deadline. After the entry deadline, no money will be refunded from PGA Headquarters and anyone requesting a refund after that time will be referred back to their respective Section. A \$25 administration fee will be withheld for any withdrawal **prior** to the entry deadline. Any amount collected above \$60 can be refunded by the Section at their discretion.

PRIZE MONEY

Total prize money in each Section PGA Professional Championship will be a minimum of \$10,000.

METHOD OF PLAY

The Section PGA Professional Championship is a stroke play event with a minimum of 36 holes. In the event of a tie for the last advancing place or an alternate’s place, there should be a play-off as determined by the Section.

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

This application is subject to acceptance by PGA Tournament Corporation, Inc. in its sole discretion. Applicant agrees that in the event of acceptance of the application, the application and Applicant’s participation in the Section PGA Professional Championship may be rejected or revoked at any time thereafter for violation of eligibility criteria or any conditions of entry.

Both the application and Applicant’s participation in the Section PGA Professional Championship are subject to all Rules, Regulations, provisions of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Professional Golfers’ Association of America and other conditions applicable to the Championship, as well as to the terms and conditions of any contract which PGA Tournament Corporation, Inc., may have made with other parties with respect to same, inclusive of, but not limited to, anti-doping policies.

Participation in all stages of the Section PGA Professional Championship is subject to all Rules, Regulations, and provisions of the Constitution, Bylaws, Regulations and applicable Section PGA Professional Championship eligibility criteria and other conditions of entry applicable to the Section PGA Professional Championship. In addition, the following conditions apply.

As a condition of entry for participation in the Section PGA Professional Championship, the Applicant consents to the recording and/or transmission of his/her voice and image to being filmed, videotaped, photographed or televised in connection with the participation in the Section PGA Professional Championship and any other event conducted in conjunction with the Section PGA Professional Championship; waives, releases and assigns his/her private rights to the production, reproduction, publication and dissemination of recordings, transmissions, video recordings, portraits, posters, motion pictures, photographs, images and electronic transmissions in any format and by any forms of media throughout the world, whether now in existence or hereinafter created, which depict the Applicant as a participant in the Section PGA Professional Championship or any phase or portion thereof and any other event conducted in conjunction with the Section PGA Professional Championship to the Professional Golfers' Association of America, any of its affiliates, subsidiaries, or assigns for all use in connection with:

- i) advertising, promoting, or publicizing the Section PGA Professional Championship or PGA Professional Championship or any broadcasts thereof;
- ii) radio broadcasts or "live" or "delayed" telecasts or television programs, internet or other electronic transmissions;
- iii) broadcasts or exhibition on a recorded basis as part of a program, motion picture or video recording of the Section PGA Professional Championship, or year-end summaries of sports award programs or any news or sports news programs in any form of media;
- iv) live or taped non-exclusive updates; and
- v) official lithographs, commemorative yearbooks, portraits, posters and the like.

Applicant agrees to refrain from any action, which will interfere with the orderly recording, production reproduction, publication and dissemination of such recordings, transmissions, films tapes, electronic transmissions, pictures, photographs, or images.

As a condition of entry, all players expressly release and discharge the PGA of America, PGA Tournament Corporation, Inc., its affiliates and subsidiaries, officers, directors, employees, members, sponsors, respective PGA Section and host site from and against any claims for injuries sustained in any way attributable to or incidental to participating in the Section PGA Professional Championship, and acknowledges that they expressly assume the risks and dangers incidental to participation in the event, inclusive of, but not limited to, injuries caused by errant golf shots, injuries sustained attributable to weather conditions, or injuries attributable to the golf course or host site's premises. Players agree that they choose to participate in the event at their own risk and will assume the risk of injury in association with participating in the event.

Applicant agrees that Applicant will not share in any part of the prize money, which Applicant may win in the Section PGA Professional Championship, with any other contestant.

If invited, Applicant agrees to play in the Professional-Sponsor event, if one is held, and Applicant is selected to participate, and to honor all applicable obligations should Applicant agree to participate in any later corporate outings for which Applicant becomes eligible through Applicant's performance in the Section PGA Professional Championship.

It is also understood that Applicant's participation in the PGA Professional Championship is subject to pre-qualifying unless he/she is among those who are exempt from qualifying.

At the 2018 PGA Professional Championship, players must employ a caddie for all Championship rounds and shall walk at all times during a stipulated round.

POLICIES

Entry fees must be received by the entry deadlines, which are established and set forth herein.

There shall be no waivers of entry deadlines unless approved by the PGA Officers acting in the best interest of the game of golf, sponsors, hosts/sites, the public and/or the players.

There will be no entry refunds after the closing date for entries.

Although competing from separate tees (men from the men's tees and women from the women's tees), men and women professionals shall compete for the same purse. For example, the man or woman professional with the lowest score shall win first place money.

CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION

GROOVES AND PUNCH MARK CONDITIONS: The PGA of America has adopted the conditions of competition for grooves and/or punch marks for its three major Member Championships, i.e., PGA Professional Championship, Senior PGA Professional Championship and Assistant PGA Professional Championship.

All players' clubs must conform to the grooves and punch mark conditions of the competition at both the Section and National level of the competition.

DISTANCE MEASURING DEVICES: A player or his/her caddie may obtain distance information by using a device that measures distance. If, during a stipulated round, a player uses a distance measuring device to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect his/her play (e.g., gradient, wind speed, temperature, etc.), the player is in breach of Rule 14-3, for which the penalty is two (2) strokes for first offense and for subsequent offense - **disqualification**.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

The conditions governing play and the purse distribution will be determined by the PGA of America and distributed by the appropriate PGA Section. The Section PGA Professional Championship will be subject to the overall supervision of the Section.

Proper golfing attire must be worn at all times during play. The Tournament Director may prohibit play by those who do not conform to dress standards of the Section.

Any player who shall be deemed guilty of conduct unbecoming a Golf Professional while participating in the Section PGA Professional Championship or activities related thereto (i.e., practice rounds, hospitality events, etc.), or who otherwise violates the Code of Ethics of the PGA shall be subject to fine or suspension from tournament play.

The Section Tournament Director shall be authorized to impose penalties consisting of a fine of \$100 for the first offense, a fine of \$150 for the second offense, and suspension from tournament play for the third offense for any of the following violations:

- Club throwing/club breaking
- Damage to course equipment or property Abuse, oral (profanity) or otherwise directed at rules officials, other competitors, spectators, sponsors, tournament staff, volunteers, or others
- Consumption of alcoholic beverages or marijuana (unless pre-approved as a treatment for a medical condition) during practice rounds and/or championship rounds.
- Any other conduct deemed by the Tournament Director to be unbecoming a PGA Golf Professional

In the event of a tie for first place at the end of the Championship, there will be a play-off as determined by the Section Tournament Committee.

2017 PGA PROFESSIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

- The presenting sponsors for the 2017 Championship are Club Car, Mercedes-Benz USA and OMEGA.
- The supporting sponsors for the 2017 Championship are Titleist/FootJoy, Nike, TaylorMade Golf Company, PGA TOUR and Golf Channel
- The 2017 PGA Professional Championship presented by Club Car, Mercedes-Benz USA and OMEGA will be played at Sunriver Resort (Crosswater and Meadows courses), Sunriver, Oregon. Dates of the Championship are June 18-21, 2017 (Sunday – Wednesday) with practice rounds available June 15-17 (Thursday, Friday and Saturday). The first cut will be made after 36 holes of play to the low 90 players and ties. The second cut will be made after 54 holes of play to the low 70 players plus ties. The final two rounds will be played on the Crosswater course.
- National Championship entries will begin on Wednesday, March 29, 2017.
- National Championship entry deadline is Wednesday, May 10, 2017.
- On-site registration (required) will be held June 15 – 16, 2017.

Only exempt players and players qualifying through their Section Championship will be allowed to enter the National Championship.

The **condition of competition regarding grooves and punch marks will be in effect for ALL stages of the 2017 PGA Professional Championship** presented by Club Car, Mercedes-Benz USA and OMEGA.

ADDITIONAL PLAYING OPPORTUNITIES

It is anticipated that the following additional playing opportunities may be available to those who play well in this event from the back tees and women who play well in this event from the forward tees. All of the following benefits may be subject to change at any time.

Women participating from the women's tees shall not be eligible to earn playing privileges in the PGA Championship and tournaments co-sponsored or approved by the PGA TOUR, the Champions TOUR, or the web.com TOUR. Prior to starting at the Section level, a woman must declare from which tees she will be playing.

The PGA Professional Champion:

- Subject to confirmation and approval of the PGA TOUR and to the availability of places in particular tournament fields as determined by the PGA TOUR, the current PGA Professional Champion is exempt for a maximum of six (6) open tournaments, beginning after the PGA TOUR Championship in the fall of the current year through the first Fed-Ex Cup event in the following year, in addition to any sponsor exemptions. Three (3) of these must be from open tournaments held opposite to World Golf Championship and the British Open.
- The PGA Professional Champion is exempt from Local Qualifying (only) for next year's U.S. Open, provided an entry is filed by the stated deadline.
- The PGA Professional Champion is exempt into the 2017 Senior PGA Professional Championship, provided all eligibility requirements are met.

Top 5 Finishers from the PGA Professional Championship:

- The top five (5) finishers, including ties, to a floor of 10th position, at the most recent PGA Professional shall be exempted to Second Qualifying Stage of the web.com Tour, provided an entry is filed by the stated deadline.

Top 10 Finishers from the PGA Professional Championship:

- The top ten (10) finishers in the PGA Professional Championship are exempted from regional qualifying for next year's British Open provided an entry is filed by the stated deadline.

Top 20 Finishers from the PGA Professional Championship:

- The top twenty (20) finishers in the PGA Professional Championship will qualify for this year's PGA Championship.*
- The top twenty (20) finishers in the PGA Professional Championship will earn points toward the next PGA Cup Team.*

Top 20 and ties in the 2017 PGA Professional Championship presented by Club Car, Mercedes-Benz and OMEGA will be exempt into the 2018 PGA Professional Championship, if all eligibility requirements are met.

*NOTE: A player forfeits the additional benefits earned through the PGA Professional Championship if he/she fails to meet all of the eligibility criteria listed here: must be classified and eligibly employed as MP, A-1, A-2, A-4, A-5, A-6, A-7, A-8, A-9, A-10, A-11, A-12, A-13, A-14, A-15, A-16, A-17, A-18, A-19, A-20, A-21, A-22, A-23, A-24, have Life Member Active or Life Member Master Professional Active status on the entry deadline and must not have played in more than ten (10) combined tournaments in the immediate twelve (12) month period prior to the specific tournament deadline.