

2024 – 2025



اتحاد الإمارات للجولف
Emirates Golf Federation

Order of Merit Qualifying Round

Order of Merit Guidelines 2024/25

Eligibility

Any golf club in the UAE is eligible to host an Open, provided they follow the Order of Merit guidelines set out by the Emirates Golf Federation. The Open must be an independent event conducted and administered by the Golf Club and must not be part of or in conjunction with any other Tours/series/schemes. Only exemptions would be events with EGF sanctioning.

Entry Forms

1. Entry forms must be available online on the host club and/or the EGF website.
2. Entry forms must be available at least three weeks before the entry closing date.
3. Key information that must be included on the entry form include:
 - Name, Club, Handicap, Telephone and Email.
 - Tournament dates.
 - Course(s).
 - Entrance Fees: Four fee structure: Visitor, EGF member, Club member, Junior (Professionals when applicable).
 - Handicap – UAE residents must have a valid EGF Membership/handicap to win Open competitions – host clubs can verify handicap status via the EGF Handicap system. Non-residents/visitors must have a recognized World Handicap (to provide proof of handicap/certificate). Players who do not have a valid handicap must play off scratch or forfeit prizes.
 - Club contact information.
 - Entry closing date.
 - Order of Merit qualifying round logo (supplied by EGF).

Conditions / Formats

1. Every Open event counting towards the Order of Merit must present equal opportunities for both female and male players. Host clubs must ensure that both genders have a fair chance to compete.
 - a. Event Structure Options:
 - i. **80/20 Split:** The club can opt for an 80/20 Male to Female split in field allocation, ensuring that at least 20% of the field is reserved for female participants.

- ii. **100% Mixed Split:** Alternatively, the club may choose a 100% mixed split where the best golfers, regardless of gender, compete for the same Open event prize.
 - iii. The Emirates Golf Federation recommend a minimum field size of 108 pax per event.
- 2. A maximum of 36 holes and a minimum of 18 holes being played on one day (this does not include major events). This condition applies to general Order of Merit qualifiers; for Major qualifiers, please refer to the information below.
- 3. Tournament schedules at the Club's discretion.
- 4. Clubs have the option to host a one-day Open for Juniors.
- 5. All tournaments have the option to allow carts.
- 6. All tournaments must be played under an **individual strokeplay** format.
- 7. Second or final-round draws must be decided on the leader's last order.
- 8. All rounds are to be played under the Official Rules of Golf set out by the R&A in conjunction with any Local rules a club may have.
- 9. It is recommended that tournaments are to be played from the Club's standard tournament tees and not the Clubs Championship tees.
- 10. Tees & Divisions.
 - a. **Junior Division** – players must be under the age of 19 as at the first event in the series to participate in Junior Order of Merit events.
 - i. Boys handicap < 9 - Division A (6400 – 7000 yds)
 - ii. Boys handicap 9 + - Division B (5400 - 5900 yds)
 - iii. Girls handicap < 9 Division A (5400 - 5900 yds)
 - iv. Girls handicap 9 +Division B (4500 - 5300 yds)
 - v.
 - b. **Open Amateur**
 - i. There will be one division for the Male category, Division A 6600yds +
 - ii. There will be one division for the Female category, Division A
 - 1. The course should be set up with female tees being 11%-18% shorter in distance compared to male tees. The exact percentage difference is at the discretion of the host golf club.
 - iii. Junior players with a Handicap of 9 and below may enter an event provided the Club has not specified otherwise.
- 11. Course scorecard to be included in the format sheet.
- 12. The Emirates Golf Federation recommends groupings go out in 2 & 3 balls.
- 13. Play can start either from 1st and/or 10th tee. This information should be recorded on the tournament entry form.

EGF Order of Merit "Majors"

- 1. Club Opens will be selected in each division by the Emirates Golf Federation Championship Committee to host Major qualifiers.

2. Events deemed Major must be minimum 3 round/54-hole tournaments in order to qualify for World Amateur Golf Ranking status.
3. It is the **responsibility of the hosting club** to communicate and register with WAGR.
4. Players to receive additional points towards the EGF Order of Merit.
5. Champions of the "Majors" to receive an invite to a Emirates Golf Federation sanctioned premier event.

Prizes

1. All tournaments are Strokeplay tournaments with Gross and Net prizes.
2. Prizes for Junior (boys & girls) Opens should be given as follows
 - a. Division A – Gross.
 - b. Division B – Net.
3. In the event of a tie for first place in any WAGR event of, a playoff must take place.
4. Play off holes to be included in the conditions of play & format sheet.
5. Ties for leading net, divisional and daily prizes must be settled on a score-card play-off.
6. Score card playoff to be counted back on the combined score of hole(s) 9, 6, 3, & 1. If the event is more than 18 holes a count back can also apply.

Scoring

1. Final scores to be sent to EGF within 48 hours upon completion of the rounds
2. Results must be provided to EGF in Excel format - Men in Gross order. Ladies in Gross, Juniors in Gross (Division A) and Net (Division B) for Boys & Girls separately.
3. Score cards to be kept by the host club for a period of 30 days, for verification purposes.

Order of Merit eligibility

1. Players must be citizens/residents of the UAE.
2. Must have a valid EGF handicap.
3. Points allocated as per EGF Order of Merit points table, provided the category has an entry field of minimum 8 players.
4. Points will be aggregated (averaged) throughout the season for each player within their respective division.
5. Player may be awarded points in multiple divisions provided they fit the criteria to compete with in that division.
6. Min rounds of 50% in total events category to be played for the player to be eligible OOM Championship.

EGF Order of Merit Season winners

1. The EGF OOM Championship will award double points to players for the Final OOM standings.
2. OOM Standings will be as follows:
 - a. Men's Division A
 - b. Ladies Division A

- c. Junior Boys Division A
 - d. Junior Girls Division A
 - e. Junior Boys Division B
 - f. Junior Girls Division B
3. If a player holds points within multiple divisions, that player will only be allowed to compete in 1 of those divisions within the EGF OOM Championship.
 4. A felicitation ceremony will be hosted to award the winners of all divisions.