

NEW RULES OF AMATEUR STATUS

The R&A and USGA have updated the Rules of Amateur Status to make the Rules easier to understand and apply, and to ensure they continue to reflect how the modern game is played.

HERE ARE 5 THINGS TO KNOW:

PRIZES

Amateurs may now accept prizes up to \$1000 USD or £700

Amateurs may now accept prize money in a “scratch competition.” But prize money may not be accepted in a “handicap competition” where only prizes such as equipment, clothing, shop credit, vouchers or gift certificates are allowed



These limits do not apply to competitions that take place outside “tee-to-hole competitions” on a golf course or simulator, such as long-drive, putting or golf-skills competitions

NAME, IMAGE AND LIKENESS (NIL)

No restrictions related to receiving expenses or using one’s name, image and likeness (NIL) to promote or advertise



Competition organizers may use logo policies to restrict logos and advertising

Juniors and student players should check with high school, collegiate or university associations to ensure eligibility

INSTRUCTION

Not allowed to provide instruction for compensation

But exceptions include coaching at educational institutions and approved programmes



PROFESSIONAL ACTS

Not allowed to play in a competition as a professional, work at a golf course or driving range as a professional, or hold membership to an association for professional golfers (such as a PGA)



REINSTATEMENT

Application is still required for reinstatement



Minimum recommended waiting period reduced from 1 year to 6 months

Minimum may be extended based on applicant’s playing history and success