

Date: November 27, 2023

To: PGA Sections

From: Jessica Zinz, PGA TOUR Competitions

RE: **2024 PGA TOUR Open Qualifying Information**

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### **Contracts**

The Guidelines and Application for Entry are attached to this email and are also available on the Section's [Open Qualifying website](#). **Please use the following link to register your assigned Qualifier and agree to the terms and conditions:** <https://openqsectionreg.pgatourhq.com/>

### **Entry Form & Other Forms**

The entry form is attached to this email as a MS Word file. There are blank areas that need to be completed by the PGA Section on pages 1 and 3. Also, please note that you must select whether or not you will allow carts in the pre-qualifier on page 4 – this is the decision of the PGA Section. Please post the entry form on your website, and for electronic entries, include an area for applicants to agree to the terms and conditions as part of the electronic process.

In order to help the Section identify the non-member professionals entering the Pre-Qualifying, we have added some suggested language at the bottom of the first page of the Application for Entry. It is suggested that the Section verify information provided by these applicants.

Please continue to use the following links to submit your Section Pick, successful Qualifiers advancing to the PGA TOUR event and/or record any violations that occurred during the Qualifying rounds: [OPEN QUALIFYING & SECTION PICK](#) and [NO SHOW,WD, DNF](#).

### **Entry Fees**

Entry Fees will remain the same for the 2024 season. The non-member fee will continue to be \$500, where \$250 will be collected at the pre-qualifier and successful pre-qualifiers will remain subject to an additional \$250 entry fee prior to teeing off in the Open Qualifier.

A breakdown of the entry fee's can be found on the player application or on the [Section's website](#).

### **PGA TOUR Membership Lists**

As previously announced this year, PGA TOUR Latinoamérica and PGA TOUR Canada will merge into a singular Tour to form PGA TOUR Americas, which will begin play in March 2024. PGA TOUR Americas members will need to Pre-Qualify but will have a discounted rate of \$300 (\$200 for the pre-qualifier, and an additional \$100 if they advance to Monday).

Additionally, exempt DP World Tour Members in categories 1-21 on their Field Priority Ranking will be eligible to Monday Qualify in 2024 at a discounted rate of \$100.

The PGA TOUR Americas members and DP World Tour members from category 1-21 on their Field Priority Ranking, along with our 2024 membership lists for PGA TOUR, Korn Ferry Tour, and Regular

Members of PGA TOUR Champions will be sent following the conclusion of Q-School. These will also be posted and continually updated on the Section's [Open Qualifying website](#).

#### **Number of Successful Pre-Qualifiers**

The lowest scoring 25 players plus any ties for 25<sup>th</sup> place from the Pre-Qualifier will be the eligible players for the Open Qualifier, except any Open Qualifier in the previous season whose total Open Qualifying round field size was less than 78 players (including number of expected pre-qualifiers) at the entry deadline for exempt players, the number of players advancing into Open Qualifying will be the lowest scoring 40 players plus any ties for 40<sup>th</sup> place. **NOTE:** When there are less than 50 players in the Pre-Qualifier, 75% of the field will advance to the Open Qualifier.

When one site is used for Pre-Qualifying, there will be 40 successful pre-qualifiers (25 for those meeting the criteria in the Guidelines). When more than one pre-qualifying site is used, please reference the table in Section 1 of the attached guidelines to determine the percentage of players that will advance from each site.

#### **Site Selection for Pre-Qualifying**

It is recommended that the Section allow the applicants to select their site preference when more than one pre-qualifying site is used.

#### **Number of Section Players Exempt into Open Qualifying**

Three Section players are exempt into Open Qualifying. This does not affect the Section Champion/Player of the Year that may be exempt into the PGA TOUR event.

#### **PGA TOUR Integrity Policy**

Please note that the PGA TOUR Integrity Program explicitly prohibits betting on professional golf events, among other things.

All participants in PGA TOUR sanctioned Open Qualifiers, whether members of a PGA TOUR-affiliated Tour or not, are subject to the integrity program as stated in the Tournament Regulations. Therefore, participation in any other type of event involving qualifiers placing money on themselves in order to compete for prize money based on their performance in the event is prohibited.

#### **Specifications for Grooves**

Open Qualifying contestants MUST use equipment which conforms to the Local Rule for Groove and Punch Mark Specifications as implemented in the PGA TOUR, PGA TOUR Champions and Korn Ferry Tour Local Rules and Terms of the Competition (Hard Card). This condition shall NOT apply to Pre-Qualifying. The complete specifications for grooves in elite competitions along with a public database listing conformity of many clubs can be found at USGA.org or by contacting the USGA Equipment Standards Department at (908) 234-2300. Players should confirm that their equipment conforms to the new specifications well in advance of the competition and should be aware that conforming equipment must be used in Open Qualifying, even if a player is successful in pre-qualifying with non-conforming grooves.

#### **Distance Measuring Devices**

For play in Open Qualifying, a player may obtain distance information by use of a distance-measuring device. If during the stipulated round, a player uses a distance-measuring device to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect his play (e.g. elevation changes, wind speed, etc.), the player is in breach of Rule 4.3a(1).

**Usage of Cell Phones During a Round**

The use of cell phones in an Open Qualifier tournament is typically prohibited by Tournament Regulations, although the PGA Tour Rules Committee may allow use of cell phones during a round as long as the players and caddies are adhering to the cell phone policy. A Notice to Players on Cell Phone Usage during a round is attached to this email and is posted on the website. Please ensure it is provided to the competitors.

**Appearance of Players**

While on the host facility property on the day(s) of competition, players shall present a neat appearance in both clothing and personal grooming. Blue jeans, cutoffs, T-shirts or shirts with no collar shall not be worn. Players are permitted to wear golf shorts which are knee length, tailored and neat in appearance. Compression leggings worn underneath shorts must be solid in color.

**PGA TOUR RULES CONTACT**

A PGA TOUR Tournament Official will not be on-site during Open Qualifying. However, the Advance Rules Official for that week's PGA TOUR event will be available for support. Additionally, PGA TOUR Vice President of Rules and Competitions, Ken Tackett (304-543-9842) will be available throughout the year for any questions.

Thank you again for your support in operating Open Qualifying on the PGA TOUR.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ken or me.

ATTACHMENTS: Guidelines, Entry Form, Integrity Policy, Letter, Cell Phone Policy, Financial Spreadsheet