



35TH MEN & 28TH LADIES NEGERI SEMBILAN AMATEUR OPEN GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP 2018

CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION

1. MANAGEMENT

The **35th Men and 28th Ladies Negeri Sembilan Amateur Open Golf Championship 2018** (hereinafter referred to as the “Championship”) shall be managed by an Organizing Committee (hereinafter referred to as “The Tournament Committee”) whose decisions in all matters relating to the Championship shall be final.

2. VENUE AND DATE

The Championship will be played at **Royal Seri Menanti Golf & Country (RSMGCC), Negeri Sembilan from 6th till 8th of April 2018.**

3. SCHEDULE OF PLAY

The schedule of play shall be as follows:

Thursday 5 th April 2018	07:30 to 13:00 hrs 16:00hrs	Registration and Practice Round All players MUST leave the golf course by 4:00pm.
Friday 6 th April 2018	07:30 hrs	Round 1 of Championship (Men and Ladies)
Saturday 7 th April 2018	07:30 hrs	Round 2 of Championship (Men and Ladies)
Sunday 8 th April 2018	07:30 hrs 14:00 hrs	Final Round of Championship (Men and Ladies) Prize presentation

4. TEEING GROUNDS

The players must play from their respective teeing grounds as follows:

- a. All Men shall play from the **BLACK** teeing grounds
- b. All Ladies shall play from the **RED** teeing grounds.

5. RULES OF PLAY

The Championship shall be in accordance with the Rules of Golf as approved by the R&A Rules Limited and the Local Rules as approved by the Rules Committee.

6. FORMAT OF PLAY

- a. The Championship shall be decided by **stroke play** over 3 rounds of 18 holes. If there are circumstances which make the playing of 54 holes impracticable, the Tournament Committee may cancel any round(s) at its discretion.
- b. There shall be a **cut-off after 36 holes of play**.
For the **Open Category**, the top 50% plus ties for Men and top 50% plus ties for Ladies with the lowest aggregate **gross scores** over the first 36 holes will qualify for the final round on 8th April 2018.
For the **Intermediate Category**, the top 50% plus ties for Men and top 50% plus ties for Ladies with the lowest aggregate **net scores** over the first 36 holes will qualify for the final round on 8th April 2018.

7. ELIGIBILITY

- a. The **Open Category** for male and female players who are:
 - i. Amateur Golfers in accordance with the Rules of Amateur Status as approved by the R&A Rules Limited.
 - ii. Having a maximum USGA **Handicap Index of 12.3 for Men** (course handicap 14 and below) and **17.1 for Ladies** (course handicap 18 and below) which must be current at the time of entry.
 - iii. Member of a Club affiliated to Malaysian Golf Association (MGA) with similar handicap indices.
- b. **Intermediate Category** for male & female players who are:
 - i. Amateur Golfers in accordance with the Rules of Amateur Status as approved by the R&A Rules Limited.
 - ii. Having a USGA **Handicap Index of 12.4 to 15.7 for Men** (course handicap 15 to 18 only) and **Handicap Index of 17.2 to 22.6 for Ladies** (course handicap 19 – 24) which must be current at the time of entry.
 - iii. Member of a Club affiliated to Malaysian Golf Association (MGA) with similar handicap indices.

The Tournament Committee reserves the right to reject any entry without giving any reason. Players without a valid USGA Handicap Index issued by the MGA are not eligible to participate. At the Tournament Committee's sole discretion, they may be eligible to participate in the Open Category only.

8. ENTRIES AND CLOSING DATE

- a. The entry fee is **RM 350.00 nett (Malaysian) and USD100.00 nett (Foreign)** per player. This fee is inclusive of green fees, buggy fees on twin sharing basis, daily golf insurance, breakfast and lunch on the tournament days and goodies.
- b. The closing date for entry registration is on **Friday, 30th March 2018, 5.00pm**
- c. Entries must be accompanied with the full entry fee payable by cheque to **ROYAL SERI MENANTI GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB** or cash deposit into **RHB Bank Berhad account no 20507900011642** (Please attach the payment slip together with the entry form upon submission with your name and HP number written at the back of the slip). Those unable to register within the stipulated times may be accepted at the discretion of the Tournament Committee. **Entry forms without the accompanying payment will NOT be accepted.**
- d. The field shall be limited to **116 competitors** on first come first serve basis. In the event that entries fall short or exceed the number, The Tournament Committee reserves the right to make amendments on the entry requirements without giving any reason whatsoever.

9. WITHDRAWAL

The entry fee will not be refunded if any competitors withdraw from the tournament and the withdrawal is made after 5.00 p.m. on 2nd April 2018. (Monday)

10. REGISTRATION

All players are required to register in person or by telephone by **1.00 p.m. on 5th April 2018 at RSM GCC**. Failure to do so may result in the player being withdrawn from the Championship with no refund of any fees paid.

11. PRACTICE ROUND

Official practice round is on 5th April 2018 (Thursday) from 7.30 am onwards. **All players must leave the course by 4.00pm**. Green fee is complimentary. Buggy fees is RM 50.00 nett per players on twin sharing basis. Please make booking tee time directly with the Club.

12. DRAWS & STARTING TIMES

- a. Players shall be in groups of four (4) competitors at 8 to 10 minutes interval.
- a. The Tournament Committee will decide the draw and the starting time for the first two rounds. The draw for the final round will be arranged according to the first 2 rounds scores; the lowest scores will tee off last from the first tee and the highest scores will tee off last from the tenth tee.

- b. The draws and starting times shall be posted at the Tournament Notice Board. Such posting shall be considered sufficient enough notice for information and distribution.
- c. The player shall start at the time laid down by the Tournament Committee. If a player arrives at his starting point ready to play within five minutes after his starting time, the penalty for failure to start on time shall be two strokes at the starting hole (Rule 6.3a). Otherwise the penalty for breaching these rules shall be **DISQUALIFICATION**.
“Exception: Where the Committee determines that exceptional circumstances have prevented a player from starting on time, there is no penalty.”
- d. The Tournament Committee reserves the right to change the draws and vary the starting times without giving any reason thereof.

13. PACE OF PLAY (NOTE 2 TO RULE 6-7)

Time Allowed

- a. Each hole has been given a maximum completion time based upon the length and difficulty of the hole. The maximum time allotted for the completion of 18 holes will be available prior to play.

Definition of Out Of Position

- b. The first group and any group after a starter’s gap will be considered to be “out of position” if at any time during the round, the group’s cumulative time exceeds the time allowed for the number of holes played. Any following group will be considered “out of position” if it is more than the starting time interval behind the group in front and has exceeded the time allowed for the number of the holes played.

Procedure When Group Is Out Of Position

- c. If the decision is taken to time the group, each player in the group will be subject to individual timing by a Referee. Each player in the group will be advised that they are “out of position” and are being timed.
- d. The maximum time allocated per shot is 40 seconds. 10 extra seconds are allowed for the first player to play:
 - On the tee box
 - On the subsequent shots, and
 - On the putting green
- e. The timing will start when a player has reached his ball, it is his turn to play and he is able to play without interference or distraction. On putting green, timing will start when the player has had a reasonable amount of time to lift, clean and replaced his ball, repair ball marks and move loose impediments on his line of putt. Time spent looking at the line from beyond the hole and/ or behind the ball will count as time taken for the next stroke.

- f. Timing ceases when a group is either back in position in relation to the preceding group or within the allocated time for the holes played.

PENALTY OF BREACH OF CONDITION

1 bad time	Player will be warned by the Rules Official and told that if he has a further bad time he will be penalized.
2 bad times	Penalty of one stroke
3 bad times	Further penalty of two strokes
4 bad times	Disqualification

- g. If a group is “out of position” more than once during a round, the above procedure will apply on each occasion. Bad times and the applications of penalties in the same round will be carried forward until the Round is completed. A player will not be penalized if he has a second bad time before being advised of his earlier bad time.

14. TRANSPORTATION

Buggies are provided for all players on twin sharing basis. A buggy is part of the player’s equipment. When a buggy is shared by two players, the buggy and everything in it are deemed to be the equipment of the player whose ball is involved except that when the buggy is being moved by one of the players, the buggy and everything in it is deemed to be the equipment of that player.

15. CADDIE

Only Ladies golfers are allowed to use caddy with their own expenses. Caddy fees is RM 60.00 per round on twin sharing basis. NO outside caddy allowed.

16. APPROVED EQUIPMENT

Conforming Balls (Note to Rule 5-1)

The ball the player plays must be named on the current List of Conforming Golf Balls issued by R&A.

PENALTY: DISQUALIFICATION

Conforming Driver Heads (Note to Rule 4-1)

Any driver the player carries must have a club head, identified by model and loft, that is named on the current List of Conforming Driver Heads issued by the R&A.

PENALTY FOR MAKING STROKE WITH CLUB IN BREACH OF RULE 4-1: DISQUALIFICATION

17. DISTANCE MEASURING DEVICE

A player may obtain distance information by using devices that MEASURES DISTANCE only. If, during stipulated round, a player user a distance measuring device that is designed 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 14-3.

Penalty for Breach of Condition:

For first offence : Two strokes penalty

For subsequent offence : **DISQUALIFICATION**

18. SCORE CARDS

- a. All players must submit their respective scorecard duly signed and counter signed by his/her marker as soon as possible after the completion of each round and in any event it shall not be later than 10 minutes after the completion of each round.
- b. A scorecard is deemed to be submitted the moment the player leaves the scoring area.

19. PRIZES

Gross Champion for the Open Category

- a. The player with the lowest aggregate gross scores over 54 holes or less shall be declared "The Gross Champion" and will be awarded with the Gross Championship Trophy.
- b. There is a Men Gross Champion and a Ladies Gross Champion.

Net Champion for the Intermediate Category

- c. The player with the lowest aggregate net scores over 54 holes or less shall be declared "The Net Champion" and will be awarded with the Net Championship Trophy.
- d. There is a Men Net Champion and a Ladies Net Champion.

Other prizes for Open Category

For Men

2nd to 12th placing gross scores over 54 holes or less

1st to 5th placing net scores over 54 holes or less

For Ladies

2nd to 5th placing gross scores over 54 holes or less

1st to 3rd placing net scores over 54 holes or less

Other prizes for Intermediate Category

For Men

2nd to 7th placing net scores over 54 holes or less

For Ladies

2nd to 5th placing net scores over 54 holes or less

*NOTE: A player shall be entitled to win only one gross or one net prize. In all cases, the gross score will take precedence over net score in determining the prizes. A competitor may win only one daily prize. **Number of prizes may be changed depending on the final entries.***

20. COMPETITION CLOSED

The Championship shall be deemed to have closed when the prizes have been awarded to the winners.

21. TIES

- a. In the event of a tie for the first place in the Open Category, the winner shall be decided by a sudden death playoff on the 18th hole or any other hole determined by the Tournament Committee. If the winner still cannot be decided, the sudden death playoff will continue back to the 18th hole or any other holes until the winner is decided by elimination. The purpose of the play-off is to decide the **WINNER** for the Gross Champion only.
- b. In the event of a tie for the first place in the Intermediate Category and any other places for all categories, the tie shall be decided by a count-back on the score card in the following order:
 - Last 18 holes.
 - Last 9 holes (holes 10 to 18)
 - Last 6 holes (holes 13 to 18)
 - Last 3 holes and finally last hole (holes 16 to 18)**If the tie is still undecided, it shall be decided by lot.**

22. AMATEUR STATUS

- a. An amateur golfer must not accept a prize (other than a symbolic prize) or prize voucher of retail value in excess of £500 (RM3,500) or the equivalent, or such a lesser figure as may be decided by the Governing Body. This limit applies to the total prizes or prize vouchers received by an amateur golfer in any one competition or series of competitions, excluding any hole-in-one prize (see Rule 3.2b).
- b. The limits prescribed in Rule 3.2a do not apply to a prize for a hole-in-one. An amateur golfer may accept a prize in excess of the limit set in Rule 3-2, including a cash prize for a hole-in-one made while playing a round of golf. Such a prize may be accepted in addition to any other prize won in the same competition.
- c. **NO CASH prizes are allowed**, a prize voucher may not be a monetary award. A prize voucher is a voucher, gift certificate, gift card or the like approved by the MGA in charge of competition for the purchase of goods or services from a Pro shop, golf club or other retail outlets.

NOTE: The onus of receiving a prize or prizes that exceed the prescribed limits lies with the player. The committee and its sponsors shall not be liable for any action on players for any breach of Rules pertaining to Amateur Status.

23. DECISIONS

- a. If a referee has been appointed by the Tournament Committee, his/her decision shall be final. (Rule 34-2).
- b. In the absence of a referee, any dispute or doubtful point on the Rules must be forwarded to The Tournament Committee, whose decisions shall be final (Rule 34-3).

24. DISPUTES AND DOUBTFUL POINTS

- a. Any dispute or doubtful point on the Rules shall be referred to the Tournament Committee as soon as possible on completion of the round and in any case not later than 15 minutes after the official result for the round is posted on the Tournament Score Board.
- b. A penalty of disqualification may in exceptional cases be waived, modified or imposed by the Tournament Appeal Committee.

25. ETIQUETTE

All players should practice good etiquette as detailed out in Section 1 of the Rules of Golf. The overriding principle is that consideration should be shown to others on the course at all times.

Serious Breach of Etiquette

The following may be considered "serious breach of etiquette" for this competition:

- i. Usage of hand phone during a round to the annoyance and distractions of other players.
- ii. Verbal abuse of fellow competitor / official / staff.
- iii. Intentionally distracting or offending fellow competitor.
- iv. Any other 'breaches of etiquette' not listed above but are deemed to be serious by the Committee.

PENALTY: DISQUALIFICATION

Note: Any other 'breaches of etiquette' not listed above will be dealt with by the Committee on individual basis.

Exception: Players may use hand phone in case of buggy breakdown or injury/illness of players.

26. SUSPENSION OF PLAY DUE TO A DANGEROUS SITUATION (Note to Rule 6-8b)

Suspension of play due to a dangerous situation.

When play is suspended by the Committee for a dangerous situation, they **must discontinue play immediately**. Otherwise, the player is **disqualified**, unless circumstances warrant waiving the penalty as provided in Rule 33-7.

Signal for suspension of play due to a dangerous situation will be a prolonged note siren.

They must not resume play until the Committee has ordered a resumption of play. Resumption of play will be signaled by two short notes of the siren.

All other suspension will be signaled by three consecutive notes of the siren.

Note: All practice areas including the driving range shall be closed during suspension of play due to a dangerous situation until the Tournament Director has declared them open. Players who disregard such closure may be subject to **disqualification**.

27. DRUGS

Players must **not** make use of any drugs to enhance performance. Should a player show evidence of use of a drug for non-therapeutic purposes, The Tournament Committee may require the player to undergo a drug test. Any player infringing this condition may be disqualified. Players who are on medication and in doubt as to their clinical status should seek advice from The R&A via the Tournament Office.

28. INCLEMENT WEATHER AND SUSPENSION OF PLAY

The Tournament Committee will make every effort to complete the event in its entirety. However, the Tournament Committee reserves the right to suspend or abandon play as and when necessary if weather-related circumstances require such action. The Tournament Committee will inform all players accordingly.

29. INDEMINITY/ LIABILITIES

MGA, RSMGCC, the Sponsors, The Tournament Committee, the Club and their staffs will not be responsible for any loss, damage or harm, or any form of injuries that the participants may suffer as a result of their participation in this tournament.

30. ENQUIRIES

Should there be queries, please do not hesitate to contact the Tournament Secretariat Office as follows:

The Tournament Secretariat

35th Men & 28th Ladies Negeri Sembilan Amateur Open 2018

ROYAL SERI MENANTI GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

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