



33rd SABAH AMATEUR OPEN 2017

CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION

VENUE AND DATE

The championship will be played over the course of the **Keningau Golf & Country Club, Keningau, Sabah from 28th April to 30th April 2017.**

ADMINISTRATION

The **33rd Sabah Amateur Open 2017** Organizing Committee (hereinafter referred to as “**Committee**”) will be responsible for the administration of the Competition and reserves the right to limit the number of entries or modify the conditions of play. The Rules Committee appointed by the **Committee** shall adjudicate on any protest, and claim on the event and its decision shall be final.

GENERAL CONDITIONS OF ENTRY AND PLAY

1. All events will be played in accordance with the latest rules of golf as approved by the R&A Rules Limited and the Local Rules of Keningau Golf & Country Club as approved by the **Committee**.
2. Entry is restricted to players with the certified USGA handicap index ;
Men’s Category (KUGCC Course Handicap 12) - **10.9** hcp Index and below. (Blue Tee 129)
Ladies Category (KUGCC Course Handicap 24) – **22.3** hcp Index and below. (Red Tee 124)
3. Every entry must be submitted on the official entry form and the player’s handicap must be certified by the Captain or Secretary of the Club concerned. If a player has a handicap Index or a **handicap of 12** for men and 24 for ladies from those clubs who have not joined the NHS at more than one club, then the lowest handicap must be declared. If a player’s handicap had changed since submission of the entry form he must inform the official starter before play.
4. Entries must be submitted **on or before 24^h April 2017**, together with the prescribed entrance fees. Cheques should be made payable to Sabah Golf Association **CIMB Acc 8005732005** or Keningau Golf & Country Club **CIMB Acc 8005550881** or Through Player’s Respective Home Club.
5. Entry fee shall be **RM350.00** (non-refundable) inclusive of buggy fee for the tournament rounds, goodies, 1 breakfast and the prize presentation lunch on the final day.
6. All entries will be acknowledged and the **Committee** reserves the right to refuse any entry.
7. No late entries will be entertained.
8. Proof of posting entry forms is not proof of receipt by the Committee and the Committee accepts no responsibility if entries are late or lost.

REGISTRATION

All competitors should register at the Keningau Golf & Country Club not later than 4.00pm on 27th April 2017 (Thursday). Registration may be made in person between 10.00am - 4.00pm or telephone to Sabah Golf Association, telephone numbers (016-8305413) or Keningau Golf & Country Club (087-331113 / 336825).

DRAW & STARTING TIMES

- a) The draw will be made by the Committee immediately following the close of registration and starting times will be faxed to respective clubs and posted on the notice board of Keningau Golf & Country Club. No request for change will be entertained. Such posting shall be sufficient notice but where possible further publicity will be arranged.
- b) The Committee reserves the right to vary the Draw and the Starting Times.
- c) Players shall start at the time laid down by the Committee. (Penalty Rule 6-3a applies). In this respect, players must report to the starter 10 minutes before their stipulated times. If a player arrives at his/her starting point, ready to play, within five (5) minutes after his/her starting time, the penalty for failure to start on time is two strokes, to be added to the score on the first hole.

(Penalty for lateness beyond five minutes: Disqualification)

CONDITIONS OF PLAY FOR THE COMPETITION EVENTS

1. The Men's and Ladies' Open will be decided by stroke play over 54 holes, the winners being respectively the man and lady with lowest aggregate gross scores. In the event of tie for the Championship the winners will be decided by "sudden death" play off on Hole 18, repeated if necessary, until there is a winner. Where there is a tie for the Gross Runner up positions, the placing will be determined as follows:-
 - i) Last 18 holes
 - ii) Last 9 holes
 - iii) Last 6 holes
 - iv) Last 3 holes
 - v) Last 2 holes
 - vi) And hole by hole from the 54th hole
2. After playing 36 holes, the leading 24 men and 6 ladies (depend on the number of participant and the discretion of the Committee). In case there is a tie, score will be determined by O.C.B.
3. The **Nett** Event will be based on the first two rounds of the Championship or any such reduced rounds as the committee may decide.
4. The man and lady returning the lowest aggregate net scores over the first 36 holes will be declared the respective **Nett** winners.
5. In the event of a tie or ties for the Handicap Winners and Runner-ups, placing shall be determined by a count back in the following order:-
 - i) Last 18 holes Full handicap
 - ii) Last 9 Holes One half handicap
 - iii) Last 6 holes One third handicap
 - iv) Last 3 holes One sixth handicap
 - v) Last 2 holes One Ninth handicap
 - vi) Last hole One eighteenth handicap

CLOSE OF COMPETITION

The competition shall be deemed to have closed when the trophy has been presented to the winner or, in the absence of a prize ceremony when the **Committee** has approved all scores.

INTERPRETATION

The Rules and Decisions Committee shall be sole authority in the interpretation of the General Conditions of the Championship and its decision shall be binding and final.

SLOW PLAY

The attention of all competitors is drawn to **Rules of Golf No. 6–7** regarding undue delay. The maximum time allotted for the completion of 18 holes of the Championship is 5 hours. Each hole has been given a maximum completion time base upon the length and difficulty of the hole as details on the attached chart.

Pace of Play Condition (Rule 6-7)

The following procedure only applies if a group is “**out of position**”

Definition of Out of Position

The first group to start will be considered “**out of position**”, if at any time during the round, the group’s accumulative time exceeds the time allowed for the number of holes played. Any following group will be considered “**out of position**” if

- a) it is taking more than the time allowed and
- b) it reaches the tee of a par 3 hole and the preceding group has cleared the next tee, it fails to clear the tee of a par 4 before the preceding group clears the putting green, or it fails to arrive at the teeing ground of a par 5 before the preceding group reaches the putting green. Both (a) and (b) must apply for a group to be “out of position”. Procedure when group is “**Out of Position**”

- a. If a group is “**out of position**”, the Rules official will call for the Chief Referee and a decision will be taken as to whether the group will be timed. In reaching such a decision, the Chief Referee will take into account of any recent mitigating circumstances, e.g. a lengthy ruling or lost ball, unplayable ball, wrong ball etc. and how far the group is out of position.

If the decision is taken to time the players, each player in the group will be subject to individual timing by the Chief Referee and Rules official will advise each player that they are “out of position” and they are being times. The players will be asked if they are familiar with the slow play procedure and penalties.

- b. The **maximum time** allowed for a shot is **40 seconds**. However an extra **10 seconds** is allowed for the first player to play:-
 - i) Tee shot on a par 3 hole.
 - ii) Second shot on par 4’s and par 5’s and
 - iii) From on or near the putting green at any hole.

Timing will start when a player **has reached his ball**, he has had a **few seconds** to select his club and he is able to play without interference. On the putting green, he is allowed a few seconds to repair ball marks and clear loose impediments on the line of his putt.

- c. 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. If whilst being timed, a player exceeds the time allowed on a shot he will be deemed to have “**a bad time**”.

Penalty for Breach of Condition

- i) One bad time - Warning by Rules Official and told that if he has a further bad time he will be penalized.
- ii) Two bad times - Penalty of one stroke
- iii) For subsequent offence – Disqualification

Procedure when again “Out of Position” during the same round

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 application of penalties in the same round will be carried forward until the round is completed.

WEATHER

Should weather conditions deteriorate during the Championship, a decision regarding the stoppage or continuation of play will be made. If play is interrupted, competitors will be warned by the soundings of siren in the following order:-

- i) **Discontinue Play Immediately** - One prolonged note of siren.
 - ii) **Discontinue Play** - Three consecutive notes of siren, repeated.
 - iii) **Resume play** - Two short notes of siren, repeated.
- and should proceed to the nearest shelter or to the club house.

In the event that any round of a tournament shall be rained out or cannot be completed for whatever reason, the Organizing Committee shall determine the mode of play for the rest of the tournament and its decisions shall be final.

PRACTICE

The course shall be available for practice on **Thursday, 27th April 2017**. The course will be closed in its entirety at **3.00p.m.** Competitors are **NOT** allowed to practice on the course **AFTER** their round for the day during Championship. The practice areas, which may be used at any time, are the Practice Putting Green and the Driving Range and Practice Pitch & Putt Green.

Penalty for Breach of Rule - Disqualification

CONFORMING GOLF BALLS

The ball the player uses shall conform to specifications set forth in appendix III of the Rules of Golf and that it be a brand name and matched as detailed on the current list of conforming balls issued by the R & A Rules Limited.

Penalty for breach of rule: Disqualification.

CONFORMING DRIVER HEADS

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**.

Exception: A driver with a club head that was manufactured prior to **1999** is exempted from this condition.

PENALTY FOR CARRYING, BUT NOT MAKING STROKE WITH, CLUB OR CLUBS IN BREACH OF CONDITION:

Stroke Play – two strokes for each hole at which any breach occurred; maximum penalty per round – Four strokes.

In the event of a breach between the play of two holes, the penalty applies to the next hole.

Any club or clubs carried in breach of this condition must be declared out of play by the player to his marker or fellow-competitor immediately upon discovery that a breach has occurred. If the player fails to do so, he is **DISQUALIFIED**.

PENALTY FOR MAKING STROKE WITH CLUB IN BREACH OF CONDITION: DISQUALIFICATION

TROPHIES AND PRIZES

Men

Gross - 10 Prizes (Major Prize)

Nett - 10 Prizes (Major Prize)

Ladies

Gross - 3 Prizes (Major Prize)

Nett - 4 Prizes (Major Prize)

Special Prizes for Senior - 55 yrs (born in 1962 or earlier) and above for Men only.

Nett - 5 Prizes (Major Prize)

PRIZE ELIGIBILITY

No competitor may win more than one major prize. Finalist prize will only be awarded to the best 24 for men and to the best 6 lady competitors with the best aggregate Gross Scores over 54 holes.

GOLF CARTS/BUGGIES

All competitors must use golf carts (buggies) for the tournament. (Caddies are allowed subject to availability)

INSURANCE

Participants should have their own **Golf Insurance Coverage** and should produce proof that they have a valid coverage. Failing which they will be insured by the club and chargeable at **RM10.00** per person per day.

SERIOUS BREACH OF ETIQUETTE

A penalty of DISQUALIFICATION under Rule 33-7 will be imposed if the Committee determines that a player has committed a "serious breach of etiquette" of any of but not limited to the following:-

- i) Use of mobile phone or other means during a stipulated round to disturb or distract other players.
- ii) Verbal abuse of fellow competitors, officials or staff.
- iii) Other unbecoming conduct or behaviour.

DISCLAIMER

Competitors participating in the competition do so at their own risk. The Organizing Committee will not be held responsible from any claims of loss, damages or injuries to persons or equipment before, during or after the competition.

PRIZE PRESENTATION

The Prize Presentation will be held on **30th April 2017** (Sunday), afternoon after the close of the Tournament play followed by a buffet lunch, which will be provided for all competitors and invitees.

REFEREE'S DECISION

Under Rule 34-2 of the Rules of Golf, the Referee's decision is final.

There will be no appeal for ruling after the official Prize Presentation is completed.

USGA RULES GOVERN ALL PLAY

LOCAL RULES KENINGAU GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

1. Out of Bounds (Rules 27 1)

A ball is out of bounds if all of it lies;

- a) Beyond the fences surrounding the course.
- b) Beyond the white line to the right of fairway 6 and to the line of the 18 fairway as marked (white line) right-up to the Club House.

2. Hazards

- a) Water hazards are defined by yellow stakes, lines and yellow paint on top of the retaining concrete structure of ponds.
- b) Lateral water hazards are defined by the stakes, lines and red paint on top of the retaining concrete structure of ponds.
- Rule 26-1 applies

3. Ground Under Repair

- a) Any areas so marked. The player must take relief under Rule 25-1. Golfers are not permitted to play from Ground Under Repair.

4. Immovable Obstructions (Rule 24 2)

- a) All Half houses and rain shelters
- b) Water supply pipes, hoses control boxes and sprinkler heads.
- c) Yardage or distance markers and index markers.
- d) Benches, dustbins and sand containers.
- Relief may be obtained under Rule 24-2.
- e) Water hazards stakes (Yellow & Red).
- f) All internal Protective net/metal fences.

5. **Relief (Free Lift)**
Through the green, a ball may be lifted or dropped within 1 club Length from the nearest point of relief where such point is not nearer the hole.
 - a) Young trees so marked with blue stakes
 - b) All service roads i.e a ball coming to rest on service road or affecting the player's stance.
- Rule 20-2 applies
 - c) Ball drops at stay wires and lamp post at fairway hole 9 and 18.

6. **Integral Part Of The Course**
All bridges, concrete drains and culverts, heads and wing walls and O.B line at fairway 6 & 18 are declared as integral part of the course. The ball must be played as it lies or declared unplayable.

7. **Dropping Zone**
 - a) Tee-Box 17 – Distance and Stroke apply.
 - b) Dropping Area – Hole 1, 8, 9, 12 and 18. These are designated areas in which balls should be dropped.

8. **Stones In Bunkers**
Stones in bunkers are movable obstruction – Rule 24-1 applies.

9. **Breach Of Local Rules**
 - a) Match Play – Loss of hole
 - b) Stroke Play – Two stroke penalties

10. **Distance Measuring Device**
A player may obtain distance information by using devices that MEASURE DISTANCE only. (Bushnell)

11. No penalty for ball accidentally moved on the putting green.

12. Caddies are allowed subject to availability but limit one caddy per buggy.