



18th Alabama State Match Play Championship

August 2-5, 2018

Burningtrees Country Club, Decatur, AL

Entries Open: June 4

Entries Close: July 24

Entry Fee: \$250 (Includes Championship Cart/Range Fees)



ELIGIBILITY

Entries are open to any male amateur golfer who is a legal resident of Alabama, and has an active GHIN® USGA Handicap Index® at an AGA member club that does not exceed 8.4.

College Student Eligibility: A college student is considered a resident of their parent(s)/guardian(s) "Legal Residency Criteria" as stated in the AGA Tournament Manual unless said student (a) has no dependency on his/her parents; and (b) lives full time in Alabama.

Entries are subject to rejection or withdraw at any time, including during the event, by the AGA or the host club. The reason for rejection may include unbecoming conduct or cell phone use during a stipulated round. All players must conform to the "USGA Rules of Amateur Status" as specified in "The Rules of Golf". For complete residency and eligibility requirements, refer to the [AGA Tournament Manual](#).

ENTRIES AND ONLINE REGISTRATION

All players, including those exempt, must register online at www.alabamagolf.org. Fax, mail-in, or telephone applications are not accepted. Championship field size is 84 players. Exempt players are accepted at time of registration (See "Exemptions" on page 3). Non-exempt players will be accepted after close of entries to fill the championship field. If the championship field is oversubscribed, field will be determined by player ranking, past performance and Handicap Index as of July 15, 2018. Players not gaining entry will be placed on the alternate wait list. Wait list alternates are ranked according to date/time an entry is received and processed.

- To submit an entry, go to <http://www.alabamagolf.org/2018-championships> and click on Register.
- **All entries must be RECEIVED in the AGA office no later than 10:59pm, Tuesday, July 24, 2018. No entries will be accepted after that time.**
- An entry fee in the amount of \$250.00, payable by **credit card**, must accompany the entry application, \$5.00 of which will be donated to the Alabama Turfgrass Research Foundation.
- Upon successfully completing the entry procedure, an email confirmation will be automatically generated and sent to you at the email address you designate.

The AGA is not responsible for errors or delays by any internet service provider. Entries are only accepted between the open and close dates as stated above. Confirmation of acceptance is sent to players when their status is determined. Status may be checked at www.alabamagolf.org. The appropriate entry fee must be paid by each player at time of registration.

REFUND POLICY

Withdrawal: If an accepted player withdraws before **10:59pm Wednesday, August 1, 2018** for any reason, the entry fee will be refunded, subject to a \$30.00 service fee. No refunds will be made after that time.

No Shows: Players that fail to notify the AGA of their withdrawal and "No Show" their starting time will not receive a refund for any reason. "No Show" players may be subject to suspension from future AGA events.

Alternates: Full refund if player does not gain entry into the championship.

All dates and time refer to **date and time of receipt** at the AGA office.

CHAMPIONSHIP FORMAT

- 36 holes of gross individual stroke play to determine 16 players for match play. A tie for the last qualifier's place will be decided immediately by a hole-by-hole playoff. Players are responsible for making themselves available at the scoreboard for play-off instructions. The play-off holes and their order of play will be determined by the Committee.
- Match Play Seeding: General numerical draw will be used. For purposes of determining places in the draw, ties in qualifying rounds will be decided by lot.
- Match Play stipulated round is 18 holes. In the event of a match standing all square after 18 holes, the stipulated round is deemed to extend on a hole-by-hole basis until a winner is determined.

CHAMPIONSHIP SCHEDULE

Wednesday, August 1

Tee times available for practice.

Thursday, August 2

First round of individual stroke play qualifying.

Friday, August 3

Second round of individual stroke play qualifying.
Field cut to low 16 players for match play.

Saturday, August 4

Round of 16 (AM) and Quarterfinal round (PM) of individual match play.

Sunday, August 5

Semifinal (AM) and Final round (PM) of individual match play.

CART/RANGE FEES

- *Practice Rounds:* Cart/range fees are not included in the entry fee. Cart rental is mandatory for practice rounds payable at the host club.
- *Championship Site:* Championship site cart/range fees are paid by the AGA and included in the entry fee. Competitors have the option to either walk or use a golf cart during championship rounds.

CADDIES

- *Caddies:* Caddies are allowed for championship rounds. Caddies will not be available at host club.
- *Caddie Cart Policy:* During the play of a hole, either the player or his caddie may ride in a golf cart but not both at the same time.
- Caddies are required to wear an AGA issued caddie bib at the championship proper.

SPECTATORS

- *Spectator Golf Cart Policy:* Due to the limited number of available golf carts, spectator carts may not be available during the championship.
- *Disability Golf Cart Policy:* In consistency with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), AGA will grant an individual with a bona fide disability a golf cart if the following conditions are met:
 - Requesting individual completes and submits a [Disabled Golf Cart Request Form](#) by the close of entries date;
 - Host club has a golf cart available;
 - Requesting individual pays host club the appropriate fee;
 - Requesting individual presents to the AGA staff or AGA representative a disability card issued by a government agency.
- Spectators are not allowed to ride in a player's golf cart at any time. Non-club owned spectator carts are not allowed except as provided in the [AGA Tournament Manual](#).

PRIZES

- *Stroke Play Qualifying Rounds:* Lowest Scoring Player for 36 Holes: Silver medal; if a tie, duplicate medals will be awarded.
- *Match Play:* An award will be presented to the Champion. Merchandise prizes are awarded to top finishers. Champion will have his name engraved on the permanent trophy and may take possession of the trophy for the ensuing year.
- Prizes in AGA amateur championships comply with USGA Rules of Amateur Status (see USGA Rules of Golf).
- High School or collegiate players should check with their institution compliance department regarding High School or NCAA regulations relating to accepting prizes or merchandise.

EXEMPTIONS EARNED

- Champion receives 10 year exemption into the Alabama State Amateur Championship and Alabama State Match Play Championship (2019-2028).
- Players advancing to the Round of 16 will receive an exemption into the 2018 Alabama State Mid-Amateur Championship (must be 25 years of age or older by first day of Championship).
- Players advancing to the Round of 16 will receive an exemption into the 2019 Alabama State Amateur Championship.
- Players advancing to the Round of 16 will receive an exemption into the 2019 Alabama State Match Play Championship.

RULES OF GOLF; CLOSE OF COMPETITION; SPECIAL REQUESTS

USGA Rules of Golf govern play. Questions will be decided by the on-site Rules Committee whose decision will be final. Notice to Players and local rules are posted at host club and distributed at the starting tee(s). The AGA reserves the right to alter the conditions or schedules as stated, including alteration of the stipulated round(s) at any time during the championship. The competition is closed when the championship trophy has been presented or, in stroke play qualifying followed by match play, when the side has teed off in their first match. Special requests for starting times or pairings may not be granted.

CONDITIONS AGREEMENT

- I am a bona fide resident of the State of Alabama.
- I agree that the Alabama Golf Association has the right to reject, or withdraw, any entry at any time.
- I am an amateur golfer and I understand the "Rules of Amateur Status" as established by the United States Golf Association.

- I hereby grant permission to the Alabama Golf Association rights to use my name, image, likeness and sound of my voice as recorded on audio or video devices without payment or any other consideration. I understand that my image may be edited, copied, exhibited, published or distributed and waive the right to inspect or approve the finished product wherein my likeness appears. Additionally, I waive any right to royalties or other compensation arising or related to the use of my image or recording.
- I assume full responsibility for all my acts, whether they are negligent or otherwise, and hold harmless the Alabama Golf Association, its committee members, officers, board of directors, staff, and host club from any and all liability for any event or consequence relating to entry or participation in this event.

EXEMPTIONS

Players in the categories listed below are exempt into the 2018 Alabama State Match Play Championship. The AGA reserves the right to revise any of the exemption categories. Exempt players who wish to participate in the Championship must file an entry by July 24, 2018 except those players for whom blank entries are filed as noted below. Exempt players must meet all the eligibility requirements set forth in Eligibility Section.

1. Winners of the AGA State Match Play Championship last ten years:

2017-Matt Gourgeot 2014-Tyler Hitchner
 2015-Patrick Martin 2011-Mclain Leberte

2. Winners of the AGA State Amateur Championship last ten years:

2018- Matt Lorenz
 2017-Taylor Eyster
 2012-Andy McRae

3. Winners of the AGA State Mid-Amateur last five years:

2017-Stewart Whitt 2014-Vic Kyatt III
 2016-Clay Guerin 2013-Torrie Coghlin
 2015-Jeff Taylor

4. Winner of the AGA Boys State Junior Championship the last three years (2015-2017):

2017-Padraic Sim
 2016-John Racciatti Jr.
 2015-William Buhl

5. Winner of the 2018 AGA State Senior Championship:

2018-Claud Cooper

6. From the 2017 AGA State Match Play Championship, those players who advanced to the Round of 16:

Jeff Taylor	Vic Kyatt III	Jason Smith	Robby Prater	Clay Guerin
Connor Reid	Bo Hayes	Corey Ray	Taylor Eyster	Matt Gourgeot
John Hayden	Jason Tate	Calum Masters	Scott Cornette	Robbie Cotton
Wesley Hunter				

7. From the 2018 AGA State Amateur Championship, the 16 lowest scores and anyone tying for 16th place:

Matt Lorenz	Jason Tate	Vic Kyatt III	Logan Archer
Austin Gean	Drew Mathers	Steven Groover	Nick Robillard
Taylor Eyster	Woodie Eubanks	Richard Douglas	Clay Guerin
John Racciatti Jr.	John Hayden	Will Swift	Thomas Ponder
Jordan Plunkett			

8. From the 2017 AGA State Mid-Amateur, the 8 lowest scores and anyone tying for 8th place:

Stewart Whitt	Matt Gourgeot	Woodie Eubanks	Robson Copenhaver
Clay Guerin	Matt Johnson	Jake Nolen	Vic Kyatt III

9. Any player who qualified for either the 2018 USGA Open Championship Sectional Qualifying or 2018 USGA Senior Open Championship:

None

10. Any player who qualified for the 2018 USGA Amateur Championship:

TBD

11. Any player who qualified for either the 2017 USGA Mid-Amateur Championship or 2017 USGA Senior Amateur Championship:

Clay Guerin	Matt Johnson	Bart Barnes	Claud Cooper
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12. Any player who qualified for the 2018 USGA Junior Amateur Championship:

TBD

13. Any player who qualified for the 2018 USGA Amateur Four-Ball Championship:

Steven Groover	Harlan Winn
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14. Any player who ranks within the top 25 point leaders and anyone tying for 25th place of the Alabama Men's Amateur Rankings as of June 4, 2018:

Clay Guerin	Matt Gourageot	Taylor Eyster	Vic Kyatt III	Lee Hodges	Patrick Martin
Steven Setterstrom	Robby Prater	Ryan Mayberry	Matt Johnson	Stewart Whitt	John Hayden
Connor Reid	Woodie Eubanks	Scott Bryan	Daniel Jansen	John Catanzaro	Brooks Rabren
Scott Cornette	Will Swift	Drew Mathers	Mac Murphy	Sheldon Statkewicz	Robson
Copenhaver					

15. The 2017 Alabama Men's Player of the Year:

Matt Gourageot

16. The 2017 Alabama Senior Men's Player of the Year:

Steve Hudson

17. The 2017 Alabama Junior Boys Player of the Year:

Ethan Hagood

18. Special exemptions bestowed by the AGA.