



# 102<sup>nd</sup> Alabama Men's State Amateur Championship

June 7-10, 2018

Pine Tree Country Club, Birmingham, AL

Entries Open: March 5

Entries Close: April 30



Entry Fee: \$270 Exempt (\$110 Qualifying) (Includes Qualifying/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 (see "Exemptions from Sectional Qualifying" on page 4), must register online at [www.alabamagolf.org](http://www.alabamagolf.org). Fax, mail-in, or telephone applications are not accepted.

- 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, Monday, April 30, 2018. No entries will be accepted after that time.**
- An entry fee in the amount of \$270.00 for exempt players or \$110.00 for non-exempt players (see exemption list at bottom of entry form) payable by **credit card**, must accompany the entry application, \$5.00 of which will be donated to the Alabama Turfgrass Research Foundation. For players who successfully qualify, the AGA will charge the credit card used to register for sectional qualifying the remaining championship balance of \$160.00.
- 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](http://www.alabamagolf.org). The appropriate entry fee must be paid by each player at time of registration.

## REFUND POLICY

### Qualifying

**Withdrawal:** If an accepted player withdraws before **10:59pm on the day prior to his respective qualifying date** for any reason, the entry fee will be refunded, subject to a \$30.00 service fee. No refunds will be made after that time.

### Championship

**Withdrawal:** If an accepted player withdraws before **10:59pm Wednesday, June 6, 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.

## SCHEDULE

Competition will be in two stages:

1. **Sectional Qualifying** - 18 holes individual stroke play for non-exempt players.
2. **Championship** - 156 players, including exempt players, will advance to the Championship. 72 holes individual stroke play.

## SECTIONAL QUALIFYING AND ALTERNATES

- Sectional qualifying is 18 holes of stroke play.
- The number of qualifiers' places at each site is determined by the AGA after entries close, based on the size of the field. All ties for the final qualifying position qualify for the championship. Alternates for qualifiers unable to compete in the Championship will be ordered by the qualifying scores at each site using the USGA recommended score card playoff procedure to break ties.

- If a Sectional Qualifying location cannot fill its qualifiers' places, or if an exempt player withdraws, the place made available will be re-allotted to another location. A re-allotment schedule will be prearranged by the AGA.
- Qualifying assignment is based on the date/time the AGA receives and processes each entry form. **Qualifying site assignments cannot be changed after entries close.**
- If a qualifying site is full at the time of registration, a player may opt to be placed on that site's alternate wait list or register at another qualifying site. A player may only register for one qualifying site.
- Wait list alternates and on-site alternates are ranked according to date/time an entry is received and processed. Qualifying site player information is sent after entries are accepted.

\*Note: Qualifying sites may be cancelled due to a lack of participation.

### **QUALIFYING SCHEDULE**

May 5 - RTJ @ Silver Lakes, Glencoe (limited to first 60 players)

May 7 - Riverchase Country Club, Birmingham (limited to first 96 players).

May 10 - Auburn University Club, Auburn

May 23 - Canebrake Club, Athens

May 23 - Azalea City Golf Course

### **CHAMPIONSHIP FORMAT**

- The field will be cut to the low 60 players and ties after 36 holes.
- The lowest score for 72 holes will be the Champion.
- In the event of a tie for the Championship, a three-hole aggregate play-off will be held immediately following play. The winner will be the player with the lowest aggregate score for the play-off holes. In the event of a further tie, play will immediately continue hole by hole until Champion is determined. The play-off holes and their order of play will be determined by the Committee.
- Initial groupings will be for two days; the field will be cut and re-paired by score after the second round.

### **CHAMPIONSHIP SCHEDULE**

#### **Tuesday, June 5**

Tee times available for practice.

#### **Wednesday, June 6**

Tee times available for practice.

#### **Thursday, June 7**

First round of individual stroke play.

#### **Friday, June 8**

Second round of individual stroke play.

Field cut to low 60 scores and ties.

#### **Saturday, June 9**

Third round of individual stroke play.

#### **Sunday, June 10**

Final round of individual stroke play.

### **CART/RANGE FEES; GOLF CARTS**

- *Qualifying Site:* Qualifying site cart/range fees paid by the AGA and are included in the entry fee. Competitors have the option to either walk or use a golf cart during qualifying rounds (Riverchase qualifying will be mandatory carts). Cart rental is mandatory for practice rounds.
- *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 paid by the AGA and are 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 sectional qualifying and 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

- *Sectional Qualifying Rounds:* Lowest Scorer for 18 Holes in each location: Silver medal; if a tie, duplicate medals will be awarded.
- *Championship:* Awards will be presented to the top three finishers. Merchandise prizes are awarded to top finishers. Champion will have his name engraved on the *Sam Perry 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 a lifetime exemption into the Alabama Men's State Amateur Championship.
- Champion receives 10 year exemption into the Alabama State Match Play Championship (2018-2027).
- Champion receives 10 year exemption into the Alabama State Mid-Amateur Championship (2018-2027) (must be 25 years of age or older by first day of Championship).
- Players finishing in the top 30 (and ties) will receive exemptions into the 2019 Alabama Men's State Amateur Championship and 2018 Alabama State Mid-Amateur Championship (must be 25 years of age or older by first day of Championship).
- Players finishing in the top 16 (and ties) will receive an exemption into the 2018 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 including sectional qualifying. The competition is closed when the championship trophy has been presented. 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 FROM SECTIONAL QUALIFYING

Players in the following categories will be eligible for exemption in the 2018 Championship only. 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 April 30, 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. All former winners of the AGA State Amateur Championship (Last 30 years listed):**

2017-Taylor Eyster	1993-Bob Frazer
2012-Andy McRae	1996-John Coles, III
2006-Ben Moody	1991 Winston Walker
2002, 2005-Will Swift	1990-Robbie Cotten
1997-Richard Jeffers	1989-John Wright

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

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

**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 2017 AGA Boys State Junior Championship**

Padraic Sim

**5. Winners of the AGA State Senior Championship last five years:**

2018-	2015-David Hancock
2017-Robert Nelson	2014-Steve Hudson
2016-Bryan Askew	

(NOTE: Blank entry will be filed by the AGA for player who becomes exempt after close of entries.)

**6. Winners of the AGA State Four-Ball Championship last five years:**

2018- TBD	2015-Matt Gourgeot/Tony Olive
2017-Heath West/Matt Johnson	2014-Ty Thompson
2016-Steve Hudson/Robert Nelson	

(NOTE: Blank entry will be filed by the AGA for player who becomes exempt after close of entries.)

**7. Winners of the 2017 AGA State Senior Four-Ball Championship:**

Robert Nelson	Walker Grant
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**8. From the 2018 AHSAA State High School Championship, each individual classification champion or co-champion.**

(\* Classifications are: Boys 1A-2A, 3A, 4A, 5A, 6A, 7A.)

(NOTE: Blank entry will be filed by the AGA for player who becomes exempt after close of entries.)

**9. From the 2018 AISA State High School Champion, individual champion or co-champion.**

**10. From the 2017 AGA State Amateur Championship, the 30 lowest scores and anyone tying for 30<sup>th</sup> place:**

Taylor Eyster	Wes Carter	Clay Guerin	John Hayden	Wesley Hunter
Ryan Mayberry	Drew Mathers	Robby Prater	Vic Kyatt III	Sheldon Statkewicz
Steven Setterstrom Jr.	Scott Bryan	John Racciatti Jr	Daniel Jansen	Matt Lorenz
Heath West	Nicholas Dunlap	William Walker III	Brooks Rabren	John Catanzaro
Tyler Hitchner	Ford Clegg	Jason Tate	Major Lee	Ben Fuller
Austin Gean	James Medley	Austin Coggin	Dustin Sanders	

**11. 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				

**12. From the 2017 AGA State Mid-Amateur, the 10 lowest scores and anyone tying for 10<sup>th</sup> place:**

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

**13. Finalists from the 2018 AGA State Four-Ball Championship.**

(NOTE: Blank entry will be filed by the AGA for player who becomes exempt after close of entries.)

**14. From the 2017 Alabama Open, amateurs finishing among the top 30 overall:**

Tyler Hitchner	Brandon Lacasse	Ike Alexander	Robby Prater
Wesley Hunter	Matt Lorenz	Jake DeZoort	

**15. Any player who qualified for either the 2017 USGA Open Sectional Qualifying or 2017 USGA Senior Open Championship:**

Jason DeJacomio	Claud Cooper
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**16. Any player who qualified for the 2017 USGA Amateur, Mid-Amateur, Senior or Junior Championships:**

Lee Hodges	Patrick Martin	Wesley Hunter	Alex Green
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Steven Setterstrom Jr. John Catanzaro Claud Cooper Bart Barnes  
Clay Guerin Matt Johnson Thomas Ponder

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

Steven Groover Harlan Winn

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

Matt Gourgeot

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

Steve Hudson

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

Ethan Hagood

21. Any player who ranks within the top 25 point leaders and anyone tying for 25<sup>th</sup> place of the Alabama Men's Amateur Rankings as of March 5, 2018:

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

22. Any player who ranks within the top 5 point leaders and anyone tying for 5<sup>th</sup> place of the Alabama Junior Boys Rankings as of March 5, 2018:

Austin Coggin Ethan Hagood Ford Clegg J.P. Cave Padraic Sim

23. One exemption for Championship Host Club.

24. Special exemptions bestowed by the AGA.

25. Medical Exemption (Exemption into 2017 Alabama State Amateur not used due to injury.)

John Snoddy