



# 20<sup>th</sup> Alabama State Match Play Championship

August 5-8, 2021

Auburn University Club, Auburn, AL

Entries Open: May 31

Entries Close: July 27

Entry Fee: \$295 (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](http://www.alabamagolf.org). Fax, mail-in, or telephone applications are not accepted. Championship field size is limited to 60 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, 2021. Players not gaining entry will be placed on the alternate wait list. Wait list alternates are ranked in the same way as the field. The AGA reserves the right to conduct a qualifying round to determine the final field and alternate order.

- To submit an entry, go to <https://www.golfgenius.com/pages/2712646> and click on Register.
- **All entries must be RECEIVED in the AGA office no later than 11:59pm, Tuesday, July 27, 2021. No entries will be accepted after that time.**
- An entry fee in the amount of \$295.00, 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](http://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 for any reason before the close of registration at **11:59pm on Tuesday, July 27, 2021**, the entry fee will be refunded, subject to a \$30.00 service fee. If an accepted player withdraws for any reason after the close of registration and before **11:59pm on Monday, August 2, 2021**, 50% of the entry fee will be refunded. No refunds will be made for withdrawals 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 4**

Tee times available for practice.

**Thursday, August 5**

First round of individual stroke play qualifying.

**Friday, August 6**

Second round of individual stroke play qualifying.

Field cut to low 16 players for match play.

**Saturday, August 7**

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

**Sunday, August 8**

Semifinals (AM) and Final match (PM).

**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 and Runner-Up. Merchandise prizes are awarded to top finishers. Champion will have his name engraved on the *Grantland Rice Cup*.
- 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 (2022-2031).
- Players advancing to the Round of 16 will receive an exemption into the 2021 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 2022 Alabama State Amateur Championship.
- Players advancing to the Round of 16 will receive an exemption into the 2022 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.

## EXEMPTIONS

Players in the categories listed below are exempt into the 2021 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 27, 2021 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:

2020-Not Played	2019-Ethan Hagood	2018-Sam Murphy	2017-Matt Gurgeot
2014-Tyler Hitchner	2011-Mclain Leberte		
2. Winners of the AGA State Amateur Championship last ten years:

2021-TBD	2020-Gordon Sargent	2019-Jack Goldasich	2018-Matt Lorenz
2012-Andy McRae			
3. Winners of the AGA State Mid-Amateur last five years:

2020-Robby Prater	2019 Vic Kyatt III	2018-Stewart Whitt	2017-Stewart Whitt
2016-Clay Guerin	2015-Jeff Taylor		
4. Winner of the AGA Boys State Junior Championship the last three years (2018-2020):

2020-Max Johnson	2019-Gordon Sargent	2018-Nick Dunlap
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5. Winner of the 2021 AGA State Senior Championship:  
Doug McLeod
6. From the 2020 AGA State Match Play Championship, those players who advanced to the Round of 16:
7. From the 2021 AGA State Amateur Championship, the 16 lowest scores and anyone tying for 16<sup>th</sup> place:

Gordon Sargent	Connor Newton	Ford Goldasich	William Wann	Carter Goodwin
Connor Doyal	Jacob Randall	Bart Barnes	Matt Smith	Jake DeZoort
Sheldon Statkewicz	Dylan Moncus	Austin Coggin	Ryan Eshleman	Price Brown
Tyler Hitchner	JP Cave			
8. From the 2020 AGA State Mid-Amateur, the 8 lowest scores and anyone tying for 8<sup>th</sup> place:

Robby Prater	Austin Sparks	Hunter Hawkins	Will Morrison	
Jackson King	Matt Gurgeot	Daniel Creel	Matt Johnson	Lance Goodson
9. Any player who qualified for either the 2021 USGA Open Championship Sectional Qualifying or 2021 USGA Senior Open Championship:

Thomas Ponder	Mac Murphy	Mike Blasey	Ford Clegg	Claud Cooper
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10. Any player who qualified for the 2020 USGA Amateur Championship:

Ford Clegg	Garrett Johnson	Gordon Sargent	Drew Mathers	
William Buhl	Thomas Ponder	William Walker		
11. Any player who qualified for either the 2019 USGA Mid-Amateur Championship or 2019 USGA Senior Amateur Championship:

Steven Groover	Clay Guerin	Stewart Alexander	David Hancock	
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12. Any player who qualified for the 2019 USGA Junior Amateur Championship:  
Garrison Guthrie
13. Any player who qualified for the 2021 USGA Amateur Four-Ball Championship:

Matt Gurgeot	Brinson Holder	Trent Alexander	Michael Noe	Steven Groover
Harrison Davis				
14. 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 June 1, 2020:

Gordon Sargent	Jacob LeCroy	Drew Mathers	Ford Clegg	Nick Robillard
Thomas Ponder	Robby Prater	William Walker	Noah Martino	Tyler Hitchner
Jackson King	Hunter Hawkins	Austin Sparks	Clay Guerin	Matt Gurgeot
Will Morrison	Connor Reid	Garrett Johnson	Woodie Eubanks	Alex Balog
Daniel Burns	Will Thompson	Ward Harris	Jackson Beindorf	Stewart Whitt
15. The 2020 Alabama Men's Player of the Year:  
Gordon Sargent
16. The 2020 Alabama Senior Men's Player of the Year:  
John Wright
17. The 2020 Alabama Junior Boys Player of the Year:  
Gordon Sargent
18. Special exemptions bestowed by the AGA.