



44th Alabama State Four-Ball Championship

April 29 – May 2 (Wednesday-Saturday), 2026

Canebrake Club, Athens, AL

Entries Open: March 2

Entries Close: April 16

Entry Fee: \$590.00 per side (Includes Championship Cart/Range Fees)

ELIGIBILITY

Entries are open to sides of male amateur golfers who are legal residents of Alabama and have an active GHIN® USGA Handicap Index® at an AGA member club. Maximum allowable combined team handicap is 11.9 under the USGA Handicap System™. Two players who play as partners comprise a side. Partners are not required to be from the same club.

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 unauthorized 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

Championship field size is 72 sides. Non-exempt and exempt sides will be accepted at the time of entry for the first 50 sides and the final 22 places in the championship will be held for exempt sides. Once the first 50 sides are accepted, a non-exempt side will be placed on the alternate wait list. Once all exempt sides who have registered have been placed into the field, any remaining places in the championship will be filled from non-exempt sides on the alternate wait list. Wait list alternates are ranked according to date/time an entry is received and processed.

All sides must register online at www.alabamagolf.org. Fax, mail-in, or telephone applications are not accepted. The entry of a side is deemed complete when both players have completed the entry process. If a side completes an entry and it is later determined that one or both players are ineligible (e.g., due to an invalid handicap index or an amateur status issue), the side is deemed to have completed an invalid entry and both players' entries will be withdrawn. A player will not be permitted to enter the Championship as an individual.

- To submit an entry, go to <https://www.golfgenius.com/pages/5653516> and click on "Register Now".
- **All entries must be RECEIVED in the AGA office no later than 11:59pm, Thursday, April 16, 2026. No entries will be accepted after that time.**
- Entry fee in the amount of \$590.00, payable by **credit card**, must accompany the entry application, \$10.00 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 side at time of registration.

REFUND POLICY

Withdrawal: If an accepted side withdraws for any reason before the close of registration at **11:59pm on Thursday, April 16, 2026**, the entry fee will be refunded, subject to a \$30.00 service fee. If an accepted side withdraws for any reason after the close of registration and before **11:59pm on Monday, April 27, 2026**, 75% of the entry fee will be refunded. No refunds will be made for withdrawals after that time.

No Shows: Sides 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" sides may be subject to suspension from future AGA events.

Alternates: Full refund if side 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 four-ball stroke play to determine 16 sides for match play. A tie for the last qualifier's place (16th seed) will be decided immediately by a hole-by-hole play-off. Players are responsible for making themselves available at the scoreboard for play-off instructions. 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 round is 18 holes. If a match is tied after the final hole, the match is extended one hole at a time until there is a winner.

CHAMPIONSHIP SCHEDULE

Tuesday, April 28

Tee times available for practice.

Wednesday, April 29

First round of four-ball stroke play qualifying.

Thursday, April 30

Second round of four-ball stroke play qualifying.

Field cut to low 16 sides for match play.

Friday, May 1

Round of 16 (AM) and Quarterfinal round (PM) of four-ball match play.

Saturday, May 2

Semifinal (AM) and Final round (PM) of four-ball 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 not allowed for championship rounds.

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:* Lowest Scoring Side for 36 Holes: Silver medals; if a tie, duplicate medals will be awarded.
- *Match Play:* Awards will be presented to the Champions and Runners-Up. Merchandise prizes are awarded to top finishers. Champions will have their names engraved on the *Harry Pritchett Trophy*.
- 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

- Champions receive a 5-year exemption into the Alabama State Amateur Championship (2026-2030).

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.
- I have read and agree to abide by the [Alabama Golf Association Code of Conduct](#).

EXEMPTIONS

Players and sides in the categories listed below are exempt into the 2026 Alabama State Four-Ball Championship. The Championship Committee reserves the right to revise any of the exemption categories. Exempt sides who wish to participate in the Championship must file an entry by April 16, 2026. Exempt players and sides must meet all the eligibility requirements set forth in Eligibility Section.

*Note: For a side to be exempt, one player must be exempt under one of the following categories.

1. Winners of the AGA State Four-Ball Championship last 5 years:

2025- Ethan Hagood/Blair Hamm
2024 – Tyler Watts/Barak Erwin
2023 – Blake Watts/Will McCurdy
2022 – Clay Guerin/James Salter
2021 – Alex Balog/Daniel Burns

2. Players who advanced to the Quarterfinals of the 2025 Alabama State Four-Ball Championship:

Eric Shugart/Patrick Butler	Alan Waggoner/Justin Bowie	Brent Cooper/Logan Rawson
Heath West/Matt Johnson	Ethan Hagood/Blair Hamm	Jace Duckworth/Trace Bracknell
Bailey Sutter/Rawlin Sutter	Garrison Guthrie/Tanner Guthrie	

3. Players who qualified for the 2026 US Amateur Four-Ball:

Logan Rawson/Van Thigpen	William Catanzaro/John Hilliard Catanzaro
Conner Elder/Zachary Hughes	

4. Special exemptions bestowed by the Championship Committee