

PORTUGAL

PRO GOLF TOUR

Tour Policy **2017/2018**

Membership

- Tour Membership is open to all declared Professional Golfers.
- The Portugal Pro Golf Tour reserves the right to refuse any membership application.
- No refunds will be given if a Member resigns or is banned.

Event Entry

- The Portugal Pro Golf Tour events are open to all declared Professional Golfers.
- Entry to each event will be on a first come first served basis however members who have entered the preceding event or paid for several events in advance will be given the option for automatic entry.
- The Portugal Pro Golf Tour events are open to amateurs, subject to having a Cat 1 handicap and dependent on available space in the tournament.

Entry Procedure

Please submit your name e-mail address and mobile number and event you wish to enter at either:

- The Tournament Office (for next event).
- Via the Tournament Entry Page on our website or by telephone on +44 7920 816209
- The draw will be made 24 hours before the event and will be published on the website.
- It is the player's responsibility to inform us of any change to their mobile number or Email Address.

Tournament Format

- 36 holes Stroke play over 2 days played in 2 or 3 balls and will be played in accordance with the Rules of Golf as prescribed by The Royal and Ancient Golf Club.
- Local rules will apply at the discretion of the Tournament Director.

Tournament Field

- The Field size is limited depending on the amount of daylight hours available.
- Based on first come, first served basis.

Tee Times

- Tee Time preference for the first round, for those travelling together will be given whenever possible, also a late start time may be requested for the first day, however requests for early start times will not be considered.
Tee times for the final day will be based on the leader board with the leading players going out last.

Tour Schedule

As per the “Schedule Page” on the Portugal Pro Golf Tour website. www.portugalprotour.pt

Prize-Money

- The Prize Fund for the event will be available to all competitors on the first day of each tournament.
- In the event of a tie, the result will be determined by a sudden death play-off. All runners up will be deemed to have come second and the place money will be divided equally between them.
- All winnings will be paid by bank transfer after the completion of the last tournament in any Series/Swing.
- All winnings will be paid out in Euro’s, except where winner requests prize money to be paid in their home currency.
- In this case the Euro will be converted to the winners preferred currency.

Payments

- Credit/Debit card payments are to be made by calling +44 7920816209
- By Direct Bank Transfer, which is the preferred method? Call +44 7920816209 for details on how to pay.

Closing Date for Entries

Entries will be taken up to 12 Noon on the day prior to each event.

- Entries are limited, and are accepted on a first come, first served basis.

Registration

- All Players must register at the Tournament Office on practice day either in person or by calling +447920816209
- Score Cards, Pin Sheets and any additional local rules will be issued on the first tee and players are expected to be on the tee 5 minutes before their allotted tee time.
- Players failing to register may be withdrawn from the tournament.
- Appeals subject to the Tournament Director's discretion.
- A player is fully registered when The Portugal Pro Golf Tour has received all personal details and outstanding fees. These must be paid in full before 5:00pm on practice day.
- Late payment, on the first day of Tournament play, must have prior approval, exceptional circumstances only.

Tournament Withdrawals

- Failure to give notice of withdrawal before tournament closure, which is 6pm on the day prior the tournament practice day, will incur a fine of €150.
- Players withdrawing giving the minimum correct notice will receive a full refund of entry fees.
- A player opting not to play on Day 2, after the draw has been made, will be fined €150
- A player opting to “walk-in” during tournament play will be fined €150.
- All fines must be paid before any future entry will be accepted.
- Fines are at the discretion of The Portugal Pro Golf Tour. No fines will be applied for a withdrawal due to a late call-up for a Higher Ranking European Tour Event, through certifiable illness or by extreme personal circumstances.

Membership and Tournament Fees

- Membership Fees are published on the website.
- Late entries and Non-Members must pay all fees before play.
- The “no pay, no play” policy remains in force for 2017/18, all fees and fines must be paid before a player will be permitted to “tee-up” on Day 1.

Player's Responsibilities

- To abide by the Rules and etiquette of Golf.
- To ensure speed of play.
- To report to the Starter and be ready to play at least 5 minutes before his allotted tee time.
- If the player is late and not ready to play when called by the starter he may be penalised 2 shots or disqualified if more than 5 minutes late.
- A player late for any reason whatsoever is at fault and will forfeit his entry fee.
- To observe the one ball rule for each tournament round.
- The tour generally negotiates courtesy of the course but it's the player's responsibility to contact the course (in advance) to request a practice round.
- Treat the golf course and its members with respect at all times, repair pitch marks and repair bunkers on leaving, failure to repair a bunker during Tournament play will incur a €150 fine.
- Abuse of golf course property or The Portugal Pro Golf Tour equipment will incur a €150 fine.
- To ensure that Caddies, Forecaddies, friends and family when walking ahead of the playing group do not go out of sight of the players.
- To ensure that their score is correct and that their playing partner's scores are correct before leaving the designated scoring area, as mistakes cannot be rectified after a player has left that area.
- A signed for score that is lower than that actually scored will result in disqualification.
- A score signed for that is higher than that actually scored will stand but the player will not suffer disqualification.
- Treat The Portugal Pro Golf Tour officials and fellow competitors with respect and courtesy at all times.
- Practice putting on greens during tournament play is forbidden by the Committee.
- Members of the PPGT must not use any form of social media to disrespect the Tour or other members of the tour in any way. Any member found in breach of this order will incur a €150 fine.

Players and Caddies Attire

- The proper on course attire is required at all times.
- Hats, Caps & waterproofs must be removed before entering the clubhouse.
- The Tournament Director reserves the right to require all Professionals and caddies to remove or cover-up any logo deemed to be inappropriate.
- The wearing of Jeans, Shorts or Collarless vests is not permitted.
- Soft spikes are preferred by all host courses and therefore are mandatory for all events.
- Players must ensure that their caddies observe the dress code.
- Caddies must wear "trainer" type footwear or "Soft Spikes". (Caddies may wear tailored shorts.)

GPS or Laser Assistance

Approved, with the exception of Lasers with slope fitted, which are not permitted even if turned off.

Buggies and Trolleys

Buggies are not allowed; however, players may use powered or pull trolleys.
Trolleys are NOT allowed on tees or green fringes.

Mobile Telephones

- The use of mobile phones is prohibited on the Golf Course during Tournament play, except, as laid down in the local rules.
- Failure to abide by this code will result in disqualification.
- Players must not use their mobile telephones in the clubhouse, on the practice tee or during practice rounds.

Slow Play

- It is a requirement that all groups keep pace with the preceding group, NOT just to keep ahead of the group behind!
- Unless there is a mitigating circumstance i.e. a ruling is required (in which case the group behind should be called through). Then the following will apply:
 1. One bad time: Warning from official.
 2. Two bad times: One stroke penalty plus €50 fine, to be paid before next Tournament entry.
 3. Three bad times: Two-stroke penalty plus €100 fine, to be paid before next Tournament entry.
 4. Four bad times: Disqualification.
 5. Please note: Fines are accumulative.

Timings will be as follows:

Timing will commence when a group is out of position i.e. more than one hole behind the group ahead or failing to adhere to the recommended timings, which are; Par 3's 12 minutes, Par 4's 14 minutes & Par 5's 17 minutes. The player first to play an approach shot (which includes a par 3 tee shot, chip or putt) has 50 seconds in which to execute his shot.

- The second or third players have 40 seconds in which to execute their shots.
- Timing will start when the player is deemed to be ready to play.
- If these timings are exceeded then the player will be given a bad time.

Appeals Procedures

1. Any appeal regarding penalties must be referred to the Tournament Director immediately after the round is completed and before the card is signed.
2. Tournament closure. The tournament is deemed to have closed 30 minutes after the last group have left the registration area.
3. In all cases the Tournament Director's decision is final.

Suspension of Play

- In the event of play being suspended due to thunderstorm / electrical activity, signalled by 1 long blast on the klaxon, immediately mark your ball and seek the nearest area of shelter.
- Resumption of play will be signalled by 2 long blasts on the klaxon.
- If play has to be suspended for any other reason, signalled by 2 short blasts on the klaxon then players may choose either:
 - To mark the ball, or finish the hole currently in play.
 - All players must then report directly to the Tournament Registration Office.
 - Not until the players have been given permission, may play resume.
- In the event of play being suspended overnight the Committee has the right to return the greens to the same standard that prevailed at the start of play on the previous day. Tee positions and Pin positions will remain unchanged.

Course Unfit for Play

- In the event of a Tournament being cancelled due to adverse weather conditions the Tour will try to find an alternative venue. This however cannot be guaranteed.
- We will do all in our power to replace any cancelled event.
- 18 holes must be completed by all competitors in order for an event to be declared as completed.

Orders of Merit

- The Order / Orders of Merit will be determined by Points and will be updated as soon as possible on The Portugal Pro Golf Tour website after each tournament.

Media/Sponsors

- Please respect the Tour and Sponsors when dealing with the media.
- It is a Tournament entry requirement that that all players will be available for any media duties, including interviews, sponsorship presentations, press photographs and all television requirements.

Grievances

- If you have any issues with The Portugal Pro Golf Tour please discuss them with the Director's first, the use of any social media by members to air grievances, disrespect the organisers, the host club or other members of the tour is forbidden.