



In support of



SA Senior Open Championship

Tuesday 22 October to Friday 25 October 2019

Presented by Accelerate Sports for the EWT Senior Golf Series and Sponsored by Bitou Municipality

PLAYER INFORMATION

Entries close 18:00hours on 01 October 2019

1. **Venue:**

Plettenberg Bay Golf Club

2. **Format & Conditions of Entry**

S A Senior Open Championship (SASO)

- The SA Senior Open will be played in accordance with the rules and regulations as set out by the R&A in a 72-hole stroke play event for professionals and qualified amateurs, who are 50 years of age or older on 22 October 2019, with 18 holes being played on each of the days of, 22 October, 23 October, 24 October and 25 October 2019 respectively. Saturday morning, 26 October **may** be used as a playing round in the event of any weather delays and competitors should take note of this when making their travel plans. The starting field size will be limited to a maximum of 72 players including 12 exempt amateurs, with all players playing off the same teeing ground and course set-up.
- There will be no 36-hole cut after the second round. Only the top 60 professionals and ties, who complete 72 holes, will be eligible for a share of the prize fund.
- Professionals who finish between 41st & 60th position will each be paid an equal gross sum of R1500.00 less the deduction fee, from the total prize fund of R500 000.

Pro-am Teams Competition

- The Pro-Am Teams competition will be played concurrently with the SASO on 22 & 23 October 2019 and details are in section 13 below.



3. **Conditions, Exemptions and Pre-Q for Entry into the Starting Draw**

- All professionals must check their exemption status on the SA Senior Tour Website and complete the tournament entry form.
- **All** amateurs who enter the SASO (72 holes) must complete the required entry form available from the Senior Tour (082 490 4027) and have a handicap of 2 or less.

Exemptions (maximum 54 players)

- All past S A Senior Open Champions who enter.
- Players who finished in the top 10 of the SASO 2018 who are not otherwise exempt.
- The leading amateur in the SASO over the last 2 years.
- 10 amateur players as nominated by the SAGA/Golf RSA and/or SAST event management.
- All players within the 2019 Exemption Criteria for SAST Members, attached herein (Categories 1-6) or extended beyond to other categories.
- A maximum of 42 senior professionals and 12 amateurs will be exempt. If amateur entries are less than 12, as of the closing date of entries, exemptions will be extended based on the SAST ranking and exemption list categories to total 54.

Pre-Qualification Requirement

- If the total number of entrants exceeds 72 players the entrants who are **not exempt**, to the main draw, will be required to play in a pre-qualification round to gain access.
- The Pre-Q venue will be at the Plettenberg Bay Golf Club on the morning of Friday, 18 October 2019. A minimum of 18 spots, will be available from the pre-qualification round to the main draw. In the event of a tie for the 18th spot, this will be decided by sudden death in extra holes. The Pre-Q will take place over 18 holes stroke play.
- Extra spots to the main draw may become available through withdrawals after 1 October 2019. These will be allocated to the next qualifying player on the SAST exemption list.

4. **Practice Day and Practice Facilities**

- The official practice day is Monday, 21 October 2019. Players must book practice tee times through the Club (044 533 2132).
- The Practice area is to the left of the 1st Tee (nets and wedges **only**) or at the driving range at top of the hill (+/- 2km away).



5. Registration

- All SASO senior professional competitors are required to register with the SA Senior Tour by **6.00pm on Sunday, 20 October 2019**. This may be done in person at the venue or by telephone/SMS/WhatsApp/Email to the Senior Tour Tournament Committee on 082 490 4027 (Pat Lowth) or email: td@saseniorsenior.co.za.
- Amateur Pro-Am registration: From 8:00am on Day 1 & Day 2 at PBCC.

6. Entry Fee, Withdrawals and Refunds

- The Entry Fee for all senior professionals and GolfRSA amateurs is R900.00. This must accompany a completed entry form with a copy of a proof of payment.
- **Entries close – 6:00pm, 1 October 2019.**
- Professionals must enter as per SAST Rules and Regulations.
- Withdrawals **before** 6:00pm on 1 October 2019; entry fees will be refunded.
- If a player is absent on the tee without notification, **No Refund** will be given and a fine may be imposed. The Tournament Committee will decide on refunds from withdrawals after the closing date for entries on medical and compassionate grounds only.
- **Once an entrant has teed off, refund of entry is not possible under any circumstances.**
- If a SASO entrant is late on the tee, when called upon to start, in the first round of the event, the player shall be disqualified, after 5 minutes has elapsed, and substituted by the next available alternate player on the reserve list of qualifiers.
- Alternate players from the qualifiers must register and/or withdraw as per this document and the Rules and Regulations of SAST.

7. Catering

- A “players’ lounge” area will afford competitors access to a light meal/snack before **or** after their round.
- A Grab & Go snack and soft drink will be available to all Pro-am players after 9 holes each round in rounds 1&2, **without causing undue delay**.
- Fruit and water will be freely available on the 1st and 10th tees throughout the event.



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8. Caddies, Motorised Carts, Trolleys

- There may be no or not enough caddies/carts available at the club during the event.
- Those competitors requiring a caddie should make their own arrangements or liaise with the entries department (082 490 4027) as soon as possible to ensure an allocation. (Latest 14 October 2019).
- Carts may be used by all competitors on Days 1 & 2 only.
- A **maximum** of two golf carts per tee time will be allowed. This will require players to share carts in their fourballs. It is the Players' responsibility to organise his own cart booking and usage.
- Only players and their caddies are permitted on golf carts at any time during the tournament on Days 1 & 2.
- **Carts are prohibited in rounds 3 & 4** and all competitors will be required to walk the course. Players may elect to walk and play using their own trolleys and/or caddies.
- There will be no motorised transport to ferry players from greens to tee areas.
- If the occasion arises whereby a player needs to go back to the tee to put another ball in play, this will be handled by the roving referees should there be one in the immediate vicinity.

9. SA Senior Tour Rules and Regulations/Additional Local Rules

- All SAST rules, terms and conditions apply. A full list of the event Rules and Regulations and the Additional Local Rules will be available on the venue notice boards, as well as from the starters on the 1st/10th tees respectively.
- **Competitors are specifically asked to note:**
 - a) One ball rule is applicable for all SASO competitors.
 - b) Prohibitions on practice putting for SASO competitors. (Hard Card)
 - c) Suspension of play for a dangerous situation requires an **immediate** stop for all players (one long blast of a horn/siren).
 - d) Pace of play – please refer to your SAST “Hard Card”.

10. SA Senior Tour/Golf RSA Staff/Tee-Time Draws

- There will be SA Senior Tour/GolfRSA staff represented on the Tournament Committee.



- Neil Homann is the designated Tournament Director and will also be responsible for all rules of golf officiating alongside other nominated persons.
- The draw for the first round will be made available on the website and at the Club notice board from 6:00pm, 19 October 2019. An SMS will be sent advising competitors of their starting times throughout the tournament.
- **The onus is on the player to double check his tee-time on the official notice board at the club.**
- **All event disputes of any nature will be handled by the TD and his decision will be final.**

11. Play Off and Completion of the Event

- In the event of a tie for first place for the SA Senior Open Championship, the players will be required to play in a sudden death playoff until a winner is established. (1st and 18th)
- Winners in the Amateur section will be decided by a count out;
 - 1) Best last round
 - 2) Best last 36 holes
 - 3) Best last 9 holes
 - 4) In another way by the TD if the above remains unsolved
- The SASO event will be considered closed by the TD when all scores are recorded and a winner has been established. A minimum of 36 holes is required to determine a winner of the SA Senior Open.
- In the event that a Pro-Am day is not completed, the TD will decide on further procedures and details after consultation with the event committee.

12. Prize Giving

- Prize giving for the SASO will take place as soon as possible after the completion of the event in the clubhouse or weather permitting on the 18th green.
- **There is compulsory attendance required by the professionals and/or amateurs placed 1st to 5th including the leading amateur in the Championship.**
- The player recording the lowest score for 72 holes or the player successful in the play-off will be named the SA Senior Open Champion Golfer for 2019.
- The professional prize fund will be displayed on the notice board at the club.



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- The low amateur golfer will be awarded a medal and a prize voucher.
- In the event of a tie(s) for the amateur prizes, count outs will be done by the TD in accordance with section 9 above.

13. Pro-Am Teams Event

- These will take place on 22 & 23 October 2019.
- It is expected that a maximum of 72 SASO exempt and pre-qualified professionals and amateurs will team up with a maximum of 72 amateurs in teams of 2 and play in 4-balls. (144 Players Maximum)
- Amateur entry fee: R550 per day/round that includes the Mayoral Day on the 22 October.
- The team competition is Better-Ball Stroke Play, where the SASO competitors play off a scratch handicap and their amateur partners (male or female) off their official club handicaps. A Better-Ball Stroke Play score is recorded on each hole. Ladies may play from the forward tees as per the golf course design and their scorecard stroking.
- The competitors may have the same or different partners on the respective days of the competition.
- The SASO competitors must record their gross score on each hole.
- Prize Giving: Amateur and Professional prizes to 5th place, plus closest to the pin on all short holes and longest drive on the 4th hole each day for amateurs only. Combined prizes for both days will also be awarded.
- Cocktail Party for all Pro-Am participants on 22 October 2019 at the Beacon Isle facility from 7:00pm. **Dress code:** Smart Casual.
- Dinner at Ghillies Restaurant on 23 October for all Pro-am participants from (7:00pm). **Dress code:** Smart Casual.
- Caddies, carts and halfway house costs are for the participants account.
- There will be a donation made to EWT through a sponsor for birdies, eagles and perhaps an albatross by way of good play from the senior professional competitors in the whole event. TBC
- All amateur players in the Pro-Am days will receive a gift bag.



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13. Application for Entry into SA Senior Open Championship

- The SAST event committee reserves the right not to accept an entry without giving reason for the action. It may also alter content in this document if necessary.

14. Mayoral Golf Day Pro-Am-Date 22 October 2019 (see section 13 above)

Venue:

Plettenberg Bay Golf Club

- 72 amateurs maximum will play with 72 senior professional golfers in a pro-am format of 2 amateurs and 2 professionals per 4-ball-day 1 of SASO.
- Prize Giving and the SA Senior Open welcoming party will be held at the Beacon Isle Facility from 7:00pm.

The management and staff of SAST hope you all have a wonderful and enjoyable experience and thank you for your participation.