

QUALIFYING SCHOOL 2018

(Including exempt Player Information)

FIRST STAGE (36 HOLES)

Wednesday 28th March – Thursday 29th March

Official Practice Day: Tuesday 27th March

<p>Caversham Heath Golf Club Mapledurham Reading Berkshire RG4 7UT Tel: +44 (0) 1189 478 600 Web: www.cavershamgolf.co.uk</p> <p>Nearest Airport: London Heathrow (34 miles)</p>	<p>Formby Hall Golf Resort Southport Old Road Formby Southport L37 0AB Tel: +44 (0) 1704 875 699 Web: www.formbyhallgolfresort.co.uk</p> <p>Nearest Airport: Liverpool (25 miles)</p>	<p>Haggs Castle Golf Club 70 Dumbreck Road Glasgow Scotland G41 4SN Tel: +44 (0) 141 427 3355 Web: www.haggscastlegolfclub.com</p> <p>Nearest Airport: Glasgow (7 miles)</p>
<p>Mannings Heath Golf Club Hammerpond Road Horsham West Sussex RH13 6PG Tel: +44 (0) 1403 210 228 Web: www.manningsheath.com</p> <p>Nearest Airport: London Gatwick (13 miles)</p>	<p>Moor Allerton Golf Club Coal Road Leeds LS17 9NH Tel: +44 (0) 113 266 1154 Web: www.moorallertongolfclub.co.uk</p> <p>Nearest Airport: Leeds Bradford (10 miles)</p>	<p>The Players Club (Codrington) Codrington Chipping Sodbury Bristol BS37 6RZ Tel: +44 (0) 1454 313 029 Web: www.theplayersgolfclub.com</p> <p>Nearest Airport: Bristol (32 miles)</p>

FINAL STAGE (54 HOLES)

Wednesday 4th April - Friday 6th April

Official Practice Days: Monday 2nd April & Tuesday 3rd April

<p>Frilford Heath Golf Club (Red and Blue) Frilford Heath Abingdon Oxfordshire OX13 5NW Tel: +44 (0) 1865 390 864 Web: www.frilfordheath.co.uk</p> <p>Nearest Airports: London Heathrow (61 miles), Birmingham (72 miles) Bristol (74 miles), London Luton (75 miles)</p>

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

1. Conditions of Play

Qualifying School Stage 1

- (i) Players **not** exempt for Qualifying School Final Stage under the categories listed in section 3 will be required to play at a Stage 1 venue.
- (ii) Entrants will be allocated to their preferred venue on a first come first serve basis.
- (iii) In the event of a venue being oversubscribed, priority of course nomination will be determined by the payment date of the entry fee via on-line entries.
- (iv) Stage 1 will be contested over 36 holes of stroke play with 18 holes being played each day.
- (v) Each venue (listed above) will have a maximum entry of 84 players.
- (vi) The primary objective is to balance the number of entries at each venue. Therefore, in the event that in excess of 504 entries for Stage 1 are received, the PGA EuroPro Tour will increase the field size of one or more venues in order to accommodate the additional entries. Venue allocation for these entries is pre-determined and will not be subject to change.
- (vii) There will be no cut.
- (viii) The exact number of players qualifying to proceed to the Qualifying School Final Stage will be announced after all competitors have **teed off** at all six venues, i.e. the afternoon of **Wednesday 28th March 2018**. They will be divided between the qualifying rounds and will be calculated as a percentage of total entries. Provisional numbers will be announced after the close of entries.
- (ix) At each Stage 1 venue, in the event of a tie for the last qualifying place, a 'hole-by-hole' play-off will be held until the exact number of qualifiers is achieved. Alternates at each venue will be decided by card count back over the last 18, 9, 6, 3, 1 holes and, if still tied, Matchplay from the first hole. Results achieved in the play-off for the final qualifying place will supersede the card count back.
- (x) Play shall be in accordance with the PGA EuroPro Tour Regulations, Rules of Golf of R&A Rules Ltd, PGA EuroPro Tour Local Rules and Conditions of Competition and the local rules for each venue, as approved by the respective Tournament Director.

Qualifying School Final Stage

- (i) Players exempt from Stage 1 of the PGA EuroPro Tour Qualifying School for 2018 may enter the Final Stage in order to improve their ranking, with the exception of players eligible for Category 1 and 2 who will not be permitted to enter.
- (ii) The Qualifying School Final will be contested over 54 holes of stroke play with 18 holes being played each day.
- (iii) Qualifying School Final Stage will have an entry of 240 players competing over both the Red and Blue courses at Frilford Heath Golf Club.
- (iv) The field will play one round on each of the first two days, alternating between Red and Blue courses, after which the leading 80 competitors (and those who tie for 80th place) will go forward to the third and final round over the Blue course.
- (v) Play shall be in accordance with the PGA EuroPro Tour Regulations, Rules of Golf of R&A Rules Ltd, PGA EuroPro Tour Local Rules and Conditions of Competition and the local rules for each course, as approved by the respective Tournament Director.
- (vi) In the event of a tie for first place there will be no play-off and the title and all prize money will be shared.



By entering any stage of the Qualifying School, all Professional entrants will automatically become Members of the PGA EuroPro Tour for 2018 and thus be able to enter all events on the schedule. Entry into the final field of these events will be based on categories and rankings.

Amateurs who enter Qualifying School and retain their Amateur Status during the event must inform the PGA EuroPro Tour at the conclusion of Qualifying School whether they wish to take up their respective category and become a Professional or retain their Amateur Status and automatically become a Ranked Amateur. A Ranked Amateur can earn points through his finishing positions in Regular PGA EuroPro Tour Tournaments and will allow him to access exemption categories for the following season via his position in the Final Points Order of Merit. Ranked Amateurs are not eligible to qualify for the Tour Championship nor are they eligible for the Challenge Tour places. For more information please see section 4.5 in the PGA EuroPro Tour Regulations.

2. **Eligibility for Entry**

The PGA EuroPro Tour Qualifying School is open to the following entrants:

- (i) All Professional golfers.
- (ii) All amateur golfers with a competition handicap of two (2) or better as recognised by CONGU or their respective Federation Handicapping Scheme. A handicap certificate must be sent to entries@pga.org.uk or a CDH number supplied on the online entry form before the entry can be approved.

Exception: Players eligible for an exemption category on the 2018 PGA EuroPro Tour other than categories 1 and 2 are permitted to enter the Final Stage of Qualifying School.

Note 1: The PGA EuroPro Tour reserves the right to ask for playing records of those entrants with no professional history.

Note 2: Those applicants under the age of 18 during Qualifying School will be required to provide the PGA with details of a named chaperone who is over the age of 18 and who must accompany the applicant at all times whilst on site at the tournament venue. The PGA will also require a signed parental consent form.

Note 3: Amateur Status

It is not a breach of the Rules of Amateur Status, as approved by R&A Rules Ltd, for an amateur golfer to file an entry for and play in any stage of the PGA EuroPro Tour Qualifying School provided that, in advance of play, and in writing, he waives his right to any prize money in the competition by filling out the relevant form available from the tournament office at any of the venues.

An amateur golfer who fails to waive his right to prize money is in breach of the Rules of Amateur Status. He may apply for reinstatement as an amateur through the R&A.



3. **Exemptions**

The following are exempt from Stage 1 of the PGA EuroPro Tour Qualifying School:

- (a) Players 81-130 from the PGA EuroPro Tour Order of Merit 2017.
- (b) Tournament Winners from the PGA EuroPro Tour between 2011 and 2015.
- (c) Players 2-10 from the seven PGA Regional Orders of Merit 2017.
- (d) Players 1-10 from the PGA Welsh Ranking List 2017.
- (e) Players 2-10 from the PGA English Ranking List 2017.
- (f) Players 1-50 from the World Amateur Golf Ranking (on Wednesday 14th March 2018).
- (g) Members of the 2017 Walker Cup Teams.
- (h) Members of the 2016 Junior Ryder Cup Teams.

Note: Players wishing to gain an exemption from Stage 1 and play at the Final Stage must enter by the closing date.

4. **Entry Fees**

All parts of the membership and entry process must be done on-line via www.EuroProTour.com. If you have been a previous Member, you should log-in with your current details. If you have forgotten these details click the 'forgotten password' link. New users should setup an account by selecting a Qualifying School venue to compete at.

When applying to enter the PGA EuroPro Tour 2018, entrants are reminded that their entry will not be accepted until payment has been received and banked. The entry fees are:

- Exempt Member Fee **£250.00**
(Exempt Members eligible for categories 1, 2, 7, 9 and 11)
- Non Exempt Member Fee **£445.00**
(This includes the entry into all stages of Qualifying School)

Note: The Membership is subject to an additional administration fee of £7.50. Furthermore, there are credit/debit card surcharges applicable to all PGA EuroPro Tournaments.

Payment may only be made by credit card or debit card. We do not accept AMEX.

If you need more information on how to pay please contact the Tournament Department on +44 (0) 1675 468380 or email entries@pga.org.uk.

Applicants will be emailed a confirmation of entry once their correctly submitted application has been processed and payment banked. Further to this confirmation it is the applicants' responsibility to verify his entry status in the Qualifying School. This can be monitored on the website of www.EuroProTour.com.

5. **Opening and Closing Date for Entries**

Entries open on Monday 8th January 2018.

The closing date for all entries to PGA EuroPro Tour Qualifying School is **Wednesday 14th March 2018 at 3pm.**



Fully exempt players eligible for categories 1, 2, 7, 9 and 11 may join the Tour, and therefore receive their Membership Category prior to the closing date of the first regular tournament they wish to enter.

6. Withdrawal Policy

As soon as an application to the PGA EuroPro Tour is received and payment cleared, that person will be a Member of the Tour for 2018 unless an official withdrawal is made as follows:

- (i) If a player withdraws prior to the closing date he will be refunded in full for both his Membership fee and Qualifying School entry.
- (ii) If a player withdraws after the closing date, regardless of reason and without exception, he will be refunded his Membership fee and £100 of his Qualifying School entry fee.
- (iii) If a player is absent on their starting tee without notification of withdrawal, no refund will be given of either fee, however no additional fines under the PGA EuroPro Tour General Members Regulations will be imposed.
- (iv) PGA EuroPro Tour regulations apply for anyone withdrawing during any round of the PGA EuroPro Tour Qualifying School.

Note: Any player who pre-qualifies for the Qualifying School Final Stage and subsequently withdraws before the first round will not be refunded any of their Membership or entry fees. These players will be placed at the end of Category 14 and ranked based on their scores from Stage One.

7. Calculation of Rankings **Final Stage Qualifying School** **Category 3, 6 & 10**

After 54 holes all players making the cut will be ranked in categories according to score (See category list enclosed). All tied scores will be ranked by card play-off over the best last 18, 9, 6, 3 and 1 holes (in scorecard order) and if still tied, by Matchplay from hole 1 of their final round.

Category 12 & 14

After 36 holes all players missing the cut will be ranked in categories according to score (See category list enclosed). All tied positions will be split using card count back using scores achieved on the Red Course (from Round 1 or 2) over the last 18, 9, 6, 3 and 1 holes and if still tied Matchplay from hole 1.

Stage 1 Qualifying School **Category 15**

Every player that does not progress from Stage 1 will be ranked in Category 15. As there are six Stage 1 venues all players will be ranked according to the differential between their score and the qualifying score at their venue i.e. all those missing out by one stroke at each venue will be ranked ahead of those missing out by two strokes and so on. Rankings will be allocated sequentially across the six venues, the order being announced after all competitors have **teed off** at all six venues, i.e. the afternoon of **Wednesday 28th March**.



All tied positions will be split using card count back over the last 18, 9, 6, 3 and 1 holes and if still tied Matchplay from the 1st hole of the final round scorecard. Any results achieved in play-offs for the last qualifying place will supersede the card play-off.

**8. Play Foreshortened or Cancelled
Stage One Qualifying School**

- The prime objective will be to complete 36 holes by the end of the second days play.
- If it is not possible to complete play on the final day the Tournament shall be decided on the scores achieved in completed rounds.
- In the event that 36 holes are deemed to be unobtainable in the time available, then the completion of 18 holes will be the prime objective.
- Friday 30th March is not held in reserve for any venue.
- In exceptional circumstances in the event 18 holes is unobtainable in the time remaining the Committee may vary the above conditions in order to achieve the most equitable result.

Qualifying School Final Stage

- The prime objective will be to complete 54 holes.
- If it is not possible to complete play on the final day the tournament shall be decided on the scores recorded in completed rounds.
- In the event that 54 holes are deemed to be unobtainable in the time available, then the completion of 36 holes will be the prime objective.
- Saturday 7th April is not held in reserve.
- In exceptional circumstances or in the event that 36 holes is unobtainable in the time available the Committee may vary the above conditions in order to achieve the most equitable result.

9. Regulations

All members must abide by the provisions of the current PGA EuroPro Tour General Regulations. This publication is available from www.EuroProTour.com, PGA EuroPro Tour Headquarters or at any Qualifying School venue. Membership begins once an application to the Tour has been approved by the Tournament Department.

**10. Qualifying School Prizefunds
Stage 1 (£1,000 at all 6 venues)**

1. £300
2. £250
3. £200
4. £150
5. £100

Final Stage (£16,000)

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|-----------|-----------|----------|
| 1. £2,400 | 6. £1,120 | 11. £640 |
| 2. £2,000 | 7. £960 | 12. £600 |
| 3. £1,600 | 8. £880 | 13. £560 |
| 4. £1,440 | 9. £800 | 14. £520 |
| 5. £1,280 | 10. £720 | 15. £480 |



Non - UK tax payers (including the Irish Republic) may be subject to withholding tax on prize money won above the UK personal tax allowance threshold (Income tax year 2018/19 £11,850, subject to change each income tax year thereafter). All prize money is subject to 5% PGA EuroPro Tour levy.

THE PGA EUROPRO TOUR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO AMEND THESE CONDITIONS AT ANY TIME



PGA EuroPro Tour Qualifying School 2018 **Pace of Play Guidelines**

The objective of The PGA EuroPro Tour Pace of Play policy is to achieve a consistent pace of play for all players in the field regardless of starting time. This document should serve as a guide for players and officials on the subject of administering pace of play.

Subject to the provisions of the PGA EuroPro Local Rules and Conditions of Competition 2018 (Hard Card), each Tournament round will be given a maximum time allowed, for all 18 individual holes, and therefore the round as a whole.

Current guidelines for holes are as follows:

	Par 3	Par 4	Par 5
3 ball groups	11 minutes	14 minutes	17 minutes
2 ball groups	9 minutes	12 minutes	14 minutes

Based on these guidelines, a three ball group for a par 72 course would take 4 hours 12 minutes and a two ball group would take approximately 3 hours 32 minutes.

Additional time will be added to holes which are particularly difficult or are likely to cause delay for some other reason. Furthermore, time for walks between green and tee will also be added. Therefore, every course will be assessed individually.

At each event the Tournament Director will prepare a time allowed chart. It will be published to all players on the official notice board. Copies should also be published on the reverse side of the pin position chart (available on the first tee) and at the Tournament Office. This chart will list individual times allowed for each hole and the round. A player specific pace of play chart may also be included on the player's individual scorecard where possible.

1. 'Out Of Position'

If the first group, including any group behind a starter's gap, exceeds the time allowed, they will be considered 'Out of Position'. Each subsequent group must remain within a starting interval behind the group ahead to avoid being 'Out of Position'.

2. Monitoring & Timing

At all events administered by the PGA EuroPro Tour, there will be 2 types of Pace of Play timing, "Monitoring" and "Timing" Both will be performed by referees with stopwatches.

"Monitoring" by referees will take place as soon as a group has been seen to be 'out of position' and over the timing schedule for whatever reason and "Individual Timings" (see section 3 below) will be taken. Players will be notified that they are to be "Monitored" and the "Monitoring" will be recorded on a player's Pace of Play record.

- Any player exceeding the time permitted for a stroke (40 seconds with additional 10 seconds if first to play) while being "Monitored" will be assessed a "Monitoring Penalty" and will be moved to individual "Timing"



- If a "Monitored" group loses further time, the group or those players within the group who are deemed to be the cause of the delay will be "Timed".
- If a "Monitored" group fails to gain time, the official will decide whether to continue "Monitoring" or alternatively, commence "Timing". All players will be so informed.
- A "Monitoring Penalty" will have the same status as a "Bad Time" except it will not count towards any golfing penalty. A player having either two "Monitoring Penalties" or "Bad Times" or a combination of both during a round, will be fined £50 rising by £50 for each successive "Monitoring Penalty" or "Bad Time".

Additionally, any player who is seen to have taken twice the Time Permitted for a stroke (i.e. 80 seconds or 100 seconds if first to play), will be assessed a "Monitoring Penalty" whether the player's group was in position or not.

A group who is found to be substantially out of position might not be "Monitored" but may be "Timed" as an alternative.

"Timed" or "Timing"

As above, "Individual Timings" will be taken. However, golfing penalties will also apply (see PGA EuroPro Tour Hard Card)

3. Individual Timings

Individual timings will be taken by the Official for all players in the group. The way in which timings are taken (when the watch starts) is based on the following guidelines:

- Tee shots

Players will be given sufficient time to reach the teeing ground, the first player in the group to tee his ball, and a count of three thereafter before the stopwatch starts.

- Approach Shots

The player whose turn it is to play will be given sufficient time to reach his ball and a count of three seconds thereafter, before the stopwatch starts. Should a player be distracted by his fellow competitors, caddies, or an outside agency during the preparation for his stroke, the stopwatch will be stopped and will not restart until the player has reached the point in his preparations at which he was previously distracted. Weather conditions such as wind and rain would not be regarded as an allowable distraction and the stopwatch will continue, even if club selection changes.

- Putting Green

Timings will commence after the player whose turn it is to play has had the chance to replace his ball, all other balls have been marked (unless they are not going to be marked), the player has been given sufficient time to reach a position to start assessing his putt and a count of three seconds thereafter before the stopwatch starts. However, on a putt of 2 meters or less, the timing will start as soon as the player stands up having replaced (or having had sufficient time to replace) his ball and a count of three seconds thereafter.

- Sufficient time means the time taken to walk at normal pace to either the teeing ground or ball in play. For example, if a player walks quickly to his ball (within the bounds of normal etiquette), he may be entitled to more preparation time for the stroke whereas a player who walks slowly to his ball may have less time as the stopwatch has already started! On the putting green the time taken to repair ball marks or to remove loose impediments does not count in the timing of a stroke.

The maximum time allowed per stroke is 40 seconds. 10 extra seconds are allowed for the first player in the group to play:

- A Par 3 tee shot;
- An approach shot; and
- A chip and/or putt.

Except on the putting green, the official should advise the player as soon as practicable that he has a 'Monitoring Penalty' or 'Bad Time'. A player will not be penalized for a second bad time before being informed of his first.

Please be aware that in exceptional circumstances, a Rules Official may time individual player(s) in a group should it be unnecessary to time the group as a whole. Timing of individual players may be implemented when the official considers that one or more individuals in the group are preventing the group as a whole to improve their pace of play or regain their position with the group in front. Should this policy be implemented by the official, players in the group will be advised who is/is not being timed. The same timing process as listed above still applies to an individual player(s) in a group.

4. Examples:

Group	Time allowed through hole 4	Time taken through hole 4 (to schedule)	Out of Position?	Monitored?	Time to schedule after hole 5	Timed?
1	57 mins	53 mins (-4)	No	No	-5 mins	No
2	57 mins	56 mins (-1)	Yes (3mins)	No	-2 mins	No
3	57 mins	56 mins (-1)	No	No	-1 mins	No
4	57 mins	58 mins (+1)	Yes (2 min)	Yes	0 mins	No
5	57 mins	60 mins (+3)	Yes (2 min)	Yes	+4 mins	Yes
6	57 mins	60 mins (+3)	No	No	+4 mins	No

- Group 1 is the first group. They are under the time allowed.
- Group 2 is 3 minutes 'Out of Position' because they have taken 3 minutes more than group 1 to play through 4 holes. However, their total round time has not exceeded the Time Allowed and therefore they are not liable to be monitored or timed.
- Group 3 is 'In Position' since they have taken the same amount of time as Group 2 to play 4 holes, or in other words have maintained the starter's interval behind the group in front.



- Group 4 is 'Out of Position' since they have taken 2 minutes more than Group 3 to play through 4 holes. The players in this group are expected to be aware of this fact by reference to the time and the time allowed chart, and by visual reference to the group ahead. Because this two minutes puts them over the time allowed they are liable to be "Monitored".
- Group 5 is a further 2 minutes 'Out of Position' from Group 4 and a total of 3 minutes over the time allowed. "Monitoring" will commence immediately. At this time Group 6 will be informed that Group 5 is being "Monitored" and told that they must remain in position. If Group 5 fails to gain time then they are likely to be "Timed"
- Group 6 is over the time allowed but due to the slow play of Group 5 it is impossible for them to play any faster. They are therefore 'In Position' and are not liable to be monitored or timed. Group 6 will be expected to maintain their position with Group 5 by speeding up themselves. Should this not happen, Group 6 will subsequently be liable to be Monitored even though they may have been 'held up' by Group 5 for the first 4 holes.

5. Things the player can do to help

- Be aware of your position with regard to the group in front;
- If you are in Match 1 check your position against the timing schedule regularly
- If you feel that your group is falling behind, advise your fellow-competitors;
- If your group is behind, try and catch up quickly;
- Do not wait until it is your turn to play before putting on your glove;
- Do not wait until it is your turn to play before calculating your yardage;
- Do not wait until it is your turn to play before assessing wind direction;
- Look at your own line of putt while your fellow-competitors look at theirs (within the bounds of normal etiquette);
- Do not concern yourself with the group behind – they are the Officials responsibility.
- In stroke play if it is safe to do so and within the bounds of normal etiquette it is ok to play out of turn.

Most importantly ***BE READY TO PLAY WHEN IT IS YOUR TURN TO PLAY.***

Ben Groutage
Head of Tournaments
January 2018