

OPEN MASTERS GAMES

ABU DHABI 2026

GOLF



Final Version

Updated: January 30, 2026

**UNITED BY SPORTS,
ACTIVE FOR LIFE**



1. General Information

1.1. Governance

The Competition shall be played in accordance with the Rules of Golf as approved by R&A Rules Limited and the Local Rules as approved by the Open Masters Games Abu Dhabi (OMGAD) Committee. The Competition Committee's decision on matters affecting the Competition shall be final aside from all Rules of Golf matters, in which case the Rules of Golf will apply.

The Committee reserves the right to amend these Terms of Competition at any time before or during the Competition and/or cancel the Competition before or during play. The decision of the Committee is final in all matters.

1.2. Eligibility

The Competition shall be open to Ladies and Men who have Amateur Status in accordance with the current Amateur Status Rules of R&A Rules Limited.

All golfers are required to provide a valid WHS Handicap Index by emailing their handicap certificate to sports@omgad2026.ae, as this is used to determine results for the Stableford competition. Details of club membership (where in place) will also assist with the validation of handicaps (where required).

In line with the sport-specific rules, an athlete must compete in their designated age group, with their age determined as of 31 December 2026. For example, if you are 39 years old during the Games time but turn 40 by 31 December 2026, you would compete in the 40-44 age category.

Health Declaration

Athletes should carefully evaluate whether their physical condition is suitable for participating in the competition. If they suffer from cardiovascular or other diseases that make them not suitable to engage strenuous exercise, seeking doctor's advice is recommended to evaluate whether they can safely participate in OMGAD events.

Health Insurance

- All participants **MUST** have a medical insurance policy while in the U.A.E.
- Residents and citizens must ensure their respective health insurance policy covers sports injuries.

The Ziyarah Plan, provided by Daman, is a health insurance policy specifically created for the Open Masters Games. You can purchase this plan using the link below

<https://www.damanhealth.ae/products/inbound-emergency-medical-travel-insurance-ziyarah-open-masters/>

Ziyarah Plan (Open Masters Games)

Ensuring your peace of mind for the upcoming event

Coverage Period: 15 days

Scope of Coverage:

- Up to AED 250,000, comprehensive coverage for medical emergencies and sports-related injuries incurred during the event period.
- Direct billing at network providers.
- Consultations through Pura App (Maximum up to 3 consultations).

Eligibility Requirements:

- Registered players and their accompanying family members.
- Health insurance plan to be purchased before participants travel to UAE.

Premium details:

- Up to 60 years: AED 86 (VAT extra)
- 61 years & above: AED 215 (VAT extra)

Important Note for Residents and UAE Nationals

UAE residents (Expats) & UAE nationals will need to ensure their respective health insurance plans cover sports injuries, as they will not be eligible for this plan

damaninsurance.ae

Accreditation

All participants must have approved accreditation to access the fields of play and to compete. This accreditation can be collected for the Uniform Distribution and Accreditation Centre (U.D.A.C) located in Zayed Sports City.

Team captains, coaches/managers and assistant managers **cannot** collect accreditation on behalf of teammates. Each participant must personally present themselves and their ID at the point of collection. It is at this point that participants will also receive their welcome kit.

The operating dates and hours of the UDAC will be announced in due course. Please subscribe to the OMGAD newsletter and/or download our app for the latest push updates.



1.3. Dates

Date	February 9 Monday	February 10 Tuesday	February 11 Wednesday	February 12 Thursday
Qualifying				
Finals				

1.4. Venues

Al Ain Equestrian, Golf and Shooting Club

18-hole golf course located in the birthplace of the U.A.E.

Yas Acres

Abu Dhabi's newest fully-lit 9-hole golf course. It was voted the World's Best 9 Hole Golf Course for 2024 at the World Golf Awards

Abu Dhabi Golf Club

18-hole course that hosted the H.S.B.C Championship from 2006 to 2021. Past winners at this course include Martin Kaymer, Tommy Fleetwood and Shane Lowry.

Yas Links – For finals only

18-hole, par 72 championship course. Yas Links was voted in the Top 100 Golf Courses in the world in 2025.

2. Competition Information

2.1. Disciplines, Events & Grading

Category	
Gender	Age
Male	35+, 45+, 55+, 65+, 75+
Female	
*Para golfers will compete in their age group with non-para golfers	

2.2. Format

Stableford tournament over four rounds of 18 holes. A **cut** will be made after 54 holes to reduce the field to a total of **100 players** (ties not included). Players are ranked within their age categories. The number of qualifying places for each category will be determined after the close of entries in proportion to the number of players who started in each category. If a category has fewer starters than its allocation, unused places will be reallocated to the remaining categories by largest remainder. Within each category qualifiers are determined by 54-hole Stableford points. Ties for the last qualifying place in a category will be decided by countback based on the Stableford point from the third-round scorecard in the following order: last 18 holes,



last 9 holes, last 6 holes, last 3 holes and finally last hole. If the tie is still undecided, it shall be decided by lot.

The allocation calculation will be published on the tournament notice board prior to the third round.

All age groups will rotate courses each day. That means that all participants will play one round at Yas Acres Golf and Country Club, one round at Abu Dhabi Golf Club and one round at Al Ain Equestrian, Golf and Shooting Club. Only the top 100 after 54 holes will proceed to play at Yas Links on the final day.

2.3. Entries

- The closing date for registration is January 15th, 2026.

2.4. Times

Al Ain and Abu Dhabi Golf Course tee time starts, 8.00am to 2.30pm.

Due to Yas Acres being a 9-hole course there will be three shotgun starts. 7am, 12pm and 5pm.

The final at Yas Links will start at 12.30pm shotgun.

2.5. Schedule

[The detailed schedule of the golf tournament can be found here.](#)

2.6. Practice

It is the responsibility of the golfers to book their own practice rounds through the club for practice.

3. Rules

- The Competition shall be played in accordance with the Rules of Golf as approved by R&A Rules Limited and the Local Rules as approved by the OMGAD Committee. The Competition Committee's decision on matters affecting the Competition shall be final aside from all Rules of Golf matters, in which case the Rules of Golf will apply.
- The Modified Rules for Players with Disabilities are in effect. To allow the OMGAD time to consider an application, a golfer who wishes to play under the Modified Rules should inform the OMGAD in advance of the Competition, to advise of their wish to use the Modified Rules.

- Players can use GPS and distance measuring equipment; however, devices that can measure wind speed and gradient must be turned off.
- In the event of bad weather or force majeure, the organiser reserves the right to change the competition schedule, format or delay or cancel.
- The organiser reserves the right to adjust age groups or ability grades according to the number of athletes entered to arrange a suitable competition schedule.
- The organiser reserves the rights to amend the conditions of play at any time of the tournament and has the final say with any rules as the governing body of golf in the United Arab Emirates.

3.1. Pace Of Play

Each round of golf should not surpass 4 hours and 22 minutes.

4. Technical Details

4.1. Technical Delegate

A technical delegate endorsed by the Emirates Golf Federation will be announced in the final version of the guide. The Technical delegate will oversee the implementation of all sport's specific rules and requirements at the Games.

4.2. Other Technical Details

Suspension of play: Suspension and resumption of play will be communicated to all players using audible and/or visual signals. Specific methods and patterns will be confirmed before the start of each round.

Transportation: During the round, the use of electric golf carts is required. Golf carts will be provided.

Close of competition: The competition is deemed to have closed when the gold, silver and bronze medals have been awarded to the winning golfers at the presentation.

Caddies: Caddies will NOT be permitted on course throughout the competition.

Indemnity and Liability: The OMGAD Committee, the Golf Clubs, and their staff will not be responsible for any loss, damage, harm, or any form of injuries that the participants may suffer because they participate in this tournament.

4.3. Competition Management

#	Name	Position	Email
1.	Kieren Pratt	Competition Manager	golf@omgad2026.ae
2.	Tarek Souei	Para Sports Technical Delegate	Tarek.souei@gmail.com
3.	Salah Riahi	Para Sports Manager	parasports@omgad2026.ae

5. Equipment & Uniform

5.1. Equipment

All golfers are required to provide their own golf equipment, including golf clubs and golf balls.

The competition venue has a professional (pro) shop which will be open during the Games. The pro shop has a range of products available for purchase, to assist with repairs and may also have a range of items available for hire.

It is recommended that each golfer provides their own golf clubs for the duration of the Games, however, limited rental sets may be available from the competition course. Golfers should also note that the quality of hire equipment cannot be guaranteed.

5.2. Uniform

All competitors are required to observe golf club dress code/golf attire and the Rules and Regulations of the Club.

Golf Shorts and skorts are permitted on the golf course.

Golfers should respect the local customs of the U.A.E when in the surrounding facilities of the course.

6. Awarding

6.1. Medals

The top 3 athletes will be awarded the gold medal, silver medal and bronze medal respectively.

6.2. Ceremonies

- In OMGAD2026, athletes are individuals and represent themselves. National flags and anthems will not be included in medal ceremonies.
- The medal ceremony will be held after the final round.
- The medal ceremony will be conducted in Arabic and English.

7. Behaviour

The OMGAD committee requires players to conduct themselves in a manner that is respectful of the Competition and the sport of golf. Players shall always act in the best interests of the sport and the Competition and shall not conduct themselves unlawfully or improperly to bring the Competition into disrepute. Golfers shall not use any one of or a combination of violent conduct, threatening, abusive, indecent or insulting words or behavior. Players shall comply with any Code of Conduct set by the Committee. If a competitor acts contrary to the spirit of the game, or is considered serious misconduct, they may be disqualified.

8. Protests and Appeals

8.1. Protests

- Competition-related disputes and protests shall be handled in accordance with the Rules and applicable regulations of the relevant international governing body. If no such procedures are in place, the competitor must inform the EGF staff member present on site. This must be done immediately or, if necessary, at the conclusion of play. Once the competitor leaves the designated scoring area, the Tournament Committee will consider the matter closed. The final decision in all cases rests with the Tournament Committee.
- No protest can be lodged by any team members or staff against a judging (scoring) decision during the competition period.

8.2. Appeals

- Based on the principle of trust, the Organiser will not take the initiative to review the grade of athletes upon registration. Matters regarding athlete qualifications and grades should be submitted to the Organiser with relevant supporting materials before the Games or when the fact occurs. The complaint will be



handled in accordance with the rules and relevant regulations of international sports federations and relevant regulations.

- Applications that are not submitted within the stipulated time or with incomplete materials will not be accepted.

9. Doping Control

9.1. Regulations

- Doping Control should be conducted in accordance with WADA World Anti-Doping Code (<https://www.wada-ama.org/en>) and International Masters Games Association (IMGA) Anti-Doping Rules (<https://imga.ch/masterssports/anti-doping>).
- Participants are deemed to have agreed to be subject to doping control procedures in accordance with the International Masters Games Association Anti-Doping Rules upon entry to the competition. Participants must obey antidoping rules and conduct themselves in a considerate manner.