

**HONG KONG OPEN AMATEUR
& MID-AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIPS 2016**

THE CLEARWATER BAY GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

18 – 21 OCTOBER 2016

**Closing date for Entries
Friday 23 September 2016**

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Conditions

- 1) The Hong Kong Open Amateur and Mid Amateur Championships 2016 will be decided by stroke play over four rounds, which will be played in accordance with the Rules of Golf as approved by the Royal & Ancient Rules Limited and with the Local Rules approved by the Tournament Committee.
- 2) Competitors will play one round on the 18, 19 and 20 October 2016. The 40 lowest scores over these 54 holes and any tying for the 40th place will qualify for the final 18 holes on 21 October 2016.

Please note that a cut will be made after round 1, and any player scoring more than 86 or more than 11 shots over the leading score, whichever is the higher, will be eliminated from the championships.

- 3) In the event of a tie for first place in both the Hong Kong Open Amateur Championship and the Hong Kong Open Mid-Amateur Championship, the winner will be decided by a hole by hole play off to take place immediately. The play off holes will be decided by the Tournament Director.
- 4) All other ties will be decided by a count-back. The winner will be the player having the lowest gross score over the last 18 holes (then the last 9, last 6, last 3, and last hole; then by holes 1-9, 4-9, 7-9 and hole 9). If a tie still arises, the scores of the preceding round will be applied in the same way. If a winner is still not determined after the score of the first round is applied, the result will be decided by the toss of a coin.
- 5) The specimen conditions in the Rules of Golf effective 2016 as regards Conforming Driver Heads (see pages 154) and Conforming Golf Balls (see page 155) are in effect
- 6) Any driver the player carries must have a clubhead, identified by model and loft, that is named on the current List of Conforming Driver Heads issued by the R&A.

It is the responsibility of all players to ensure that their driver is listed on the R&A list of Conforming Driver heads.

The Tournament Committee reserves the right to inspect any driver at any time during the tournament.

Penalty for making a stroke with club in breach of condition: Disqualification

For details, please visit R&A website at www.randa.org

- 7) Players in the Championship Division may not ride on a motorized cart and MUST WALK at all times except when transportation has been authorized by the Tournament Committee or a designated Rules Official. Please refer to the Rules of Golf Effective 2016 page 159.

Penalty for Breach of Condition: Disqualification.

- 8) Players entering only the Mid Amateur Divisions are permitted to ride on golf carts.
 - a) The use of trolleys or motorized golf carts will be permitted but is not mandatory. Competitors in the Open Mid Amateur Division who use a golf cart will be charged HK\$130 per golf cart. No more than two

carts per playing group are allowed except when a shuttle is provided by the Committee or otherwise authorized by a Rules Official (see page 159 of the Rules of Golf Effective 2016).

- b) Caddies must walk at all times during a stipulated round unless permitted to ride by the Tournament Committee or a referee.
 - c) Caddies wearing jeans or sandals will not be allowed on the course.
 - d) Caddies may not wear spiked (whether soft or hard) golf shoes; a caddie in breach of this condition will not be allowed on to the putting greens.
Repeated offence may result in the *disqualification* of the player
- 9) A player may bring his own caddie provided he or she is not a professional golfer. Players and caddies may use a pull or battery operated trolley.

Penalty for Breach of Condition: Disqualification.

- 10) During a stipulated round, the use of a mobile phone is regarded as a serious breach of etiquette for which a penalty of disqualification may be imposed.

- 11) During a stipulated round, the use of a distance measuring device is allowed.

A player may obtain distance information by use of a distance-measuring device. If, during a stipulated round, a player uses a distance-measuring device to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect his play (e.g. elevation change, wind speed, etc), the player is in breach of Rule 14-3.

Penalty for Breach of Condition: Disqualification

- 12) A copy of the full Pace of Play conditions will be posted at the Tournament Office and will be available on request.

13) **Return of Score Cards**

Competitors must ensure that they return their score cards to the tournament office within 15 minutes of completing their round.

(Penalty for breach of condition: Disqualification)

- 14) The Tournament Committee may require a player to withdraw from the Championship if it is felt that the player does not have a basic understanding of the Rules of Golf which includes etiquette, or the requisite golfing standard.

The Tournament Committee shall be appointed by the Hong Kong Golf Association and shall consist of:

- (a) Hong Kong Golf Association Chairman, Rules (or an authorized deputy)
- (b) Hong Kong Golf Association Chairman, Tournaments (or an authorized deputy)
- (c) The Tournament Director (or an authorized deputy)

For the purposes of Rule 33-7 a quorum shall consist of any two of the above persons. Decisions of the Tournament Committee shall be final and binding on all concerned.

15) **Breaches of Discipline**

A player commits a breach of discipline if he :

- i) Knowingly fails to comply with the Rules of Golf with an intention of gaining an advantage over another player;
- ii) Knowingly returns a false score.

- iii) Verbally threatens any person during the Championship.
- iv) Uses abusive or profane language during the Championship;
- v) Behaves in a manner detrimental to the good name and reputation of the HKGA;
- vi) Brings the game of golf into disrepute;
- vii) Misses a tee time or withdraws from the Championship before its completion without providing good and sufficient reason.
- viii) Is under the influence of and/or uses drugs prohibited by the WADA anti-doping policy.

The Tournament Committee may in the case of a breach of discipline either disqualify a player from the competition or impose such other penalty or reprimand as it deems appropriate in the circumstances. Please refer to the HKGA Discipline Procedure and Right of Appeal policy on the official HKGA website.

16) **Event Cancellation Policy**

If the Tournament has to be cancelled due to inclement weather or if the course is closed for any reason necessitating cancellation, the following policy regarding the refund of entry fees will apply and entries are only accepted on this basis.

If the event is cancelled prior to any play taking place, all entry fees will be refunded.
Once any play has commenced, no refund of entry fees will be made.

- 17) In case of inclement weather all competitors should check the HKGA website www.hkga.com where up to date information will be posted at regular intervals.

18) **Withdrawal Policy**

There is no penalty if a player withdraw before the date of the close of entries 23 September 2016. Should a player withdraw after date of the close of entries, the entry fee will be forfeited and should the player fail to give less than 72 hours notice before the date of the tournament, the player will be suspended from playing in the tournament the following year.

- 19) The Tournament Committee reserves the right to amend these Championship conditions.