

**ESPRIT HONG KONG LADIES' OPEN AMATEUR & MID
AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIPS 2018**

**DISCOVERY BAY GOLF CLUB, DIAMOND / JADE
WEDNESDAY 12 – FRIDAY 14 SEPTEMBER 2018**

**Closing date for Entries
Sunday 12 August 2018**

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Conditions

- 1) The Esprit Hong Kong Ladies Open Amateur and Mid Amateur Championships 2018 will be decided by stroke play over three 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 12 September and one on 13 September. After 36 holes, the 20 lowest scores and any tying for 20th place in the Ladies Open Championship, the 10 lowest scores and any tying for 10th place at the Mid Amateur Championship Division I and the 18 lowest scores and any tying for 18th place at the Mid Amateur Division II will qualify for the final 18 holes on 14 September.

Should any player in the Ladies Open Amateur Championship and Mid Amateur Championship Division I score more than 89 in the first round and is more than 11 strokes behind the leader, the player may be eliminated from the championship.

Should any player in the Ladies Open Mid Amateur Championship Division II score more than 99 in the first round and is more than 11 strokes behind the leading player in Division II, the player may be eliminated from the championship.

- 3) In the event of a tie for first place in the Hong Kong Ladies Open Amateur Championship and the Hong Kong Ladies Open Mid Amateur Championship Division I, 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. ***Penalty for Breach of Condition:*** Please refer to the Rules of Golf 2016 page 159.
- 8) Players entering only the Mid Amateur Divisions are permitted to ride on golf carts. However players who wish to drive a golf cart must show a current valid driving license before being allowed to drive a golf cart.
- a) The use of trolleys or motorized golf carts will be permitted but is not mandatory. Competitors in the Open Mid Amateur Division I and Division II who use a golf cart will be charged HK\$150 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).

NB: Players may not allow any person to ride on a motorized golf cart with them during a competition round unless that person is a fellow competitor who is sharing the cart. **(Penalty for Breach of Condition: Two strokes for each hole at which any breach occurred; maximum penalty per round; four strokes.)**

- 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 her 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 her play (e.g. elevation change, wind speed, etc), the player is in breach of Rule 14-3.
Penalty for Breach of Condition: See Rule 14-3
- 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 scorecards 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 she:

- 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) Entries will be accepted from female amateur golfers :

HK LADIES' OPEN AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP

USGA Handicap Index 9.9 or lower

Players in the Open Amateur Championship will play off Yellow tees (approximately 6,000 yards).

HK LADIES' OPEN MID AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP

DIVISION I : USGA Handicap Index 9.9 or lower

(25 years of age or over – on or before Wednesday 12 September 2018)

Players in the Open Mid Amateur Championship Division I will play off Yellow tees (approximately 6,000 yards).

DIVISION II : USGA Handicap Index between 10.0 and 16.5

(25 years of age or over – on or before Wednesday 12 September 2018)

Players in the Open Mid Amateur Championship Division II will play off Red tee (approximately 5,600 yards).

A player's handicap is her official handicap on the last day of entry.

17) **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.

18) 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.

19) **Withdrawal Policy**

There is no penalty if a player withdraws before the date of the close of entries 12 August 2018. 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.

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