

THE 2018 EUROPEAN TOUR QUALIFYING SCHOOL

Rules and conditions of Entry and Participation



First Qualifying Stage (Section A)	11th - 14th	September 2018
First Qualifying Stage (Section B)	18th - 21st	September 2018
First Qualifying Stage (Section C)	25th - 28th	September 2018
First Qualifying Stage (Section D)	9th - 12th	October 2018
Second Qualifying Stage	2nd - 5th	November 2018
Final Qualifying Stage	10th - 15th	November 2018

(For closing dates see rule 4. Entry Deadlines)

1. FORMAT

The Qualifying School will be conducted in three stages of stroke play as follows:

(A) FIRST QUALIFYING STAGE (72 holes scheduled)

The First Stage is divided into four Sections (Sections A, B, C and D) each Section to be played in a different week as detailed above. Applicants may only participate in one Section but are able to select their preferred venue.

This applies to all applicants except those who have automatically qualified for the Second Stage or the Final Stage.

First Stage (Section A) – 11th - 14th September 2018

- **Golf & Country Club Fleesensee (Torgelow Golf Course)**, Göhren-Lebbin, Nr Berlin, Germany (nearest airports, Berlin-Tegel – 90 minutes, Hamburg – 120 minutes).
- **The Players Club**, Chipping Sodbury, Bristol, England (nearest airport, Bristol- 45 minutes).

First Stage (Section B) – 18th - 21st September 2018

- **Stoke by Nayland**, Colchester, Essex, England (nearest airports, Stansted 60 minutes, Luton 1hr 40 minutes).
- **GolfClub Schloss Ebreichsdorf**, Ebreichsdorf, Nr Vienna, Austria (nearest airport, Vienna - 40 minutes)

First Stage (Section C) – 25th - 28th September 2018

- **Frilford Heath Golf Club (Red Course)**, Abingdon, Oxfordshire, England (nearest airports, London Heathrow - 60 minutes, Birmingham - 60 minutes).
- **Bogogno Golf Resort (Conte Course)**, Bogogno, near Milan, Italy (nearest airport, Milan Malpensa -30 minutes).

First Stage (Section D) – 9th - 12th October 2018

- **Golf d'Hardelot (Les Pins)**, Hardelot, France (nearest airport, Beauvais - 75 minutes).
- **Bom Sucesso Resort**, Obidos, Portugal (nearest airport, Lisbon – 60 minutes).

In the event of a delay in completing the First Stage, applicants are advised that the Saturday after the scheduled dates of each Section may be used as a full playing day in order to complete the relevant Section.

Applicants should indicate on the attached application form their **venue preferences** in order from 1 to 4. An Applicant may select both venues in any Section provided that a maximum of only four venues are selected in total. In the event of any venue being oversubscribed, priority will initially be determined by the payment date of the entry fee. Field sizes for each venue will vary depending on such factors as demand and available daylight. Limitations on the field size will be at the sole discretion of the Qualifying School Director. Once a venue has reached capacity, subsequent applicants will be allocated to the venue which is highest in their list of preferences and which has availability at the time the application form and payment are received.

Should the number of entries for any First Stage venue be **less than 40**, the EuropeanTour reserves the right to **cancel this venue** no later than the close of entries deadline. Entrants will be given the option to transfer to an alternative venue (as determined by the EuropeanTour) or will be given a refund of their entry fee. Entrants will not be given the option to transfer to a venue which is already at full capacity as per the field size limitations above.

After 54 holes of each **First Stage** tournament, only those players within **7 shots** of the final qualifying place will be permitted to contest the final round. The number of players who are able to qualify for the **Second Stage** will be announced as soon as is reasonably possible once all the participants have teed off in the first round of the appropriate Section. Players who are tied on the final qualifying place score will proceed to the **Second Stage**.

(B) SECOND QUALIFYING STAGE (72 holes scheduled) – **2nd - 5th November 2018**

The following players are exempt from the **First Stage** and are automatically eligible to participate in the **Second Stage**:

1. All **European Tour Members** in Categories 1 - 22 as at 29th August 2018.
2. The top 90 **European Challenge Tour** Ranked Members and Associate Members (1 & 2) and those Ranked Amateurs or Associate Members (3) ranked within these positions in the Road to Ras Al Khaimah Rankings as of the 29th August 2018
3. The top 90 **European Challenge Tour** Ranked Members or Associate Members (1 & 2) and those Ranked Amateurs or Associate Members (3) finishing within these positions in the Final 2018 Road to Ras Al Khaimah Rankings.
4. Winners of the **Qualifying School** in 2014, 2015 and 2016.
5. Winners of the **European Challenge Tour Rankings** in 2014, 2015 and 2016.
6. Players whose eligibility as a **European Tour Order of Merit Tournament Winner** expired at the end of any of the following official seasons: - 2008 - 2016 (inclusive).
7. European Tour Members in positions 76-100 in the **European Tour Career Money List** on 29th August 2018
8. The leading player (i.e. ranked 1st) in each of the following Satellite Tour Final Orders of Merit for 2018, unless already exempt under eligibility category 11. below:
 - **The PGA Europro Tour**
 - **Pro Golf Tour**
 - **The Nordic League**
 - **ALPS Tour**
9. The leading 6th to 15th placed entrants (not otherwise eligible above) to a limit of 25th place from the **Asian Tour Order of Merit** as at 29th August 2018 provided that the relevant applicants have applied to enter the First Stage by the 29th August 2018.
10. The leading 4th – 10th placed entrants (not otherwise eligible above) as at 29th August 2018 to a limit of 25th place in the following Orders of Merit provided that the relevant applicants have applied to enter the First Stage by 29th August 2018:
 - **PGA Tour of Australasia (Final 2017 Order of Merit)**
 - **The Japan Golf Tour**
 - **The Sunshine Tour (Final 2017/2018 Order of Merit)**
11. The leading 6 entrants as at 29th August 2018 to a limit of 10th place in the following Satellite Tour Orders of Merit provided that the relevant applicants have applied to enter the First Stage by 29th August 2018:
 - **The PGA Europro Tour**
 - **Pro Golf Tour**
 - **The Nordic League**
 - **ALPS Tour**
12. The leading 3 entrants as at 29th August 2018 to a limit of 10th place in the following Orders of Merit provided that the relevant applicants have applied to enter the First Stage by 29th August 2018:
 - **China Tour**
 - **Korean Tour**
13. The leading 5 entrants as at 29th August 2018 to a limit of 15th place in the **World Amateur Golf Ranking** provided that the relevant applicants have applied to enter the First Stage by 29th August 2018.

Note: Under the eligibility criteria set out in categories 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 above, should an exempt player withdraw after the closing date for the First Stage entries, he may be replaced by the next eligible player under that category (subject to the applicable limits as stated above) but any such replacement must take place before the commencement of the Second Stage.

The **Second Stage** will be conducted on **2nd - 5th November 2018** at the following venues:

- **Alenda Golf**, Alicante, Spain (nearest airport, Alicante - 20 minutes).
- **Las Colinas Golf & Country Club**, Orihuela, Alicante, Spain (nearest airports, Murcia (San Javier) – 20 minutes, Alicante – 45 minutes).
- **Desert Springs Resort & Golf Club**, Almería, Spain (nearest airports, Almería - 60 min, Murcia (San Javier) - 90 minutes)
- **El Encin Golf**, Madrid, Spain (nearest airport, Madrid Barajas – 30 minutes)

In the event of a delay in completing the Second Stage, applicants are advised that at all venues 6th November may be used as a full playing day in order to complete the Second Stage. There will be no cut during the **Second Stage**. However, a player is entitled to withdraw at the conclusion of any round provided that notification is given before close of play on the relevant day.

The number of players who are able to qualify for the **Final Stage** will be announced as soon as is reasonably possible once all the participants have teed off in the first round of the Second Stage. Players who are tied on the final qualifying place score shall be required to participate in a play-off to determine who qualifies for the Final Stage. Any play-off will be conducted as soon as reasonably possible after play has concluded on the final day of the Second Stage.

Note: Venue preferences for the Second Stage may not be requested and the venue allocation will be at the discretion of the European Tour.

(C) FINAL QUALIFYING STAGE (108 holes scheduled) – **10th - 15th November 2018**

The following players are exempt from the First and Second Stages and automatically eligible to participate in the Final Stage:

- a. The 111th - 145th Ranked **European Tour Members** (or Ranked European Challenge Tour Members) and those Affiliate Members finishing within these positions in the Final 2018 Race to Dubai Rankings.
- b. The 16th - 45th Ranked **European Challenge Tour Members** or Associate Members (1 & 2) and those Ranked Amateurs or Associate Members (3) finishing within these positions in the Final 2018 Road to Ras Al Khaimah Rankings.
- c. Players whose eligibility as a **European Tour Order of Merit Tournament Winner** expired (or will expire) at the end of either one of the following official seasons: - 2017 or 2018
- d. The winner of the last played **Qualifying School**.
- e. The winner of the **2017 European Challenge Tour Rankings**.
- f. European Tour Members in 75th position or above in the **European Tour Career Money List** on 29th August 2018
- g. The 5 leading entrants (not otherwise eligible above) on 29th August 2018 to a limit of 15th place in the **Asian Tour Order of Merit** provided that the relevant applicants had applied to enter the Qualifying School by 29th August 2018
- h. The 3 leading entrants (not otherwise eligible above) on 29th August 2018 to a limit of 15th place in the following Orders of Merit provided that the relevant applicants had applied to enter the Qualifying School by 29th August 2018:
 - **PGA Tour of Australasia (Final 2017 Order of Merit)**
 - **The Japan Golf Tour**
 - **The Sunshine Tour (Final 2017/2018 Order of Merit)**

Note: Should an exempt player withdraw under the eligibility criteria set out in category g. or h. above after the closing date for the First Stage entries, he may be replaced by the next eligible player under that category (subject to the applicable limits as stated within the relevant category) but any such replacement must take place before the commencement of the Second Stage.

The **Final Stage** will be conducted on **10th - 15th November 2018** at the following venue:

Lumine Golf Club (Lakes and Hills Courses), Tarragona, Spain (nearest airports, Reus -10 minutes, Barcelona - 60 minutes).

The Final Stage is scheduled to be played over 108 holes. A field of **156** players will play two rounds over each of the Lakes and Hills Courses. After 72 holes, the field will be cut to the leading **70** players and those players tied on the final qualifying place score who will then play two further rounds.

At the conclusion of 108 holes, the leading **25** players (and those players tied on the final qualifying place score) will be ranked according to score. Each of these players will be eligible for membership of the European Tour (category details to be confirmed) for the 2019 season and will be subject to any re-rank policy adopted by the Tournament Committee.

Players making the cut and finishing beyond 25th place will be eligible for membership of the European Tour (category details to be confirmed) for the 2019 season. Players failing to make the cut will be eligible for membership of the European Challenge Tour for the 2019 season.

All tied scores shall be ranked by card play off as follows:

(a) the best last 18 holes; (b) the best last 36 holes; (c) the best 3rd or 4th round over the Lakes Course; (d) the best last 72 holes; (e) the best 1st or 2nd round over the Lakes Course; and (f) the best last 9, 6, 3, 2 & 1 holes (holes 10 to 18).

For players who fail to make the cut, tied scores will be ranked by card play off as follows:

a) the best 3rd or 4th round over the Lakes Course; b) the best combined 3rd and 4th rounds;
c) the best 1st or 2nd round over the Lakes Course; and d) based on the 3rd or 4th round over the Lakes Course, the best last 9, 6, 3, 2 and 1 holes (10 to 18).

Players who fail to complete 4 rounds will be ranked on the basis of the highest number of rounds completed. In the event of players completing the same number of rounds they will be ranked on aggregate score for the rounds played.

If scores are still tied the following criteria will be used

a) the best 3rd round over the Lakes Course; b) the best 1st or 2nd round over the Lakes Course; c) the best 1st round over the Lakes Course; and d) based on the 1st or 2nd round over the Lakes Course, the best last 9, 6, 3, 2, and 1 holes (10 - 18).

Players are advised that 16th and 17th November may be used as full playing days in order to complete the Final Stage. Every effort will be made to complete six rounds but a result will be declared if only five or four rounds have been completed. In the event that less than four rounds are completed the Final Stage may be rescheduled, in whole or in part.

2. ELIGIBILITY FOR ENTRY

- a) All male professional golfers.
- b) All male amateur golfers whose playing handicap does not exceed 0.4 (SCRATCH) and/or who has appeared between positions 1- 2,000 of the World Amateur Golf Ranking (see www.WAGR.com) during the period WAGR week 2018/01 to date of entry. All amateur entrants will be accepted under the Handicapping Scheme adopted by the recognised authority controlling golf in the country from which they elect to enter. **All applications must be accompanied by a valid handicap certificate.**

Note: It is not a breach of the Rules of Amateur Status for an amateur golfer to file an entry for and play in any Stage of the European Tour Qualifying School, provided that the player waives his right to prize money prior to each Stage by completing the appropriate forms available at each venue. An amateur golfer who fails to waive his right to prize money is in breach of the Rules of Amateur Status, but if he is unsuccessful at the Qualifying School, he may apply for reinstatement as an amateur.

3. ENTRY FEES

All applicants **€2,000 (or £1,750)**. This payment covers entry to all Stages of the Qualifying School in which the applicant is eligible to participate.

All applications must be accompanied by the entry fee. Please note that your entry will not be officially accepted until your full entry fee has been received as cleared funds by the European Tour.

For further information please refer to rule 8. below.

4. ENTRY DEADLINES

First Stage	Section A - entries close 29th August 2018	
	Section B - entries close 29th August 2018	
	Section C - entries close 29th August 2018	
	Section D - entries close 29th August 2018	
Second Stage	Exemption categories 9, 10, 11, 12 or 13	entries close 29th August 2018
	Exemption categories 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8	entries close 22nd October 2018
Final Stage	Exemption categories g or h	entries close 29th August 2018
	Exemption categories a, b, c, d, e or f	entries close 2nd November 2018

5. WITHDRAWALS

All withdrawals must be notified to the European Tour Entries Department or the European Tour office at the player's venue.

If a player withdraws prior to the appropriate closing date his entry fee will be refunded in full.

If a player withdraws (for any reason and without exception) after the appropriate closing date without competing he will be refunded €1885 (or £1,650).

If a player is absent on the tee without notification, no refund will be given and he may face disciplinary action subject to the circumstances. **Once an entrant has teed off no refund of his entry fee will be made.**

6. NOTIFICATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF ENTRY/QUALIFYING VENUE

Once an application has been accepted by the European Tour (only after receipt and approval of any relevant documentation and the full entry fee), applicants will be emailed a Confirmation of Entry. Venue allocation and information for First Stage will be available **2 days after the close of entries** (see rule 4. Entry Deadlines). Players who have qualified for or who have entered and are exempt for Second Stage will be advised of their venue allocation by the 17th October 2018

Allocation of venues is at the discretion of the European Tour and once assigned, a venue may not be changed.

7. REGULATIONS

By submitting a completed Qualifying School application form each applicant:

- a) acknowledges the sole authority of the Tournament Committee and Board of the European Tour to establish the Qualifying School Rules and Conditions of Entry and Participation as published in this application form and any subsequent rules and regulations of which the applicant is notified prior to any stage of the Qualifying School and agrees to abide by these and any amendments made from time to time by them or persons acting with their authority. This may include but not be limited to changes to the format, conditions, field sizes and schedules referred to above.
- b) accepts and abides by the decisions of the Tournament Committee, Board of Directors, Chief Executive, Qualifying School Director or such other authorised persons of the European Tour.
- c) agrees to conduct themselves in accordance with the Code of Behaviour of the European Tour as specified in the current European Tour Members General Regulations Handbook. Digital copies are available upon request from the European Tour's offices at Wentworth or from the Tournament Office at any Qualifying School venue.
- d) acknowledges that the PGA European Tour has an appropriate legal basis for collecting, processing, using and storing personal information provided in this application form and consents to the processing, storing and transfer of his personal information as detailed in the PGA European Tour's Privacy Notice. Further, if an applicant provides the personal information of a third person (e.g. a family member), then he hereby confirms that he has obtained the consent of that third person to the provision of such personal information to the PGA European Tour and the processing, storing and transfer of such personal information in accordance with the Privacy Notice. The PGA European Tour's Privacy Notice is available on the European Tour Website at <http://www.europeantour.com/aboutus/privacy/index.html>
- e) agrees to notify the PGA European Tour of any previous or pending criminal conviction and co-operate with the Criminal Convictions Committee which shall be convened to consider the applicant's eligibility in light of such conviction(s).

8. METHODS OF PAYMENT AND PAYMENT ADVICE

When considering entering the European Tour Qualifying School it is vital to organise the method of payment of the entry fee in advance as an application for entry will not be processed until the full payment of €2,000 (or £1,750) has been received as cleared funds by the European Tour.

The following methods of payment are acceptable:

- 1) Credit or Debit Card** - The preferred method of payment is by credit card for which there is no administration charge. The following card types are accepted: VISA / MASTERCARD / AMERICAN EXPRESS.

It is acceptable for a third party (eg. sponsor, partner) to pay on behalf of the applicant. If this is the case, their address as listed on their credit card statements must be supplied.

VERY IMPORTANT: The applicant must ensure that the credit card account has the funds available and should check the card limit with the credit card company if in any doubt.

Once payment has been received, the European Tour will issue a receipt to each applicant advising the exact date when the funds were collected from the credit or debit card account.

In the event of any problems being experienced with credit or debit card payments the applicant should contact the Qualifying School Entries Administrator (Pete Lockett)

Email: gs@europeantour.com or telephone: +44 (0) 1344 840448.

Please remember that the onus is on the applicant to ensure that his entry fee payment is not delayed.

- 2) Bank Transfer** - Bank details are as follows:

	Payment in Sterling	Payment in Euro
Bank:	Barclays Bank plc The Luton & Dunstable Group 28 George Street Luton LU1 2AE UK	Barclays Bank plc The Luton & Dunstable Group 28 George Street Luton LU1 2AE UK
Sort Code:	20-53-30	20-53-30
Swift:	BARC GB 22	BARC GB 22
A/c Name:	PGA European Tour	PGA European Tour
A/c No:	200 155 47	798 230 22
IBAN No:	GB49 BARC 2053 3020 0155 47	GB98 BARC 2053 3079 8230 22

Note: If making payments from an overseas bank it is **VITAL** that you quote the **PGA European Tour's IBAN** number.

To enable the Entries Department to identify the payment on receipt please make sure that your name is quoted in reference by the issuing bank and include proof of payment with your entry form. Failure to do so could result in problems connecting your payment to your entry form and thus being unable to process your entry and allocate you to a venue.

The applicant will be liable for any charges involved.

Please note that payment is not possible with cash or by cheque.

9. GENERAL POLICY

The European Tour reserves the right to reject an application for entry at any time. Conduct unbecoming a professional or non-competitive performance during a previous Qualifying School can be a basis for the rejection of an application to enter. The European Tour also reserves the right to remove a player from a tournament at any time due to conduct or non-competitive performance. An entrant who is removed from a tournament for any of these reasons, after he has commenced play, will not be entitled to any type of refund of his entry fee.

10. PLAYING OPPORTUNITIES

The Category of Membership earned by successful graduates (top 25 and ties) should not be regarded as providing "Full" playing rights on the European Tour. Greater opportunity will be available to higher ranked members such as tournament winners and top 110 from the previous season's Race to Dubai. Moreover, the final position earned within the top 25 and ties at the Q School and the subsequent re-ranks during the season will have a significant impact on resultant playing opportunities. Over the last 5 years, **the average** number of tournament opportunities this category has provided to successful graduates is as follows: **Winner of the Q School - 28; 25th ranked at the school - 18.** It is important to recognise however, that **this Category offers full playing rights on the European Challenge Tour** when graduates do not qualify for the European Tour on any given week.

11. HELP OR ADVICE

In the event of any problems with your entry or payments **please contact the Qualifying School Entries Administrator (Pete Lockett):** Email: gs@europeantour.com Telephone: +44 (0) 1344 840448.

Please remember that the onus is on the applicant to ensure that his application has been correctly submitted.

THE 2018 EUROPEAN TOUR QUALIFYING SCHOOL APPLICATION FORM

YOU ARE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE AND SIGN ALL RELEVANT BOXES FOR THE APPLICATION FORM TO BE ACCEPTED

Full Name			
Known as in the draw			
Competed under any other name			
Nationality			
Attachment			
Date of Birth (DD/MM/YY)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Email Address	<input type="text"/>		
Mobile / Cell Phone	Country Code	+	Number
Professional or amateur (If amateur, handicap certificate required).			<input type="checkbox"/> Handicap Certificate Attached
Details of any criminal convictions			

Address Line 1	<input type="text"/>
Address Line 2	<input type="text"/>
Town	<input type="text"/>
County / State	<input type="text"/>
Postal Code / Zip Code	<input type="text"/>
Country	<input type="text"/>

Exemptions (Please Tick where Appropriate)	I claim exemption from the First Stage under category:
	1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 5 <input type="checkbox"/> 6 <input type="checkbox"/> 7 <input type="checkbox"/> 8 <input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 11 <input type="checkbox"/> 12 <input type="checkbox"/> 13 <input type="checkbox"/>
	I claim exemption from the First and Second Stages under category:
	(a) <input type="checkbox"/> (b) <input type="checkbox"/> (c) <input type="checkbox"/> (d) <input type="checkbox"/> (e) <input type="checkbox"/> (f) <input type="checkbox"/> (g) <input type="checkbox"/> (h) <input type="checkbox"/>

Section and Venue Preference - First Stage only

Applicants must indicate their venue preferences by entering 1, 2, 3 and 4 against the appropriate venues by placing a number in the relevant box (APPLICANTS MAY SELECT BOTH VENUES FROM THE SAME SECTION)

Section A 11th - 14th September	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fleesensee	<input type="checkbox"/>	The Players Club
Section B 18th - 21st September	<input type="checkbox"/>	Stoke by Nayland	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ebreichsdorf
Section C 25th - 28th September	<input type="checkbox"/>	Frilford Heath	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bogogno
Section D 9th - 12th October	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hardelot	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bom Sucesso

Payment – If not specified the amount will be taken in Euros			
I am paying by	<input type="checkbox"/>	Credit Card / Debit Card	<input type="checkbox"/>
Currency	<input type="checkbox"/>	Euro (€)	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>
			Sterling (£)

Type of Card Name on the Card.....
 We accept the following credit cards: Visa/Mastercard/American Express.

Card No

Valid From - Expiry Date - Security Code

By ticking this box you are agreeing to abide by all the conditions and regulations of the Qualifying School as referred to in the application form.

Date..... (dd/mm/yy)

A receipt will automatically be sent each time a fee is collected by Credit Card via Email.

QS ENTRY CHECK LIST

HAVE YOU TICKED THE BOX ON THE APPLICATION FORM TO ACCEPT THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS AND DATED THE FORM?

HAVE YOU INCLUDED?

- Your **handicap certificate** (if still an amateur).
Your entry will not be accepted until your handicap certificate has been received.
- The remittance advice slip if paying by BankTransfer.

HAVE YOU INFORMED?

- Your bank that the European Tour will be debiting your account.

PLEASE NOTE:

It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that the form is fully and accurately completed. An entry form which is incomplete, inaccurate or illegible will be treated as INVALID and the applicant will be notified.

WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT APPLICATION FORMS ONCE COMPLETED ARE SENT BY EMAIL TO:

qs@europeantour.com

Alternatively please post to:

Pete Lockett - Entries Department
EuropeanTour, Qualifying School
Wentworth Drive
Virginia Water
Surrey GU25 4LX
England

Please note that we are unable to accept applications to participate in the Qualifying School by telephone