

# Volkswagen Scramble

## Conditions of Competition

## 5.1 Introduction

The Volkswagen Scramble will maintain the highest levels of integrity by strict adherence to the Rules of Golf and the Volkswagen Scramble Rules and Conditions of Competition set in place by the PGA. These measures are taken to ensure fairness of play for all golfers and to ensure the Volkswagen Scramble is an enjoyable experience.

## 5.2 Volkswagen Scramble Conditions of Competition

The PGA will determine all Rules and Conditions of Competition associated with the Volkswagen Scramble and will administer these in conjunction with the Royal & Ancient Rules of Golf, Golf Australia Code of Conduct, specific Volkswagen Scramble Tournament Rules and any Local Rules applicable on the day of the event. All participants of the Volkswagen Scramble by entering the event agree to abide by the Rules and Conditions of Competition established and accept the PGA's jurisdiction over the Championship. A list of the Conditions of Competition of the Volkswagen Scramble are posted on the official Volkswagen Scramble website at [www.vwscramble.com.au](http://www.vwscramble.com.au) and may be updated from time to time.

Acceptance of Rules and Conditions for entry:

It is the responsibility of each amateur to make certain they are aware of the Volkswagen Scramble Tournament Conditions of Competition, including rules and policies of R&A and Golf Australia. The submission of a team's entry to participate in the Volkswagen Scramble by way of either online or paper form indicates acceptance and acknowledgement of these conditions for every member of a team.

Results and Qualification:

Should the Volkswagen Scramble Rules Committee become aware of a breach of the Tournament Rules or Conditions of Competition by an individual or team after a Local Event has been completed, but before the Regional Final has commenced impacting the eligibility of a team or a penalty to the team score is to be made, this condition of competition or penalty must be applied which may result in a change to the provisional results posted on the day, with a different team progressing to the Regional Final.

If, after the Regional Final commences it is reported to the Volkswagen Scramble Rules Committee that a handicapping, or Condition of Competition breach occurred by a team during the Local Event that would have resulted in a team failing to qualify for the Regional Final, the team concerned will be disqualified from event.

Should the Volkswagen Scramble Rules Committee become aware of a breach of a Conditions of Competition by an individual or team after a Regional Final has been completed but before the Championship Final has commenced, resulting in the teams eligibility to compete or if a penalty to the team score is to be made, this condition of competition or penalty must be applied and may result in a change to the provisional results posted on the day, with a different team progressing to the Championship Final.

If, after the Championship Final commences it is reported to the Volkswagen Scramble Rules Committee that a handicapping or Condition of Competition breach occurred by a team during the Regional Final that would have resulted in a team failing to qualify for the Championship Final, the team concerned will be disqualified from the Championship.

1. The PGA reserves the exclusive right to alter dates, venues and rules regarding the management and conduct of the event.
2. On the day that the Local Event is conducted, the Volkswagen Volkswagen Volkswagen Scramble Coordinator at the host venue must certify each entrant's official Golf Australia handicap.
3. All teams and individual participants must conform to the Volkswagen Scramble Handicap Requirements. It is the player's responsibility to ensure they are playing off the correct handicap on any day of competition. If an amateur is found to have played off an incorrect handicap, deliberately or otherwise, the team may be subject to either a score adjustment or disqualification as determined by the R&A Rules of Golf.
4. The PGA of Australia reserves the right to adjust any team's or individual's handicap at Local Events, Regional Final and the Championship Final based on their past performance or past scores, or on evidence forthcoming from an examination of handicap records. All teams and individual participants who have qualified for a Regional Final and/or the Championship Final must conform to these Volkswagen Volkswagen Volkswagen Scramble Handicap Requirements.

5. An amateur player may attempt to advance to the Regional/State Final by competing in more than one Local Event. However, once that amateur has qualified for a Regional/State Final he/she is no longer eligible to compete for prizes or Regional/State Final qualification in any further Local Events.  
  
Competing in any subsequent Local Event for prizes or Regional/State Final qualification will result in the automatic disqualification of that team, and the original qualifying team may also be subject to disqualification (at the discretion of the Volkswagen Scramble Rules Committee). It is the responsibility of the Team to notify the coordinator of their Volkswagen Scramble Event that their team entry is deemed **social** and they cannot accept any prizes or further Regional/State Final qualification on that day.  
  
**Please Note:** The Mixed Volkswagen Scramble and the Women's Volkswagen Scramble are separate events and so it is permissible for an individual to qualify for both the Regional Final and the Women's State Final.
6. Any **Team** that competed in a Championship Final will be subject to a four (4) stroke penalty at each stage of the event for the following two (2) seasons. The penalty will be applied to the team score on the first hole of the score card. It is the responsibility of the **Team** to notify the coordinator of their Volkswagen Scramble Event if a penalty is required against their score.  
  
**Note:** The term **Team** in this Condition refers to more than one (1) of the Championship Final Team Members. Individual members who join three (3) new partners to form a team are not subject to penalty under this Condition.
7. A **Team** that has won either the Championship Final or the Women's Championship Final will not be eligible to compete in the event as a **Team** for the following two (2) seasons.  
  
**Note:** The term **Team** in this Condition refers to more than one (1) of the Championship Final Team Members. Individual members who join three (3) new partners to form a team are not subject to penalty under this Condition.  
  
**Penalty for breach of Condition:** Team Disqualification.
8. All players qualifying for the Regional Finals or the Championship Final in the 2018/19 season must have completed a minimum of five (5) eligible, single handicapped competition rounds from 1 August 2018 and prior to 1 March 2019. Handicap checks will be carried out across all levels of the event.  
  
**Penalty for breach of Condition:** A two (2) stroke penalty will be applied to the team score on the first hole of the scorecard for every player who has not met the requirements.
9. A handicap verification process will take place at all Regional Final & Championship Final events. Photo ID may be required to be provided by each team member to verify their Golf Australia Handicap.  
**Failure to provide photo ID when requested:** Team Disqualification.
10. All teams that qualify at a host venue, regardless of how many qualifying events have been conducted at that host venue, must play in the same Regional Final. Any variation to this Condition will be at the discretion of the Volkswagen Scramble Rules Committee. For example an exception to this may be when the club hosts a Local Event for a Golf Australia bona-fide club or a club hosts a large number of Local Events.
11. Teams who qualify for a Regional Final are required to play on a neutral course, other than at the venue which hosted the Local Event. Any variation to this Condition will be at the discretion of the Volkswagen Scramble Rules Committee.
12. All Regional Final qualifying teams must provide a non-playing scorer to the Regional Final event.  
**Penalty for breach of Condition:** A half (.5) stroke reduction to the team's Daily Handicap.
13. Only those PGA Professionals who meet the eligibility criteria as per section 5.3 may take a team to the Regional Final.
14. The PGA of Australia reserves the right to suspend teams or individuals from competing in the Volkswagen Scramble pending investigation of handicapping discrepancies. An amateur who is found to misrepresent his/her handicap or who breaches a Condition of Competition may be disqualified from further play.
15. The Volkswagen Scramble Rules Committee reserves the right to suspend those players who breach Handicap Conditions, or Conditions of Competition from future tournament participation. Where necessary, amateur infractions shall be reported to the applicable State or National bodies.

16. If a Volkswagen Scramble participant has had their handicap assessed to a lower figure by the Volkswagen Scramble Rules Committee, the assessed handicap will be enforced for the remainder of the current season and the following season. However, should the participant's Golf Australia handicap be reduced to a figure lower than the assessed handicap, the revised Golf Australia handicap will be used. It is the amateur player's responsibility to inform the coordinator of their Volkswagen Scramble Event of this adjustment.  
  
After the period of the handicap adjustment, the amateur player must reapply to the Volkswagen Scramble Rules Committee, who at which point will confirm the official Volkswagen Scramble handicap that will apply.
17. The PGA of Australia may, in its absolute discretion, determine whether to accept or refuse a player's entry into the Volkswagen Scramble at any level of the competition. A Volkswagen Scramble Coordinator may also determine the eligibility criteria for participants entering their specific Local Event.
18. If an amateur player's tournament playing privileges are suspended by a facility, he/she shall be considered ineligible until the suspension has been lifted.
19. The PGA of Australia adheres to a refund policy whereby if a participant withdraws from either a Regional/State Final or a Championship Final within seven (7) days of the official event date, no refund will be given for loss of event related expenses. Event related expenses may include, but are not limited to registration fees and interstate travel expenses for both players and accompanying guests.  
  
Note: Cancellation policies for Local Events are determined by each individual venue.
20. If an individual wishes to make an appeal against a ruling that has been made, such appeal must be received in writing by the Volkswagen Scramble Rules Committee no later than seven (7) days after the ruling of concern is imposed. Appeals must be submitted using the appropriate appeal form. This form and an outline of the appeal process can be obtained by contacting [vwscramble@pga.org.au](mailto:vwscramble@pga.org.au).

## 5.3 PGA Professional Eligibility

The following classifications of PGA Members are eligible to participate in the Volkswagen Scramble:

- Full Vocational PGA Members who are:
  - Head Professionals
  - Assistant Professionals
  - Teaching Professionals
  - Semi Active Professionals
  - Trainee Professionals and Bridging School Professional (conditions apply and subject to approval by PGA)

**NOTE: Members with a Tournament Membership classification are ineligible to participate in Regional/State Finals. Members with a Vocational Membership classification and who also held a PGA Tour of Australasia Order of Merit ranking between 1 and 100 inclusive (from the previous year's final OOM and/or the OOM as at 28 February of the current year), are not permitted to participate in the Volkswagen Scramble tournament. The PGA also reserves the right to approve or disapprove any other professional golfer from participating in the Volkswagen Scramble based on their Official World Golf Ranking, other Recognised Worldwide Professional Golf Tour Eligibility, or eligibility on the PGA Tour of Australasia.**

To join a team at the Regional/State Final or Championship Final level the PGA Member must meet one of the PGA Eligibility classification categories along with one of the following:

- Must be an employee (or contractor) of the Local Event site on the date of the Local Event and Regional/State Final.
- Must be an Invited Guest (Adopted Professional) of the Local Event site's Volkswagen Scramble Coordinator provided that he or she falls into one of the PGA Eligibility categories and has been approved by the PGA State Office.
- Must be an Invited Guest (Adopted Professional) of the PGA State Office.

All PGA Members invited under the 'Adopt A Pro' system must be verified by the relevant PGA State Office. It is the relevant PGA State Office responsibility to govern the eligibility of its PGA Members (The Volkswagen Scramble Rules Committee will co-operate fully should a PGA State Office make an enquiry regarding the eligibility of a PGA Member).

PGA Members competing in the Regional/State Final are required to play on a neutral course, other than the venue which the PGA Member is employed. Any variation to this Condition will be at the discretion of the Volkswagen Scramble Rules Committee.

PGA Members are permitted to play in more than one Regional/State Final. Should the PGA Member win a Regional/State Final he/she played as an 'Adopt A Pro' they are not automatically eligible to accompany the team to the Championship Final. This is the entitlement of the PGA Member, who staged the Local Event.

First year Trainees are only permitted to play in a Regional/State Final accompanying their home club - not as part of the 'Adopt A Pro' system, unless approved by the PGA under extenuating circumstances. Any Trainee / Provisional / Bridging School Member participating must have successfully completed all components of their current Trainee year as per the PGA Trainee Rules and Regulations.

PGA Members are reminded that whilst playing in any Volkswagen Scramble, they are, as in other tournaments, participating under the Member Regulations of the PGA of Australia. Professionals play off a scratch handicap.

PGA Members accompanying a team to the Regional/State Final and to the Championship Final are the Team Captain. It is their responsibility to adhere to all Conditions of Competition and to mark and sign the team's scorecard in accordance with the Volkswagen Scramble Tournament Rules and the Rules of Golf.

## 5.4 Handicap Requirements — Local Events

In order to be eligible to compete in the Volkswagen Scramble all amateur players must hold an official Golf Australia handicap. Players with a Golf Australia handicap that has been set to provisional are not eligible to participate in the Volkswagen Scramble.

An amateurs player's approved handicap must reflect his/her potential playing ability.

All players must use their **OFFICIAL** GA Handicap on the day of the Local Event (not any Club Handicap).

Note: Players with a Golf Australia Handicap acquired through the RACV programs or other Golf Australia bona-fide bodies can play in a Volkswagen Scramble with the approval of the host club.

The maximum GA Handicap is 36.4 for males and 45.4 for females.

The maximum Daily Handicap is 36 for males and 45 for females.

The four team members' aggregate GA Handicap must total at least 32.0.

The maximum aggregate GA Handicap is 112.0. The maximum aggregate GA Handicap for the Women's Only Volkswagen Scramble is 132.0

A maximum of two single figure handicap (9.9 or less) players based on individual's GA Handicap are allowed in each team on the day of the Local/District Event.

<b>Eg</b>	8.7 + 11.1 + 1.4 + 10.2	= 31.4	(ineligible)
	13.5 + 12.7 + 8.3 + 2.4	= 36.9	(eligible)
	2.3 + 11.7 + 25.3 + 27.2	= 66.5	(eligible)
	1.3 + 5.7 + 9.9 + 28.7	= 45.6	(ineligible, team consisting of more than two single figure handicappers)
	5.6 + 28.3 + 34.8 + 43.5 female	= 112.2	(ineligible mixed event, team aggregate GA Handicap must not exceed 112.0 for Mixed event and 132.0 for Women's Only events)

To determine the net score on the day of the Local Event, team members' GA Handicaps are adjusted as per the Slope Rating of the tees being played from to determine their Daily Handicaps. The aggregate Daily Handicap is divided by 8 to determine the team Daily Handicap to one decimal place. The resulting figure is then subtracted from the team's score for the Ambrose 18-hole event. For example:

Team aggregate Daily Handicap of 57 divided by 8	= 7.1
Team scratch score	= 70
Net score	= 62.9 (70 minus 7.1)

**Note:** Women are to use the Slope Rating from their respective tees to determine their Daily Handicap

The team's aggregate GA Handicap (not Daily handicap) established at the Local Event is the base aggregate handicap for the subsequent stages.

Amateur players will not be eligible to enter a Local Event until their team has submitted a Local Event Entry Form or online entry to the host clubs Volkswagen Scramble Coordinator, which displays each team members Golfink Number and Golf Australia Handicap. If any amateur participant does not have an established handicap at the host club, he/she may be required to produce verification of his/her current GA Handicap via photo ID to varify their Golf Australia Handicap.

Each teams scorecard must show each team member's GA Handicap and Daily Handicap. The scorecard is to be signed by at least two members of the group. Signing for an incorrect scorecard or handicap will be subject to penalties as determined by the R&A rules of golf.

## 5.5 Handicap Requirements — Regional Finals / Championship Final

- All players qualifying for the Regional/State Finals or the Championship Final in the 2018/19 season must have completed a minimum of five (5) eligible, single handicapped competition rounds from 1 August 2018 and prior to 1 March 2019. *Two x 9 hole cards in handicapped competition rounds may constitute one competition round.*

**Penalty of Condition:** A two (2) stroke penalty will be applied to the team score on the first hole of the score card for every player who has not met the requirements. Handicap checks will be carried out at all levels of the event.

- Official GA Handicaps on the day are to be used to determine the team member's Daily Handicap, based on the courses Daily Slope Rating.
- Please note there will be NO upward adjustment of the Team's aggregate GA Handicap or individual GA Handicaps established at any level of the Event.

**For example,** if a team member's GA Handicap increases between qualifying at the Local Event and playing in the Regional Final, then they must use the GA Handicap they qualified on at the Local event to determine their Daily Handicap. If a player's GA Handicap decreases between Local and Regional Events, then they must use the current lower GA Handicap to determine their Daily Handicap. If a team member's GA Handicap increases between qualifying at the Regional Final and the Championship Final, they must use the GA Handicap that they qualified at the Regional Final.

- Should team members lose strokes from their GA Handicap then their team's aggregate Daily Handicap is to be reduced accordingly.
- Should a team have fewer than four amateur players available to play, they may still compete. Only the handicaps of those players participating will count towards the team's handicap. The aggregate team handicap is still divided by 10.
- If a team has fewer than the five team members at the Regional/State Final and/or the Championship Final, the three tee shot rule will be limited to the remaining team members. If a team member should join the team during a round of play, the three tee shot rule would apply to the holes remaining. An absent partner may join the team between holes, but not during play of the hole.

To determine the net score on the day of the Regional/State Final and the Championship Final, team members GA Handicaps are adjusted as per the Slope Rating of the tees being played to determine their Daily Handicaps. The aggregate Daily Handicap is divided by 10 to determine the team Daily Handicap. The resulting figure is then subtracted from the team's score for the Ambrose 18-hole event. For example:

Team aggregate Daily Handicap of 56 is divided by 10	= 5.6
Team scratch score	= 70
Net score	= 64.4 (70 minus 5.6)

**Note:** Women are to use the Slope Rating from their respective tees to determine their Daily Handicap

**Please note:** If the team's aggregate GA Handicap drops below the minimum of 32.0 the reduced GA Handicap will apply at the Regional/State Final to determine Daily Handicaps.

Should three (3) team members' GA Handicap drop to 9.9 or lower after qualifying at the Local Event and progress to the Regional/State Final, they are eligible to compete however must play off the lowest handicap.

- Qualifiers to the Regional/State Final and Championship Final will not be eligible to play in the specific stage of the Volkswagen Scramble until they have been duly certified by the Volkswagen Scramble Rules Committee. To become duly certified, the handicap of each amateur team member must pass an examination.
- The disqualification of either a PGA Member or an amateur team member shall result in the disqualification of their affiliated team.

## 5.6 Regional/State Final Eligibility

A club may send more than one team to the Regional/State Final, based on the number of Local Event entries, if it meets the following requirements.

- A minimum of 36 participants to send one team (women's only events);
- A minimum of 48 participants to send one team (mixed events);
- A minimum of 96 participants to send two teams (women's only events);
- A minimum of 108 participants to send two teams (mixed events);
- A minimum of 160 participants to send three teams; and
- A minimum of 212 participants to send four teams.

A club can send a maximum of four (4) teams to the Regional/State Final for each Local Event conducted.

**Important Note: no club will qualify a team for a Regional/State Final unless the Volkswagen Scramble Local Event it is hosting has at least the minimum number of 48 officially entered players who have paid the entry fee. Please note that for women's only events the minimum number of officially entered players is reduced to 36.**

## 5.7 Golf Course Eligibility

A regulation eighteen-hole or nine-hole Golf facility with an official Slope Rating.

**Note:** in cases where a club does not engage or is not serviced by a PGA Member, a Volkswagen Scramble Coordinator can provide assistance in supporting and administering that club Volkswagen Scramble Local Event - subject to approval by the PGA Events Division. It is encouraged that clubs initially seek the assistance of a PGA Member prior to running an event.

## 5.8 Rules of Play

The Royal and Ancient Rules of Golf will govern all competition, except for local rules of play and those regarding the Volkswagen Scramble team format. A local rule or condition of entry may not supersede a Volkswagen Scramble rule. See Volkswagen Scramble Local Event Rules Sheet at the end of this section.

### Substitutions

A team member may be substituted if he/she is unable to play in the next level of competition. Prior to the next stage of competition, the decision should be made in writing and submitted to your Volkswagen Scramble Coordinator as to whether the substitute will accompany the team to the next stage of the Volkswagen Scramble should they be successful, or whether the original member at the Local Event level returns to the team for the next level of the competition. If written notification is not submitted prior to the next stage it will be the right of the Substitute player to proceed to the next stage of Competition.

The current GA Handicap of a substituting amateur must be equal to, greater than or up to a maximum of two (2.0) strokes less than the approved GA Handicap of the original team member (the handicap that was in effect when the team played at the Local Event). For example, if the original team member had a GA Handicap of 12.3 for the Local Event and the substitute's GA Handicap is 15.7, then the substitute player will use a GA Handicap of 12.3 at the Regional/State Final to determine their Daily Handicap. If the original player had a GA Handicap of 12.1, and the substitute is off 11.2, then the substitute will use a GA Handicap of 11.2 to determine their Daily Handicap for the Regional/State Final.

Only two (2) substitutions will be allowed for the duration of the tournament (**Note:** these two substitutions cannot occur at the same stage of the tournament e.g. the substitution of a Local Event player for a Regional/State Final and a further substitution following a Regional Final team's qualification for the Championship Final is acceptable - the substitution of two Local Event players for a Regional/State Final is not permitted). More than two substitutions over the duration of the tournament will not be allowed, as the team will no longer have the identity of the team that played at the Local Event. If a team is unable to participate within this rule the next placed team from the previous level will advance in their place. The lowest team GA Handicap from the local or regional level will always apply when substitutes are involved.

Females can be substituted by a male (and vice versa) providing that all GA Handicap requirements are met.

At its discretion, the Volkswagen Scramble Rules Committee reserves the right to disallow a substitution of a team member when it is apparent that the substitution is being made to improve the team's chances of winning and/or not to replace a team member who is unable to play in the next level of competition.

A PGA Professional may be substituted by his/her assistant or by a PGA State Office approved PGA Professional.

## Women Participants

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Women amateurs and women PGA Professionals are to tee off from the ladies tees.

## Scoring

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A team's score is calculated after an eighteen (18) hole round has been completed. An exception to this may be applied during weather affected round, at the discretion of the Volkswagen Scramble Rules Committee.

## Tie Breakers

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The method for determining tie-breakers at both Local Events and Regional/State Finals is as follows:

- **Count Back** - The winner is determined by count back taking the lowest net score for the last nine holes (holes 10 to 18). If tied teams have the same score for the last nine holes, then the winner will be determined on the basis of the lowest net score for the last six holes, then the last three holes and then hole by hole from the eighteenth hole. Using this method deduct one half, one third, one-sixth etc. of the team handicap when determining net results.

- **Sudden Death - (Championship Final)** - In the case of a tie at the Championship Final a (gross) sudden death play-off would be used to determine the winner whilst time permits.

The time allowed for a result and the sequence of holes to be played will be announced by the match committee at the time of commencement of the play-off.

If, at the completion of the allotted time, no result has been achieved, the winning team will be decided by using the count back system applicable (prescribed above) and applied to the final round of the Championship Final. If a tie still exists the count back will be applied to the second round and finally the first round to determine the winner.

## Special Rules

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- If a team is disqualified for a rules violation, no entry fees will be refunded.
- If a team cannot participate in the next level of play, their entry fee will be refunded providing the PGA Events Office is given 7 days notice prior to the event.
- A team is not eligible to compete for prizes or Regional/State Final qualification at the Local Event with only 3 players as the team has not met the requirements to enter the Volkswagen Scramble.
- A Member who misrepresents a handicap or who knowingly violates a tournament condition of competition may be reported to his/her respective PGA State Office and to PGA of Australia National Office where he/she may be held in violation of the PGA Code of Ethics.