



women's news

DIRECT
to your
inbox!

Get all the latest news, leaderboards, results & so much more @ www.Englandgolf.org

Forward this to a friend! [CLICK HERE>>](#)



YOUR CHANCE TO CHASE YOUR DREAM

Were you the women's England Golf Medal winner at your club in 2016? It could be your chance to Chase Your Dream and win a place in a European Tour Pro-Am, thanks to a partnership between Bridgestone Tyres and England Golf.

But hurry! The closing date for women to enter the new Bridgestone Chase Your Dream Trophy is 22 March.

The Trophy is open to members of England Golf's 1900 affiliated clubs, with separate competitions for men and women to discover the top handicap golfers of the year.

It will take competitors on a golfing adventure with nine men and nine women qualifying to play in the Pro-Am at the Bridgestone Challenge on the European Challenge Tour. One team there will win a dream outing with a top Tour player at the Pro-Am of the British Masters supported by Sky Sports.

The women's Bridgestone Chase Your Dream Trophy replaces the Grand Medal competition. It is open to players who won the 2016 England Golf Medal at their club, by returning the lowest aggregate of four net medal scores.

These players are eligible to enter one of six regional finals and the top 10 players at each will go forward to the national final in England Golf Week at Woodhall Spa in August, where the men's final will also take place.

The individual winners of each final will be England's handicap golfers of the year. The top nine players at each final will play in the Pro-Am at the Bridgestone Challenge on Wednesday, 6 September at Luton Hoo in Bedfordshire.

The most successful team there will play in the Pro-Am at The British Masters supported by Sky Sports, at Close House Golf Club, Northumberland, on Wednesday 27 September.

[CLICK HERE > TO READ MORE](#)

[CLICK HERE > FOR WOMEN'S ENTRY INFORMATION](#)



DON'T MISS OUR GREAT GOLF BALL GIVEAWAY

We've teamed up with our official partner **TaylorMade-adidas Golf** to run fortnightly prize draws, each with **a fantastic prize of 3 dozen TaylorMade TP5 golf balls worth £150**

They are open to everyone who has registered with the England Golf Member Benefits Programme - and entries for the first draw open on 13 March.

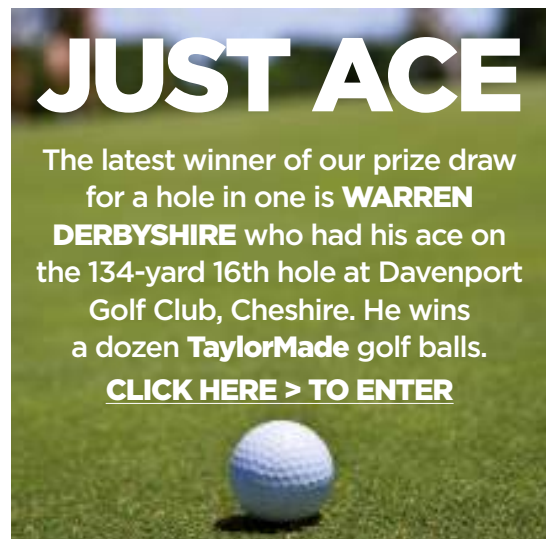
[CLICK HERE > FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

The Programme is free to join and members can track their handicaps online as well as enter prize draws and take advantage of offers from partners.

JUST ACE

The latest winner of our prize draw for a hole in one is **WARREN DERBYSHIRE** who had his ace on the 134-yard 16th hole at Davenport Golf Club, Cheshire. He wins a dozen **TaylorMade** golf balls.

[CLICK HERE > TO ENTER](#)





Inspirational golfers, clubs and counties have been announced as finalists for the 2017 England Golf Awards.

They'll be celebrated at a glittering ceremony at Lord's Cricket Ground on Thursday, 16 March, when the spotlight will shine on all that's great about golf in England.

THE FINALISTS ARE:

- **CLUB COACH OF THE YEAR**
Ben Knight, PGA professional of Chartham Park Golf Club, Sussex
James Verrall, PGA professional of Haywards Heath Golf Club, Sussex

- **VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR**
Simon Bacon of Radcliffe-on-Trent Golf Club, Nottinghamshire
Jenny Davies of Bondhay Golf Club, Yorkshire

- **YOUNG AMBASSADOR OF THE YEAR, IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE GOLF FOUNDATION**
Emma Anderson of Sherwood Forest Golf Club, Nottinghamshire
Duale Dabayl, Golf Activator with Community Golf, Surrey
[CLICK HERE > TO READ ABOUT THESE GRASSROOTS HEROES](#)

- **GOLFMARK CLUB OF THE YEAR, SPONSORED BY TAYLORMADE-ADIDAS GOLF**
Essendon Country Club, Hertfordshire
The Point at Polzeath, Cornwall

- **MOST WELCOMING GOLF CLUB, SPONSORED BY AMERICAN GOLF**
Fynn Valley Golf Club, Suffolk
Leeds Golf Centre, Yorkshire

- **STRONGEST COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**
Bromley Golf Centre, Kent
Hollingbury Park Golf Course, Sussex
[CLICK HERE > TO READ ABOUT THESE CLUBS](#)

- **COUNTY OF THE YEAR, SPONSORED BY SPORTS MARKETING SURVEYS INC.**
Lancashire
Warwickshire
[CLICK HERE > TO READ ABOUT THESE COUNTIES](#)

ENGLAND ORDERS OF MERIT ARE UNDERWAY FOR 2017

The England Golf order of merit schedules for 2017 are underway, with **ANNABEL BAILEY** and **JOSH MCMAHON** setting the very early pace.

Bailey, from Kirby Muxloe in Leicestershire, and McMahon, from Wallasey in Cheshire had the distinction of topping the first tables of the season, which were compiled after the Portuguese amateur championship.

But there's a long way to go, with a total of 27 events on the women's schedule and 29 for the men. There are also order of merit tables for girls, senior women, boys and senior men.

For the first time this year the tables will be used alongside the World Amateur Golf Rankings (WAGR) for some selections for the men's and women's European Team Championships and the Home Internationals.

[READ MORE >](#)



England Golf has taken action to stop rogue players manipulating the handicap system to their advantage.

Now, everyone who plays in non-qualifying competitions away from home must return their scores to their home club. Players who ignore this responsibility could, as a last resort, have their handicap suspended.

Over recent years there has been a number of cases of players who protect inflated handicaps, only to repeatedly collect high-value rewards when playing in competitions away from home.

"We're not talking about a sleeve of balls," said GEMMA HUNTER, England Golf's Handicap and Course Rating Manager. *"These are big prizes including luxury trips overseas, sets of clubs and electric trolleys."*

England Golf has introduced a clause of the CONGU handicapping system to provide its affiliated clubs with evidence to support handicap reviews.

"It's essential to do this to protect the integrity of the system," said Gemma. *"We can't sit back and let people manipulate the system, but without evidence clubs can't take any action."*

[READ MORE >](#)

ENGLAND TO HOST 2019 EUROPEAN WOMEN'S AMATEUR



Parkstone golf course, Dorset

England Golf will host one of the top events in women's amateur golf when it stages the 2019 European ladies' championship at Parkstone Golf Club in Dorset.

The champion will be rewarded with a place in the Ricoh Women's British Open and past winners include England's own Bronte Law in 2016.

"We are delighted to host this championship and to be able to play it on Parkstone's beautiful course," said England Golf Championship Director JAMES CRAMPTON. ***"It will be a great test for the competitors and a wonderful venue for spectators."***

The course, ranked in the top 100 courses of Great Britain and Ireland, will offer competitors a heathland challenge, coupled with a stunning setting known for its natural beauty.

[READ MORE >](#)



Bridget Jackson



Greetham Valley golf course

NEWS IN BRIEF

> Renowned English golfer BRIDGET JACKSON has accepted an invitation to become an honorary member of The Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews.

[READ MORE >](#)

> Sport England announced an £8.48m award to the England Golf Partnership to support talented players and encourage regular golfers to continue playing.

[READ MORE >](#)

> England Golf and Mytime Active, one of the UK's largest pay and play golf course operators, have renewed their partnership to grow the game and put the customer first.

[READ MORE >](#)

> Greetham Valley in Rutland is the 2017 Environmental Golf Course of the Year after 'astounding' the judges of the Golf Environment Awards, hosted by the Sports Turf Research Institute.

[READ MORE >](#)



HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW THE RULES?

TEST YOURSELF WITH THIS MONTH'S QUESTIONS

Q1. In a stroke play competition, Linda is playing the 4th hole and she has struck her ball towards the 5th putting green. When she reaches her ball, she discovers that she will be standing on the putting green in order to make the stroke whilst her ball lies on the fringe. Linda proceeds to lift her ball and drop it at the nearest point of relief. She continues to play out the hole. **What is the ruling?**

- A.** Linda incurs no penalty and must continue the play of the hole.
- B.** Linda incurs a 1 stroke penalty and must replace the ball at its original position.
- C.** Linda incurs a 2 stroke penalty and must continue the play of the hole.

Q2. Sandra's ball has come to rest up against a tree in such a position that it is impracticable for her to make a stroke in any direction. She wishes to claim relief without penalty because when taking her stance her foot lies within a burrowing animal hole. **What is the ruling?**

- A.** Sandra may not take relief from the burrowing animal hole.
- B.** Sandra may take relief from the burrowing animal hole without penalty.
- C.** Sandra may take relief from the burrowing animal hole under penalty of one stroke.

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE RULES
[CLICK HERE >](#) TO VISIT THE R&A WEBSITE

MAJOR RULE CHANGES ON THE WAY



Changes are on the way to modernise the Rules of Golf and make them easier to understand and apply.

THE PROPOSALS BY THE R&A AND THE USGA WILL HELP TO SPEED UP GOLF AND MAKE THE RULES FAR LESS DAUNTING FOR NEWCOMERS TO THE GAME.

The proposed 24 new Rules, reduced from the current 34, have been written in a user-friendly style with shorter sentences, commonly used phrases, bulleted lists and explanatory headings. They will be supported by technology that allows the use of images, videos and graphics.

PROPOSED CHANGES INCLUDE:

- No penalty for accidentally moving a ball on the putting green or in searching for a ball
- No penalty if a ball played from the putting green hits an unattended flagstick in the hole
- Spike marks can be repaired
- A ball can be dropped from just above the ground
- The time allowed for searching for a ball will be reduced from five minutes to three.

The R&A and the USGA are asking for golfers' feedback on the proposals. This will be reviewed before the changes are finalised in 2018 and take effect on 1 January 2019.

In the meantime the current 2016 edition of the Rules of Golf remain in force.

[READ MORE >](#)



Lily May Humphreys

LILY MAY TAKES ON THE MEN AND SHINES

England 14-year-old Lily May Humphreys declared her intentions for the 2017 season with a remarkable third place finish in a men's professional event in Spain.

The honours in the Evolve Tour's 54-hole tournament went to MIGUEL ANGEL MARTIN, a three-time winner on the European Tour.

But Lily May, who shot level par, could have been second were it not for a triple bogey eight at the 14th in her first round. As it was, she had rounds of 71, 73 72 and finished just a shot behind Spain's DAVID BORDA.

Lily May, from Channels in Essex, played in the event just after joining the England Golf girls' squad for warm weather training at Quinta do Lago in Portugal.

She's following up on a remarkable year in 2016. Lily May, enjoyed a long list of successes, including wins in the Fairhaven Trophies, the English U16 girls' championship, the North of England U16 championship and the Liphook Scratch Cup, where she became the youngest-ever player to take the trophy. She was also third in the European Young Masters.

England Golf would like to thank its sponsors and partners:



We would love to hear from you, contact us at:

EMAIL: info@englandgolf.org

PHONE: 01526 354500

POST: The National Golf Centre, The Broadway, Woodhall Spa, Lincolnshire, LN10 6PU

It's all on the England Golf website!

www.Englandgolf.org



The English Golf Union Ltd is a company limited by Guarantee registered in England, trading as England Golf. Registered number: 5564108. Registered Office: The National Golf Centre, The Broadway, Woodhall Spa, Lincolnshire, LN10 6PU.



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK
FOLLOW US ON TWITTER