



GOLF COMPETITION RULEBOOK

This rulebook sets out the competition format and operating rules for the Golf Competition at the Maccabi Junior Games 2026. All players and parents/guardians are expected to familiarise themselves with these rules before the event.

1. COMPETITION & AGE CATEGORIES

- Golf is an individual competition played as one overall division.
- The competition includes two scoring competitions played simultaneously over the same stipulated round:
 - Medal Gross
 - Stroke Net
- Every player competes in both competitions using the same round and scorecard.
- A player may win the Medal Gross competition, the Stroke Net competition or both.
- An official handicap is required to enter the competition. No handicap, no entry.
- The accepted handicap range is +4 to 24.
- Players may be up to 18 years old, with players turning 18 during the 2026 calendar year being the oldest eligible participants.
- There is no minimum age.
- The official handicap is used only to calculate the Stroke Net result and does not affect the Medal Gross result.
- Golfers may not also participate in a team sport due to scheduling and logistical requirements. Golf is a standalone commitment for the day.
- Proof of age and an official handicap may be requested.
- The Tournament Director has final authority on eligibility disputes.

2. COMPETITION FORMAT & SCORING

- All eligible golfers compete in one overall division.
- There are no separate A or B handicap divisions.
- Separate results will be produced for the Medal Gross and Stroke Net competitions.
- The same scorecard is used to calculate both results

Medal Gross

- A player's actual number of strokes is counted, including all applicable penalty strokes.
- No handicap adjustment is applied.
- The player with the lowest gross score wins the Medal Gross competition.

Stroke Net

- A player's official handicap is deducted from their gross score to calculate their net score.
- Net score is calculated as:
 - **Gross Score – Official Handicap = Net Score**
- The player with the lowest net score wins the Stroke Net competition.
- Players are ranked separately for the Gross and Net competitions.

3. EQUIPMENT & PREPARATION

- Players must provide and use their own golf clubs and personal equipment.
- Players are responsible for ensuring that their equipment is suitable for play.
- Players must arrive at the course and be ready at their designated tee time.
- Each player will be allocated a marker within their 4-ball.
- Players must follow any additional course or competition instructions issued before the start of play.

4. RULES OF PLAY

- Play follows the recognised Rules of Golf as governed by the R&A, applied in a fair and reasonable manner for the Maccabi Junior Games competition.
- Each player is responsible for counting and recording their own strokes, including all penalty strokes.
- A player is also responsible for checking that their score has been correctly recorded.
- Lost ball or out of bounds: the applicable penalty procedure under the Rules of Golf will apply.
- An unplayable lie may be dealt with in accordance with the applicable relief options under the Rules of Golf, including any penalty stroke where required.
- A player who cannot find their ball within the permitted search time must proceed in accordance with the applicable lost-ball procedure to maintain the pace of play.
- Groups must maintain their position on the course and keep up with the group in front where reasonably possible.
- Faster groups should be allowed to play through where appropriate and in accordance with course etiquette.
- Players are expected to repair divots and pitch marks, rake bunkers, remain still and quiet while other players are playing and observe appropriate on-course etiquette and courtesy.

5. SCORECARDS, RESULTS & TIE-BREAKS

- Each player will be allocated a marker within their playing group.
- Scorecards must be completed accurately throughout the round.
- At the end of the round, the scorecard must be checked and signed by both the player and their marker to be valid.
- The signed scorecard must be submitted as instructed by the Tournament Director or designated official.
- The Gross score is the total number of strokes taken during the round, including all applicable penalty strokes.
- The Net score is calculated by deducting the player's official handicap from their Gross score.
- The player with the lowest Gross score wins the Medal Gross competition.
- The player with the lowest Net score wins the Stroke Net competition.

In the event of a tie:

- Gross ties will be resolved by a gross-score countout.
- Net ties will be resolved by a net-score countout.
- If players remain tied following the countout, a sudden-death playoff hole or holes may be used at the discretion of the Tournament Director.

6. START TIMES, FORFEITS & NO-SHOWS

- Players must report to their designated tee and be ready to play at their allocated start time.
- Players are responsible for ensuring that they are aware of their tee time and any communicated changes to the schedule.
- Failure to arrive on time may result in disqualification from the competition at the discretion of the Tournament Director.
- The Tournament Director may consider genuine extenuating circumstances when determining whether a late player may participate.
- Players must maintain an appropriate pace of play throughout the round.
- Any player who withdraws or is unable to complete the round must notify a Tournament Official as soon as reasonably possible.

7. CONDUCT, FAIR PLAY & DISCIPLINE

- All players are expected to compete honestly and uphold the spirit of fair play throughout the competition.
- Players must show respect toward fellow competitors, course staff, officials and Tournament personnel.
- Deliberately recording an incorrect score, cheating or attempting to gain an unfair advantage will result in disqualification.
- Abusive, offensive or threatening behaviour toward another player, official, staff member or spectator will not be tolerated.
- Deliberate damage to the course or property may result in disciplinary action or disqualification.
- Players must comply with reasonable instructions issued by Tournament Officials and course personnel.

- Depending on the seriousness of the conduct, sanctions may include a warning, penalty, disqualification or removal from the competition.
- The Tournament Director may impose further sanctions where conduct is considered sufficiently serious.

8. MEDALS, POST-ROUND ARRANGEMENTS & FINAL AUTHORITY

- Final placings will be determined separately for the Medal Gross and Stroke Net competitions.
- Gold, silver and bronze placings will be awarded in accordance with the approved competition and medal structure.
- All golfers are encouraged to head to the Athletes Zone at the main venue after completing their round to join the festivities and support their fellow athletes.
- A detailed set of operational or course-specific rules may be issued on the day and must be followed by all participants.
- Where a situation is not specifically covered by this rulebook, the Tournament Director will determine the appropriate ruling.
- The Tournament Director has final authority over eligibility, handicaps, scoring, tie-breaks, scheduling, conduct, weather-related decisions and any other matter relating to the running of the competition.
- The organising committee reserves the right to make reasonable operational adjustments where necessary to ensure the fair, safe and efficient running of the Maccabi Junior Games 2026.

