

# **Policies And Procedures** 2023-1

## ***For No EXemptions Tour, Inc. OGATOUR.org Allied Activities Administrative Support***

***The terms “Activity” and “Allied Activity” shall mean any Tour, Series or Championship event being supported by the OGATOUR.org program.***

**1. ELIGIBILITY** Tournaments are open to all players. All players must first agree to the current Tour Rules Of Play and this Tour Policies & Procedures. At any time, any player may be rejected or disqualified if the Committee feels that such action is warranted and in the best interest of the tour or Activity.

**2. PLAYER STATUS** Prior to play, players will be required to claim status as “professional” or “amateur”. Any non-resident of the United States of America must declare their citizenship before receiving any prize award. Any amateur finishing in the award places will be awarded prize money with value equal to the posted award amount but not greater than \$1000, or otherwise in accordance with the USGA printed rules of Amateur Status. Amateurs may receive cash from “optional” competitions, **not** the basic event, consistent with the USGA rules of amateur status and policy on gambling, but the total event awards must not exceed \$1,000. “These limits do not apply to competitions that take place outside ‘tee-to-green competitions’ on a golf course or simulator, such as long-drive, putting or golf-skills competitions. Juniors and student players should check with

high school, collegiate or university associations to ensure eligibility.” [USGA 1/2022]. All OGATOUR.org Allied Activities accept no responsibility for protecting any player’s amateur status beyond USGA policy conformity.

**3. PERFORMANCE AWARDS** Performance awards will always be issued on the day of the event when practical, or held for later presentation. Any amateur award level valued in excess of \$1,000 shall have the excess over the limit distributed evenly among all higher finishing professionals. If there are no higher finishing professionals, any “excess” shall be distributed evenly to the highest finishing professional(s).

**4. ENTRY FEES PAYMENT** See the Activity specific rules on the [OGATOUR.org Allied Activity page](#). **NO ENTRY FEE REFUNDS** shall be granted after the player has teed off on the first hole of play.

**5. ENTRY DEADLINES & WITHDRAWALS** All player entry notifications must be received at least **96 hours prior** to the tournament’s scheduled start, in order to reserve a spot in the respective event. Players canceling within 24 hours of the event may be required to prepay any future entry fees.

**6. FIELD SIZE LIMITATIONS** Field sizes are often critically limited by the host clubs. Entries will be accepted on a first come, first served basis.

**7. ALLIED ACTIVITY MEMBERSHIP FEE** may be required. See the Activity specific rules on the [OGATOUR.org Allied Activity page](#).

**8. STIPULATED ROUNDS** Tournament rounds shall be 18 holes of individual stroke play unless otherwise declared by the Committee. If the field of players is unable to complete the round due to lightning or darkness etc., the numbered holes, usually at least nine holes, completed by all the players in the field may constitute the tournament round. In the event that part of the field is unable to complete any hole, the round shall be cancelled.

**9. PRACTICE ROUNDS** Practice rounds, not on any day of the competition, are at the discretion and terms of the host club. Players must contact the host clubs to arrange and negotiate costs for practice rounds.

**10. HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS** The Committee shall make determinations with respect to event cancellation or abbreviation due to hazardous weather or unplayable conditions. Players play at their own risk and may discontinue their play and seek shelter without penalty when they deem that threatening conditions have risen to an unsafe level. Note: Tournaments may be conducted during periods of inclement weather. Players must continue play without delay during periods of not safety threatening inclement weather such as heavy rainfall in accordance with The Rules Of Golf. The Committee and Host Club claim no responsibility to assure the safety of any player.

**11. STARTING TIMES** Players must obtain tee times by calling or **texting** the Allied Activity office between 7-9pm the night before play. Day-2 or Day-3 tee times may be published on the OGATOUR.org website. Starting times and player groupings may be modified if the Committee deems it

necessary, in which case ample notification to the player will be provided.

**12. DECIDING TIES TO DECLARE THE WINNER** Any ties for will be settled through hole-by-hole playoff if practical. Except that for lower cost 1-day events, a “split” shall occur if at least one player who is tied for first place desires a split or is otherwise unable to be present for a playoff. In this case these tied players shall be declared “co-champions”.

**13. RULES OF PLAY** are as published under the current “Tour Rules Of Play”.

**14. CADDIES, SPECTATORS & OTHER NON-PLAYERS** At the host club’s sole discretion, caddies, spectators and other non-players may be permitted to accompany players onto the course as “third party guests”. However, these persons must first be registered by their host player with this Committee and through the golf club pro shop staff, at which point any fee required by the golf club must be paid. Any tour player who is accompanied by a non-player at the host club facility shall accept responsibility for any damage or harm caused by the non- player to any other person at the host club facility, to the Committee, or to the host club. These third party guests shall maintain a safe position to the side of their associated player, and not take a position where they may be struck by a golf club or ball.

**15. DRESS CODE** The attire for tournament contestants shall conform with the policy of the respective host clubs. In North America between November 1st and March 31st, dress code for multi-day events shall require long slacks unless specifically exempted. Violation of this code may be grounds for suspension from similar events.

**16. CONDUCT** All players must be fully acquainted with and understand the “USGA Rules Of Golf” prior to play. The utmost courtesy is expected between players at all times. Players must play at an efficient pace, and remain completely still and quiet during any other player’s period of shot execution. The consumption of alcoholic beverages or the violation of any governing law or legal statute during any round is strictly prohibited. By local rule, no audio or video devices such as music players or televisions shall be permitted during the round. The penalty for misconduct may be disqualification and/or suspension from future events.

**17. PACE OF PLAY** Consistent with USGA Rule 6-7, pace of play guidelines are hereby established and may be enforced with associated penalties. Players/playing groups will first receive a warning/notice before penalization of the slow individual(s) for subsequent violation(s). Shot execution periods shall not require longer than 40 seconds from the time the player’s turn has come and that player has reached the ball to be played. Consult with the Committee for situational clock starting points for play at the teeing ground and putting green. The Committee encourages player efficiency between shot executions. “READY GOLF” is encouraged and player preparedness to execute shots shows good sportsmanship. Poor sportsmanship may be cause for suspension of players from future events.

**18. ASSUMPTION OF RISK** As a participant in any Allied Activity event the participant assumes all risks and saves as harmless and indemnifies the Allied Activity, its Committee members, any sponsoring company or legal entity, and any host golf club from and against all liability, loss and expense arising directly or indirectly from participation in any Allied

Activity event, whether or not such liability, loss or expense occurs by reason of negligence of the Allied Activity, its Committee members, or any host golf club. Furthermore, the participant of any Allied Activity event agrees to fully compensate the host club, or any other party or person for any damage(s) incurred by that club, party or person which may be attributed by the Committee to the actions of the player/participant's or participant's associated third party guest(s).

**19. MEDIA RELEASE** As a participant, the member agrees to release without compensation any media coverage or record of that participant's play, practice or other activity at the event site including interviews or testimonials, exclusively to the Allied Activity. Such media coverage by the Allied Activity may be accomplished through marketing videos, newspapers, magazines, television, internet posting or broadcasting to include social media, or any other media.