



THE 2009 EUROPEAN TOUR QUALIFYING SCHOOL



First Qualifying Stage (Section A)
First Qualifying Stage (Section B)
Second Qualifying Stage
Final Qualifying Stage

15th – 18th Sept 2009
22nd – 25th Sept 2009
20th – 23rd Nov 2009
28th Nov – 3rd Dec 2009

(For closing dates see 4. Entry Deadlines)

1. FORMAT

The School will be conducted in three stages of stroke play.

(A) FIRST QUALIFYING STAGE (72 holes scheduled)

This is split into two sections (**Section A and Section B**) which will be played during different weeks and players are able to select their preferred section. This is for all applicants **except** those who are exempt into the **Second Stage** or the **Final Stage**.

The **First Stage (Section A)** will be conducted on **15th – 18th September** at the following venues:

Dundonald Links, Gables, Ayrshire, Scotland (nearest airport, Prestwick – 10 min, Glasgow 1 hour)

Chart Hills GC, Nr Biddenden, Kent, England (nearest airport, London Gatwick – 1 hour)

Lübker Golf Resort, Nimtofte, Denmark (nearest airport, Aarhus – 30 minutes)

Ribagolfe, Vargem Fresca, near Lisbon (nearest airport, Lisbon – 30 minutes)

Applicants are advised that at all venues, Saturday 19th September may be used as a full playing day.

The **First Stage (Section B)** will be conducted on **22nd – 25th September** at the following venues:

Golf de Moliets, Nr Biarritz, France (nearest airport, Biarritz – 1 hour)

The Oxfordshire Golf Club, Thame, Oxfordshire, England (nearest airport, Heathrow – 45 minutes)

Circolo Golf Bogogno (the Conte Course), Bogogno, Nr. Milan, Italy
(nearest airport, Milan Malpensa – 30 minutes)

Golf & Country Club Fleesensee (Scandinavian Course), Göhren-Lebbin, Near Berlin, Germany
(nearest airport, Rostock - Laage – 45 minutes, Berlin -Tegel 90min, Hamburg 120 minutes)

Applicants are advised that at all venues, Saturday 26th September may be used as a full playing day.

Applicants must indicate their choice of Section and list their **venue preferences** for that Section in order from 1 to 3. The European Tour will honour requests where possible but **the primary objective will be to balance the numbers drawn at each venue**. In the event of any venue being oversubscribed, priority of course nomination may be determined by the payment date of the entry fee. **The first 90 paid up entries received for each venue will be allocated to that venue**. Thereafter, entrants will be placed according to their next available preference during the Section selected. **Field sizes will be restricted to a maximum of 120 players at each venue**.

After 54 holes during each **Section** of the **First Stage**, only those players within **7 shots** of the final qualifying place will go forward to contest the final round. The number of players qualifying to proceed to the **Second Stage** will be announced during the appropriate Section. (It will not be less than 18 per course.) In all cases players who tie the final qualifying place score will proceed to the **Second Stage**.

(B) SECOND QUALIFYING STAGE (72 holes scheduled) – 20th – 23rd November

The following players are exempt from the **First Stage** and eligible for the **Second Stage**

1. All European Tour Members in Categories 1-14 as at 1st September 2009.
2. 2009 Challenge Tour Members in positions 1 - 100 in the Challenge Tour Rankings on Tuesday 1st September 2009.
3. 2009 Challenge Tour Members in positions 46-90 in the Final 2009 Challenge Tour Rankings.
4. Winner(s) of the Qualifying School in 2005, 06 and 07.
5. Winner of the Challenge Tour Rankings in 2005, 06 and 07.
6. Winners of PGA European Tour Order of Merit events prior to 1st January 1999.
7. European Tour Members in positions 81-100 in the European Tour Career Money List on 1st September 2009.
8. The leading players (ranked 1st) in the following Satellite Tour Final Orders of Merit for 2009:
 - The PGA Europro Tour.
 - The Nordic League.
 - EPD Tour.
 - ALPS Tour.
9. The leading 4th – 10th entrants on 1st September to a limit of 30th place in the following Orders of Merit:
 - The Asian Tour. (**Enter by 1st September**)
 - The Japan Golf Tour. (**Enter by 1st September**)
 - PGA Tour of Australasia (Final 2008 Order of Merit) (**Enter by 1st September**)
 - The Sunshine Tour (Final 2008 Order of Merit) (**Enter by 1st September**)

10. The leading 5 entrants on 1st September to a limit of 20th place in the following Satellite Tour Orders of Merit:
 - The PGA Europro Tour. **(Enter by 1st September)**
 - The Nordic League. **(Enter by 1st September)**
 - EPD Tour. **(Enter by 1st September)**
 - ALPS Tour. **(Enter by 1st September)**
 11. The leading 5 entrants on 1st September to a limit of 20th place in the Tour De Las Americas Order of Merit. **(Enter by 1st September).**
 12. The leading 3 entrants to a limit of 10th place in the World Amateur Golf Ranking at the end of week 35 (30th August). **(Enter by 1st September).**
- Note:** Under 9,10,11 and 12 above, should an exempt player withdraw after close of entries, he may be replaced by the next available player but only before the commencement of First Stage.

The **Second Stage** will be conducted on **20th – 23rd November** at the following venues:

Arcos Gardens, Arcos, near Jerez, Spain (nearest airport, Jerez – 30 minutes)

Costa Ballena Ocean Golf Club, Costa Ballena, Rota, Cadiz, Spain (nearest airport, Jerez – 30 minutes)

Sherry Golf, Jerez, Cadiz, Spain (nearest airport, Jerez – 20 minutes)

Hacienda Del Alamo, Fuente Alamo, Murcia, Spain (nearest airport – Murcia (St Javier) – 30 minutes, Alicante – 1 hour 15 minutes)

Applicants are advised that at all venues Tuesday 24th November may be used as a full playing day. There will be no cut during **Second Stage**, however, a competitor is entitled to withdraw at the conclusion of any round provided that notification is given before close of play each day.

The number of players qualifying to proceed to the **Final Stage** will be announced during the tournament week.

Ties will **not** be taken and play offs are likely. These will be conducted as soon as possible after play has concluded.

Note: Venue requests for the Second Stage will not be accepted and the venue allocation will be at the discretion of the European Tour.

(C) FINAL QUALIFYING STAGE (108 holes scheduled) – 28th November – 3rd December 2009

The following players are exempt from the **First and Second Stages** and eligible for the **Final Stage**.

- a. Players earning Category 12 membership of the European Tour for the 2010 season (normally 116 – 145 in the final 2009 European Tour Race to Dubai).
- b. Players in positions 16 - 45 in the Final 2009 Challenge Tour rankings.
- c. Winners of European Tour Order of Merit events after 1st January 1999.
- d. The winner(s) of the last played Qualifying School.
- e. The winner of the Challenge Tour Rankings in 2008.
- f. European Tour members in positions 41-80 of the European Tour Career Money list on 1st September 2009.
- g. Players in 140th position and above in the 2009 Race to Dubai as at 1st September 2009.
- h. The 3 leading entrants on 1st September to a limit of 30th place in the following Orders of Merit.
 - The Asian Tour **(Enter by 1st September)**
 - The Japan Golf Tour **(Enter by 1st September)**
 - PGA Tour of Australasia (Final 2008 Order of Merit) **(Enter by 1st September)**
 - The Sunshine Tour (Final 2008 Order of Merit.) **(Enter by 1st September)**

Note: Should an exempt player withdraw under category h above after close of entries, he may be replaced by the next available player but only before the commencement of Second Stage.

The **Final Stage** will be conducted on **28th November – 3rd December 2009** at the following venue:

PGA Golf de Catalunya (Tour and Stadium Courses) near Girona, Spain
(nearest airport, Girona - 10 minutes, Barcelona 90 minutes)

The Final Stage is scheduled to be played over 108 holes. A field of **156** players will play two rounds over both the Tour and Stadium Courses. After 72 holes, the field will be cut to the leading **70** players and ties who will play 2 further rounds. At the conclusion of 108 holes, the leading **30** players (+ ties) will be ranked according to score. Players holding these positions will be eligible for membership in Category 11(b) of the European Tour (and Category 4(a) of the Challenge Tour) for the 2010 season and will be subject to the 2010 re-rank policy adopted by the Tournament Committee.

Players making the cut and finishing beyond 30th place will be eligible for membership in Category 14 of the European Tour and of the Challenge Tour (Category 7) for the 2010 season. Players failing to make the cut will be eligible for membership of the Challenge Tour (Category 12) for the 2010 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) best 3rd (or 4th) round over the Stadium Course, (d) best last 72 holes, (e) best 1st or 2nd round over the Stadium Course, (f) 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 Stadium Course, b) the best combined 3rd and 4th rounds, c) the best 1st & 2nd round over the Stadium Course, d) based on the 3rd or 4th round over the Stadium Course, the best last 9, 6, 3, 2 and 1 holes (10 to 18).

Players are advised that Friday 4th and Saturday 5th December may be used as full playing days.

Every effort will be made to complete six rounds but a result will be declared if only five or four rounds are possible. In the event that less than four rounds are possible the Final Stage may be rescheduled, in whole or in part.

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 will be returned to the applicant.

Need help or advice?

Contact Sasha Forster, Qualifying School Entries Administrator Tel:+44 (0) 1344 840448.

Email: qs@europeantour.com

Send completed entry form & payment (by post or fax) to:

PGA European Tour

Entries Dept.

Wentworth Drive

Virginia Water

Surrey GU25 4LX

England

Fax: +44 (0) 1344 840529

Please note that we are unable to accept Entry Forms by email.

ENTRY CHECK LIST

HAVE YOU INCLUDED?

1. Handicap certificate (if still an amateur)

2. Remittance advice slip if paying by Bank Transfer

HAVE YOU INFORMED?

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

ARE YOU AWARE?

1. That if you are paying by cheque your entry will not be accepted until the cheque has cleared, this can take 7-10 days.

2. That your entry will not be accepted until your full entry fee and a handicap certificate (if required) have been received.

3. Venue allocations will not be confirmed until 2 days after the close of entries.

4. Cheques are to be made payable to the PGA European Tour.

5. That your entry form will be invalid if it is incomplete, inaccurate or illegible.

2. ELIGIBILITY FOR ENTRY

- a) All male professional golfers.
- b) All male amateur golfers with a handicap of scratch (0) under the Handicapping Scheme adopted by the recognised authority controlling golf in the country from which they elect to enter.

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, but if he is unsuccessful at the Qualifying School, he may apply for reinstatement as an amateur.

3. ENTRY FEES

All applicants **£1,350.00** This payment covers entry to all Stages.

All entry forms must be accompanied by the entry fee. Please note that your entry will not be processed until your full entry fee has been received and banked.

For further information please refer to 4. below.

4. ENTRY DEADLINES

- First Stage** - **Section A**, entries close **1st September 2009**.
- **Section B**, entries close **1st September 2009**.
- Second Stage** - **Clause 9, 10, 11 or 12**, entries close **1st September 2009**.
- **Clause 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8** entries close **28th October 2009**.
- Final Stage** - **Clause h**, entries close **1st September 2009**.
- **Clause a, b, c, d, e, f or g**, entries close **18th November 2009**.

5. WITHDRAWALS

All withdrawals must be notified to the European Tour Entries Dept 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 £1,250.

If a player is absent on the tee without notification, no refund will be given and he may face disciplinary action subject to circumstances. **Once an entrant has teed off refund of entry is not possible.**

6. NOTIFICATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF ENTRY/QUALIFYING VENUE

Once an application has been accepted (only after receipt of any relevant documentation and the full entry fee), applicants will be emailed (or mailed) a Confirmation of Entry. Venue allocation and information will be available **2 days after the close of entries** (see 5. Entry Deadlines) and will be emailed to all applicants who provide an appropriate email address (or mailed if no email address available).

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

7. REGULATIONS

All applicants must:

- a) Acknowledge the sole authority of the Tournament Committee and Board of the European Tour to establish the Qualifying School Rules and Conditions as published in this application for entry and agree to abide by these and any amendments made by them or persons acting with their authority, that may from time to time be made. This may include but not be limited to changes in the above format, conditions and schedule.
- b) Accept and abide by the decisions of the Tournament Committee, Board of Directors, Chief Executive, Qualifying School Director or other authorised person.
- c) Conduct themselves in accordance with the Code of Behaviour of the European Tour as specified in the current European Tour Members General Regulations Handbook. Copies are available from European Tour HQ at Wentworth or from the Tournament Office at any Qualifying School venue.

8. METHODS OF PAYMENT AND PAYMENT ADVICE

When considering entering the European Tour Qualifying School it is vital to organise the payment method in advance as an application for entry will not be processed until the full payment of £1,350.00 has been received and banked.

The following methods of payment are acceptable:

1) **Credit 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. The applicant will need to supply the following information:

- Card Type
- Card Number (should be 16 digits except for Amex, which is 15 digits)
- Security Code (normally the final 3 digits on the signature strip except Amex, which is 4 digits)
- Full Name as shown on card
- 'Valid from' and 'expiry end' dates
- Signature as it appears on the card

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.

Should the funds not be collected on the first attempt to process payment, the European Tour Accounts Department will try on a further two occasions (allowing a few days between attempts) before contacting the applicant. Delays in receipt of payment could result in failure to be allocated to the preferred venue.

The Accounts Department will issue a receipt advising the exact date when the funds were collected from the credit card account.

It is recommended that two weeks after sending in the entry form (and before close of entries) that the applicant check with the credit card company to see if the entry fee of £1,350.00 has been debited from his account. If not, it is likely that processing problems are being experienced and the applicant should contact The European Tour Player's Accounts Department - sstringer@europeantour.com or Tel +44 (0) 1344 840502.

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

2) **UK Bank Account Cheque** - No administration charges. Cheques must be made payable to the 'PGA European Tour'. If paying by cheque please be aware that the entry will not be accepted until the cheque has cleared which may take around 7-10 days.

3) **Sterling Cash** - No administration charges. The mailing of cash is not recommended.

4) **Euro Cash** - Euro cash is acceptable in the amount of €1,600.00. The mailing of cash is not recommended.

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

Bank: Barclays Bank plc
The Luton & Dunstable Group
28 George Street
Luton LU1 2AE UK

Sort Code: 20-53-30
Swift: BARC GB 22
A/c Name: PGA European Tour
A/c No: 200 155 47
IBAN No: GB49 BARC 2053 3020 0155 47

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

To enable the Accounts 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 us being unable to connect your payment to your entry form and thus being unable to process your entry and allocate you to a venue.

Bank charges will be between £6 - £30 and will be charged by all banks involved with the transaction. When asking your bank to make a transfer please make sure they charge you with all costs and not the European Tour.

Please make all cheques payable to the PGA EUROPEAN TOUR.

Need more information on how to pay?

Contact Sara Stringer, Player's Account Manager Tel +44 (0) 1344 840502.

Email: sstringer@europeantour.com

9. GENERAL POLICY

The European Tour reserves the right to reject an application for entry at any time (including during the First or Second Stages). Conduct unbecoming a professional or non-competitive performance including the current or a previous Qualifying School can be a basis for the rejection of an application to enter.