



**APPLICATION TO ENTER
2016/17 PGA TOUR OF AUSTRALASIA
QUALIFYING SCHOOL**

**PGA TOUR OF AUSTRALASIA
FIRST QUALIFYING STAGE**

7-9 December 2016

- (A) *Riverside Oaks, NSW – Gangurru Course*
- (B) *Noosa Springs Golf & Spa Resort, QLD*
- (C) *St Andrews of Hamilton, Hamilton, New Zealand*

14-16 December 2016

- (D) *Sandhurst Golf Club, VIC – North Course*

**PGA TOUR OF AUSTRALASIA
FINAL QUALIFYING STAGE**

17 – 20 January 2017

Sandhurst Club, VIC - Champions Course

INTRODUCTION

The PGA Tour of Australasia Qualifying School has been conducted at the end of each season to establish which players, not otherwise exempt, will gain their playing privileges on the Tour for the following season through a qualifying competition.

Once completed, the entry form must be submitted to the PGA Tour of Australasia, the contact details for which are provided on the form.

The Qualifying School will be conducted in two stages of stroke play as follows:

1. FORMAT

FIRST QUALIFYING STAGE (54 holes scheduled)

The First Stage is divided into four sections (**Sections A, B, C and D**) each Section to be played in a different State/Country as detailed below. Applicants have the opportunity to indicate their preferred venue and, if successful, will contest all three rounds. No cut will be made.

(Section A) Riverside Oaks – Gangurru Course

74 O'Briens Road
Cattai, NSW, 2756
Australia

(Section B) Noosa Springs Golf & Spa Resort

Links Dr,
Noosa Heads QLD 4567
Australia

(Section C) St Andrews of Hamilton

64 St Andrews Terrace
St Andrews
Hamilton, New Zealand 3200

(Section D) Sandhurst Club – North Course

600 Thompson Rd
Sandhurst VIC 3977
Australia

Sections A, B & C

Monday, 5 December 2016	Official Practice Day
Tuesday, 6 December 2016	Official Practice Day
Wednesday, 7 December 2016	Round 1
Thursday, 8 December 2016	Round 2
Friday, 9 December 2016	Round 3

Section D

Monday, 12 December 2016	Official Practice Day
Tuesday, 13 December 2016	Official Practice Day
Wednesday, 14 December 2016	Round 1
Thursday, 15 December 2016	Round 2
Friday, 16 December 2016	Round 3

All applicants, **except those who are exempt into the Final Qualifying Stage**, are required to compete in the First Qualifying Stage. Applicants must indicate on the attached application form their venue preferences in order from 1 to 4. The PGA Tour of Australasia will take account of each applicant's venue preference where possible but the primary objective is to balance the number of applicants playing at each venue and ensure that all competitors play in the same field each day.

The exact number of players qualifying from the First Qualifying Stage to the Final Qualifying Stage will be announced as soon as is possible once all the participants have teed off in the first round of the First Qualifying Stage. Players who are tied on the final qualifying place score at each **Section** shall be required to participate in a play-off to determine who qualifies for the Final Stage.

Players must register in person with the PGA, at the relevant Tournament Office no later than 12:00 noon on Tuesday, 6 December 2016 for those competing in Sections A, B, C and 12:00noon on Tuesday 11 December 2016 for those competing in Section D.

FINAL QUALIFYING STAGE (72 holes scheduled)

Sandhurst Club – Champions Course

600 Thompson Rd
Sandhurst VIC 3977
Australia

Monday, 16 January 2017	Official Practice Day
Tuesday, 17 January 2017	Round 1
Wednesday, 18 January 2017	Round 2
Thursday, 19 January 2017	Round 3
Friday, 20 January 2017	Round 4

The following players are exempt from participating in PGA Tour of Australasia First Qualifying Stage and are exempt into Final Qualifying Stage:

- Any former tournament winner, from January 1, 2009 on:
 - PGA Tour of Australasia (Tier 1 only)
 - PGA TOUR
 - European Tour
 - Japan Tour
 - Asian Tour
 - Web.com (or previous equivalent)
 - Sunshine Tour
 - OneAsia Tour
- Any former winner of a PGA Tour of Australasia Tier 2 tournament from January 1, 2012
- Any player ranked inside the Top 500 of the Official World Golf Rankings as at close of entries.
- 61st to 100th ranked Full Members, plus Affiliate Members within those positions from the 2016 Final PGA Tour of Australasia Order of Merit
- Any player from the Top 30 of the PGA Tour of Australasia Career Money List at the conclusion of the 2016 season
- Leading graduating PGA of Australia Trainee (to a floor of 10th position) as at the close of entries.
- Amateurs who meet the following criteria:
 - The leading 3 entrants to a limit of 10th place in the R & A World Amateur Ranking at the close of entries.
 - The current amateur champions of Australia, New Zealand, Britain, United States, Canada, Japan, Asia and the Junior World Amateur Champion at close of entries
 - Any player of the 2016 World Amateur Teams Championship
 - Any amateur player who would have accumulated prize money throughout the 2016 PGA Tour of Australasia season to the equivalent of 75th place or higher. **Note 1:** A players accumulative prize money will be calculated by determining the amount of prize money the player would have earned in PGA Tour of Australasia Tournaments if they were a Professional. **Note 2:** Should the player turn Professional throughout the season, any money earned as a Professional will not be counted for the sake of determining the players accumulative prize money as an amateur.
- As of Monday 5th December, players who would subsequently be exempt as of that date via PGA Tour of Australasia Exemption Category 14 for the 2017 season. In addition to this, any additional player who subsequently becomes exempt via PGA Tour of Australasia Exemption Category 14 for the 2017 season from the Final National Pro-Am Rankings, regardless of whether they have already successfully or unsuccessfully competed at First Stage, will be exempt to Final Stage.
- Any player who has already gained a PGA Tour of Australasia Tournament Exemption Category for the 2017 season to the equivalent of Category 14 or higher
- Any additional player at the discretion of the General Manager, Tournament Division

The leading forty (40) players and those tied for 40th position at the PGA Tour of Australasia Final Stage Qualifying School will be eligible to apply to become Full Members (Tournament) of the PGA of Australia for the following year and will be placed in a Tournament Exemption Category. Those players who finish in positions 41-55 at the PGA Tour of Australasia Final Stage Qualifying School will be eligible to apply to become Full Members (Tournament) of the PGA of Australia, however, they will not hold an exemption category. If a player is accepted as a Full Member (Tournament), they will be ranked according to their score after the completion of the Final Qualifying Stage, and, if eligible, placed in the appropriate tournament exemption category for the 2017 season.

In the event of a tie for either 1st or 5th position, the ties will be settled by a sudden death play-off which will be conducted immediately following the completion of the final round. The result of the play off will also determine prize money distribution (if applicable). All other scores will be ranked by card play-off as follows: the best last 18, 36, 9, 6, 3 and 1 holes.

Players competing at Final Qualifying Stage must register in person with the PGA at Sandhurst Golf Club no later than 12:00 noon on Monday, 16 January 2017.

The PGA of Australia reserves the right to add additional qualifying venues should this be necessary and amend the conduct, format and cut marks for the Qualifying School at any time. Every effort will be made to complete the prescribed number of holes for each Stage of the Qualifying School but if fewer holes can only be completed over the days allotted to each Stage, the PGA of Australia may reduce the number of holes required to complete each Stage or reschedule a Stage.

2. ENTRY FEES AND ENTRY DEADLINE

Entry Fees:

PGA Tour of Australasia Qualifying School:

- (a) A\$1,870 (incl. GST); irrespective of which Stage the applicant is applying to enter; or
- (b) A\$1,155 (incl. GST); former PGA Tour of Australasia Tournament Winners, members who fall under the '10 season tournament members' category for 2017 season, or is ranked in the Top 40 of the Final 2016 PGA Tour Career Money List.

Deadlines:

- (a) Entries for First Stage must be received no later than: **5pm (AEDT) Wednesday, 23rd November 2016** in order to be considered.
- (b) Entries for Final Stage must be received no later than: **5pm (AEDT) Tuesday, 6th December 2016 if eligible for Final Qualifying Stage.**

Note: PGA of Australia reserves all rights to extend the entry deadline for applicants in exceptional circumstances and at its complete discretion.

3. DELIVERY OF ENTRIES

PGA of Australia will only accept entries on this particular Entry Form. Entries may be submitted by the following means:

Via Email: gschool@pga.org.au OR **Via Fax:** +61 (0)3 9783 0000 OR **Via Post:**
Qualifying School Entries
PGA Australia Tournament Division
Sandhurst Club
600 Thompson Rd, Sandhurst
VIC 3977, Australia

4. CONDITIONS OF ENTRY:

The undersigned hereby applies to enter the 2016/17 PGA Tour of Australasia Qualifying School. An application to participate in the Qualifying School may only be accepted by the PGA of Australia if the PGA of Australia has received a completed and executed application form and the prescribed application fee by the Entry Deadline. The PGA of Australia may reject or revoke an application at any time, irrespective of whether it has been accepted, including during either Stage of Qualifying School.

The PGA of Australia reserves the right to apply other reasonable criteria (including, but not limited to, judgements as to character, conduct and other criteria in accordance with the current PGA of Australia Member Regulations) to all those who apply to become Full Members of the PGA of Australia. Accordingly, the PGA of Australia may, in its absolute discretion, determine whether to extend the undersigned an invitation to join the PGA of Australia as a result of their successful completion of the Qualifying School or whether to accept an application for membership once an invitation to join the PGA of Australia has been extended.

Qualifying numbers will be allocated on a pro rata basis based on the number of competitors at each **Section** venue of First Stage.

If the undersigned successfully completes the Qualifying School and wishes to apply to become a Full Member of the PGA of Australia, they must pay the prescribed membership fee and complete a Membership Form before an application can be considered.

a) Eligibility

The PGA Tour of Australasia Qualifying School is open to:

- (i) All professional golfers; and
- (ii) All amateur golfers with a handicap of 2.4 or less under the handicapping scheme adopted by the recognised authority controlling golf in the country from which they elect to enter. An official certificate from the relevant home club affiliated with the national Golf Union or Golf Association verifying an applicant's handicap must accompany this application before it can be considered.

b) Withdrawals

A player may withdraw at any time provided notification of their withdrawal is received by the PGA of Australia in writing and signed by the player withdrawing. Players who withdraw prior to the Entry Deadline will receive a full refund of their Entry Fee. Players who withdraw after the Entry Deadline will be refunded no more than AUD\$1,155 (incl. GST). **Unless extreme personal circumstances exist, once a participant tees off (or is absent on the tee) he is no longer eligible for any type of refund.**

c) PGA of Australia Membership Seminar and On-line Assessments

All players who gain Tour Membership for the first time or, having been a Member for less than 3 years in total and have yet to complete the **On-line Education Module must** attend the prescribed PGA of Australia Membership Seminar(s) and complete the required on-line study programmes. Any player who fails to attend the Membership Seminar(s) will be ineligible to be considered for Full Membership and those who fail to complete the required on-line study programmes by the prescribed dates may have their membership revoked. Session date(s), time(s) and agenda(s), along with on-line learning deadlines will be made available to all eligible participants in due course.

d) Prize Money

Prize money allocated to competitors at Final Stage will be confirmed prior to Round 1 of Stage 2.

e) Amateur Status

Pursuant to the Rules of Amateur Status as approved by R&A Rules Ltd, an amateur golfer may compete in any qualifying competition for a professional Tour without breaching amateur status rules, provided that in advance of play and in writing, the golfer waives their right to any prize money in the competition. This declaration will be available for completion at Player Registration at both venues of Qualifying School.

f) Cobra Puma Golf

TBA

5. ENQUIRIES

All Qualifying School queries can be made to the PGA of Australia's Tournament Division by the following methods:

Email: tour@pga.org.au Tel: +61 (03) 8320 1911



2016/17 PGA Tour of Australasia Qualifying School Entry Form

PERSONAL DETAILS

Family Name: _____

Given Names: _____

How you want your name to appear on draws, results etc: _____

Nationality (or Australian State) you want to appear on draws, results etc: _____

Street Address: _____ Town/Suburb: _____

State: _____ Postcode: _____ Country: _____

Telephone Number: _____ Mobile Number: _____

E-Mail Address (mandatory): _____

Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy): _____

ENTRY DETAILS

Applicants must indicate their venue preferences for First Stage Qualifying by entering 1, 2, 3 or 4 against the appropriate venues by placing a number in the relevant box (1 being your 1st preference, 4 being your 4th preference)*:

First Qualifying Stage

- Section A. Riverside Oaks, NSW (Gangurru Course) 7 – 9 December 2016
- Section B. Noosa Springs Golf & Spa Resort, QLD 7 – 9 December 2016
- Section C. St Andrews of Hamilton, Hamilton, NZ 7 – 9 December 2016
- Section D. Sandhurst Golf Club, VIC (North Course) 14 – 16 December 2016

The PGA of Australia will take account of each applicant's **venue preference where possible but the **primary objective is to balance the number of applicants at each venue and ensure that one field only is scheduled each day.** In the event of a venue being oversubscribed, priority will initially be determined by the payment date of the entry fee. **The first 60 paid up entries received by the PGA of Australia for each venue will be allocated to that venue.** Thereafter, applicants may be allocated to the second, third or fourth choice venue. **Field sizes will be restricted to a maximum 90 players at each venue.***

Final Qualifying Stage (please see note below)

Note: According to the Conditions for PGA Tour of Australasia Qualifying School, entrants may be granted exemption into the Final Qualifying Stage under the following categories. Eligible players must indicate their category and qualification below (see page 1).

- 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Justification for Exemption (Compulsory).....

PLAYING STATUS

Status: Professional Amateur

If **PROFESSIONAL**, date turned professional (dd/mm/yyyy)

Are you a member of a Professional Golfers Association and/or Tour? Yes No

If yes, please identify which organisation(s) you are a member of.....

.....

If **AMATEUR**, current handicap

