

GOLF SPORT INFORMATION GUIDE

Golf

Precision meets patience in golf, where each stroke is a mental and physical challenge. Competitors will navigate immaculate fairways and greens across premier Abu Dhabi courses.

Para golfers are welcome to compete alongside non-para athletes and may register for the golf competition according to the applicable age requirements.

Competition dates

The Golf competition for Open Masters Games Abu Dhabi 2026 (OMGAD2026) consists of a 54-hole Stroke Play competition contested across two separate courses; plus an 18 hole final for those that qualify.

The provisional golf competition schedule for OMGAD2026 is as follows:

	February 9 Monday	February 10 Tuesday	February 11 Wednesday	February 12 Thursday
Preliminary Rounds	●	●	●	
Finals				●

All dates and times are subject to change, pending final entries received. A detailed schedule by event for each discipline will be developed throughout 2025.

Venues

Al Ain Equestrian, Golf and Shooting Club

📍 Pin Location

Yas Links

📍 Pin Location

Competition Format

Two competition formats will be contested as part of the golf competition. Formats will not run concurrently.

1. **Championship** competition (Gross Stableford) over 4 days (3 rounds over three days, 1 day final); and a
2. Handicap **Stableford** competition (based on players handicap over four rounds) over 4 days (3 rounds over three days and 1 day final).

As **Stableford** format will be used for both competitions, players who are unable to score any points on a hole should pick up their balls.

Each athlete will play 54 holes (three rounds); one round per day for the preliminary phase of competition.

Athletes will play in groups of four during the competition based on their gender and age category. These groups will be determined by the competition organisers. In most cases, these groups will alternate across each day of competition.

The maximum number of athletes in a shotgun start is 120. If the number of entries in an age category exceeds 120, the category may be split across groups, meaning athletes in the same age category may be scheduled to play in either the morning or afternoon, however they will play at the same course.

The tournament committee reserve the right to alter the playing conditions and round numbers if the tournament is affected by inclement weather.

Medals will be awarded in each event.

Age categories

Event	Age Categories
54 hole Stroke Play, plus 18 hole final for those that qualify. - Championship Competition - Stableford Competition	Men's / Women's: 35+, 45+, 55+, 65+, 75+

In line with the sport-specific rules, an athlete must compete in their designated age group, with their age determined as at 31 December 2026.

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Competition standards and rules

The Golf event will be conducted in line with the competition rules of the International Golf Federation (IGF), or as otherwise specified in this document.

Hours of competition

Two shotgun starts will take place daily, the first at 0730 hours and the second at 1230 hours. Finish times will depend on the final number of entries in each field.

The maximum number of athletes in a shotgun start is 120. If the number of entries in an age category exceeds 120, the category may be split across groups.

Handicaps

All athletes are required to provide their handicap during the registration process, as this is used to determine results for the Stableford competition. Details of club membership (where in place) will also assist with the validation of a handicap (where required).

The OMGAD reserves the right to reduce an athlete's handicap throughout the competition as appropriate.

Caddies

Caddies will be permitted on course throughout the competition but must register as a Non -Playing Official via the Games registration portal.

Technical Delegate

A Technical Delegate endorsed by the IGF will be announced in Version 2 of the Guide. The Technical Delegate will oversee the implementation of all sport specific rules and requirements at the Games.

Equipment

Golf clubs and balls

All athletes are required to provide their own golf equipment, including golf clubs and golf balls.

The competition venue has a professional (pro) shop which will be open during the Games. The pro shop has a range of products available for purchase, to assist with repairs and may also have a range of items available for hire.

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It is recommended that each athlete provides their own golf clubs for the duration of the Games, however limited rental sets may be available from the competition course. Athletes should also note that the quality of hire equipment cannot be guaranteed.

Electric carts/buggies

The use of electric golf carts at the Games is restricted to those athletes holding a current and legitimate medical certificate, which must be provided and validated by golf competition organisers 3 weeks before the Games. If approved, golf competition organisers will facilitate electric cart hire, however the athlete must pay any associated fees directly to the venue upon arrival on each competition day.

Trundlers (pull carts)

It is not compulsory for athletes to use trundlers (pull carts), however local based athletes are requested to bring their own to maximise the opportunity for international athletes to hire direct from the competition venue. Electric trundlers are permitted during the Games. Golf trundler hire (electric or pull) is not included in the registration fee for Golf. Pull trundlers will be available for hire from the venue.

Distance measuring devices

Competitors are permitted to use GPS and distance measuring devices, however devices which measure wind speed and elevation must have that function turned off.

Clothing

Dress regulations will be in place for the golf competition. All athletes should ensure appropriate clothing and footwear is worn. Items such as jeans, pants with studs, cargo pants, cord or elastic pants are not permitted. Golf shoes must not have metal spikes. Players are also requested to change into non-golf footwear before entering the clubhouse.

Updates

This guide will be updated Version 2 by 1 September 2025. Important additional information will be available at that time. In the meantime, please address all inquiries to: sports@omgad2026.ae