

How the Men's Open Ranking Works?

Objective

Provide a Ranking in which performances in Counting Events, over a time period explained, in the section entitled **Dropping of Points** below, are used in determining a player's position.

Counting Events

Each year GolfRSA determines which of its sanctioned tournaments count towards the Ranking (known as 'Counting Events'). This is published with its tournament schedule on www.golfrsa.co.za. Both Stroke Play and Match Play tournaments are included as Counting Events.

Eligibility for Ranking

Players that are members of a golf club affiliated to a Union that is a member of GolfRSA, are eligible – meaning all players with an official HNA Handicap.

Who gets Points?

All players participating in a Counting Event, regardless of eligibility, are allocated points based on their finishing position as follows:

- Stroke Play: All players making the cut;
- Stroke Play: Up to 65th place and ties when there is no cut;
- Match Play: All qualifying players (i.e. from first round losers).

For examples on the distribution of points by final finishing position, see Figure 1 below.

How does a player win points?

Each Counting Event is allocated a total points pool. The total points pool is distributed, as a percentage of the total, by final finishing position. For example, the winner in a Stroke Play competition, gets 10% of the total points pool. If the total points pool is 1000 then the winner will receive 100 points.

How are points for players tying in Counting Event managed?

In the event of more than one player tying on a score, then all players on the same score will get the same number of points calculated as follows: Add all points the tied players would have got had they not tied; divide the total by the number of players tying; all players are then allocated the result (which is an average).

Exception: In the event of a tie on the leading score on conclusion of a Counting Event, then in the event of a playoff, the winner will be given 1st place points. The remaining players will be considered tied in 2nd place and get the same number of points calculated as stated in this paragraph.

dropping the points won, from the ranking, in the same Counting Event played the year prior. With the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, the ranking period for the points won in a prior year Counting Event may remain counting for more than the intended 12-month period in which case these points will be managed as follows:

- **Cancelled Counting Events**
The points will be retained in future calculations until the future corresponding Counting Event is played or declared no longer a Counting Event (i. e. removed from the Fixture List).
- **All Other Annual Counting Events taking place:**
The points will be retained in future calculations until the conclusion, in the current year, irrespective of the period between the staging of the prior and current Counting Event in question;

Step 2: Calculation of Points on which Ranking is determined

Each player's average Ranking Points, from Counting Events, is determined, after having applied Step 1 above, as follows:

- **Minimum Divisor = 10;**
- **For a player who has played in 10 or less Counting Events:**
Divide the sum of points won in each Counting Event by 10.
- **For a player who has played in 11, 12 or 13 Counting Events:**
Disregard the Counting Event with the least number of points won; calculate the average points won from the remaining Counting Events played.
- **For a player who has played in 14, 15 or 16 Counting Events:**
Same process as above except disregard the two Counting Events with the least number of points;
- **For a player who has played in 17, 18 or 19 Counting Events:**
Same process as above except disregard the three Counting Events with the least number of points;
- **For a player who has played in more than 19 Counting Events:**
Same process as above except disregard the four Counting Events with the least number of points.

(**Example:** If a player has played 15 Counting Events, then disregard the two Counting Events in which the player has scored the least number of points. Divide the sum of points won from the remaining Counting Events by 13).

Who is listed in the Ranking?

Only eligible players (see 'Eligibility for Ranking') are given a ranking position.

What does a player's name in italics indicate?

If a player has played in at least 3 Coastal and 3 Inland Counting Events, then his name will appear in *italics* on the Ranking.

A Coastal Counting Event is defined as a Counting Event hosted by any one of the following SAGA Unions: Border, Boland, Eastern Province, Kwazulu-Natal, Southern Cape and Western Province.

An Inland Counting Event is defined as a Counting Event hosted by any one of the following SAGA Unions: Central Gauteng, Ekurhuleni, Free State, Gauteng North, Limpopo, Mpumalanga, Northern Cape, North West.

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