

General Guideline FIFG MASTERS - English Open 2025

Last updated: 11th January 2025

Welcome to the FIFG MASTERS - English FootGolf Open!

This August, from Thursday, the 21st, to Sunday, the 24th, the world's finest FootGolf players are invited to gather at Ashbury Golf Resort in Devon, England, for four exhilarating days of competition showcasing skill, mental strength, and fitness.

Players are available to compete across six FIFG-recognised categories:

- Men
- Senior
- Senior+
- Junior
- Women
- Women+

We also have English based categories, Senior ++, Newcomer, Men Amateur, Senior Amateur, & Women Amateur.

With space for **304 athletes**, the event features **individual Strokeplay** as the primary competition format, along with an optional **Pairs event** for added excitement.

The FIFG MASTERS is more than just a tournament—it's a celebration of unity, passion, and the remarkable spirit that drives FootGolf. We can't wait to see each participant give their all, embracing the essence of this incredible sport.

Let's make this a magical experience together!

We wish you all a great game and the best of luck.

Paul Boulton,

President, FootGolf Association of England





Event Program

Wednesday, 20.08.25	LIVE Round 1 Group draw @ 20:00 CET
Thursday, 21.08.25	 Player arrival day Player Registration from 09:00 Practice/Training from 09:00 (both courses) Opening Ceremony 20:00 (Lounge Bar)
Friday, 22.08.25 Round 1	 Player Registration from 08:00 (Lounge Bar) Round 1 from 08:45 Mens, Women & Senior Pairs Events 16:00 – Pines & Oakwood Course
Saturday, 23.08.25 Round 2	 Player Registration from 08:00 (Lounge Bar) Round 2 from 08:45 Charity Hole in One Challenge @ 18:00
Sunday, 24.08.25 Round 3	 Player Registration from 07:30 (Lounge Bar) Round 3 from 08:30 Award Ceremony, approximately 18:30





Arrival & Event Registration

ALL FootGolfers, Caddies and Media are to sign in at Player Registration desk located in the Lounge Bar upon arrival.

Each FootGolfer will sign in and be given a coloured wristband which represents their selected package. Each Caddie will be given a weekend caddie pass.

Media personal will be given a weekend media pass.

FIFG MASTERS - ENGLISH OPEN Opening Ceremony

The OPENING CEREMONY will take place in the Lounge Bar from 20:00.

Enjoy a drink as you relax after your practice round and settle into the Tournament atmosphere with your fellow competitors, friends, and families as we celebrate the returning Champions before our LIVE music from one of our own, Board member Mel Hopton and her band "Stiletto" including guest appearances during the night.

compered by TV star Rob Lamarr and FGAoE President Paul Boulton.

Event Rules

The tournament will be conducted according to the official rules of the game established by the Federation for International FootGolf (FIFG). The complete set of rules can be found at https://www.footgolf.sport/rules. It is each player's responsibility to read, understand, and apply these rules appropriately.

1. Putting from Golf Greens

o Putting from golf greens is permitted, following the official FootGolf rules.

Basic Eligibility Requirements for Competition Attendance

To participate in any competition format, players must meet the following eligibility criteria:

1. World Tour License

o All players must hold a valid 2024 World Tour license. Participation is not allowed without this license.

2. Rules Test

 Players are required to successfully complete an online rules test to confirm their understanding of competition regulations.





Practice Rounds

Practice Day: Thursday 21st August 2025

Practice Permissions and Limitations

- o Practice on the Pines and Oakwood courses is only permitted during designated Practice Days, Thursday 21st August, between 09:00 & 19:30.
- o Practice bookings will be at a first come first served basis (via booking link on website).
- o Practice groups will be given Buggy Tokens at Player registration to be redeemed in the Golf shop....
- o Players may not practice on the course between rounds or during a round.

Penalties for Violations

- During a Round: If a player is found practicing on the course during a round, the penalty will be +1 shot.
- **Between Rounds**: If a player is found practicing on the course between rounds, they will be disqualified from the competition.
- Eligibility for Practice
 - o Practice rounds are open to all registered players.
- Practice Schedule
 - Availability on event landing page.
 - o Players may walk either course at any time between designated hours (08:00 am to 22:00 pm) on Practice Days, provided they do not interfere with any active playing group.
- Pace of Play
 - o Players must maintain a steady pace and allow faster groups to play through if delays occur. Each group is responsible for keeping pace with the group ahead.
 - o Event Marshals will monitor pace of play daily to ensure compliance.
 - Players are allowed to practice more than one shot per turn, provided they do not delay play or hold up groups behind them.

Seeded FootGolfers

All FIFG MASTERS qualified players will be classed as Seeded players for the tournament and be grouped as below for Round 1 of the tournament.

Men's Category

• Seeded Players: Seeded players TBC will be grouped together in groups starting on Oakwood from TBC time

Women & Women Senior Category

• Seeded Players: Seeded players TBC will be grouped together in groups starting on Pines from TBC time.

Senior & Senior + Category

• Seeded Players: Seeded players TBC will be grouped together in groups starting on Pines from TBC time.

All seeded Player information will be announced after event registration closes on 1st August 2025





Competition Format

Our competition structure is designed to ensure fairness, maintain an efficient pace of play, and provide an optimal competitive environment for all participants.

Golf Carts are mandatory to **ALL** Players during FIFG MASTERS - English Open and English Open Pairs events.

Event Groupings

Day One:

- Oakwood Course: Men
- Pines Course: Women, Senior, Senior+, Women+, Junior

Day Two:

- Participants will alternate courses based on score rankings (leaders will play last):
- Oakwood ↔ Pines

Day Three:

- Course assignments will continue to alternate based on score rankings (leaders will play last):
- Oakwood ↔ Pines
- Final **Groupings on Pines Course:** The top four players from each category, where applicable, will form the final groups:
 - 1. Women
 - 2. Senior
 - 3. Senior+
 - 4. Women+ (if applicable)
 - 5. Junior

Cut Cup (additional)

• After Day Two, the bottom 50% of players in all categories starting the event with over 10 players will qualify for the **Cut Cup**, an additional competitive opportunity.

Cut Cup Guidelines:

- 1. Participants will compete on an additional Leaderboard exclusively for the Cut Cups.
- 2. Scores from the main competition will remain valid, with the Cut Cup serving as a supplementary competition.
- 3. There are no eliminations—players will continue competing in the main event while vying for Cut Cup recognition.





Strengths of the Competition Structure

- 1. **Equitable Competition:** Categories are grouped by gender, age, and skill level, ensuring a level playing field for all participants.
- 2. **Enhanced Engagement:** Alternating courses based on score rankings keep the competition dynamic and fair.
- 3. **Pace of Play Optimization:** Strategic groupings reduce congestion and ensure a smooth flow of play across both courses.
- 4. **Prestige of Final Groupings:** The top four players per category competing on Day Three adds excitement and focus for both players and spectators.
- 5. **Inclusivity through the Cut Cup:** Players in the bottom 50% after Day Two are provided an additional competitive opportunity, maintaining motivation and engagement throughout the event.
- 6. **Comprehensive Competition Experience:** The structure balances the integrity of the main competition with the added challenge of the Cut Cup, offering a rewarding experience for all skill levels.

The ASHBURY Trophy

The Ashbury Trophy is a prestigious addition to the 2025 FIFG Masters, designed to highlight the spirit of global unity fostered by FootGolf. Hosted by the FootGolf Association of England (FGAoE), this award honours the highest-placed "Overseas" FootGolfer across four main categories:

- Men
- Over 45
- Over 55
- Women

The Ashbury Trophy will be presented during the official awards ceremony at the conclusion of the event, recognising and celebrating the exceptional international talent that contributes to the sport's global community.

This initiative underscores FootGolf's role in bringing together players from all corners of the world, fostering camaraderie and competition on a shared stage.

English Open Team Player Series - Competition Overview

- Overall Competition: White Tees, Max 54 Pairs (Pines Course)
- Women Competition: Red Tees, Max 16 Pairs (Oakwood Course)
- Senior Competition: White Tees, Max 38 Pairs (Oakwood Course)





Round 1 (Start Time: ~16:00)

- Format: 18 Holes, Foursomes, Shotgun Start
- **Grouping**: Random Category Groups
 - White Tees (Overall) Pines Course
 - Red Tees (Women) Oakwood Course
 - White Tees (Senior) Oakwood Course

Round 2 Format

Top 4 pairs in each category qualify for knockout stages:

Pines (Overall)

- Semi-Finals:
 - Holes: 1, 2, 3, & 4
 - Format: Foursomes, Matchplay
 - Matches: Position 1 vs. Position 4, Position 2 vs. Position 3
 - Instruction: Qualified pairs must return to Hole 1 tee area immediately.
- Final & 3rd Place Play-Off:
 - Final: Holes 5, 6, 17, & 18
 3rd Place: Holes 6, 17, & 18

Oakwood (Women & Senior)

- Semi-Finals:
 - Holes: 1, 2, 3, & 4
 - Format: Foursomes, Matchplay
 - Matches: Position 1 vs. Position 4, Position 2 vs. Position 3
 - Instruction: Qualified pairs must return to Hole 1 tee area immediately.
- Final & 3rd Place Play-Off:
 - Final: Holes 8, 5, 6, & 183rd Place: Holes 5, 6, & 18

Tiebreakers

• Sudden Death Penalty Putts for any ties.

Administrative Notes

• Scorecards: Must be handed to the event marshal after the round.





Prize Fund Distribution

The total prize fund will be derived from **50% of the entry fees collected**. This amount will be shared among the top three pairs in each category:

First Place: 50% of the prize fund.
 Second Place: 30% of the prize fund.
 Third Place: 20% of the prize fund.

Notes for Participants

- The exact prize amounts will be announced once all entry fees are finalised.
- Winners will be awarded their prizes during the FIFG MASTERS English Open award ceremony.

Leaderboard Set-Up

FIFG MASTERS qualified players will appear on a stand-alone Leaderboard, labelled "FIFG MASTERS". This Leaderboard is for the FIFG Tour credit made available by the FIFG, the tour credit pot of €13,500 will be shared into the categories via the FIFG.

FIFG MASTERS - English Open all participants of the English Open will be placed on Leaderboards labelled for their playing category following all FIFG and English categories. The FGAoE will provide an English Open cash pot (see Tournament Information on website))

FIFG MASTERS – English Open FGAoE & FIFG points will be awarded from the English Open Leaderboards.

Referees and Tournament Officials

To ensure fair play, maintain a steady pace of play, and uphold order both on and off the course, **five** dedicated Officials will oversee the tournament across both courses. Supporting this team is **GB FootGolf** Director Neil Shave, who will share equal authority with the Officials to provide consistent rulings and ensure the seamless flow of the competition. Additionally, the Tournament Director Paul Boulton will oversee the entire tournament, ensuring all aspects of the event run smoothly. All Officials have undergone comprehensive training and will be easily identifiable by their "Tournament Official" golf carts.

All participants, including players, officials, caddies, and spectators, are required to adhere to tournament guidelines and must be prepared to verify their identity upon request. This fosters an environment of respect, efficiency, and sportsmanship, ensuring smooth interactions and compliance with regulations.



FIFG MASTERS - Officials

Tournament Director – <u>Paul Boulton</u> - 07970 107 139 Head Marshal - <u>Sarah Boulton</u> - 07921 367 455

Event Marshal - Sean Rontree

Event Marshal - Steven Groombridge Event Marshal – Ricky Weir/Chris Hopton GB FootGolf Representative - Neil Shave



Players are expected to fully cooperate with referees and officials, always demonstrating courtesy and respect. Any verbal offenses, displays of disrespect, or unsportsmanlike behaviour will not be tolerated.

Bad Weather Procedure

1. Pre-Event Monitoring

• Weather forecasts will be checked leading up to the event. Updates will be sent via email or text if adverse conditions are expected.

2. During the Event

- Light Rain: Event proceeds as planned.
- Heavy Rain/Waterlogging: Play may be delayed for 1 hour or rescheduled if conditions don't

improve.

- High Winds: Play suspended if winds exceed 40mph.
- Lightning: Play stops immediately; resume only 30 minutes after the last lightning strike.

3. Communication

Any changes will be communicated via email, text, and on-site announcements.

4. Cancellation

• If play cancelled, the event will be restructured based on a minimum of 18 holes completed.

5. Participant Responsibilities

Check updates, bring weather-appropriate clothing, and follow staff instructions.

Junior Policy

Eligibility:

- Requirements: Proof of age and signed parent/guardian consent form.
- Players under 13 must have full parent/guardian supervision.
- Follow the dress code (collared shirt, shorts, and turf-appropriate shoes).

Dress Code & Equipment

PRACTICE/TRAINING DAYS

Uniform:

• A relaxed dress code applies, players are required to wear a t-shirt or tracksuit top, shorts, and either long or short socks.





• Tee shirts or polo shirts with non-affiliated logos are not allowed, both on and off the course at official venue.

COMPETITION DAYS

Headwear

• All styles of golf hats are allowed.

Polos

- Collared, golf-style polo shirts are required.
- Tee shirts or polo shirts with non-affiliated logos are not allowed, both on and off the course at official venue.

Footwear

- Only turf or indoor shoes are permitted.
- No cleats of any kind are allowed.

Gear & Appare

• Rain jackets, wind jackets, sweaters, or other outerwear are permitted.

Ball

• Size 5 soccer ball is required.

Ball Tee

Only FIFG size-approved ball tees are allowed.

Ball Marker

• FIFG-approved size markers are permitted.

Other Equipment

• Bags, backpacks, air pumps and distance measuring devices are allowed.

Shorts

- Fitted golf-style shorts with belt loops and pockets are required.
- Women may wear a skirt and short combination suitable for athletic activities.

Socks

- Knee-high socks are mandatory and must be pulled up to the knee.
- Mid-calf, ankle, or other sock types are not allowed during competition.

Golf carts

- Two carts per group and will be shared by two players from the same playing group.
- ALL bags and equipment including refreshments are to always stay in the cart.

Code of Conduct

To uphold the standards of sportsmanship, integrity, and respect, all participants—including players, staff, and spectators—are expected to adhere to the following Code of Conduct throughout the tournament.

1. Alcohol

- The possession and use of alcohol on the course are strictly prohibited for players, and staff.
- The use of alcohol is prohibited during the playing round, violations will result in disqualification.





• If a player consumes alcohol after a round and displays belligerent behaviour while still at the event venue, they will be disqualified.

2. Smoking/Vaping

- The use of tobacco and vaping products is strictly prohibited during play and on the course for players, staff & caddies.
- Any violation of this smoking prohibition will result in the disqualification of the player for the entirety of the competition, regardless of whether they are actively in play at the time of the offense.

3. Etiquette / On-Course Behaviour

- Serious breaches of etiquette may lead to penalties or disqualification. Violations include, but are not limited to:
 - Loud, abusive, or obscene language
 - Physical abuse, threats, verbal abuse, slander, or libel directed at players, spectators, sponsors, volunteers, or staff.
 - Disrespect towards volunteers, officials, and competitors
 - Throwing items or engaging in violent physical actions
 - Littering, mistreatment, or vandalism of the course
 - Cheating

4. Etiquette / Off-Course Behaviour

- Off-course breaches of etiquette may result in penalties or disqualification, including:
 - Slanderous social media posts directed at FGAoE, FIFG, sponsors, or volunteers.
 - Vandalism or mistreatment of hotels or host facilities after rounds

5. Cheating

- Players must abide by FIFG rules of fair play and integrity. They are responsible for ensuring fair play within their group, including:
 - Reporting honest scores for themselves and others
 - Confirming scores at the end of each hole

6. Spirit of the Game and Serious Misconduct

• The Committee may disqualify players for serious misconduct if actions are contrary to the spirit of the game. Disqualification will be considered for significant and intentional acts, even without prior warnings or penalties.

7. Reporting Misconduct

• Any player observing misconduct should report it immediately to the Tournament Director. All reports will remain confidential as legally practicable.

8. Non-Retaliation

• Retaliation against individuals who report violations of the Code of Conduct is strictly prohibited.

Scoring

1. Scorecards

o All baring one player will be issued with an **official scorecard** and each player will mark all players in the group.





2. Live Scoring App

o The official app for live scoring is **Golf Genius & Bulegolf**. All scores will be entered **M&AND** the Golf Genius & Bluegolf apps throughout the round by the designated player.

3. Score Verification

 ALL players in the group are to return to the registration area together to hand in all the scorecards. In the event of any discrepancies, the scores on the official scorecard will take precedence.

4. Scoring Links

o Links for live scoring updates will be published on social media pages daily for easy access to real-time results.

Competition Play-Offs

Men, Women, Senior, Senior+, Junior & Women Senior - VICTORY

o Three Hole Play-Off – Hole 16, 17 & 18 (Oakwood)

Men, Women, Senior, Senior+, Junior & Women Senior – PODIUM (Top 3)

o One Hole Play-Off – Hole 18 (Oakwood)

Money positions outside the top 3 will be separated by round scores from latest to earliest (a tie will see sudden death Penalty Putts on Hole 18).

Men Amateur, Women Amateur, Senior Amateur, Newcomer & Senior++ - VICTORY

One Hole Play-Off – Hole 18 (Oakwood)

Men Amateur, Women Amateur, Senior Amateur, Newcomer & Senior++ - PODIUM (Top 3)

30-yard blind shot – Hole 18 (Oakwood)

Process for Reporting a Complaint or Dispute

To ensure a fair and efficient resolution of complaints or disputes, please follow this structured process:

1. Submission of Complaint

o Complaints must be submitted in writing by email – fgaengland@gmail.com.

2. Content Requirements

For clarity and thorough documentation, each complaint should include:

- Exact date and time of the incident.
- o Hole and location on the course where the incident occurred.
- o Names, WhatsApp numbers, and emails of any witnesses involved.
- o **Description of the case** in English.

3. Notification and Hearing

After receiving the complaint, we will notify the involved parties if a hearing is necessary to review the matter.

4. Resolution Levels

Complaints will be reviewed and addressed in the following order:

o First Instance: Rules Officials

o **Second Instance**: Tournament Director





Media Consent Policy for FIFG MASTERS - English Open

By attending or participating in the **FIFG MASTERS – English Open**, all individuals—including players, staff, officials, caddies, and spectators—agree to and grant permission for the event organiser, and accredited media to capture, record, and use their image, likeness, voice, and performance through photographs, video recordings, live streaming, and other media formats.

Caddies & Spectators

3-1-3 Caddie

The caddie is an authorized person that follows a player during the game, that can give them advice and assistance. It must be announced to the organizing Committee before the start of the competition. It cannot be a fellow competitor. The caddie cannot stand on the area of intended play or indicate the line of play during the kick. All the rules of good behaviour and respect must be followed by the caddie as well. Moreover, they cannot manage the player's scorecard - (Penalty +1 kick). Incidents where a caddie has broken a rule will be applied to the players score.

Caddie Registration – fgaengland@gmail.com

Spectators are to walk and watch from the edges of all playing areas. Spectators are welcome to hire a Golf Cart by visiting the Ashbury Golf Resort Golf shop, costs will apply.

Our Courses

Oakwood – 3167 Yards, Par 72

Boasting incredible views across Dartmoor, Oakwood is a course you should not underestimate. With its well positioned ponds and bunkers providing the opportunity of risk and reward FootGolf, this is a thinking FootGolfers course.

Pines - 3038 Yards, Par 72

With its tree-lined fairways, it requires thought and accuracy to maintain a good score.

Course Maps

https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/edit?mid=1CArpLRX40YxYZJjeewy5rku2NdS9ILE&usp=sharing

The Player warm up area will be available from 08:00 until 18:00 on all four days of the FIFG MASTERS - English Open.

o The area will have a dedicated Tee area, fairway, bunker plus three practice holes.

Closing Ceremony

The Event Award Ceremony will take place upon completion of the event in the Lounge Bar

o Cash Pot information on FIFG MASTERS – English Open webpage, www.fgaengland.com

Event Awards -

- o Pairs Event 3 places
- o Men 10 places
- o Senior 5 places
- o Senior+ 5 places
- o Women 5 places



- o Women, Senior 3 places
- o Junior 5 places

FOOTGOLF ASSOCIATION OF ENGLAND

FGAoE (additional categories)

- o Newcomer 3 places
- o Men, Amateur 3 places
- o Senior, Amateur 3 places
- o Women, Amateur Winner only
- o Senior++ Winner only

Ashbury Trophy (Winner only)

- o Men
- o Women
- o Senior
- o Senior+

note - Players must be in attendance to claim any award.

DRESS CODE FOR AWARD CEREMONY

We urge all players to wear Polo shirts or formal attire during the award ceremony, with sandals and bare feet being strictly prohibited.

ATTENDANCE AT AWARD CEREMONY

The FIFG suggests that players be encouraged to attend the award ceremony to show respect to their fellow competitors. Moreover, this is crucial for sponsors to view the award ceremony as an opportunity to showcase their products or services.

More information about the FIFG MASTERS – English Open will be updated in this document as it is known.

