

## THAI LPGA TOUR MEMBERS' HANDBOOK AND GENERAL TERMS 2024

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# Definitions

- "Association" shall mean the Thai Ladies Professional Golf Association (Thai LPGA).
- **"Committee"** shall mean the Executive Committee of the Thai LPGA Tour or any committee appointed to oversee Tournaments.
- **"Foreign Players"** shall mean professional players from countries other than Thailand who are entitled to participate in Tournaments based on the eligibility order specified or as determined by the Committee.
- "Joint Sanction Events" shall refer to Thai LPGA Tour Tournaments that are part of the Thai LPGA Tour Order of Merit Tournaments and are conducted in collaboration with other tours as specified by the Committee, with distinct entry rights determined for each individual event.
- "Members" shall denote individuals who are official members of the Thai LPGA Tour, encompassing both regular and associate members of the Women's Professional Golf Association of Thailand who have completed all necessary registration steps and are recognized as members of the Thai LPGA Tour.
- "Official Money" shall mean the prize money calculated in Thai Baht, which is awarded from the competitions within the Thai LPGA Tour Order of Merit Tournaments.
- "Qualifying Round" shall refer to the qualifying competitions that are organized or recognized by the Thai LPGA Tour for each event to determine the eligibility order of professional players to participate in that particular Thai LPGA Tour event.
- "Thai LPGA Tour" shall denote the organization established by the Women's Professional Golf Association of Thailand to manage professional golf activities including qualifications, training, competitions, and other related professional golf activities in Thailand under the name Thai LPGA Tour.
- "Thai LPGA Tour Order of Merit" shall refer to the annual ranking of professional players who participate in the Thai LPGA Tour, calculated based on the total prize money they earn at various tournaments throughout the season.
- "Thai LPGA Tour Order of Merit Tournaments" shall mean the competitions organized under the Thai LPGA Tour or those competitions recognized by the Thai LPGA Tour, designed to rank players based on the prize money they have earned.
- "Tournaments" shall refer to the Tournaments sanctioned or organized by the Thai LPGA Tour.

**Note:** Only registered Members of the Thai LPGA Tour are eligible to compete in Tournaments and accrue rankings in the Thai LPGA Tour Order of Merit. Non-members who are invited to participate may receive prize money but shall not be eligible for inclusion in the Order of Merit rankings.

# Membership in the Thai LPGA Tour

To become a Member of the Thai LPGA Tour, Players must submit a completed application along with requisite documents and fulfill the membership fee requirement as follows:

- Players ranked in membership categories 1-12 shall pay 3,000 Thai Baht per competition year.
- Players ranked in membership categories 13-17 shall pay 2,000 Thai Baht per competition year.

# **Membership Categories**

- 1. **Category A**: Includes Thai professional female players who are either regular or associate members of the Thai Ladies Professional Golf Association and have complied with the membership requirements of the Thai LPGA Tour.
- 2. **Category B**: Comprises foreign professional female players who are associate members of the Thai Ladies Professional Golf Association and have either a qualifying status or have passed through qualifying competitions to participate in the Thai LPGA Tour and are registered as members of the Thai LPGA Tour.

# Termination of Membership

Membership of an individual in the Thai LPGA Tour may be terminated under the following circumstances:

- 1. Voluntary resignation.
- 2. Severe misconduct or serious violations of the Thai LPGA Tour's regulations or competition rules.
- 3. Actions that significantly harm the reputation or operations of the Thai LPGA Tour.

**Note**: Termination decisions are subject to the discretion of the Executive Committee of the Thai LPGA Tour, which will formally notify the affected member in writing.

# 1. Tournament Information, Requirements, and Conditions

## 1.1. Tournament Organization

- The Thai LPGA Tour is officially authorized by the Thai Ladies Professional Golf Association to organize professional golf tournaments, including the Order of Merit and other special events.
- The Tournament Director is responsible for conducting these tournaments in accordance with the standards established by the Thai LPGA Tour and ensuring compliance with its regulations. Modifications to these regulations are subject to the approval of the Executive Committee.

• Players may appeal decisions they believe to be unjust or incorrect to the Tournament committee. However, the committee's final determination after review is conclusive.

## 1.2. Thai LPGA Player Rankings and Eligibilities

To be eligible for the Thai LPGA Tour Order of Merit ranking, professional players must:

- a) Be members of the Thai LPGA Tour.
- b) Participate in at least five Thai LPGA Tour tournaments during the competitive year.
- c) Adhere to all regulations of the Thai LPGA Tour and avoid any actions that could damage the professional golf community.

#### **Member Exemption Categories**

Categories	Details
1	Top two hundred (200) of the Rolex Women's World Golf Ranking as of the tournament application closing date.
2	Professional female players who have received an Order of Merit from any of the following tours in the previous year: LPGA Tour, JLPGA Tour, KLPGA Tour, LET Tour, TLPGA Tour, CLPGA Tour, EPSON Tour, LETAS Tour or WPGA Tour
	(a) Winners of the Thai LPGA Tour Order of Merit will be granted eligibility to participate in any tournament for three (3) years post their victorious season ("3-Year Exemption"): 2021 Winner: Exemption from 2021-2024
3	2022 Winner: Exemption from 2022-2025 2023 Winner: Exemption from 2024-2026
	(b) Medical or Maternity Exemption
	(a) Professional female players who have won the Thai LPGA Masters will be eligible to participate in the competition for 2 years following the year in which the player won the Tournament (2-Year Exemption).
4	Winner in 2022: Exemption from 2023-2024
	Winner in 2023: Exemption from 2024-2025 (b) Medical or Maternity Exemption
5	(a) Professional female players who have won 2 tournaments on the Thai LPGA within a period of 1 year will be eligible to participate in any tournament for 2 years following the year in which the player won the Tournaments (2-Year Exemption).
	Winner in 2022: Exemption from 2023-2024

Categories	Details
	Winner in 2023: Exemption from 2024-2025
	(b) Medical or Maternity Exemption
	(a) Professional female players who have won any Thai LPGA tournament will be eligible to participate in the competition for 1 year following the year in which the player won the Tournament (1-Year Exemption).
6	Winner in 2023: Exemption in 2024
	Winner in 2024: Exemption in 2025
	(b) Medical or Maternity Exemption
7	Professional female players who have received sponsorship
8	Professional female players who have participated in special selection rounds of the Color Tour
9	Thai national team players (4 players)
10	Top five (5) players of the previous tournament (including non-members)
11	(a) Top fifty (50) players from the 2023 Thai LPGA Tour Order of Merit
<b>11</b>	(b) Medical or Maternity Exemption
12	Top twenty (20) players from the 2024 Q-School of the Thai LPGA
12	Members in categories 13, 14, 15, and 16 will be re-ranked according to their positions in the 2024 Thai LPGA Tour Order of Merit after five tournaments
13	Note: Members who are not on the 2024 Thai LPGA Tour Order of Merit will remain in their previous category when re-ranking occurs
14	Top fifty-one (51) to eighty (80) players from the 2023 Thai LPGA Tour Order of Merit
15	The top twenty-one to forty (21-40) players from the 2024 Thai LPGA Tour Final Qualifying Stage (Q-school)
16	The top eighty-one to one hundred twenty-seven (81-127) players from the 2023 Thai LPGA Tour Order of Merit
17	The top forty-one (41) and below players from the 2024 Thai LPGA Tour Final Qualifying Stage (Q-school)

## 1.3. Tournament Regulations

#### **Tournament Format**

Competitions are generally held in a stroke play format over 54 holes, spanning three days with 18 holes played daily. Modifications to this format may be implemented as determined by the Committee. The player with the lowest score at the end of the competition is declared the winner.

#### **Starting Field**

- The field is limited to 156 professional players, adjustable at the Committee's discretion. After 36 holes, the field is narrowed to the top 50 players and ties, advancing to the final round. Amateurs are considered additional entrants, and total participant numbers per event may vary as deemed suitable by the Tournament Director.
- Post-cut, any disqualified, withdrawing, or ineligible player's score is disregarded, and the remaining players proceed until the end of the competition.

#### **Tournament Eligibilities**

Exclusive to members of the Thai LPGA Tour, except those with special invitation status, which can be confirmed at <u>www.thailpga.com</u>.

#### Ties at Tournament

A hole-by-hole playoff resolves any tie for first place. In playoffs involving more than two players, nonwinners share second place.

#### **Prize Distribution**

- Governed by the Thai LPGA Tour's established structure, applicable across all tournaments, detailed on the official website or posted onsite at each event.
- Prize money is directly transferred to the bank accounts of professional players who must have an account with Kasikorn Thai Bank and provide their account details in advance to the Thai LPGA Tour officials. Those without the requisite account details will not receive their prize money via transfer, except when the Tour elects to distribute cash prizes at the event.

Upon result announcements, listed prize recipients must present a copy of their ID for verification and sign the prize receipt, finalizing all related procedures by the competition's end. Failure to comply results in prize forfeiture.

**Note:** Players who withdraw from the competition for medical reasons after making the cut will receive the lowest official prize money. However, this prize money will not be counted towards their earnings in the Order of Merit rankings. In all cases of disqualification, no competition prize money will be awarded.

#### **Awards Ceremony**

- During the award ceremony, the professional player who places first or any player as designated by the Committee must attend every ceremony. In Pro-Am competitions, the top 1-3 professional players must participate in the award ceremony.
- Players who fail to comply with these regulations will be fined 1,000 Baht and receive a written warning, unless they are granted an exemption by the Tournament Director.
- All players who make the cut and compete in the final round are required to attend the award ceremony, which will be held immediately after the conclusion of the final round.

#### Penalties for Non-Compliance

- Professionals are subject to a 1,000 THB fine.
- Amateurs face prohibition from subsequent events they are registered for.

## 1.4. Thai LPGA Order of Merit and Player's Levy

For earnings to qualify for ranking in the Thai LPGA Tour Order of Merit, players must complete three rounds. However, under certain circumstances, the number of holes may be reduced but must not be less than 36 holes (or in some situations not less than 18 holes, or as determined by the Committee). If it is not possible to play the required 36 or 18 holes (or as specified by the Committee under certain conditions), no prize money will be paid, and the Committee will announce corrective measures, which may include canceling the competition, extending competition days, or rescheduling. Before the start of each event, players must comply with the following conditions:

- a) Have paid their association or membership fees in full.
- b) Agree to pay a Management Levy Fee of 5% on any prize money earned.

## 1.5. Tournament Entries and Withdrawals

#### a) Tournament Entry

- Tournament Entry starts at 9:00 AM Thailand time, three weeks prior to the competition day and closes at 4:00 PM Thailand time, one week before the competition.
- Players wishing to apply or withdraw from a competition must adhere to the following:

(i) Tournament Entry online process:

- Visit <u>www.thailpga.com</u>
- Click on "Tournament," then "Tournament Information," and select the desired event to access the Entry Form.
- Complete the application form and click "Submit" to confirm your entry.

Note:

• Once your entry is completed, you can check the entry list at www.thailpga.com under "Tournament Information" and then "Entry List.

- When applying for more than one event simultaneously, fill out a separate form for each event to ensure clarity and prevent combined document submissions; combined forms cannot be processed.
- If the number of applicants exceeds the set limit, a qualifying round may be organized. The Thai LPGA Tour will announce this in advance.
- The entry fee for Thai LPGA Tour events is 2,500 THB (or as set by the Committee). Please ensure the correct amount is transferred.

(ii) Once the Thai LPGA Tour receives the entry form and fee within the stipulated deadline, the player's entry is considered official.

### b) Tournament withdrawal

- The deadline to withdraw is at 4:00 PM Thailand time on the Friday before the Tournament week.
- If a player wishes to withdraw within the stipulated day and time, notification must be sent to the Thai LPGA Tour along with the player's bank account details for a refund of the entry fee. For withdrawals after the deadline, reasons must be provided to the competition organizers, and the registration fee will not be refunded unless a medical certificate is provided.
- Withdrawals must be confirmed in writing, e.g., via email, SMS, or LINE.
- Refunds are granted if a competition is canceled.
- If a player withdraws after the deadline, the Thai LPGA Tour will consider eligible players from the qualifying round for Tournament inclusion.

#### Pro-Am

• Players withdrawing after Monday of the Tournament week incur a fine according to section 3.2, except under unavoidable circumstances or with a medical certificate.

#### Withdrawal During Tournament

• Players may withdraw from a competition for medical reasons by notifying the Tournament Director. Unauthorized withdrawals are fined 2,000 THB, with subsequent offenses doubling the fine.

**Note:** For withdrawals during a competition, players must state their reasons and sign the withdrawal form.

## c) Tournament Entry List

The Tournament Committee will post and update the entry list according to players ranking at <u>www.thailpga.com</u>.

## d) Tournament Entry Fee

The entry fee for Thai LPGA Tour member is 2,500 THB (or as set by the Committee).

#### e) Entry Closing Date

The entry closing deadline is 4:00 PM Thailand time, on the Wednesday one week prior to the Tournament, or as specified by the Tournament Committee. For registration details after the deadline, refer to Section 1.5 (h).

#### f) Refund Policy

Players will receive a full refund of the entry fee if they withdraw within the stipulated deadline. If a withdrawal is made after the deadline, which is 4:00 PM Thailand time on the Friday before the Tournament week, the player will not be eligible for a refund unless the withdrawal is due to medical reasons, supported by a medical certificate, or other compelling reasons approved by the Committee. No refunds will be granted once the player has started the competition or for late withdrawals without a medical certificate.

#### g) Procedures for Reserve Players

Reserve players eligible to compete must sign in and report to the Tournament office at the Tournament site, at least 60 minutes before the start time of the first round of the first group.

#### h) Tournament Entry After Entries Deadline

If the number of players entries are below the required number, the Tournament Committee may accept additional players who meet the Thai LPGA Tour's criteria. Late entry fee payment will need to pay the standard registration fee of 2,500 THB plus an additional late fee of 1,500 THB, totaling 4,000 THB.

#### i) Responsibilities of Members

Players are responsible for verifying their eligibility and prize money ranking. They must also ensure the accuracy of their registration or withdrawal processes.

## 1.6. Pro-Ams and Official Activities

Players participating in Tournaments implies acceptance of participation in Pro-Am or sponsorship activities. Members are allowed to withdraw from Pro-Ams or sponsor activities up to two times per year without providing a reason, by submitting a written request to the Committee within the designated withdrawal period. However, the Thai LPGA Tour reserves the right to reject such requests if sponsors specifically require the player's participation in the Pro-Am round.

Pro-Ams are usually scheduled the day before the first round of the Tournament or on a day specified by the Committee. Members should be aware that Pro-Am rounds are designed to engage sponsors and amateur players, not as practice rounds. Therefore, members should not treat these rounds as practice, such as measuring distances for the competition course.

Once a member registers for a competition and is notified of their participation in a Pro-Ams, refusal to play in the Pro-Am or attend sponsor activities will result in disqualification from the Tournament unless permission is granted by the Tournament Director due to injury, medical reasons, or emergency situations such as a family member's illness.

If a member withdraws from Pro-Ams or sponsor activities for the aforementioned reasons, they will

not be permitted to use any practice facilities. Late arrivals for a Pro-Am may be required to finish the round with the designated group and participate in additional sponsor activities. Members not adhering to Pro-Am regulations may face fines or suspension from competition.

Members are also required to participate in official Thai LPGA Tour activities, such as the annual awards ceremony, which will be announced in advance.

## 1.7. Registration

Players must report and register in person at the Tournament site on the date specified in the Tournament details. If a player cannot register in person, they must inform the Tournament Director within the registration period. The player must then register as directed by the Tournament Director or before their first-round tee time. Failure to register will result in disqualification from the Tournament.

#### Note:

Players who have paid the entry fee within the deadline are considered registered for the Tournament, but it is their responsibility to verify their start times.

#### **Tournament Rounds**

Players must register at the Tournament Office on the official practice day between 07:00 and 11:00.

#### **Qualifying Rounds**

Players must register at the Tournament Office, with the date and time to be announced.

Note: Players who fail to register at the specified date, time, and location will be considered to have forfeited their right to compete.

## 1.8. Tournament Regulations, Reduction of Rounds, or Cancellation of the Tournaments

#### 1.8.1. Weather

If the Tournament Director deems that weather conditions are unsuitable for continuing the competition or if other reasons prevent the competition from proceeding, the Tournament Director will consult with the Tournament Committee to decide on postponing the rounds and inform sponsors and players accordingly. The following guidelines may be considered:

#### A. First and Second Rounds

• A round may be canceled if less than half of the total number of participants complete the round. However, as a general rule, if strokes have already been played, they should be counted.

• Players must accept that the competition may require playing more than 18 holes per day if weather conditions or other uncontrollable reasons arise.

### B. Final Round and Alternatives

- If the final round cannot be completed, the results from the last completed round will be considered.
- If the final round cannot proceed, the competition may be rescheduled for the following day.
- The objective is to complete 54 holes over three days (or the number of holes as determined by the Thai LPGA Tour). If 54 holes cannot be completed, the Tournament Committee has the discretion to reduce the number of holes to 36 or 18 (or the number of holes as determined by the Thai LPGA Tour).

## 1.8.2. Temporary Suspension of Play

### One long horn blast:

• Indicates suspension of play due to potentially dangerous situations. Players must stop playing immediately. Failure to stop playing immediately will result in disqualification.

#### Note:

All practice facilities will be closed during the temporary suspension due to dangerous conditions until the Tournament Director announces that practice can resume. Players who violate this rule will be fined 2,000 THB.

#### Three consecutive horn blasts:

- If players are in transition between holes, they must not proceed until the Committee gives the signal to resume play.
- If a player has started a hole, the player or the entire group may either stop immediately or continue playing that hole. In any case, play must cease after the hole is completed.

Note: The Committee may opt to verbally inform players rather than using horn signals.

## 1.8.3. Resumption of Play

#### Two horn or whistle blasts:

• This signal indicates that play should resume or players should return to continue their game.

As soon as the Tournament Director deems it safe to start, the Competition Committee will issue two short consecutive blasts of the horn or verbally notify the competitors. Players must resume play promptly.

### 1.8.4. Prize Money

If the competition does not complete the designated 54 holes, the prize money will remain as initially stipulated, provided that at least 36 holes (or in some cases 18 holes) are played, according to the decisions of the Tournament Committee.

## 1.9. Qualifying Rounds

A Qualifying round will be held at least one day before the tournament or as deemed appropriate by the Tournament Committee, consisting of 18 holes.

Players who participate in the qualifying round will be ranked based on their scores. The top 1-30 players, or a number specified by the committee, will qualify to compete in that particular Thai LPGA Tour event, with remaining players on standby.

## 1.10. Practice Rules

## 1.10.1. Official Practice

Official practice is limited to the course and times set by the Tournament Committee

### 1.10.2. During Practice

During practice, only one ball may be played except:

- a. One additional ball may be played to the green, provided it does not rest on the green.
- b. Up to three chip shots may be practiced around the green without damaging the course.
- c. Sand shots from a bunker beside the green are allowed once; multiple shots must aim away from the green.
- d. Putting practice is limited to three attempts.
- e. Golf cart use is banned on practice days unless permitted by the tournament director.
- f. Practice rounds are limited to groups of four.

#### Note

- In cases where a group is waiting, no player may play more than one ball.
- Players not competing in the pro-am round are prohibited from practicing chipping or putting on the greens on the competition field on pro-am match days.

Violations of these regulations will result in a fine of 2,000 Baht per incident.

## 1.11. Participation in Conflicting Tournaments

Thai LPGA players are prohibited from competing in any other tournaments that are scheduled to occur simultaneously with Thai LPGA events, unless a request is made at least seven days in advance and submitted to the Thai LPGA Tour's committee, subject to their discretion. Non-compliance will result in a minimum fine of 2,000 baht and a written warning. Repeated offenses may lead to disqualification from the Thai LPGA Tour for a period determined by the committee.

## 1.12. Sponsorship on Apparel Policies

Guidelines for players regarding sponsor logos on apparel:

- No more than seven logos are permitted.
- Each logo must not exceed 4 x 6 inches (100-150 mm).

## 1.13. Television, Media, and Public Relations

- a. Players must comply with requests from the Tournament Committee for interviews post-score submission to facilitate media coverage of the event. Immediate cooperation from the players is required.
- b. All participants in the Thai LPGA Tour consent to the Thai LPGA Tour managing the rights to broadcast, radio, still photography, and video recordings, with no entitlement to royalties unless specifically agreed upon by the Tournament Committee. The Thai LPGA Tour grants sponsors the rights to utilize these images and sounds for one year post-tournament for the following purposes only:
  - Live broadcasts or recorded video coverage of the competition, and for advertising and promotional activities.
  - For use in motion pictures or still images and similar activities from the competition.

## 1.14. Score Reporting

Players are required to cooperate with the tournament officials when asked for scores to report back to the tournament coordination center.

## 1.15. Attire

#### During all rounds of the tournament, practice rounds, pro-am rounds, and official meetings:

- Pants: Players may wear long pants, shorts, or skirts appropriate for professional players. Jeans, cargo pants, warm-ups, form-fitting stretch pants, or inappropriate skirts are prohibited.
- Shirts: Players must wear collared shirts. Denim shirts, crew neck t-shirts, or uncollared shirts are not allowed.

Shoes:	Golf shoes are mandatory; sandals are not allowed on the course or in tournament office interactions on competition days.
	<b>Note:</b> Metal-spiked shoes are prohibited in the clubhouse.
Headgear:	If worn, must be appropriate golf hats.
Face coverings:	Players may not use face coverings unless medically required and approved by the committee.

### Note:

The committee's decision on appropriate attire is final. Violations of the dress code will result in a fine of 2,000 Baht per incident.

## 1.16. Alcohol Consumption

Players are prohibited from consuming alcoholic beverages during practice rounds, Pro-Ams, and official tournament rounds. Violations of this rule will result in a fine of 2,000 Baht per incident.

## 1.17. Caddie Regulations

Caddies have duties and responsibilities towards the players for whom they carry golf bags, hence, any misconduct by caddies is considered as the player's misconduct as well. The following rules apply to caddies, and violations will incur a minimum fine of 1,000 Baht per incident:

- Caddies must maintain conduct acceptable in general society standards.
- Caddies are required to wear bibs provided by the Tournament Organizer at all times.
- Caddies are not allowed to wear jeans or sandals. However, caddies may wear appropriate shorts.
- Caddies must wear shirts with collars.
- Caddies can receive sponsorships and may have advertisements on their apparel similar to players.
- Group advertising by caddies is not permitted unless it is the event sponsor's advertisement.
- Players competing in the same tournament may not caddy for each other, including during the qualifying rounds.
- Caddies are not permitted to fill in scores on the scorecard for players.
- Caddies may keep statistical data on a separate stat card.
- Players must use caddies during competition, including practice and Pro-Ams. The use of golf carts is at the discretion of the Tournament Director.
- Caddies are not allowed to test the greens' surface conditions during the competition except during practice rounds.
- Caddies wearing golf shoes must not walk on any greens used in the competition, including practice greens. Note: Caddies should wear flat-soled sports shoes.

The Thai LPGA Tour reserves the right to ban any caddie from the tournament premises for violations or inappropriate conduct.

Players may bring their personal caddies for the tournament, subject to prior notification to and potential fees payable to the golf course as determined by the Tournament Director.

## 1.18. Pace of Play Policy

The 2024 Thai LPGA Tour implements the following pace of play policy under USGA Rule 5.6 regarding Unreasonable Delay and Prompt Pace of Play as defined by the Rules Committee:

### A. Unreasonable Delay

- 1. In accordance with Rule 5.6, every player must not unreasonably delay play.
- 2. A time par sheet will be created by the Rules Committee to represent the approximate amount of time allotted for the first starting times of the day (lead groups) to finish each hole during each tournament round. The time par sheet will serve as a guideline for the Rules Committee to monitor the lead groups.
- 3. **"Out of Position":** Each player is responsible for maintaining their group's position in relation to the group in front of them. A group is considered "out of position" if a) all players in the group have not hit tee shots on a par 3 before the preceding group has arrived at their second shots on the next hole and will not have to wait to play to the green/landing area, or b) all players in the group have not hit tee shots on a par 4 before the preceding group has holed out, or c) all players have not hit second shots on a par 5 before the preceding group has holed out, (note: A reachable par 4/5 may be treated as a par 3/4) or d) a group is three (3) or more minutes behind the starting interval of the group directly in front of them.
- 4. **"Out of Position" for Lead Groups:** A lead group which is over its time par (as stated on the time par sheet) will be considered "out of position". However, a lead group which is under its time par, but holding up the group behind, may be subject to a warning and/or subsequent timing at the discretion of the Rules Official.
- 5. **One (1) Time Warning:** It is the responsibility of each player to be aware of their group's position on the course. A group that is out of position, or in the case of the lead group over its time par, will be issued one (1) warning per round by a Rules Official unless a Rules Official deems, at any time, the group to be so far out of position that a warning is not appropriate. Additionally, groups may be timed without receiving their warning if they are on the last three holes of their round. Once warned, the group will be given the opportunity on the following hole to improve its position in relation to the preceding group, or in the case of the lead group in relation to time par. If sufficient improvement is not made, the group may then be timed.
- 6. A Rules Official may notify the group immediately following a group to be timed when circumstances permit. However, it is every group's responsibility to maintain its position on the course in relation to the field. If a Rules Official is unable to notify the group immediately following a group to be timed, it will not preclude that group from being warned and/or timed if they fail to maintain their position on the course.

7. **Timing Begins:** Timing of a player officially begins when, at the discretion of the Rules Official, it is clearly the player's turn to play and nothing interferes with their ability to play the stroke. Time taken for determining yardage, club selection, wind conditions, etc., will count against the player's overall time. On the putting green, timing begins after a player, at the discretion of a Rules Official, has had a reasonable amount of time to repair damage to the putting green and remove loose impediments on their line of play. Timing may begin before a player has replaced their ball on the putting green.

Ten (10) additional seconds will be allotted to the first player in the group to:

- Hit a tee shot
- Hit a second shot on a par 4 or par 5
- Play a third stroke on a par 5
- Play a stroke from off the green (Exception: Ten (10) additional seconds will not be allotted for the first player to make a stroke from off the putting green when a stroke has already been made from the putting green, and it is more likely than not that the player will be making their next stroke with a putter)
- Play a stroke on the putting green

Every effort will be made by a Rules Official to notify a group when timing has begun. However, timings accrued prior to such notification will count towards a player's overall average for a given hole. In instances where a group should be timed but the Rules Official is not present or is unable to determine the position of the group relative to the field, timing may begin with the second shot of the hole.

- Target Timing: The Rules Committee reserves the right to time a player who is not helping to improve the groups' position on the course due to their actions and/or pace of play ("Target Timing"). Every effort will be made by a Rules Official to notify a player when timing has begun. However, timings accrued prior to such notification will count towards a player's overall average for a given hole.
- 9. Penalties: A two (2) stroke penalty for breach of Rule 5.6 may be assessed if the player, while being timed by a Rules Official under Item A.7, takes in excess of sixty (60) seconds to play any given shot. A two (2) stroke penalty for breach of Rule 5.6 will be assessed if the player, while being timed by a Rules Official under Item A.7, exceeds the average amount of allotted time for the total strokes timed on a given hole by more than ten (10) seconds. The only exception to Rule 5.6 would be an "extraordinary circumstance" as determined by the Rules Official.
- 10. **Excessive Shot Timing:** A Player is subject to being timed at any time during a round and for any stroke. Under the Excessive Shot Timing, a Player is allowed a maximum of seventy (70) seconds to play a stroke, provided that, a Player who is first to play will receive an additional ten (10) seconds under this policy. A player will not be notified by a Rules Officials when they are being timed under this Item. When a group is being timed for being out of position under Item A.4, individual Players in the group will not be timed under the Excessive Shot Timing.

- 11. Excessive Shot Timing Violation: A Player who exceeds 70 seconds to play a stroke will be advised promptly that they have incurred an Excessive Shot Timing Violation. If the violation occurs for a stroke on or around the putting green, the Player will be notified after completion of the hole. A Player will receive one (1) Warning for an Excessive Shot Timing Violation per THAI LPGA Tour season, prior to incurring a fine.
- 12. **On-Site Appeals:** A Player receiving a notification of a "plus time", penalty or fine, may appeal to the Timing Appeals Committee. In the case of a "plus time" resulting in a fine, the player must appeal prior to the completion of the tournament in which they were issued the fine. In the case of a "plus time" resulting in a penalty, the Player must appeal prior to returning their scorecard. The Timing Appeals Committee will be composed of the tournament's Lead Official and the Rules Official who issued the plus time/penalty. If the Lead Official is the same official who issued the plus time/penalty, the most senior member of the tournament's Rules Committee will be the second member of the Timing Appeals Committee. Appeals are not accepted for Excessive Shot Timing violations.

Note: No player may appeal a Plus Time and/or subsequent fine once the tournament has concluded.

13. Specific policies for timing unreasonable delay are determined by the Tournament Officials in consultation with the THAI LPGA Player Directors.

## B. Pace Of Play Rules and Fines

- 1. A player in a group which is out of position may be penalized for unreasonable delay if:
- a. The player takes more than sixty (60) seconds to play one shot, including putts; and/or
- b. The player exceeds the maximum allotted amount of time for the total strokes timed on a given hole by more than ten (10) seconds.

Strokes Timed on Hole	Maximum Time Allowed	Fineable Plus time	Penalty Plus Tim
3	90 Seconds	91 – 100 Seconds	101 Seconds
4	120 Seconds	121 – 130 Seconds	131 Seconds
5	150 Seconds	151 – 160 Seconds	161 Seconds
6	180 Seconds	181 – 190 Seconds	191 Seconds

hole.

#### 2. Penalties for breach of Rule 5.6:

- a. Stroke play (during a round)
  - i. First offense: Two (2) strokes
  - ii. Second offense: Two (2) strokes
  - iii. Third offense: Disqualification

b.Match play (during a match) -

- i. First Offense: Warning
- ii. Second Offense: Loss of Hole
- iii. Third Offense: Loss of Hole
- iv. Subsequent Offense: Disqualification of the side

#### 3. Fines

a. The following applies for a Player who incurs a Violation under Item A.7 (timing begins). Fines will be issued according to the following:

#### Fines for Players who incur a Plus Time in the current season:

First Plus Time: 2,000 Baht Second Plus Time: 3,000 Baht Third Plus Time: 4,000 Baht Fourth and all additional Plus Times: 5,000 Baht

#### Fines for Players who incurred a Plus Time in the previous season:

First Plus Time: 4,000 Baht Second Plus Time: 6,000 Baht Third Plus Time: 8,000 Baht Fourth and all additional Plus Times: 10,000 Baht

**Repeat Offenses:** Any player who receives a plus time under this policy in a calendar year will be subject to double the existing fine structure the following year. For each consecutive year beyond one year in which the player is subject to fines under the Pace of Play Policy, the fine amount will continue to double from the previous year. In addition, habitually slow players may be subject to additional requirements under Penalties, Appeals, Review and Dispute Resolution Policy (in the Sporting Regulations), including but limited to an education program or other requirements. If a Player receives a fine under the Pace of Play Policy in a calendar year and does not receive a fine in the subsequent year, their fine structure will revert to the standard fine structure under the Pace of Play Policy.

b. The following applies for a Player who incurs a Violation under Item A.10 (Excessive Shot Timing) above:

A Player will receive a maximum of one (1) Warning for an Excessive Shot Timing Violation per THAI LPGA Tour season, prior to incurring a fine.

After a Player receives their one (1) Excessive Shot Timing Violation warning, they will be subject to the below fine structure for the remainder of the season:

First violation – Fine of 1,000 Baht Second violation – Fine of 2,000 Baht Third violation – Fine of 4,000 Baht Fourth and subsequent violations – Fine of 5,000 Baht

In addition to the individual Violation fines listed above, a Player who incurs a total of ten (10) Excessive Shot Timing Violations (including Violations resulting in a Warning) during the same THAI LPGA season will incur an additional fine of 5,000 Baht.

#### MINIMISE THE ROUND TIME

### Things A Player Can Do To Help

- Be aware of your position with regard to the group in front.
- If you feel that your group is falling behind, advise the other players in your group.
- If your group is behind, try to catch up as soon as possible.
- If informed that the group ahead is Being Monitored or Timed, increase your pace of play immediately.
- Play a provisional ball if the ball may be lost outside penalty area or may be OB.
- Do not wait until it is your turn to play before putting your glove on.
- Do not wait until it is your turn to play before calculating your yardage.
- Do not wait until it is your turn to play before assessing the wind direction.
- Look at your own line of play on the putting green while the other players in your group look at theirs (within the bounds of normal standard of player conduct).
- Do not concern yourself with the group behind that is the responsibility of the Referees or Timing Officials.

40 seconds is a long time in which to hit a golf shot - if preparations take place before it becomes your turn to play, you will NOT have to rush your shots whatsoever.

## 1.19. Rules Officials

- a) The Thai LPGA Tour will deploy a Rules Committee to every event.
- b) The Tournament Director and/or the Chief Referee at each event will be responsible for overseeing the rules and regulations.

## 1.20. Tournament Regulations and Pairings

- a) All events adhere to the rules and regulations set by R&A Rules Limited and the Thai LPGA Tour, with additional local rules applied as necessary for specific events.
- b) Pairings for rounds 1 and/or 2 are under the control of the Tournament Director. For subsequent rounds post-cut, pairings are based on the standings at the end of the preceding rounds. Any deviations from this standard pairing procedure will be communicated to players in advance.
- c) The Tournament Director or the Tournament Committee may postpone or cancel any round of competition as deemed appropriate due to weather conditions or other unforeseeable circumstances.

# 2. Conduct Regulations for Members of the Thai LPGA Tour

These regulations are established to ensure orderly conduct during Thai LPGA Tour competitions.

## 2.1. General Principles

As members of the Thai LPGA Tour, players must adhere strictly to the Tournament Regulations, reflecting the aim of the Tour to represent professional players who embody honesty, discipline, decorum, and sportsmanship, both on and off the course.

The regulations governing conduct are intricate and cannot cover every specific instance; therefore, common sense will be used to determine appropriate behavior. Players with queries should consult the Tournament Committee for guidance.

## 2.2. Code of Conduct

The following actions are considered neglectful of the code of conduct and constitute a breach of Section 2:

## 2.2.1. Standards of Player Conduct

Conduct Behaviors that violate the general standards of decorum in society or the golf community.

## 2.2.2. Criminal Conviction

Being convicted and sentenced to imprisonment for a criminal offense committed intentionally.

## 2.2.3. Personal Conduct

Engaging in personal conduct that is widely unacceptable by the community.

## 2.2.4. Damaging Conduct

Actions or behaviors that tarnish the reputation of the Thai LPGA Tour or the professional golf community.

## 2.2.5. Failure to Report Misconduct

Misconduct Failing to report other professionals' damaging actions or covering up such misconduct.

### 2.2.6. Golf Rules

a) Non-compliance with Golf Rules

Failure to comply with the rules and regulations of golf or the regulations announced by the competition committee for each course, such as Local Rules.

b) Deliberate Rule Violations
 Intentionally violating rules and regulations to gain an advantage for oneself.

### 2.2.7. Positive Attitude

Members must demonstrate a commitment to competing in the Thai LPGA Tour, thereby enhancing the standard of competition.

### 2.2.8. Rule Violations

Violating the established rules and regulations set forth in the competition guidelines of the Thai LPGA Tour.

### 2.2.9. Player Meetings

All players in the Tournament field must attend player meetings unless there is a valid reason, which must be communicated in advance to the Tournament Director.

Penalties for Violations: Professional players will be fined 2,000 Baht; amateurs are prohibited from participating in the subsequent event for which they have registered.

## 3. Disciplinary Procedures

When a violation of the rules is identified, the Tournament Committee will conduct an investigation and present the findings to the Executive Committee for review. If the violation is confirmed, the severity of the misconduct will determine the penalty.

## 3.1. Classification of Penalties

- a) Warning
- b) Fines ranging from a minimum of 1,000 Baht to a maximum of 10,000 Baht.
- c) Suspension from competition and fines:

Suspension from a minimum of one year up to five years, with a fine not exceeding 10,000 Baht.

#### **Membership Revocation and Disciplinary Procedures**

The Competition Committee will investigate violations that are punishable, with the Competition Director reporting the investigation's findings to the Thai LPGA Tour Executive Committee before further disciplinary actions are determined.

In cases of clear evidence of wrongdoing, the Tournament Committee or the Tournament Director may decide immediately without awaiting investigation results to ensure efficient and smooth tournament management.

## 3.2. Types of Violations and Penalties

## A. Warnings

- When a player unintentionally violates golf rules, regulations, and etiquette.
- When a player acts unprofessionally and receives public criticism.

#### B. Fines

- When a player breaches any rules, regulations, or discipline of the Thai LPGA Tour.
- When a player shows contempt or uses foul language, or physically abuses golf clubs or other objects in view of spectators, sponsors, media, other players, caddies, or any tournament officials.
- Failure to Smooth Sand in Bunkers: Players are expected to rake and smooth out sand after their play in bunkers. Leaving a bunker without proper care may result in a reprimand.
- Improper Dress Code: Players must adhere to the dress code specified by the Thai LPGA Tour. Violations will lead to warnings.
- Multiple Warnings: Accumulating two or more warnings within a year can lead to further disciplinary actions.

### C. Major Violations and Penalties

- Withdrawal Without Notice: Players withdrawing from a competition without prior notice or valid explanation will face a fine and/or suspension.
- Damaging the Integrity of the Sport: Any behavior that tarnishes the reputation of the Thai LPGA Tour, including not adhering to the spirit of golfing etiquette, can lead to severe penalties.
- Recurring Violations: Players who are repeatedly fined or warned within a year are subject to stiffer penalties, including possible suspension.
- Failure to Pay Fines: If a player does not settle outstanding fines within 15 days, stricter penalties will be enforced.
- Non-compliance with Sanctions: Players who do not comply with imposed sanctions will face additional disciplinary actions.

### D. Membership Termination

In extreme cases where a player's actions severely damage the reputation and dignity of the Thai LPGA Tour, a membership termination may be considered.

## 3.3. Notification of Penalties

#### A. Communication of Penalties

The Thai LPGA Tour will inform the involved party of any penalties in writing or verbally. This notification will be directly sent to the member or mailed to the address provided by them. The official date of notification will be the date the recipient receives the letter.

#### B. Immediate Penalties

For clear, indisputable violations where a prompt decision is essential, the Tournament Committee can impose a penalty immediately. This decision will be documented in writing and must be witnessed by at least two individuals. Their names and signatures will be recorded alongside the Tournament Director's signature. In cases where the player admits to the violation, the committee may assign penalties without further investigation.

## 3.4. Appeals Process

Following the notification of penalties as described in Section 3.3, members have the right to submit a

written appeal within 7 days, adhering to the following criteria

#### 3.4.1. New Evidence

Appeals must be based on new evidence that was not considered initially.

## 3.4.2. Misinterpretation by the Thai LPGA Tour

If the Thai LPGA Tour's interpretation of the situation is deemed incorrect.

### 3.4.3. Excessive Penalties

If the penalty is deemed excessively harsh and a reduction is requested.

### 3.4.4. In submitting an appeal This must be done in writing.

## 3.5. Decision on Appeals

- a. The Thai LPGA Tour Committee will review the appeal within 7 days of receipt, and the decision will be final. The Committee may take one of the following actions:
  - 3.5.1. Procedural Non-compliance
  - **3.5.2.** Insufficient Grounds
  - 3.5.3. The appeal must be made in writing with reasons.
- b. Additional Provisions: If a player does not file an appeal within the timeframe specified in Section 3.4, the initial penalty stands as final.
- c. Players may withdraw their appeal before a decision is made by the Committee, resulting in the original penalty being final.