



Associação Nacional de Seniores de Golfe de Portugal

Regulations for the Qualifying Phase and Participation for the ESGA 2027 European Championships

This regulation sets out the conditions for competition, participation, game format, and the rules to be used in the qualifying phase and in the participation of teams from the Senior, Super Senior, and Master Senior categories of the Associação Nacional de Seniores de Golfe de Portugal (ANSGP) who will participate in the ESGA 2027 European Championships.

1. Participation

1.1 The qualifying phase for the ESGA 2027 European Championship is open exclusively to ANSGP members (men) with up-to-date fees and a valid FPG license.

1.2 The RACE to ESGA ratings are the basis for qualification for the qualifying phase.

1.3 Are eligible for the Qualifying Phase:

1.3.1 In the Seniors category - 32 players selected by this way:

1.3.1.1 The Players ranked in the top 16 positions of the RACE to ESGA **Nett Ranking** in the Seniors category and who have a Handicap Index of up to 20.0.

1.3.1.2 The Players ranked in the top 16 of the Seniors RACE to ESGA **Gross Ranking** and with a Handicap Index of up to 14.0, after excluding those already qualified.

1.3.2 In the Super Seniors category – 32 players selected by this way:

1.3.2.1 The Players ranked in the top 16 of the Super Seniors **Nett Ranking** of the RACE to ESGA and with a Handicap Index up to 24.0.



1.3.2.2 The Players ranked in the top 16 of the RACE to ESGA **Gross Ranking** in the Super Seniors category and with a Handicap Index up to 18.0, after excluding those already qualified.

1.3.3 In the Master Seniors category - Players ranked in the top 16 of the **Nett Ranking** of the Race to ESGA in the Master Seniors category, and with a Handicap Index of up to 24.0.

1.3.4 1.3.6 In the event of a tie in the Ranking position, the tiebreaker criterion is applied as follows until a tie is resolved:

- Number of 1st places achieved in tournaments throughout the RACE
- Number of 2nd places achieved in tournaments throughout the RACE
- Number of 3rd places achieved in tournaments throughout the RACE
- Number of 4th places achieved in tournaments throughout the RACE
- Number of 5th places achieved in tournaments throughout the RACE
- Number of 6th places achieved in tournaments throughout the RACE
- Number of 7th places achieved in tournaments throughout the RACE
- Number of 8th places achieved in tournaments throughout the RACE
- Number of 9th places achieved in tournaments throughout the RACE
- Number of 10th places achieved in tournaments throughout the RACE

2. Qualifying Stage: Restrictions

2.1 Participation in the qualifying phase is reserved exclusively for players selected in the RACE to ESGA, according to the previously defined criteria, and no reasons preventing Members from participating in the RACE to ESGA will be accepted.

2.2 If a player qualifies in the RACE, simultaneously in Gross and Nett, they are entitled to be replaced by the player immediately ranked in the respective RACE not chosen and there will be an adjustment in the relative positions of the remaining qualified players.

2.3 Withdrawal from participation in the qualifying phase by any player qualified in the RACE to ESGA entitles their replacement by the player immediately ranked in the respective RACE to ESGA, and the relative positions of the remaining qualified players will be adjusted.

2.4 In Seniors and Super Seniors categories, the number of eligible players without Portuguese nationality cannot exceed 8.



2.5 In Master Seniors category, the number of eligible players with 70 to 74 years old cannot exceed 8.

2.6 In Master Seniors category, the number of eligible players without Portuguese nationality cannot exceed 4.

2.7 All players participating in the qualifying phase have, for the purposes of Nett classifications, their handicap limited to:

2.7.1 Seniors Category – 16,0

2.7.2 Super Seniors Category – 20,0

2.7.3 Master Seniorss Category – 24,0

3. Qualifying Phase – Bonuses and Game Mode

3.1 Before the start of the scoring phase, Handicap strokes are awarded based on the merit of the Classification obtained in the RACE to ESGA Gross and the Race to ESGA Nett, in the Senior, Super Senior, and Master Senior categories, according to this criterion;

1st - Allowance of 6 Strokes

2nd - Allowance of 5 Strokes

3rd - Allowance of 4 Strokes

4th - Allowance of 3 Strokes

5th - Allowance of 2 Strokes

6th - Allowance of 2 Strokes

From 7th to 10th - Allowance of 1 Stroke

The remaining players do not receive any stroke allowance.

*These allowances pertain to the classification of the RACE Gross and Nett and not to the ranking created after the top 16 Nett and top 16 Gross have been ordered, following the exclusion of the qualified Nett.

3.2 The draw for the 1st round of the qualifying phase is organized in descending order based on the Gross ranking of the RACE for the Seniors and Super Seniors categories, and in descending order based on the Nett ranking of the RACE for the Master Seniors category, separated by categories.

3.3 The draw for the 2nd round of the qualifying phase is organized in ascending order of the Gross ranking of the 1st round for the Seniors and



Super Seniors categories, and in ascending order of the Nett ranking of the 1st round for the Master Seniors category, separated by categories.

- 3.4 For Seniors and Super Seniors, the qualifying stage is played over 36 holes, during 2 days, with 18 holes each day, in Stroke Play, with the Medal Gross and Stableford Nett rankings being used for qualification.
- 3.5 For the Senior Masters, the qualifying round is played over 36 holes, over 2 days, 18 holes each day, in Stableford format, with the Stableford Nett ranking being used for qualification.
- 3.6 For the final Gross classification of the qualifying phase, the aggregate score obtained over the 36 holes is considered, subtracting any Gross strokes allowance received by the player.
- 3.7 For the final Nett classification of the qualifying phase, the aggregate score obtained over the 36 holes is considered, subtracting the Nett strokes allowance received by the player.
- 3.8 In the event of a tie in the final Gross or Nett standings, the tie-breaking criteria are as follows:
- Best result on the 2nd day of the qualifying phase,
 - Lowest WHS Handicap

4. Qualifying Round – The Qualifiers

- 4.1 The top 5 players in the final Gross ranking, Seniors category, will be selected for the team that will compete in the ESGA 2027 Team Seniors Championship.
- 4.2 The top 5 players in the final Stableford Nett ranking, Seniors category, will be selected for the team that will compete in the ESGA 2027 Team Seniors Cup.
- 4.3 Players who qualify simultaneously in the final Gross and Nett rankings can choose which team they want to join, giving their spot to the next player in line on the team they didn't pick.



- 4.4 The top 5 players in the final Gross ranking, Super Seniors category, will be selected for the team that will compete in the ESGA 2027 Team Super Seniors Championship.
- 4.5 The top 5 players in the final Stableford Nett ranking, Super Seniors category, will be selected for the team that will compete in the ESGA 2027 Team Super Seniors Cup.
- 4.6 Players who qualify simultaneously in the final Gross and Nett rankings can choose which team they want to join, giving their spot to the next player in line on the team they didn't pick.
- 4.7 The top 5 players in the final Stableford Nett ranking, Master Seniors category, will be selected for the team that will compete in the ESGA 2027 Team Master Seniors Cup.
- 4.8 In the Master Seniors Team the number of players with 70 to 74 years old cannot exceed 3.
- 4.9 Each of the 5 teams may not have more than 1 member of non-Portuguese nationality
- 4.10 For each of the 5 teams, the Board of ANSGP will allocate one (1) invitation to a player, at its sole discretion, taking into account competitive consistency and experience in national and international competitions, among other criteria.
- 4.11 For each of the 5 teams, the ANSGP Board will appoint 1 captain.
- 4.12 After the announcement of the qualifying phase results, the ANSGP Board will immediately hold a meeting to present the ESGA 2027 European Championships, where all qualified players must be present. In this meeting, among other relevant information, the estimated costs to be borne by the players for their participation will be presented. Each qualified player will have to formally accept the burden of the estimated costs and the conditions stated in point 5, "During the ESGA 2027 Competition," and all its subpoints.

Any player who does not accept any of the points mentioned above will not be allowed to be part of the ANSGP ESGA 2027 Teams and will be replaced.



4.13 The criteria for replacing a player from the ESGA 2027 Teams who cannot or does not want to go to the ESGA 2027 championships are as follows:

- A player who has qualified directly through the Qualification Phase will be replaced by the player immediately ranked in the final standings of the qualification phase, relative to the last qualified player.
- A Player who has been invited by the ANSGP Board will be replaced by another player to whom the ANSGP Board issues a new invitation.

5. During the ESGA 2027 Competition

5.1 The ESGA 2027 competition period is understood to be the period that begins on the day before the practice round and opening ceremony and concludes with the closing ceremony and awards presentation at the ESGA 2027 European Championships.

5.2 The ANSGP delegation to the ESGA 2027 European Championship will be led by a Head of Delegation, appointed by the ANSGP Board. The duties and responsibilities of the Head of Delegation during the ESGA 2027 competition are established in a specific regulation approved by the ANSGP Board..

5.3 Each Team will have a Team Captain appointed by the ANSGP Board. The duties and responsibilities of the Team Captain during the ESGA 2027 competition are defined in a specific regulation approved by the ANSGP Board.

5.4 The ESGA 2027 European Championships take place over 4 days, with 1 practice round and 3 competition rounds, on premium courses of high difficulty and often with adverse weather conditions. Unfortunately, the ANSGP cannot guarantee the availability of buggies for the practice round or the competitive rounds of the Master Masters, nor electric trolleys for the other players, as this responsibility lies with the courses and the ESGA.

Thus, all players must be physically and mentally prepared for the possibility of having to play 4 rounds on foot with manual trolleys.

ANSGP may prevent a qualified player from participating if they do not have



the minimum physical conditions to ensure the ability to play 4 rounds of golf on foot with a manual trolley over 4 consecutive days.

5.5 During the competition, it is the responsibility of all members of the ANSGP delegation, including the Head of Delegation, officials, captain, and players, to strictly adhere to the rules of good conduct and the rules of Golf.

5.6 During the course of the competition, all members of the ANSGP delegation, including the Head of Delegation, officials, captain, and players, will be accommodated in the same hotel, designated by the ANSGP Board.

5.7 During the trips and at the Opening and Closing ceremonies of the ESGA 2027 European Championships, all members of the delegation must present themselves wearing the equipment proposed by the ANSGP Board for the ceremonies.

5.8 During practice round and competitive rounds, all players must wear the equipment proposed by the ANSGP Board for the game phases.

6. Golf Rules

6.1 In all golf competitions of ANSGP, the Rules of Golf approved by the R&A Rules Limited, the FPG Handicap System Rules, the Local Rules of the Course, and the Permanent Local Rules of the ANSGP are used, these taking precedence over all others.

6.2 The course where the qualifying phase takes place must have FPG-approved certification.

6.3 Buggies in the qualifying stage

6.3.1 Players in the Senior and Super Senior categories are not allowed to use buggies.

6.3.2 Players in the Master Seniors category are allowed to use buggies.

7. Additional Provisions

7.1 The Technical Committee of the event, if justified, may decide to limit the qualifying round to just one 18-hole round. In that case, the standings from the 1st round of the qualifying phase, together with the allowances from the RACE, will be considered final results.



7.2 Absence from either of the two rounds of the qualifying phase will result in disqualification from the qualifying phase.

7.3 At any time, the ANSGP Board or the Technical Committee appointed by it to oversee the competition may amend these Regulations and suspend, postpone, or cancel the event, making final decisions on any omitted cases.

7.4 This regulation was approved by the ANSGP Board and comes into effect from January 2026, applying to the entire 2026 season and subsequent ones.

Last update: 12-01-2026

Last update: 17-09-2026

Change of limit hcp from 12,0 to 14,0 for Seniores Gross Qualifying phase