

OPEN MASTERS GAMES

ABU DHABI 2026

GOLF



Updated: November 28, 2025

1. General Information

1.1. Governance

The Competition shall be played in accordance with the Rules of Golf as approved by R&A Rules Limited and the Local Rules as approved by the Open Masters Games Abu Dhabi (OMGAD) Committee. The Competition Committee's decision on matters affecting the Competition shall be final aside from all Rules of Golf matters, in which case the Rules of Golf will apply.

The Committee reserves the right to amend these Terms of Competition at any time before or during the Competition and/or cancel the Competition before or during play. The decision of the Committee is final in all matters.

1.2. Eligibility

The Competition shall be open to Ladies and Men who have Amateur Status in accordance with the current Amateur Status Rules of R&A Rules Limited.

All golfers are required to provide a valid WHS Handicap Index by emailing their handicap certificate to sports@omgad2026.ae, 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 handicaps (where required).

In line with the sport-specific rules, an athlete must compete in their designated age group, with their age determined as of 31 December 2026. For example, if you are 39 years old during the Games time but turn 40 by 31 December 2026, you would compete in the 40-44 age category.

Health Declaration

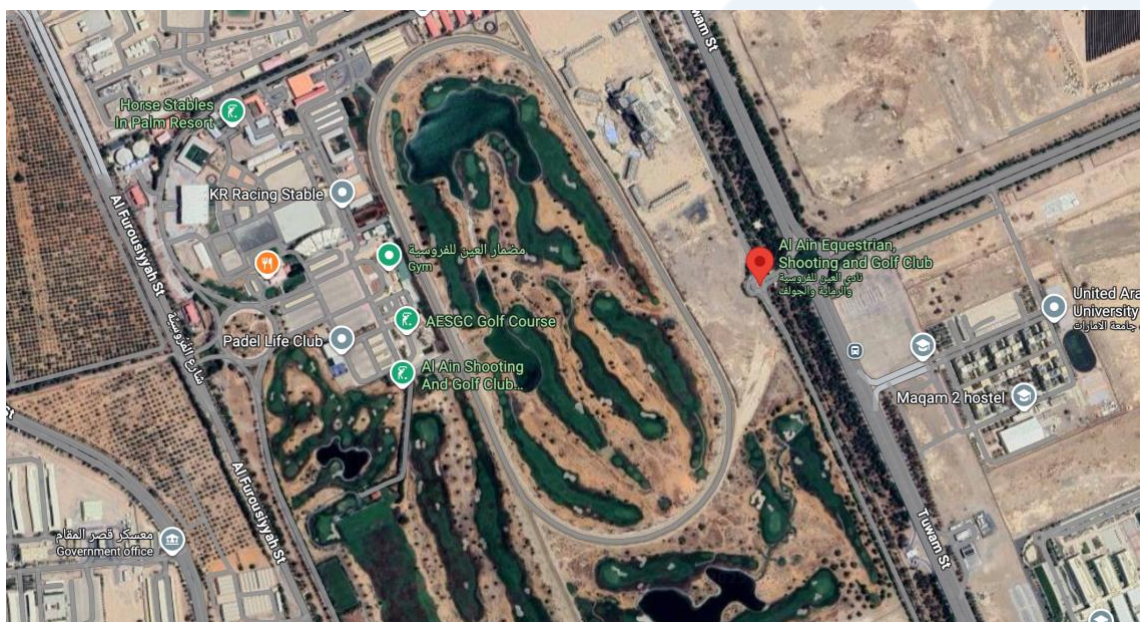
Athletes should carefully evaluate whether their physical condition is suitable for participating in the competition. If they suffer from cardiovascular or other diseases that make them not suitable to engage strenuous exercise, seeking doctor's advice is recommended to evaluate whether they can safely participate in OMGAD events.

1.3. Dates

Date	February 9 Monday	February 10 Tuesday	February 11 Wednesday	February 12 Thursday
Qualifying				
Finals				

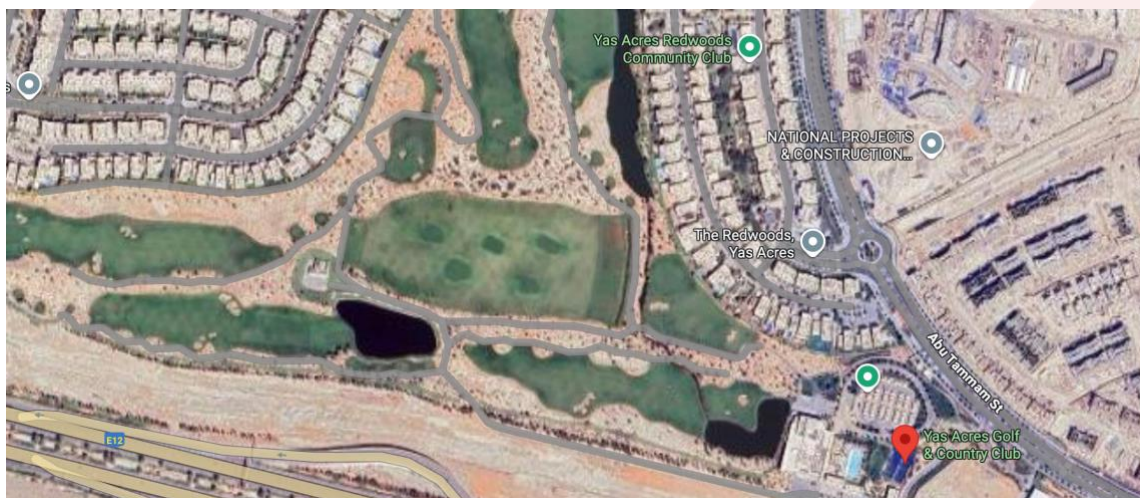
1.4. Venues

Al Ain Equestrian, Golf and Shooting Club



18-hole golf course located in the birthplace of the U.A.E.

Yas Acres



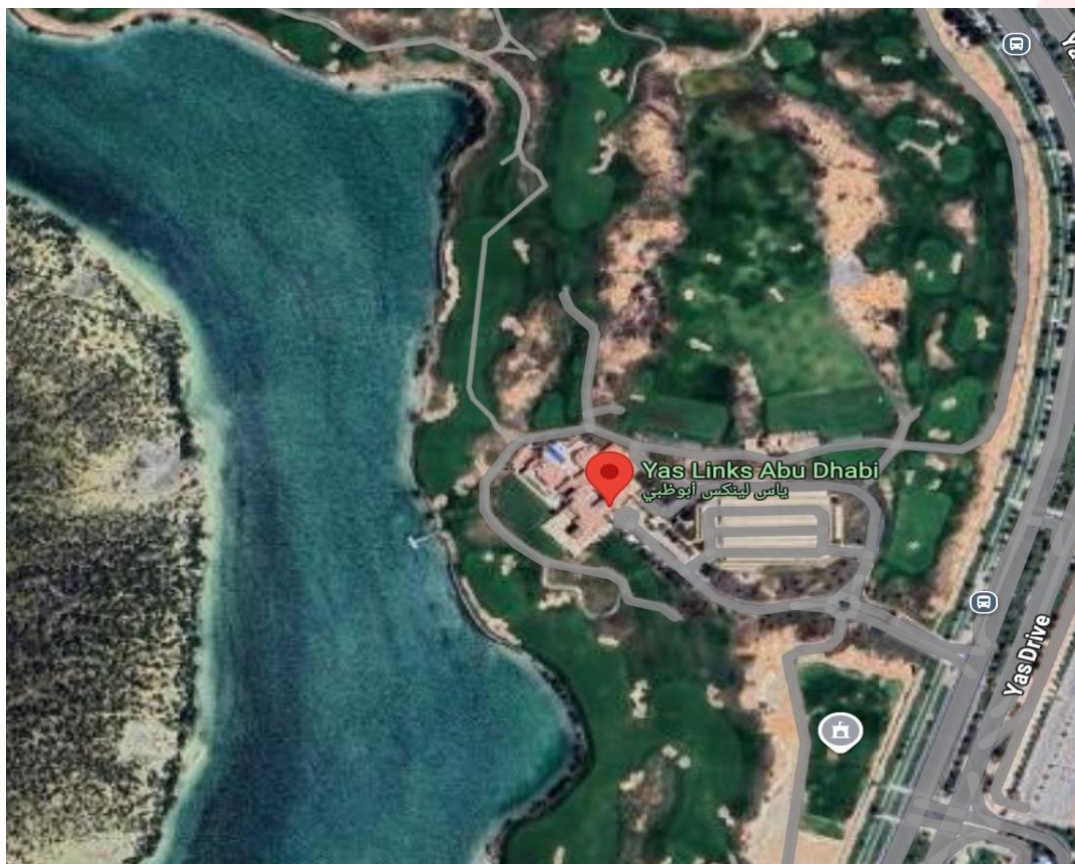
Abu Dhabi's newest fully-lit 9-hole golf course. It was voted the World's Best 9 Hole Golf Course for 2024 at the World Golf Awards.

Abu Dhabi Golf Club



18-hole course that hosted the H.S.B.C Championship from 2006 to 2021. Past winners at this course include Martin Kaymer, Tommy Fleetwood and Shane Lowry.

Yas Links – *For finals only*



18-hole, par 72 championship course. Yas Links was voted in the Top 100 Golf Courses in the world in 2025.

2. Competition Information

2.1. Disciplines, Events & Grading

Category	
Gender	Age
Male	35+, 45+, 55+, 65+, 75+
Female	
*Para golfers will compete in their age group with non-para golfers	

2.2. Format

Stableford tournament over four rounds of 18 holes. A **cut** will be made after 54 holes to reduce the field to a total of **100 players** (ties not included). Players are ranked within their age categories. The number of qualifying places for each category will be determined after the close of entries in proportion to the number of players who started in each category. If a category has fewer starters than its allocation, unused places will be reallocated to the remaining categories by largest remainder. Within each category qualifiers are determined by 54-hole Stableford points. Ties for the last qualifying place in a category will be decided by countback based on the Stableford point from the third-round scorecard in the following order: last 18 holes, last 9 holes, last 6 holes, last 3 holes and finally last hole. If the tie is still undecided, it shall be decided by lot.

The allocation calculation will be published on the tournament notice board prior to the third round.

All age groups will rotate courses each day. That means that all participants will play one round at Yas Acres Golf and Country Club, one round at Abu Dhabi Golf Club and one round at Al Ain Equestrian, Golf and Shooting Club. Only the top 100 after 54 holes will proceed to play at Yas Links on the final day.

2.3. Entries

- The competition will have a maximum field of 132.
- The closing date for registration is the 31st of December 2025.

2.4. Times

Al Ain and Abu Dhabi Golf Course will have two shotgun starts, 7.30am and 12.30pm.

¹Due to Yas Acres being a 9-hole course there will be three shotgun starts. 7am, 12pm and 5pm.

The final at Yas Links will tee off early afternoon.

¹ Additional information regarding tee times at the golf course

2.5. Schedule

A detailed schedule will be released in the final version of the competition guide. This schedule will be subject to change up to the time of the competition starting.

Yas Links, Abu Dhabi Golf Club and Al Ain Equestrian, Shooting and Golf Club will all have two shotgun starts. 7.30am and 12.30pm.

Yas Acres Golf and Country Club is floodlit and there will be three shotgun starts to allow everyone to complete 18 holes. These times will be 7am, 12pm and 5pm.

2.6. Practice

It is the responsibility of the golfers to book their own practice rounds through the club for practice.

3. Rules

- The Competition shall be played in accordance with the Rules of Golf as approved by R&A Rules Limited and the Local Rules as approved by the OMGAD Committee. The Competition Committee's decision on matters affecting the Competition shall be final aside from all Rules of Golf matters, in which case the Rules of Golf will apply.
- The Modified Rules for Players with Disabilities are in effect. To allow the OMGAD time to consider an application, a golfer who wishes to play under the Modified Rules should inform the OMGAD in advance of the Competition, to advise of their wish to use the Modified Rules.
- Players can use GPS and distance measuring equipment; however, devices that can measure wind speed and gradient must be turned off.
- In the event of bad weather or force majeure, the organizer reserves the right to change the competition schedule, format or delay or cancel.
- The organizer reserves the right to adjust age groups or ability grades according to the number of athletes entered to arrange a suitable competition schedule.

3.1. Pace Of Play

See separate memorandum to players for the pace of play policy.

4. Technical Details

4.1. Technical Delegate

A technical delegate endorsed by the Emirates Golf Federation will be announced in the final version of the guide. The Technical delegate will oversee the implementation of all sports specific rules and requirements at the Games.

4.2. Other Technical Details

Suspension of play: Suspension and resumption of play will be communicated to all players using audible and/or visual signals. Specific methods and patterns will be confirmed before the start of each round.

Transportation: During the round, the use of electric golf carts is required. Golf carts will be provided.

Close of competition: The competition is deemed to have closed when the gold, silver and bronze medals have been awarded to the winning golfers at the presentation.

Caddies: Caddies will **NOT** be permitted on course throughout the competition.

Indemnity and Liability: The OMGAD Committee, the Golf Clubs, and their staff will not be responsible for any loss, damage, harm, or any form of injuries that the participants may suffer because they participate in this tournament.

5. Equipment & Uniform

5.1. Equipment

All golfers 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.

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

5.2. Uniform

All competitors are required to observe golf club dress code/golf attire and the Rules and Regulations of the Club.

Golf Shorts and skorts are permitted on the golf course.

Golfers should respect the local customs of the U.A.E when in the surrounding facilities of the course.

6. Awarding

6.1. Medals

The top 3 athletes will be awarded the gold medal, silver medal and bronze medal respectively.

6.2. Ceremonies

- In OMGAD2026, athletes are individuals and represent themselves. National flags and anthems will not be included in medal ceremonies.
- The medal ceremony will be held after each final.
- The medal ceremony will be conducted in Arabic and English.

7. Behaviour

The OMGAD committee requires players to conduct themselves in a manner that is respectful of the Competition and the sport of golf. Players shall always act in the best interests of the sport and the Competition and shall not conduct themselves unlawfully or improperly to bring the Competition into disrepute. Golfers shall not use any one of or a combination of violent conduct, threatening, abusive, indecent or insulting words or behavior. Players shall comply with any Code of Conduct set by the Committee. If a competitor acts contrary to the spirit of the game, or is considered serious misconduct, they may be disqualified.

8. Protests and Appeals

8.1. Protests

- Competition-related disputes and protests shall be handled according to rules and related regulations of the international association of the sport. If there are no rules regarding such disputes and protests in place, the competitor may first make verbal protest and submit written protest to OMGAD within 30 minutes after the end of a contest.
- No protest can be lodged by any team members or staff against a judging (scoring) decision during the competition period.

8.2. Appeals

- Based on the principle of trust, the Organizer will not take the initiative to review the grade of athletes upon registration. Matters regarding athlete qualifications and grades should be submitted to the Organizer with relevant supporting materials before the Games or when the fact occurs. The complaint will be handled in accordance with the rules and relevant regulations of international sports federations and relevant regulations.
- Applications that are not submitted within the stipulated time or with incomplete materials will not be accepted.

9. Doping Control

9.1. Regulations

- Doping Control should be conducted in accordance with WADA World Anti-Doping Code (<https://www.wada-ama.org/en>) and International Masters Games Association (IMGA) Anti-Doping Rules (<https://imga.ch/masterssports/anti-doping>).
- Participants are deemed to have agreed to be subject to doping control procedures in accordance with the International Masters Games Association Anti-Doping Rules upon entry to the competition. Participants must obey antidoping rules and conduct themselves in a considerate manner.

10. Updates



The final version of the competition guide will be released by December 15th. Important additional information, including the sports schedule, will be available at that time. In the meantime, please address all inquiries to: sports@omgad2026.ae