



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Australian Guidelines for the Approval of *Amateur Golfers* to Provide *Instruction* under Amateur Status Rule 5-2b as a part of a Golf Australia *Compliant Program*

Why has this Rule been introduced?

The intent of the change to Rule 5 of the Rules of Amateur Status by The R&A is to encourage the greater delivery of programs aimed at introducing and/or engaging people in golf.

Does it only apply to *amateur golfers*?

Yes, these guidelines relate only to *amateur golfers*.

What qualifications are required?

To obtain approval, *amateur golfers* must have obtained Level 1 or Level 2 Golf Coordinator Accreditation. Details on these courses can be found at www.golfaustralia.org.au.

Is there a limit placed on the amount of hours and income an *amateur golfer* may receive for providing *instruction* as part of a *compliant program*?

Yes, the R&A suggests each *governing body* limits the number of hours and the amount remuneration *amateur golfers* can receive for giving *instruction*. Golf Australia has set a limit of 15 hours per week and \$50 per hour up to a maximum of \$15,000 per annum. The reason for this is that the rule change was made with the intent of encouraging the greater delivery of programs aimed at introducing and/or engaging people in golf. It was not made with the intent to allow *amateur golfers* to set up a business to provide golf *instruction* full time as this is the role of PGA members.

Can I receive payment for providing *instruction* prior to receiving approval?

No, receiving payment without obtaining approval from Golf Australia would be a breach of Rule 5-1 of the Rules of Amateur Status.

What is the insurance coverage required and why?

An *amateur golfer* giving golf *instruction* must be covered by insurance. The coverage required under these guidelines is \$10m for Public Liability and \$1m Professional Indemnity. This is in place to protect the interests of the coach. Litigation is becoming more common in Australia and, despite their best intentions, coaches can put themselves at risk of legal action. It is therefore important for coaches to ensure they have insurance coverage to minimise the risk of personal loss through legal action.

Can I provide *instruction* at a facility where there is already a PGA member?

If you wish to provide *instruction* at a facility already serviced by a PGA member, endorsement must first be obtained by that PGA member. *Amateur golfers* are advised to work closely with PGA members at their facility and in their local area.

What if there is not a PGA member servicing the facility where I wish to provide *instruction* as part of a *compliant program*?

If PGA member does not service the facility, support is not required. This will generally only be applicable in rural and remote areas where there are not many PGA members.



Can I provide *instruction* as part of a *compliant program* at a Golf Club?

Yes, however prior support must be obtained by the club.

Is a club able to employ an *amateur golfer* to provide *instruction* rather than a PGA member?

No, should a club or facility wish to employ an *amateur golfer* to replace a PGA member or in the place of a PGA member, the program will not be considered compliant.

What if my program isn't one of the *compliant programs* listed on the application form?

Applicants should tick the box on the application form that corresponds to their program. If the "other" box is ticked, attach the details of the content of the program. This may include lesson plans or a summary of lessons and should include information regarding the target audience and the content of *instruction*.

Must my program conform to any policies?

All programs must conform to Golf Australia's Member Protection and Disability Policies. Details are available at: www.golfaustralia.org.au.

How often do I have to apply?

Only once, however each application will be reviewed annually and if any updated information is required, the approved *amateur golfer* will be contacted.

What happens if there are changes in the guidelines?

If the guidelines change, the change must be adopted by all approved *amateur golfers*.

What happens if I breach the conditions?

A breach of the conditions may result in the voiding of any approval and/or loss of Amateur Status.

Once I've filled in the form, who do I send it to?

Once all the relevant information is completed, the form must be sent to the State Golf Association. (details at <http://www.golfaustralia.org.au/default.aspx?s=stateassociations>) Once approved by the State Golf Association, it will be forwarded to Golf Australia for approval.