



**The Indian Golf Union (IGU),  
New Delhi, India**

**Procedure for Reinstatement of Amateur Status Effective January 1<sup>st</sup> 2022.**

**1. General**

1.1 In order to deal with routine or straightforward applications for reinstatement to Amateur Status in accordance with the R&A 's Rules of Amateur Status (the "Rules") as efficiently as possible, these shall be considered, in the first instance, by a Sub-Committee of the IGU's Technical, Rules & Amateur Status Committee (TRASC) (the "Sub-Committee").

1.2 The Sub-Committee shall comprise the Chairman of TRASC, Nominees from the Council, the Director General and/or another Executive and decisions shall be taken by a minimum of two of the above individuals who must reach unanimous agreement. The meetings may be held, concurrent to the IGU Council Meetings or if not possible, by e mail circulation or video conference.

**2. Receipt of Application and Initial Consideration by Sub-Committee**

2.1 On receipt of an application for reinstatement to Amateur Status, the Sub-Committee shall review the application and either:

2.1.1 Reinstatement immediately;

2.1.2 Prescribe a period awaiting reinstatement, based on the guidelines contained in Rule 5 of the Rules;

2.1.3 Deny reinstatement.

2.2 The Sub-Committee, through the Director general or his nominee, shall inform the person applying for reinstatement (the "Player") of its decision and the reasons for it, in writing no later than 42 days after receipt by the Sub-Committee of the Player's application for reinstatement.



### 3. Consideration by the Council

3.1 Upon receipt of the Player's written request to have his application considered by the Council (the "Committee") after being informed under paragraph 2.2, 2 or where consideration is to be undertaken by the Committee by reason of the non-operation of the Sub-Committee, the Director General shall pass the application and all relevant papers to the Committee as soon as practicable.

3.2 The Committee shall consider these papers, and the circumstances of the application, and may write to the Player requesting further information, comments or representations in writing within 14 days of the date of the Committee's letter.

3.3 Following receipt of any further information, comments or representations from the Player or, where the Committee considers that it has sufficient information to determine the matter, it may either:

3.3.1 Reinstate Amateur Status immediately;

3.3.2 Prescribe a period awaiting reinstatement, based on the guidelines contained in Rule 5 of the Rules;

3.3.3 Deny reinstatement.

3.4 In order to deal with cases as efficiently as possible, most applications will be considered on the papers only and the Committee will not meet in order to reach a decision. In such cases paragraph 3.5 will apply. If, however, it is considered necessary to meet in order to reach a decision on any particular case paragraph 3.5 does not apply and instead paragraphs 3.6 and 3.7 will apply to such a case.

3.5 Where the Committee reaches a decision without meeting, the Committee shall inform the Player in writing of its decision, and the reasons for it no later than 42 days after its receipt of the Player's letter requesting a full review of his application under paragraph 3.1 above; The Player shall also be informed at this time of his right to appeal the decision of the Committee to the Appeals Committee in accordance with the IGU's Rules of Appeal.



3.6 Where it is considered necessary to meet in order to reach a decision in relation to any particular case, cases will, where practicable, be allocated to the next available Committee meeting, concurrent to the Council Meeting, which is 4 meetings a year. Where a case reaches the Committee, whether referred under either paragraph 2.2 or 2.3, at least one month before the next meeting of the Committee, it will usually be practicable to hear the case at that sitting of the Committee. In other cases, in order to allow for the collection of further information and consideration of that information the case may need to be considered at the meeting following the next available meeting of the Committee.

3.7 Following its consideration of a case under paragraph 3.6, the Committee shall inform the Applicant in writing of its decision, and the reasons for it, no later than 42 days after the date of the meeting at which the case was considered. The Applicant shall also be informed at this stage of his right to appeal the decision of the Committee to the Appeals Committee in accordance with the IGU's Rules of Appeal.

3.8 Pending appeal of the decision of the Committee to the Appeals Committee the Committee's decision shall remain in full effect.

#### 4. **Grounds for Appeal**

4.1 An appeal of the decision by the Committee may be made by the Player to the Appeals Committee within 42 days of the date of the Committee's decision letter.

4.2 An appeal may be made only on one or more of the following grounds:

4.2.1 The Committee's decision was based on a misapplication of the Rules;

4.2.2 The Committee's decision was not supported by the facts before it;

4.2.3 The Committee's decision was procedurally flawed in a material way;

4.2.4 The period awaiting reinstatement imposed by the Committee was excessive.

4.3 Any appeal shall be carried out in accordance with the IGU's Rules of Appeal



## 5. REINSTATEMENT PROCEDURE

Anyone wishing to be reinstated as an amateur golfer should contact the IGU for an application form. Membership of a professional organisation, such as a Professional Golfers' Association, is a breach of the Rules of Amateur Status; therefore, an applicant for reinstatement must resign from the respective organisation before his application can be considered.

## 6. GUIDELINES ON REINSTATEMENT TO AMATEUR STATUS

Amateur and professional golf are two distinct forms of the game which provide different opportunities and neither benefits if the process of changing status from professional to amateur is too easy. Furthermore, there needs to be a deterrent against all breaches of the *Rules*. Therefore, an applicant for reinstatement to Amateur Status must undergo a period awaiting reinstatement as prescribed by the *Committee*.

The IGU has the sole authority to reinstate a person to Amateur Status, prescribe a waiting period necessary for reinstatement or to deny reinstatement, subject to an appeal. The "Governing Body" for the Rules of Amateur Status in any country is the national golf union or association of the country, which is The Indian Golf Union, in India.

Each application is considered on its own merits with consideration normally given to the principles outlined herein above. In all cases, the IGU reserves the right to extend or to shorten the period awaiting reinstatement.

## 7. PERIOD AWAITING REINSTATEMENT

7.1 The period awaiting reinstatement generally starts from the date of the person's last breach of the Rules unless the IGU decides that it starts from either (a) the date when the person's last breach became known to the IGU, or (b) such other date determined by the IGU.

## 8. Professionalism - General

8.1 Generally, the period awaiting reinstatement is related to the length of time the person was in breach of the Rules of Amateur Status. No applicant is normally eligible for reinstatement unless a period of at least one year has passed.

The guidelines on periods awaiting reinstatement for players who do not conduct themselves as Amateur golfers (Rule 2) are as follows:

Period of Breach	Period Awaiting Reinstatement
under 6 years	1 year
6 years or more	2 years

## IGU's Procedure for Reinstatement of Amateur Status



## 8.2 Professionalism – Playing Extensively for Prize Money

The period awaiting reinstatement may be extended if the applicant has played extensively for money, regardless of performance.

An applicant may be considered to have played extensively for prize money if he has played for prize money for more than an average of two events per month during his professional golf career which saw him devote himself to tournament play for more than six months. Other factors that are taken into account include the tour schedule and the duration of the “off season” and, if applicable, the length of time that has passed since the player played extensively for prize money.

The guidelines on periods awaiting reinstatement for players who are considered to have played extensively for prize money are as follows:

Period of Breach	Period Awaiting Reinstatement
Under 6 years	2 years
6 years or more	3 years

## 8.3 Professionalism – Young Applications

It should be noted that special consideration is given to players who are 21 years or under on the date of application and who have spent less than a year as a professional. Many who have turned professional at a young age reconsider this decision after a short time. In such cases, the period awaiting reinstatement, in general, should be equal to the time spent as a professional. However, irrespective of the time spent as a professional, the young player should serve a period awaiting reinstatement of at least 3 months.

## 9. Acceptance of Non-Conforming Prize or Unauthorised Expenses

A period awaiting reinstatement of one year will normally be applied to an applicant awaiting reinstatement for a breach of the Rules not relating to professionalism. However, the period may be extended if the breach is considered serious. The following guidelines apply to breaches of the Rules relating to the acceptance of a non-conforming prize or a prize of retail value in excess of £ 700 (Rule 3) or the receipt of unauthorised expenses :

Value of Prize (£)	Period Awaiting Reinstatement
501 - 5000	1 year
5001 +	2 years

Non-Approved Expenses (£)	Period Awaiting Reinstatement
Up to 5000	1 year
5001 +	2 years



## **10. STATUS WHILE AWAITING REINSTATEMENT**

An individual awaiting reinstatement must not represent his Golf Club against other Clubs without the approval of all the clubs in the competition and/or the organising Committee.

He may become or remain a member of a Golf Club (unless membership of the Club in question is open to amateur golfers only) and he may enter competitions solely among members of a Golf Club at which he is a member, subject to the approval of that Golf Club.

He must conduct himself in accordance with the Rules of Amateur Status during the interim period.

## **11. HANDICAPPING**

Any handicap previously held may lapse and it may be necessary for the individual to apply for a new handicap.

Issued by:  
The Chairman,  
Technical, Rules & Amateur Status Committee,  
1<sup>st</sup> January, 2022.