

USGA EXEMPTION EVENTS 2026 Exemption Criteria

Summary of Exemptions

2026 Exemptions will be determined based on the below criteria using WAGR event Power data from 2023-25. Exemptions for subsequent years will be evaluated each fall using the previous three years of WAGR® (World Amateur Golf Ranking®) event Power data (i.e. 2027 exemptions will utilize data from 2024-2026).

| | State Amateurs | AGA Amateurs | Regional Amateurs | National Amateurs |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| U.S. Amateur | All 50 states (must be WAGR ranked) | 50+ event Power | 100+ event Power | 600+ event Power |
| U.S. Women's Amateur | 40+ event Power | 50+ event Power | 100+ event Power | 600+ event Power |
| U.S. Junior Amateur | 20+ event Power | 25+ event Power | 35+ event Power | 300+ event Power |
| U.S. Girls' Junior | 25+ event Power | 30+ event Power | 40+ event Power | 400+ event Power |

Dates and Cut-Offs:

The intention of the State/AGA exemption category is to have one champion exempt in the USGA Championship field for each year of the Championship.

The exemption cutoff date for all USGA Championships will be eight (8) days prior to the first day of the Championship proper. For the U.S. Amateur, U.S. Junior Amateur, and U.S. Girls' Junior, the exemption cutoff date is the Sunday before advance week, as these 3 Championships begin on a Monday.

NEW FOR 2026: For the U.S. Women's Amateur, the exemption cutoff date is the Monday before advance week, as this Championship starts on a Tuesday in 2026.

- Ex) The 2026 U.S. Amateur Championship will begin on August 10. The cutoff date for state amateur exemptions to be claimed in 2026 will be August 2. All state amateurs where the intended conclusion is on August 2nd or earlier will receive an exemption to the 2026 Championship. All state amateurs with an intended finish of August 3rd or later will have their champions receive their exemption into the 2027 Championship.

| Championship | 2026 Championship Dates | Cutoff for Same-Year Exemption |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| U.S. Girls' Junior | July 13-18 | Sunday, July 5 |
| U.S. Junior Amateur | July 20-25 | Sunday, July 12 |
| U.S. Women's Amateur | August 4-9 | Monday, July 27 |

U.S. Amateur

August 10-16

Sunday, August 2

U.S. Amateur Championship

Full Exemption Criteria

- 1) State Amateur Championships
 - a. Defined by the geographic boundaries of the United States (50 states) plus Puerto Rico
 - b. Must be a WAGR-ranked event in the previous year
 - c. Must have eligibility requirement that limits participation to residents or association members of that state.
 - d. Only one championship per state may qualify for exemption under this category.

- 2) AGA Amateur Championships not defined by specific state boundaries
 - a. Must be a WAGR-ranked event with an average WAGR event Power of **50** or greater (3-year rolling average)
 - b. For events not currently ranked in WAGR or who do not have a 3-year history of being ranked in WAGR:
 - Average event Power of 60 or greater in the two most recent years, or;
 - Event Power of 60 or greater in the most recent year
 - c. Only applies to those AGA's who are not defined by specific state boundaries. Only one championship per AGA may qualify for exemption.

- 3) Regional Amateur Championships with affiliation to an AGA
 - a. Must be a WAGR-ranked event with an average WAGR event Power of **100** or greater (3-year rolling average)
 - b. Must be affiliated with or conducted by an AGA (i.e. Pacific Northwest Amateur, New England Amateur, etc...)

- 4) National Amateur Championships conducted within the United States
 - a. A full exemption will be granted to any National Amateur Championship conducted within the United States that has an average event Power of **600** or greater (3-year rolling average)

2026 Full Exemption Summary

***Events highlighted in green will receive full exemption in 2026**

State Amateur Championships (Must be WAGR ranked)

| Championship | 2025 Power | 2024 Power | 2023 Power | Power (Avg. 2023-25) |
|--|------------|------------|------------|----------------------|
| Alabama State Amateur | 58.7 | 196.1 | 106 | 120.3 |
| Alaska State Amateur Championship | 24.8 | 23.6 | 23.8 | 24.1 |
| Arizona Amateur Championship | 74.5 | 102.2 | 120.3 | 99.0 |
| Arkansas Amateur Championship | 46.1 | 49.6 | 35.5 | 43.7 |
| California Amateur Championship | 157.5 | 279.1 | 171.8 | 202.8 |
| Colorado Amateur Championship | 51.6 | 49.9 | 41.7 | 47.7 |
| Connecticut Amateur Championship | 46.8 | 46.2 | 60 | 51.0 |
| Delaware Amateur Championship | 37.5 | 26.7 | 35.2 | 33.1 |
| Florida Amateur Championship | 100.4 | 113.3 | 109.1 | 107.6 |
| Georgia Amateur Championship | 184.9 | 233.5 | 187.6 | 202.0 |
| Golf PR Island Amateur Championship | 70.6 | 77.3 | NR | 74.0 |
| Hawaii State Amateur Championship | 41.5 | 29.9 | 34.1 | 35.2 |
| Idaho State Amateur | 52.8 | 32.5 | 26.5 | 37.3 |
| Illinois State Amateur | 43.0 | 39.8 | 97.1 | 60.0 |
| Indiana Amateur Championship | 47.4 | 61.4 | 54.5 | 54.4 |
| Iowa Amateur Championship | 82.9 | 70.7 | 75.7 | 76.4 |
| Kansas Amateur | 96.1 | 74.1 | 46.2 | 72.1 |
| Kentucky Amateur Championship | 48.5 | 48.3 | 47.1 | 48.0 |
| Louisiana Amateur | 54.8 | 33.6 | 27.8 | 38.7 |
| Maine Amateur Championship | 24.5 | 26.2 | 45.9 | 32.2 |
| Maryland Amateur | 42.3 | 42.1 | 49 | 44.5 |
| Massachusetts Amateur Championship | 79.8 | 74 | 61.1 | 71.6 |
| MGA (Minnesota) Amateur Championship | 68.2 | 87.6 | 113.3 | 89.7 |
| Michigan Amateur Championship | 73.9 | 63.3 | 72.5 | 69.9 |
| Mississippi State Amateur Championship | 53.3 | 71.5 | 88.5 | 71.1 |
| Missouri Amateur Championship | 61.5 | 51 | 52.9 | 55.1 |
| Montana State Amateur | 26.1 | 24 | 23.8 | 24.6 |
| Nebraska Amateur Championship | 49.8 | 53.5 | 33.6 | 45.6 |
| Nevada State Amateur Championship | 32.1 | 32.6 | 30.8 | 31.8 |
| New Hampshire Amateur Championship | 40.0 | 35.5 | 27.6 | 34.4 |
| New Jersey Amateur Championship | 49.1 | 85 | 82.1 | 72.1 |
| New Mexico-West Texas Amateur | 59.4 | 29.6 | 38 | 42.3 |
| New York State Amateur Championship | 89.5 | 61.6 | 74 | 75.0 |
| North Carolina Amateur Championship | 91.4 | 114.3 | 96.3 | 100.7 |

| | | | | |
|---|-------|-------|-------|--------------|
| North Dakota State Stroke Play Championship | 21.9 | 27 | NR | 24.4 |
| Ohio Amateur Championship | 110.7 | 137.2 | 134 | 127.3 |
| Oklahoma State Amateur | 84.6 | 77.6 | 44.1 | 68.8 |
| Oregon Amateur Championship | 90.6 | 54 | 75.5 | 73.4 |
| Pennsylvania Amateur Championship | 49.3 | 49 | 54.8 | 51.0 |
| Rhode Island Amateur | 24.4 | 25.3 | 26.5 | 25.4 |
| South Carolina Amateur Championship | 80.7 | 66.6 | 83.5 | 76.9 |
| South Dakota Amateur Championship | 38.4 | 21.7 | NR | 30.0 |
| Tennessee State Amateur | 65.5 | 115.1 | 106.7 | 95.8 |
| Texas Amateur Championship | 126.7 | 126.1 | 166.8 | 139.9 |
| Utah State Amateur Championship | 71.4 | 135.8 | 98.7 | 102.0 |
| Vermont Amateur Championship | 26.8 | 31.1 | 27 | 28.3 |
| VSGA Amateur Championship | 63.9 | 53.3 | 82.7 | 66.6 |
| Washington State Amateur Championship | 77.7 | 86.2 | 68.3 | 77.4 |
| West Virginia Amateur | 61.7 | 25.9 | 27.4 | 38.3 |
| Wisconsin State Amateur Championship | 47.4 | 88.8 | 55.5 | 63.9 |
| Wyoming Amateur Championship | 33.8 | 24.4 | NR | 29.1 |

AGA Amateur Championships (Average 3-year WAGR event Power of 50 or higher)

| Championship | 2025 Power | 2024 Power | 2023 Power | Power (Avg. 2023-25) |
|--|------------|------------|------------|----------------------|
| Met Amateur Championship | 84.1 | 154.9 | 195.1 | 144.7 |
| SCGA Amateur Championship | 124.1 | 101.4 | 109 | 111.5 |
| Carolinas Amateur Championship | 112.4 | 85.8 | 107 | 101.8 |
| NCGA Amateur Championship | 106.8 | 81.6 | 58.4 | 82.3 |
| Metropolitan Amateur Championship (MVGA) | 63.9 | 61.9 | 47.7 | 57.8 |
| Western Pennsylvania Amateur Championship | | | | |
| Western Pennsylvania Amateur Championship | 32.8 | 36.6 | 79.4 | 49.6 |
| Philadelphia Amateur Championship | 42.9 | 45.5 | 57.2 | 48.5 |
| CDGA Amateur Championship | 30.5 | 33.4 | 46.6 | 36.8 |
| Tony Blom Metropolitan Amateur Championship (GCGA) | 35.7 | 42.5 | 26.2 | 34.8 |
| Metropolitan Amateur Championship (Met Am GA) | 23.0 | 28.8 | 36.1 | 29.3 |
| RDGA District Championship | 28.8 | 30.3 | 25.9 | 28.3 |
| Northeast Ohio Amateur | 28.5 | 26.7 | 29.7 | 28.3 |
| Columbus District Amateur Championship | 29.0 | 27.2 | 25.2 | 27.1 |

Regional Amateur Championships (Average 3-year WAGR event Power of 100 or higher)

| Championship | 2025 Power | 2024 Power | 2023 Power | Power (Avg. 2023-25) |
|--|------------|------------|------------|----------------------|
| Pacific Northwest Amateur Championship | 103.5 | 61.5 | 99.5 | 88.2 |
| New England Amateur Championship | 41.0 | 48.1 | 59 | 49.4 |

National Amateur Championships (Average 3-year WAGR event Power of 600 or higher)

| Championship | 2025 Power | 2024 Power | 2023 Power | Power (Avg. 2023-25) |
|--|------------|------------|------------|----------------------|
| The Western Amateur Championship | 983.5 | 975.8 | 987.8 | 982.3 |
| Jones Cup Invitational | 954.9 | 961.9 | 938 | 951.6 |
| Southern Amateur Championship | 927.1 | 934.5 | 972.3 | 944.6 |
| Northeast Amateur Invitational | 938.5 | 905.8 | 956.1 | 933.4 |
| North and South Amateur Championship | 800.2 | 821.6 | 882.4 | 834.7 |
| Sunnehanna Amateur | 815.4 | 767.1 | 895.1 | 825.9 |
| Trans-Mississippi Amateur Championship | 683.0 | 715.4 | 837.3 | 745.3 |
| | | | | |
| Pacific Coast Amateur | 469.7 | 657.0 | 614.1 | 580.3 |
| The Dogwood Invitational | 379.6 | 453.1 | 548 | 460.3 |
| Terra Cotta Invitational | 452.1 | 313.9 | 373.5 | 379.9 |
| Monroe Invitational | 600.9 | 414.0 | 401.6 | 472.2 |
| Porter Cup | 150.3 | 154.3 | 146.1 | 150.2 |

Local Exemption Criteria

1. State/AGA Amateur Championships
 - 1.1. All State/AGA Amateur champions who received a full exemption to the Championship in previous year will be locally exempt for the following year's championship.
 - Ex. A 2025 state amateur champion is fully exempt to the 2025 U.S. Amateur and will receive a local exemption in 2026 (1 year full exemption, 1 year locally exempt)
 - A 2025 state amateur champion who is fully exempt in 2026 (due to the date of the championship) would be locally exempt in 2027.
 - 1.2. For State/AGA amateur championships with a 3-year average event Power of 100 or greater, the top 5 and ties, or quarterfinalists will receive an exemption from local qualifying for the following year.
 - 1.3. For State/AGA amateur championships with a 3-year average event Power of 50 or greater, the top 3 and ties, or semifinalists will receive an exemption from local qualifying for the following year.
 - 1.4. For State/AGA amateur championships that receive a full exemption and with a 3-year average event Power below 50, the Champion & runner-up(s) will receive an exemption from local qualifying for the following year.
 - 1.5. For AGA amateur championships that do not meet the WAGR threshold for a full exemption or are not ranked in WAGR, the champion will receive an exemption from local qualifying for the following year.

2026 Local Exemption Summary

| Championship | 2025 Power | 2024 Power | 2023 Power | Power (Avg. 2023-25) |
|---|------------|------------|------------|----------------------|
| For events below in green, top 5/quarterfinalists will receive local exemption in 2027 | | | | |
| California Amateur Championship | 157.5 | 279.1 | 171.8 | 202.8 |
| Georgia Amateur Championship | 184.9 | 233.5 | 187.6 | 202.0 |
| Met Amateur Championship | 84.1 | 154.9 | 195.1 | 144.7 |
| Texas Amateur Championship | 126.7 | 126.1 | 166.8 | 139.9 |
| Ohio Amateur Championship | 110.7 | 137.2 | 134 | 127.3 |
| Alabama State Amateur | 58.7 | 196.1 | 106 | 120.3 |
| SCGA Amateur Championship | 124.1 | 101.4 | 109 | 111.5 |
| Florida Amateur Championship | 100.4 | 113.3 | 109.1 | 107.6 |
| Utah State Amateur Championship | 71.4 | 135.8 | 98.7 | 102.0 |
| Carolinas Amateur Championship | 112.4 | 85.8 | 107 | 101.8 |
| North Carolina Amateur Championship | 91.4 | 114.3 | 96.3 | 100.7 |
| For events below in orange, top 3/semifinalists will receive local exemption in 2027 | | | | |
| Arizona Amateur Championship | 74.5 | 102.2 | 120.3 | 99.0 |
| Tennessee State Amateur | 65.5 | 115.1 | 106.7 | 95.8 |
| MGA (Minnesota) Amateur Championship | 68.2 | 87.6 | 113.3 | 89.7 |

| | | | | |
|---|-------|------|------|-------------|
| NCGA Amateur Championship | 106.8 | 81.6 | 58.4 | 82.3 |
| Washington State Amateur Championship | 77.7 | 86.2 | 68.3 | 77.4 |
| South Carolina Amateur Championship | 80.7 | 66.6 | 83.5 | 76.9 |
| Iowa Amateur Championship | 82.9 | 70.7 | 75.7 | 76.4 |
| New York State Amateur Championship | 89.5 | 61.6 | 74 | 75.0 |
| Golf PR Island Amateur Championship | 70.6 | 77.3 | NR | 74.0 |
| Oregon Amateur Championship | 90.6 | 54 | 75.5 | 73.4 |
| Kansas Amateur | 96.1 | 74.1 | 46.2 | 72.1 |
| New Jersey Amateur Championship | 49.1 | 85 | 82.1 | 72.1 |
| Massachusetts Amateur Championship | 79.8 | 74 | 61.1 | 71.6 |
| Mississippi State Amateur Championship | 53.3 | 71.5 | 88.5 | 71.1 |
| Michigan Amateur Championship | 73.9 | 63.3 | 72.5 | 69.9 |
| Oklahoma State Amateur | 84.6 | 77.6 | 44.1 | 68.8 |
| VSGA Amateur Championship | 63.9 | 53.3 | 82.7 | 66.6 |
| Wisconsin State Amateur Championship | 47.4 | 88.8 | 55.5 | 63.9 |
| Illinois State Amateur | 43.0 | 39.8 | 97.1 | 60.0 |
| Metropolitan Amateur Championship (MVGA) | 63.9 | 61.9 | 47.7 | 57.8 |
| Missouri Amateur Championship | 61.5 | 51 | 52.9 | 55.1 |
| Indiana Amateur Championship | 47.4 | 61.4 | 54.5 | 54.4 |
| Pennsylvania Amateur Championship | 49.3 | 49 | 54.8 | 51.0 |
| Connecticut Amateur Championship | 46.8 | 46.2 | 60 | 51.0 |
| For events below in yellow, champion & runner-up(s) will receive local exemption in 2027 | | | | |
| Kentucky Amateur Championship | 48.5 | 48.3 | 47.1 | 48.0 |
| Colorado Amateur Championship | 51.6 | 49.9 | 41.7 | 47.7 |
| Nebraska Amateur Championship | 49.8 | 53.5 | 33.6 | 45.6 |
| Maryland Amateur | 42.3 | 42.1 | 49 | 44.5 |
| Arkansas Amateur Championship | 46.1 | 49.6 | 35.5 | 43.7 |
| New Mexico-West Texas Amateur | 59.4 | 29.6 | 38 | 42.3 |
| Louisiana Amateur | 54.8 | 33.6 | 27.8 | 38.7 |
| West Virginia Amateur | 61.7 | 25.9 | 27.4 | 38.3 |
| Idaho State Amateur | 52.8 | 32.5 | 26.5 | 37.3 |
| Hawaii State Amateur Championship | 41.5 | 29.9 | 34.1 | 35.2 |
| New Hampshire Amateur Championship | 40.0 | 35.5 | 27.6 | 34.4 |
| Delaware Amateur Championship | 37.5 | 26.7 | 35.2 | 33.1 |
| Maine Amateur Championship | 24.5 | 26.2 | 45.9 | 32.2 |
| Nevada State Amateur Championship | 32.1 | 32.6 | 30.8 | 31.8 |
| South Dakota Amateur Championship | 38.4 | 21.7 | NR | 30.0 |
| Wyoming Amateur Championship | 33.8 | 24.4 | NR | 29.1 |
| Vermont Amateur Championship | 26.8 | 31.1 | 27 | 28.3 |
| Rhode Island Amateur | 24.4 | 25.3 | 26.5 | 25.4 |

| | | | | |
|--|-------|------|------|-------------|
| Montana State Amateur | 26.1 | 24 | 23.8 | 24.6 |
| North Dakota State Stroke Play Championship | 21.9 | 27 | NR | 24.4 |
| Alaska State Amateur Championship | 24.8 | 23.6 | 23.8 | 24.1 |
| For events below in blue, champion will receive local exemption in 2027 | | | | |
| Western Pennsylvania Amateur Championship | 32.8 | 36.6 | 79.4 | 49.6 |
| New England Amateur Championship | 41.0 | 48.1 | 59 | 49.4 |
| Philadelphia Amateur Championship | 42.9 | 45.5 | 57.2 | 48.5 |
| CDGA Amateur Championship | 30.5 | 33.4 | 46.6 | 36.8 |
| Tony Blom Metropolitan Amateur Championship (GCGA) | 35.7 | 42.5 | 26.2 | 34.8 |
| Metropolitan Amateur Championship (Met Am GA) | 23.0 | 28.8 | 36.1 | 29.3 |
| RDGA District Championship | 28.8 | 30.3 | 25.9 | 28.3 |
| Northeast Ohio Amateur | 28.5 | 26.7 | 29.7 | 28.3 |
| Columbus District Amateur Championship | 29.0 | 27.2 | 25.2 | 27.1 |
| Pacific Northwest Amateur Championship | 103.5 | 61.5 | 99.5 | 88.2 |
| New England Amateur Championship | 41.0 | 48.1 | 59 | 49.4 |

U.S. Women's Amateur Championship

Full Exemption Criteria

- 1) State Amateur Championships
 - a. Defined by the geographic boundaries of the United States (50 states) plus Puerto Rico
 - b. Must be a WAGR-ranked event with an average event Power of **40** or higher (3-year rolling average)
 - c. For events not currently ranked in WAGR or who do not have a 3-year history of being ranked in WAGR:
 - Average event Power of 50 or greater in the two most recent years, or;
 - Event Power of 50 or greater in the most recent year
 - d. Must have eligibility requirement that limits participation to residents or association members of that state.
 - e. Only one championship per state may qualify for exemption under this category.

- 2) AGA Amateur Championships not defined by specific state boundaries
 - a. Must be a WAGR-ranked event with an average WAGR event Power of **50** or greater (3-year rolling average)
 - b. For events not currently ranked in WAGR or who do not have a 3-year history of being ranked in WAGR:
 - Average event Power of 60 or greater in the two most recent years, or;
 - Event Power of 60 or greater in the most recent year
 - c. Only applies to those AGA's who are not defined by specific state boundaries. Only one championship per AGA may qualify for exemption.

- 3) Regional Amateur Championships with affiliation to an AGA
 - a. Must be a WAGR-ranked event with an average WAGR event Power of **100** or greater (3-year rolling average)
 - b. Must be affiliated with or conducted by an AGA (i.e. Pacific Northwest Amateur, New England Amateur, etc...)

- 4) National Amateur Championships conducted within the United States
 - a. A full exemption will be granted to any National Amateur Championship conducted within the United States that has an average event Power of **600** or greater (3-year rolling average)
 - b. Age or eligibility-restricted events are excluded (i.e. junior, collegiate etc..)

2026 Exemption Summary

***Events highlighted in green will receive exemption in 2026**

State Amateur Championships (Average 3-year WAGR event Power of 40 or higher)

| Championship | 2025 Power | 2024 Power | 2023 Power | Power (Avg. 2023-25) |
|--|------------|------------|------------|----------------------|
| California Women's Amateur Championship | 353.8 | 320.2 | 238.7 | 304.2 |
| Women's Texas Amateur Championship | 152.3 | 239.4 | 82.0 | 157.9 |
| Florida Women's Amateur Championship | 135.0 | 188.0 | 141.8 | 154.9 |
| Georgia Women's Amateur Championship | 188.5 | 137.4 | 89.6 | 138.5 |
| Arizona Women's Amateur Championship | 52.8 | 218.1 | 109.3 | 126.7 |
| Missouri Women's Amateur Championship | 134.3 | 144.0 | 41.7 | 106.7 |
| Tennessee Women's Amateur Championship | 80.5 | 102.3 | 105.9 | 96.2 |
| Utah Women's State Amateur | 72.5 | 107.5 | 88.8 | 89.6 |
| New Jersey Women's Amateur Championship | 99.1 | 91.3 | 59.5 | 83.3 |
| North Carolina Women's Amateur Championship | 72.4 | 127.5 | 31.7 | 77.2 |
| Oregon Amateur Championship | 98.5 | 70.4 | 58.0 | 75.6 |
| Women's Massachusetts Amateur Championship | 100.5 | 67.1 | 55.0 | 74.2 |
| Pennsylvania Women's Amateur Championship | 82.4 | 91.3 | 48.8 | 74.2 |
| Alabama Women's State Amateur Championship | 108.7 | 67.4 | 41.1 | 72.4 |
| Washington State Women's Amateur Championship | 69.4 | 95.4 | 50.5 | 71.8 |
| Kansas Women's Amateur | 123.4 | 44.3 | 38.8 | 68.8 |
| Women's Ohio State Amateur | 51.3 | 70.8 | 78.0 | 66.7 |
| Connecticut Women's Amateur | 36.5 | 89.7 | NR | 63.1 |
| Iowa Women's Amateur | 97.7 | 45.3 | 39.3 | 60.8 |
| VSGA Women's Amateur Championship | 76.6 | 49.6 | 53.9 | 60.0 |
| Indiana Women's Amateur Championship | 61.6 | 77.8 | 37.4 | 58.9 |
| Women's Oklahoma State Amateur | 75.2 | 54.4 | 43.5 | 57.7 |
| CGA Women's Stroke Play Championship | 64.9 | 57.1 | 50.7 | 57.6 |
| Illinois State Amateur Championship | 69.6 | 44.3 | 46.6 | 53.5 |
| Women's South Carolina GA Amateur State Championship | 55.9 | 38.48 | 49.3 | 52.6 |
| Maryland Women's Amateur | 51.7 | 62.8 | 40.4 | 51.6 |
| Michigan Women's Amateur | 52.9 | 56.4 | 40.4 | 49.9 |
| Nebraska Women's Amateur Championship | 49.0 | 44.5 | 46.9 | 46.8 |
| New York State Women's Amateur Championship | 58.0 | 42.8 | 34.6 | 45.1 |
| Hawaii State Amateur Championship | 62.1 | 22.3 | 37.2 | 40.5 |
| MGA Women's Amateur Championship (Minnesota) | 36.8 | 43.0 | 41.8 | 40.5 |
| Wisconsin Women's Amateur Championship | 44.5 | 36.0 | 40.8 | 40.4 |
| Kentucky Women's Amateur Championship | 44.5 | 44.2 | NR | 44.4 |

| | | | | |
|--|------|------|------|------|
| Montana Women's Amateur | 35.0 | 35.2 | 40.2 | 36.8 |
| Idaho Women's State Amateur | 34.1 | 36.7 | 34.3 | 35.0 |
| Wyoming State Amateur | 25.3 | 44.6 | NR | 34.9 |
| Mississippi Women's State Amateur | 20.3 | 49.0 | 29.1 | 32.8 |
| Nevada State Women's Amateur Championship | 28.5 | 36.4 | NR | 32.4 |
| West Virginia Women's Amateur Championship | 24.1 | 32.8 | 38.7 | 31.9 |
| Rhode Island Women's Amateur Championship | 29.2 | 34.7 | 26.3 | 30.1 |
| New Mexico - West Texas Women's Amateur | 25.6 | 28.9 | 35.0 | 29.8 |
| Louisiana Women's Amateur | 19.5 | 32.9 | 33.0 | 28.5 |
| SDGA Amateur Championship | 33.0 | 22.8 | NR | 27.9 |
| Arkansas Amateur Championship | 33.9 | 21.3 | 22.4 | 25.9 |
| Maine Women's Amateur Championship | #N/A | NR | NR | #N/A |
| Alaska State Women's Amateur Championship | #N/A | #N/A | NR | #N/A |
| Delaware Women's Amateur Championship | #N/A | #N/A | NR | #N/A |
| NH Women's Amateur Championship | #N/A | #N/A | NR | #N/A |
| NDWGA - Women's State Stroke Play | #N/A | #N/A | NR | #N/A |
| Vermont Women's Amateur | #N/A | 34.4 | #N/A | #N/A |

AGA Amateur Championships (Average 3-year WAGR event Power of 50 or higher)

| Championship | 2025 Power | 2024 Power | 2023 Power | Power (Avg. 2023-25) |
|---|------------|------------|------------|----------------------|
| SCGA Women's Amateur Championship | 300.9 | 274.9 | 208.2 | 261.3 |
| CGA Carolinas Women's Amateur Championship | 107.3 | 142.3 | 190.7 | 146.8 |
| NCGA Women's Amateur Championship | 168.6 | 42.8 | 127.3 | 112.9 |
| Women's Met Amateur (NY) Championship | 46.0 | #N/A | NR | 46.0 |
| GAP Women's Championship | 42.7 | #N/A | NR | 42.7 |
| Metropolitan Women's Amateur (GCGA) | 30.0 | 29.3 | 50.0 | 36.4 |
| Metropolitan Women's Amateur (Met Am GA) | #N/A | #N/A | NR | #N/A |
| Northeast Ohio Women's Amateur Championship | #N/A | #N/A | NR | #N/A |
| WRDGA Rochester District Women's Championship | #N/A | #N/A | NR | #N/A |
| WPGA Women's Amateur Championship | #N/A | #N/A | NR | #N/A |

Regional Amateur Championships (Average WAGR event Power of 100 or higher)

| Championship | 2025 Power | 2024 Power | 2023 Power | Power (Avg. 2023-25) |
|--|------------|------------|------------|----------------------|
| Pacific Northwest Women's Amateur | 158.0 | 212.7 | 137.9 | 169.5 |
| New England Women's Amateur Championship | 41.5 | 41.1 | 45.6 | 42.7 |

National Amateur Championships (Average WAGR event Power of 600 or higher)

| Championship | 2025 Power | 2024 Power | 2023 Power | Power (Avg. 2023-25) |
|--|------------|------------|------------|----------------------|
| Augusta National Women's Amateur | 997.5 | 996.6 | 998.7 | 997.6 |
| Women's Western Amateur | 773.7 | 829.3 | 645.2 | 749.4 |
| North & South Women's Amateur | 761.7 | 655.3 | 764.5 | 727.2 |
| Sea Island Women's Amateur | 570.2 | 454.0 | 527.8 | 517.3 |
| Ladies National Golf Association Amateur | 400.3 | 454.0 | 527.8 | 460.7 |
| Southwestern Amateur | 487.0 | 442.6 | 330.0 | 419.9 |
| Women's Orlando International Amateur | 304.4 | 466.7 | 348.2 | 373.1 |
| The Sally | 376.6 | 581.9 | 150.2 | 369.6 |

U.S. Junior Amateur Championship

Full Exemption Criteria

- 1) State Junior Amateur Championships
 - a. Defined by the geographic boundaries of the United States (50 states) plus Puerto Rico
 - b. Must be a WAGR-ranked event with an average event Power of **20** or higher (3-year rolling average)
 - c. For events not currently ranked in WAGR or who do not have a 3-year history of being ranked in WAGR:
 - Average event Power of 25 or greater in the two most recent years, or;
 - Event Power of 25 or greater in the most recent year
 - a. Must have eligibility requirement that limits participation to residents or association members of that state and limits participation to junior golfers (17 or 18 & under).
 - d. Only one championship per state may qualify for exemption under this category.

- 2) AGA Junior Amateur Championships not defined by specific state boundaries
 - a. Must have eligibility that limits participation to junior golfers (17 or 18 & under)
 - b. Must be a WAGR-ranked event with an average WAGR event Power of **25** or greater (3-year rolling average)
 - c. For events not currently ranked in WAGR or who do not have a 3-year history of being ranked in WAGR:
 - Average event Power of 27.5 or greater in the two most recent years, or;
 - Event Power of 27.5 or greater in the most recent year
 - d. Only applies to those AGA's who are not defined by specific state boundaries. Only one championship per AGA may qualify for exemption.

- 3) Regional Junior Amateur Championships with affiliation to an AGA
 - a. Must be a WAGR-ranked event with an average WAGR event Power of **35** or greater (3-year rolling average)
 - b. Must be affiliated with or conducted by an AGA (i.e. Pacific Northwest Amateur, New England Amateur, etc...)

- 4) National Junior Amateur Championships conducted within the United States
 - a. A full exemption will be granted to any National Amateur Championship conducted within the United States that has an average event Power of **300** or greater (3-year rolling average)

2026 Exemption Summary

***Events highlighted in green will receive exemption in 2026**

State Amateur Championships (Average 3-year WAGR event Power of 20 or higher)

| Championship | 2025 Power | 2024 Power | 2023 Power | Power (Avg. 2023-25) |
|--------------|------------|------------|------------|----------------------|
|--------------|------------|------------|------------|----------------------|

| | | | | |
|--|------|------|------|------|
| Florida Junior Amateur Championship | 35.3 | 41.7 | 44.2 | 40.4 |
| Tennessee Junior Amateur | 21.6 | 26.3 | 47 | 31.6 |
| Indiana Boys State Junior Championship | 35.5 | 28.1 | 28.1 | 30.6 |
| Oregon Junior Amateur | 23.1 | 24.8 | 43.1 | 30.3 |
| Texas Junior Amateur | 23.2 | 34.2 | 27.7 | 28.4 |
| Alabama State Junior Championship | 33.8 | 23.9 | 24.8 | 27.5 |
| Massachusetts Junior Amateur Championship | 21.8 | 28.1 | 32.4 | 27.4 |
| South Carolina Junior Championship | 24.5 | 28.1 | 29.7 | 27.4 |
| New Jersey Junior Championship | 32.3 | 22 | 24.9 | 26.4 |
| North Carolina Junior Boys Championship | 23.0 | 26.4 | 26.3 | 25.2 |
| VSGA Junior Stroke Play Championship | 23.1 | 25.5 | 26.1 | 24.9 |
| Colorado State Junior Championship | 24.6 | 26.3 | 23.7 | 24.9 |
| Illinois State Junior Amateur Championship | 28.5 | 22.2 | 23.7 | 24.8 |
| NYS Boys' Junior Amateur Championship | 24.4 | 22.8 | 26.2 | 24.5 |
| Oklahoma Junior Boys | 21.7 | 23.9 | 27.4 | 24.3 |
| Louisiana Junior Amateur Championship | 24.0 | 22.2 | 26.2 | 24.1 |
| Nebraska Junior Amateur | 21.4 | 25 | 25.7 | 24.0 |
| Georgia Junior Championship | 23.9 | 23.4 | 23.9 | 23.7 |
| Michigan Junior State Amateur Championship | 22.3 | 24.2 | 24.5 | 23.7 |
| Iowa Junior Amateur Championship | 26.3 | 21.6 | 23 | 23.6 |
| Connecticut Junior Amateur | 24.0 | 22.8 | 23.9 | 23.6 |
| Missouri Junior Match Play Championship | 24.1 | 23.4 | 22.8 | 23.4 |
| Wisconsin Junior Boys Championship | 23.9 | 22.6 | 23.2 | 23.2 |
| Kansas Boys Junior Amateur | 22.4 | 23.5 | 22.8 | 22.9 |
| Pennsylvania Boys Junior | 22.1 | 22.9 | 23.1 | 22.7 |
| Rhode Island Boys Junior Amateur | 21.2 | 22 | 24.3 | 22.5 |
| Mississippi Junior Amateur | 21.3 | 21.7 | 23 | 22.0 |
| Idaho Junior Amateur | 21.7 | 21.4 | 22.8 | 22.0 |
| New Mexico - West Texas Junior Amateur | 21.3 | 21.6 | 22.9 | 21.9 |
| New Hampshire Junior Championship | 21.5 | 20.9 | 22.7 | 21.7 |
| Ohio Junior Championship | 27.9 | 21.7 | NR | 24.8 |
| Washington State Junior Amateur | 25.7 | 21.6 | NR | 23.6 |
| Minnesota State Junior Boys' Championship | 24.0 | 21.7 | NR | 22.8 |
| UGA Utah Junior State Amateur Championship | 23.4 | 21.6 | NR | 22.5 |
| Montana State Junior Championship | 22.2 | 22.5 | NR | 22.3 |
| Maryland Junior Amateur Championship | 21.8 | 22.6 | NR | 22.2 |
| West Virginia Junior Amateur Championship | 21.5 | 21.8 | NR | 21.6 |
| SDGA Junior Championship | 21.7 | 21.5 | NR | 21.6 |
| Kentucky Junior Amateur | 21.4 | 21.6 | NR | 21.5 |

| | | | | |
|--|------|------|----|------|
| Arkansas Junior Amateur Championship | 21.5 | NR | NR | 21.5 |
| Arizona Junior Boys State Championship | 21.3 | NR | NR | 21.3 |
| Vermont Junior Amateur Championship | 21.0 | NR | NR | 21.0 |
| Nevada State Junior Amateur Championship | 19.9 | 21.6 | NR | 20.7 |
| Wyoming (WSGA Junior Amateur) | 19.1 | 19.2 | NR | 19.2 |
| California State Junior Amateur Championship | NR | NR | NR | NR |
| Delaware Junior Boys' Championship | NR | NR | NR | NR |
| Hawaii State Junior Championship | NR | NR | NR | NR |
| Maine Junior Championship | NR | NR | NR | NR |
| NDGA State Junior Championship | NR | NR | NR | NR |
| WPGA Junior Championship | NR | NR | NR | NR |

AGA Amateur Championships (Average 3-year WAGR event Power of 25 or higher)

| Championship | 2025 Power | 2024 Power | 2023 Power | Power (Avg. 2023-25) |
|---|------------|------------|------------|----------------------|
| Carolinas Junior Boys' Championship | 25.7 | 30.9 | 29.7 | 28.8 |
| Met (NY) Junior Championship | 29.0 | 27 | 29.4 | 28.5 |
| | | | | |
| Southern California Junior Amateur Championship | 25.6 | 25.9 | NR | 25.8 |
| Northern California Junior Championship | 25.3 | 22.8 | 24.8 | 24.3 |
| GAP Junior Boys' Championship | 21.4 | 22.1 | 22.9 | 22.1 |
| Metropolitan Junior Amateur Championship (Met Am) | 21.1 | 21.7 | NR | 21.4 |
| Metropolitan Junior Boys Championship | NR | NR | NR | NR |
| RDGA Junior Championship | NR | NR | NR | NR |

Regional Amateur Championships (Average 3-year WAGR event Power of 35 or higher)

| Championship | 2025 Power | 2024 Power | 2023 Power | Power (Avg. 2022-24) |
|---|------------|------------|------------|----------------------|
| New England Junior Amateur Invitational | 34.5 | 41.4 | 26.7 | 34.2 |
| Pacific Northwest Junior Boys' Amateur | 27.1 | 25.8 | 23.1 | 25.3 |

National Amateur Championships (Average 3-year WAGR event Power of 300 or higher)

| Championship | 2025 Power | 2024 Power | 2023 Power | Power (Avg. 2022-24) |
|------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|----------------------|
| Junior Invitational at Sage Valley | 547.8 | 405.7 | 392.7 | 448.7 |
| Junior PLAYERS Championship | 342.4 | 421.5 | 285.1 | 349.7 |
| Rolex Tournament of Champions | NPY | 330 | 201.9 | 266.0 |

| | | | | |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| AJGA Simplify Boys Championship at Carlton Woods | 343.1 | 252.8 | 175.5 | 257.1 |
| Boys Junior PGA Championship | 292.9 | 252.2 | 160.9 | 235.3 |
| Dustin Johnson World Junior | 171.4 | 200.9 | 152.6 | 175.0 |
| Junior Orange Bowl International | 134.3 | 127.3 | 182.1 | 147.9 |
| IMG Academy Junior World Championship | 35.4 | 36 | 25.5 | 30.8 |

U.S. Girls' Junior Championship

Full Exemption Criteria

- 1) State Junior Amateur Championships
 - a. Defined by the geographic boundaries of the United States (50 states) plus Puerto Rico
 - b. Must be a WAGR-ranked event with an average event Power of **25** or higher (3-year rolling average)
 - c. For events not currently ranked in WAGR or who do not have a 3-year history of being ranked in WAGR:
 - Average event Power of 30 or greater in the two most recent years, or;
 - Event Power of 30 or greater in the most recent year
 - b. Must have eligibility requirement that limits participation to residents or association members of that state and limits participation to junior golfers (17 or 18 & under).
 - d. Only one championship per state may qualify for exemption under this category.

- 2) AGA Junior Amateur Championships not defined by specific state boundaries
 - a. Must have eligibility that limits participation to junior golfers (17 or 18 & under)
 - b. Must be a WAGR-ranked event with an average WAGR event Power of **30** or greater (3-year rolling average)
 - c. For events not currently ranked in WAGR or who do not have a 3-year history of being ranked in WAGR:
 - Average event Power of 30 or greater in the two most recent years, or;
 - Event Power of 30 or greater in the most recent year
 - d. Only applies to those AGA's who are not defined by specific state boundaries. Only one championship per AGA may qualify for exemption.

- 3) Regional Junior Amateur Championships with affiliation to an AGA
 - a. Must be a WAGR-ranked event with an average WAGR event Power of **40** or greater (3-year rolling average)
 - b. Must be affiliated with or conducted by an AGA (i.e. Pacific Northwest Amateur, New England Amateur, etc...)

- 4) National Junior Amateur Championships conducted within the United States
 - a. A full exemption will be granted to any National Junior Amateur Championship conducted within the United States that has an average event Power of **400** or greater (3-year rolling average)

2026 Exemption Summary

***Events highlighted in green will receive exemption in 2026**

State Amateur Championships (Average 3-year WAGR event Power of 25 or higher)

| Championship | 2025 Power | 2024 Power | 2023 Power | Power (Avg. 2023-25) |
|---|------------|------------|------------|----------------------|
| Florida Girls' Junior Championship | 80.4 | 91.8 | 41.5 | 71.2 |
| California Junior Championship | 50.6 | 95.9 | 38.5 | 61.7 |
| Georgia Junior Championship | 61.2 | 76.0 | 44.0 | 60.4 |
| Texas Junior Amateur | 51.0 | 41.9 | 41.9 | 44.9 |
| UGA Utah Girls' Junior State Amateur Championship | 45.8 | 44.0 | NR | 44.9 |
| New Jersey Junior Girls' Championship | 31.1 | 65.8 | 37.6 | 44.8 |
| Maryland Girls' Junior Amateur | 47.0 | 36.6 | NR | 41.8 |
| NYS Girls' Junior Amateur Championship | 43.9 | 41.5 | 39.9 | 41.8 |
| Washington State Junior Amateur | 45.9 | 34.4 | NR | 40.1 |
| Kansas Girls Junior Amateur | 41.9 | 43.1 | 34.7 | 39.9 |
| VSGA Junior Girls' Championship | 35.3 | 41.1 | 35.6 | 37.3 |
| North Carolina Junior Girls' Championship | 40.6 | 34.6 | 36.1 | 37.1 |
| Colorado Junior State Championship | 36.5 | 37.6 | 34.0 | 36.0 |
| Massachusetts Girls' Junior Amateur Championship | 37.2 | 34.2 | 34.8 | 35.4 |
| Girls' Kentucky Junior Amateur | 38.1 | 32.1 | NR | 35.1 |
| Pennsylvania Junior Girls' Championship | 36.0 | 34.5 | 34.7 | 35.1 |
| Tennessee Girls' Junior Championship | 32.3 | 35.7 | 35.9 | 34.6 |
| Alabama Girls State Junior | 34.1 | 34.1 | 35.2 | 34.5 |
| Illinois State Junior Girl's Championship | 34.7 | 33.5 | NR | 34.1 |
| WSGA WPGA Junior Girls Championship | 33.6 | 33.4 | 35.1 | 34.0 |
| Nebraska Girls' Amateur | 32.7 | 32.1 | 37.1 | 34.0 |
| Michigan Girls' Junior State Amateur | 32.6 | 33.9 | 35.4 | 34.0 |
| Indiana Girls State Junior Championship | 32.6 | 34.1 | 34.6 | 33.8 |
| Missouri Junior Match Play Championship | 35.1 | 33.9 | 31.5 | 33.5 |
| Minnesota State Junior Girls' Championship | 32.5 | 34.0 | NR | 33.2 |
| Montana State Junior Championship | 32.0 | 33.3 | NR | 32.6 |
| Oklahoma Junior Girls | 30.9 | 34.0 | 32.7 | 32.5 |
| Women's South Carolina GA Junior Girls Championship | 33.1 | 36.5 | 27.3 | 32.3 |
| Oregon Junior Amateur | 29.0 | 30.2 | 35.4 | 31.5 |
| Connecticut Girls Junior Amateur | 24.8 | 37.5 | NR | 31.2 |
| Iowa Junior Girls' Amateur Championship | 29.8 | 32.8 | 30.4 | 31.0 |
| Idaho Girls' Junior Amateur | 28.9 | 29.6 | 31.4 | 30.0 |
| Mississippi Junior Amateur | 26.8 | 28.0 | 28.9 | 27.9 |
| Arizona Junior Girls State Championship | 34.0 | NR | NR | 34.0 |
| Ohio Junior Girls Championship | 33.6 | NR | NR | 33.6 |
| New Mexico - West Texas Junior Amateur | 15.6 | 29.1 | 26.9 | 23.9 |
| Rhode Island Girls Junior Amateur | 24.0 | 19.8 | 19.3 | 21.0 |

| | | | | |
|--|------|------|------|------|
| Louisiana Girls Junior Amateur | 23.6 | 20.0 | 19.8 | 21.1 |
| Nevada State Junior Championship | 13.9 | 29.0 | NR | 21.5 |
| Alaska (No event) | #N/A | #N/A | NR | #N/A |
| Arkansas Junior Amateur Championship | #N/A | #N/A | NR | #N/A |
| Delaware Junior Girls' Championship | #N/A | #N/A | NR | #N/A |
| Hawaii State Junior Championship | #N/A | #N/A | NR | #N/A |
| Maine Junior Championship | #N/A | #N/A | NR | #N/A |
| New Hampshire Girls' Junior Championship | #N/A | #N/A | NR | #N/A |
| NDGA State Junior | #N/A | #N/A | NR | #N/A |
| SDGA Junior Championship | #N/A | #N/A | NR | #N/A |
| Vermont Junior Match Play | #N/A | #N/A | NR | #N/A |
| WV Junior Amateur | #N/A | #N/A | NR | #N/A |
| WJGT Junior Amateur | #N/A | #N/A | NR | #N/A |

AGA Amateur Championships (Average 3-year WAGR event Power of 30 or higher)

| Championship | 2025 Power | 2024 Power | 2023 Power | Power (Avg. 2023-25) |
|---|------------|------------|------------|----------------------|
| Southern California Junior Amateur Championship | 85.0 | 64.0 | NR | 74.5 |
| Carolinas Junior Girls' Championship | 45.9 | 47.7 | 40.1 | 44.6 |
| Northern California Junior Championship | 31.6 | 34.5 | 28.4 | 31.5 |
| Metropolitan Junior Girls Championship | #N/A | #N/A | NR | #N/A |
| Metropolitan Junior Amateur Championship | #N/A | #N/A | NR | #N/A |
| RDGA Junior Championship | #N/A | #N/A | NR | #N/A |

Regional Amateur Championships (Average 3-year WAGR event Power of 40 or higher)

| Championship | 2025 Power | 2024 Power | 2023 Power | Power (Avg. 2023-25) |
|---|------------|------------|------------|----------------------|
| Pacific Northwest Junior Girls' Amateur | 39.8 | 62.2 | 43.0 | 48.3 |
| New England Junior Amateur Championship | 33.5 | 29.4 | 32.1 | 31.7 |

National Amateur Championships (Average 3-year WAGR event Power of 400 or higher)

| Championship | 2025 Power | 2024 Power | 2023 Power | Power (Avg. 2023-25) |
|------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|----------------------|
| Junior Invitational at Sage Valley | 657.0 | 678.5 | 710.8 | 682.1 |
| ANNIKA Invitational | 471.8 | 393.4 | 544.8 | 470.0 |
| Girls' Junior PGA Championship | 521.1 | 442.6 | 425.4 | 463.0 |

| | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|-------|-------|-------|
| Rolex Tournament of Champions | NPY | 402.5 | 355.6 | 379.1 |
|-------------------------------|-----|-------|-------|-------|

U.S. Senior Open Championship (Local Exemption)

State/AGA Senior Amateur Championships

Baseline Criteria:

- Must be a minimum of 36-holes stroke play or a stroke play to match play format where the champion plays at least 3 rounds.
- Must have a minimum of 15 players begin the competition.
- The average score of the winner must be equal to or less than Par plus 6 (six) strokes.
- Entire event must have eligibility that limits participation to 50+ or 55+ years of age. A senior division within a State/AGA Amateur or other event is not eligible.
- Only the champion will receive the local exemption. If the champion declines the spot or is already locally exempt, the exemption will not transfer to the next highest finisher.

1) State Senior Amateur Championships

- b. Defined by the geographic boundaries of the United States (50 states)
- c. Must have eligibility requirement that limits participation to residents or association members of that state.
- d. Only one championship per state may qualify for exemption under this category.

2) AGA Senior Amateur Championships not defined by specific state boundaries

- a. Must have eligibility requirement that limits participation to residents or association members of that state.
- b. Only applies to those AGA's who are not defined by specific state boundaries. Only one championship per AGA may qualify for exemption.

3) Regional Senior Amateur Championships with affiliation to an AGA

- a. Must be a WAGR-ranked event with an average WAGR event Power of **30** or greater (3-year rolling average)
- b. Must be affiliated with or conducted by an AGA

4) National Senior Amateur Championships conducted within the United States

- a. A local exemption will be granted to any National Senior Amateur Championship conducted within the United States that has an average event Power of **60** or greater (3-year rolling average)

State/AGA Senior Open Championships

1) State/AGA Senior Open Championships

- a. Must be a minimum of 36-holes stroke play or a stroke play to match play format where the champion plays at least 3 rounds.
- b. Must have a minimum of 15 players begin the competition
- c. The average score of the winner must be equal to or less than Par plus 6 (six) strokes
- d. Must have eligibility that limits participation to 50+ or 55+ years of age. A senior division within a State Open or other event is not eligible.
- e. Only the champion will receive the local exemption. If the champion declines the spot or is already locally exempt, the exemption will not transfer to the next highest finisher.

- f. Must be conducted by an Allied Golf Association or PGA Section

Dates and Cut-Offs:

The intention of the State/AGA exemption category is to have one local champion exempt in the USGA Championship field for each year of the Championship.

Due to timing of the U.S. Senior Open qualifying window (early spring), all local exemptions will be for the following year's championship. For example, the 2025 champion for a respective State/AGA Senior Amateur will be locally exempt in 2026.

State Senior Amateur Championship

| State | Championship |
|---------------|--|
| Alabama | Alabama State Senior Amateur |
| Alaska | Alaska State Senior Amateur Championship |
| Arizona | Arizona Senior Amateur Championship |
| Arkansas | ASGA Senior Stroke Play Championship |
| California | California Senior Amateur Championship |
| Colorado | CGA Senior Amateur Championship |
| Connecticut | Connecticut Senior Amateur Championship |
| Delaware | Delaware Senior Amateur Championship |
| Florida | Senior Amateur Championship |
| Georgia | Senior Championship |
| Hawaii | Hawaii State Senior Amateur Stroke Play |
| Idaho | Idaho Senior Amateur Championship |
| Illinois | Illinois State Senior Amateur Championship |
| Indiana | IGA Senior Amateur Championship |
| Iowa | Iowa Senior Amateur |
| Kansas | Kansas Senior Amateur Championship |
| Kentucky | Senior Amateur Championship |
| Louisiana | Louisiana Senior Amateur Championship |
| Maine | Maine Senior Amateur Championship |
| Maryland | Maryland Senior Amateur Championship |
| Massachusetts | Mass Golf Senior Amateur Championship |
| Michigan | Golf Association of Michigan Senior Championship |
| Minnesota | MGA Senior Amateur Championship |
| Mississippi | Mississippi Senior Amateur Championship |
| Missouri | Missouri Senior Amateur Championship |
| Montana | Montana State Senior Tournament |
| Nebraska | Nebraska Senior Amateur Championship |
| Nevada | Nevada Senior Amateur |
| New Hampshire | New Hampshire Senior Championship |
| New Jersey | New Jersey Senior Amateur Championship |
| New Mexico | New Mexico Senior Amateur Championship |

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| New York | NYS Men's Senior Amateur Championship |
| North Carolina | North Carolina Senior Amateur Championship |
| North Dakota | North Dakota State Senior Stroke Play Championship |
| Ohio | Ohio Senior Amateur Championship |
| Oklahoma | OGA Senior State Amateur Championship |
| Oregon | Oregon Senior Amateur Championship |
| Pennsylvania | Pennsylvania Senior Amateur Championship |
| Rhode Island | Rhode Island Senior Amateur Championship |
| South Carolina | South Carolina Senior Championship |
| South Dakota | South Dakota Senior Championship |
| Tennessee | Tennessee Senior Amateur Championship |
| Texas | Texas Senior Amateur |
| Utah | Utah Senior State Amateur Championship |
| Vermont | Vermont Senior Amateur Championship |
| Virginia | Virginia Senior Amateur Championship |
| Washington | Washington Senior Amateur Championship |
| West Virginia | WV Senior Amateur Championship |
| Wisconsin | WSGA Senior Amateur Championship |
| Wyoming | Wyoming Senior Amateur Championship |

AGA Senior Amateur Championships

| AGA | Championship |
|----------------|---|
| CDGA | CDGA Senior Amateur Championship |
| Met. GA | MGA Senior Amateur Championship |
| SCGA | SCGA Senior Amateur Championship |
| NCGA | NCGA Senior Championship |
| CGA | CGA Carolinas Senior Amateur |
| GAP | GAP Senior Amateur Championship |
| GCGA | GCGA Metropolitan Senior Men's Championship |
| MAGA | Metropolitan Senior Amateur Championship |
| WPGA | WPGA Senior Amateur Championship |
| RDGA | RDGA Wilson Fitch Senior Championship |
| NOGA | Northern Ohio Senior Amateur |

National Amateur Championships (Average 3-year WAGR event Power of 60 or higher)

| Championship | 2025 Power | 2024 Power | 2023 Power | Power (Avg. 2023-25) |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| Jones Cup Senior Invitational | 121.4 | 110.0 | 105.4 | 112.3 |
| George L. Coleman Senior Invitational | NP | 88.9 | 95.7 | 92.3 |
| John T. Lupton Memorial | 78.5 | 82.2 | 81.5 | 80.7 |
| International Senior Individual Championship | 62.7 | 83.1 | 96.2 | 80.7 |
| Chanticleer National Senior Invitational | NP | 88.1 | 60.4 | 74.3 |
| Golfweek Player of the Year Classic | 68.5 | 74.2 | 62.2 | 68.3 |
| Sunnehanna Senior Amateur | 80.3 | 80.7 | 27.6 | 62.9 |
| Trans-Mississippi Senior Championship | 62.2 | 60.5 | 61.4 | 61.4 |

| | | | | |
|------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| The Crump Cup – Senior | 44.4 | 64.2 | 65.5 | 58.0 |
|------------------------|------|------|------|------|

State/AGA Senior Open Championships

| State | Championship |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Arizona | Arizona Senior Open |
| Alabama | Alabama Senior Open |
| Colorado | Inspirato Colorado Senior Open |
| Connecticut | Connecticut Senior Open |
| Florida | Florida Senior Open Championship |
| Georgia | Yamaha Georgia Senior Open |
| Idaho | Idaho Senior Open |
| Illinois | XXIO Illinois Senior Open |
| Indiana | Indiana PGA Senior Open |
| Kentucky | Kentucky Senior Open Championship |
| Maryland | Maryland Senior Open |
| Michigan | Yamaha Golf Cars Plus Senior Open |
| Minnesota | Minnesota Senior Open Championship |
| New Jersey | New Jersey Senior Open Championship |
| New Mexico | Black Mesa Senior New Mexico Open |
| New York | MGA Senior Open |
| Northern California | Senior NorCal Open |
| North Carolina | North Carolina Senior Open |
| Ohio | Ohio Senior Open |
| Oregon | Senior Oregon Open Invitational |
| Pennsylvania | Pennsylvania Senior Open |
| South Carolina | South Carolina Senior Open |
| Tennessee | Tennessee State Senior Open |
| Texas | Energy Transfer Texas Senior Open |
| Utah | Bob Rudd Utah Senior Open |
| Virginia | Senior Open of Virginia |
| Washington | 7 Cedars Senior Washington Open |
| West Virginia | WV Senior Open |
| Wisconsin | Wisconsin State Senior Open |

New Exemption Events for 2026

The following events will be considered USGA exemption events for the first time in 2026. As a reminder, Exemptions for subsequent years will be evaluated each fall using the previous three years of WAGR® (World Amateur Golf Ranking®) event Power data (i.e. 2027 exemptions will utilize data from 2024-2026).

U.S. Women's Amateur:

- Hawaii State Women's Amateur Championship
- Wisconsin Women's Amateur Championship

U.S. Junior Amateur:

- Ohio Junior Championship
- Washington State Junior Amateur
- Pennsylvania Boys Junior Championship

U.S. Girls' Junior:

- Ohio Junior Girls Championship
- Northern California Junior Championship
- Arizona Junior Girls State Championship
- Girls' Junior PGA Championship

Clarifications

Clarification on Identifying the Event to Receive Exemption

In some cases, there are AGA's who conduct multiple WAGR-ranked events, or there are multiple events conducted within a state or AGA that could be eligible for the exemption. In both cases, the USGA has identified an event for initial consideration of the exemption in the below document. If the AGA does not agree with the USGA's designation and would like to identify a different event for consideration, they may do so via written submission to the USGA. The established working group, which comprises Regional Affairs Directors, Championship Directors, and Championship Administration, will evaluate the request based on the overall event Power and strength of field of both events, the history of both events, and the golf landscape within that particular region.

Clarification on Dates and Cut-Offs

The intention of the State/AGA exemption category is to have one champion exempt in the USGA Championship field for each year of the Championship.

The exemption cutoff date for all USGA Championships will be eight (8) days prior to the first day of the Championship proper.

- Ex) The 2026 U.S. Amateur Championship will begin on August 10. The cutoff date for state amateur exemptions to be claimed in 2025 will be August 2. All state amateurs where the intended conclusion is on August 2nd or earlier will receive an exemption to the 2026 Championship. All state amateurs with an intended finish of August 3rd or later will have their champions receive their exemption into the 2027 Championship.

If players contact the USGA with the question of whether they can claim their exemption in a different year (i.e., a player who is exempt to the following year's Championship wants to play in the present year), the player will not be allowed to change or defer the year of their exemption under any circumstances.

If a date change to the championship is necessary and unavoidable, the AGA should contact the USGA as soon as possible, so information regarding the exemption can be communicated to the competitors and those who receive the exemption in a timely manner.

- A same-year exemption is defined as a state/AGA championship where the final round is scheduled to conclude more than 8 days prior to the first stroke-play round of the respective USGA Championship.
- A following-year exemption is defined as a state/AGA championship where the final round is scheduled to conclude less than 8 days before (or following) the first stroke-play round of the respective USGA Championship.
- Provided the championship is scheduled to be WAGR ranked, shortening the event due to weather or other circumstances is permitted. For example, a 54-hole stroke play event that is

shortened to 36-holes due to weather would still be WAGR ranked, and the champion would receive the appropriate exemption.

Clarification on Affiliated Events

In instances where an AGA does not conduct a championship in the respective demographic, a state championship may be eligible for the exemption, but it must be conducted by, jointly administered by or affiliated with an Allied Golf Association of the USGA.

One of the core principles of these exemptions is to elevate the State/AGA amateur championships. That said, there are instances where an AGA does not conduct a championship in the respective demographic. In those cases, the AGA has the opportunity to designate a partner organization or championship that would be eligible for the exemption. However, the AGA would need to have some affiliation with the event to ensure it is being conducted at a high standard. This could include providing rules officials, assisting with the preparation or conduct of the championship, assisting with the administration of the championship, or a long-standing connection between the associations.

In these cases, the USGA will evaluate the event being considered to determine if it falls within the principles and overall philosophy of these exemptions.

Clarification on Eligibility Requirement

For State Amateur Championships, the following is required for the event to qualify for an exemption:

Must have an eligibility requirement that limits participation to residents or association members of that state.

The intention of awarding an exemption to State/AGA Amateur Championships is to provide an additional opportunity for players in their area to earn a spot in the field. Given that there is no restriction on the number of State/AGA Amateurs an individual can play in, we want to avoid a situation where players are traveling the country playing in State Amateurs and subsequently representing a state or area that they have no affiliation with.

Events that do not have any limitation on participation to residents or association members may be considered a national amateur championship and be subject to the event Power threshold in order to obtain the appropriate exemption.

Clarification on Regional Amateur Championships

The regional championship category recognizes regional amateur championships conducted by or affiliated with an AGA. The scope of these events is intentionally narrow, with the New England Golf Association and the Pacific Northwest Golf Association being the only two currently in this category. These events are conducted by a collection of AGA's and have a long-standing history. Additionally, these events take place in areas where it is likely that some or all AGA's may not qualify for an exemption under the respective category due to their overall size.

Clarification on how WAGR ranking thresholds were determined

In order to determine the WAGR event Power thresholds for each championship, a considerable amount of research was conducted to assess the correlation between State/AGA amateur championships and qualifying. Ultimately, the quality and strength of players receiving an exemption through the new qualifying model needed to reflect the quality and strength of players that presently earned a spot through qualifying. In looking at the historical event Powers across all events and the quality of champions produced at these events, we were able to determine an event Power threshold that will provide a large number of State/AGA championships with an exemption while also ensuring that each respective championship has the strongest field possible within their respective demographic.