



THE NSWVGA MATCHPLAY CHAMPIONSHIPS

11 – 15 MAY 2026

COMPETITION CONDITIONS AND PROGRAM

1. The Rules of Golf as adapted by the R.&A shall apply, together with any local rules as drawn up by the host clubs. Please check on notice boards every day!
2. The event is conducted under the guidance of NSWVGA.
3. The competition fee is **\$190 for each player, male or female**. This includes the Presentation Dinner on Friday 15 May. Players are strongly encouraged to attend the Presentation dinner. For those who are unable to attend, the **Golf-Only fee is \$150**. The fee for a **non-playing partner to attend the Registration function and Presentation Dinner is \$50**.
4. **Entries will open at 10.00 am on Sunday 1st February 2026.** ENTRIES CAN ONLY BE TAKEN VIA THE MI TOURNAMENT PROGRAM, and payment must be made to complete the entry. Any people who are unable to do this themselves can call **Nelson Bay Golf Club Reception on 02 49811132**, and the staff will complete your entry for you. Office hours 10.00 am – 7.00 pm. Otherwise, you can call Tournament Director Dave Flatt on **0410419967**.
5. All players (male and female) must be members of NSWVGA. All players must have a Golf Australia handicap and be a member of a registered golf club.
6. The handicap limit for men is 36 and for women 45.
7. Play will be in divisions of 16 players based on handicap, lowest is seed #1, etc. It may be necessary to play some divisions in groups of 8 players. In such cases a modified format will be played over four days.
8. Seedings will be done for each division by handicap updated at **9.00 am on Thursday 7 May 2026**. Division 1 for Men and Ladies will be played off scratch. All other divisions (men & ladies) will be handicap matchplay. Division 1 Men will play for the Bob Coulson Shield. Division 1 Ladies will play for the Ladies Shield.
9. The draw will be on display showing starting times and likely opponents for the week. Play will be in groups of four, with two matches per group. In the event of a match being all square at the completion of 18 holes, the match will be decided by sudden death hole by hole, commencing at the starting hole of the match, with the same pattern of handicap differences applying as for the original 18 holes.
10. All players will play four rounds of Matchplay, and will be eligible to win a prize on the final day at Nelson Bay. The winners and runners-up in each grade will receive prize money provided by NSWVGA. All other players will receive a prize voucher for **each match won**.
11. The tournament will be under the direction of the Match Committee, which reserves the right to amend these tournament conditions. Protests or disputes must be written and in the hands of the match committee within twenty (20) minutes of the completion of any match.
12. **Carts must be ordered on the entry forms**, but they must be paid for at the clubs each day. Players are encouraged to share carts within their group, and these shares will be arranged on each day.
13. **Cart fees:**
 - Nelson Bay:** \$53 per cart, single user \$30. No non-member carts allowed
 - Pacific Dunes:** \$50 per cart, whether shared or single. No non-member carts allowed.
 - Horizons:** \$50 per cart, whether shared or single. Non members carts allowed for \$20 fee
14. Cancellations more than 5 days before the start of the event will be refunded in full. Between 5 and 2 days before start of event: 50% refund. Less than 2 days before the start of the event: No refund unless exceptional circumstances.

Program For The Week

Sunday 10 May 2026: Registration at **Nelson Bay Golf Club** from **4.00 pm** (light snack provided). **The Briefing will be held at 5.00 pm.** As there are particular rules and procedures for a Matchplay event, it is important that players attend this Briefing

Monday 11 May: Round 1 at **Nelson Bay Golf Club**,
Brush Box Course (Holes 19 – 27 and 1 - 9) Two-tee start from 7.30 am.

Tuesday 12 May: Round 2 at **Pacific Dunes Golf Club**. Two-tee start from 8.00 am

Wednesday 13 May: “Free/Rest Day”.

Thursday 14 May: Round 3 at **Horizons Golf Resort**. Two tee start from 7.30 am.

Friday 15 May: Round 4 at **Nelson Bay Golf Club, Gymea Lily course (Holes 1 – 18)**. Two-tee start from 7.30 am.

Presentation Dinner at Nelson Bay Golf Club, Friday 3 June, 6.30 for 7.00 pm

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WET WEATHER POLICY

This policy is based on guidelines from the Rules of Golf, with specific amendments for this event. The obvious ramifications are that it will not be possible to complete the event if any days are lost due to weather cancellations.

1. Every effort will be made to play the matches on the scheduled days and times.
2. Course conditions, remaining time available, and player safety will all be taken into account when considering whether to continue, suspend or cancel play for the day. Such decisions will be made by the Match Committee.
3. If a day's play is cancelled due to the weather, a refund will be paid to players at the rate charged by the club on that day.
3. If a match in other than the final round is cancelled, the player with the higher seeding will be declared the winner. Both players will advance to the next round accordingly, but no voucher will be awarded. Unallocated vouchers will be distributed by a lucky draw of all players on the final day.
4. If the entire **final round** is cancelled, joint winners will be declared for all matches. See below for procedures for matches that have commenced but play has been cancelled.
5. The opponents in a match may decide to cease play in a match, but only if one player concedes the match at that point. If the opponents in a match cannot agree on the playability of the course at that time, they must call for a ruling from the Match Committee.
6. If the Match Committee decides to suspend play at any time **ONE HORN BLAST** will be made. Players must mark the position of their ball at that point, with the observance of their opponent. They must then seek shelter or leave the course. The two players may agree to complete the hole being played, but at the completion of the hole they must proceed as above.

7. If the Match Committee decides that play may be resumed, **TWO HORN BLASTS** will signal the resumption of play.

8. RESOLVING RESULTS IN MATCHES THAT HAVE COMMENCED BUT ARE THEN CANCELLED.

Play will be deemed to have commenced after **three holes** have been played. If play is cancelled for the remainder of a round, the player who is ahead in the match when play is cancelled will be deemed to be the winner.

If a match is all square when play is cancelled for the remainder of the round, the committee will decide the winner of each match by lot (toss of a coin), unless the match has been decided by one player conceding to the other.

The Match Committee

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