



26 August 2026

TO: The Presidents and Executive Committees of all Provincial Golf Unions

FROM: The Board of Directors, GolfRSA & The Office Bearers.

FINAL AND BINDING DIRECTIVE ON PROHIBITING ASSOCIATION WITH NON-COMPLIANT TOURNAMENTS AND MANDATORY DISCIPLINARY ACTION

1. PREAMBLE AND CONTEXT

This document serves as a final and binding national directive, superseding all previous communications on this matter. It is issued in response to the continued and wilful defiance of the authority of the national governing bodies by unsanctioned commercial entities, specifically Handicap Tour (Pty) Ltd ("HT").

Despite a formal directive classifying their events as non-compliant, HT has proceeded to host further events and is now actively promoting another for 12 September 2026. This constitutes a direct and unacceptable challenge to the constitutional framework of amateur golf in South Africa.

This directive serves to eliminate all ambiguity regarding the responsibilities of Provincial Unions and their member clubs.

2. REAFFIRMATION OF RULING

GolfRSA and SAGA hereby reaffirm the following ruling:

- **Non-Conforming Status:** Any competition operated by Handicap Tour is formally classified as a non-conforming event that is in material breach of the Rules of Amateur Status.
- **Consequences for Players:** Any affiliated amateur golfer participating in such an event is acting in a manner detrimental to the game and could be subject to immediate disciplinary action by their Provincial Union, such action could include a lengthy suspension from all sanctioned amateur golf. This is separate from, and in addition to, the automatic forfeiture of amateur status if the person has accepted a non-conforming prize.

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3. BINDING DIRECTIVE TO ALL PROVINCIAL UNIONS

You are hereby directed as follows:

- 3.1. Prohibition of Association:** You, the Provincial Union, are hereby directed to formally prohibit all member clubs within your jurisdiction from hosting, promoting, administering, or providing any form of facility or resource to events conducted by Handicap Tour or any similar non-compliant entity.
- 3.2. Mandatory Disciplinary Action:** The act of a member club hosting a non-compliant event shall be deemed, without further debate, to be an act of improper conduct prejudicial to the interests of the Union and the sport of golf.
- 3.3 Immediate Application and Vigilance – Event of 12 September 2026:** To give immediate effect to this directive, your Union is instructed to be vigilant regarding the event being promoted by Handicap Tour for 12 September 2026. The documented use of pseudonyms by participants and the nature of past bookings by HT indicate a pattern that can obscure the non-compliant nature of their events from governing bodies. You are therefore directed to instruct your member clubs to scrutinise any large or unusual group bookings for this date and to refuse any booking reasonably suspected of being associated with Handicap Tour.

Upon becoming aware that a member club has violated or intends to violate this prohibition, your Executive Committee **must** immediately institute disciplinary proceedings against that club in accordance with your Union's constitution. The "recommendation" to investigate is now a **mandate to act**.

4. CONSEQUENCES FOR FAILURE TO COMPLY BY A PROVINCIAL UNION

A failure by any Provincial Union to execute the mandate outlined in Clause 3.2 above will be regarded by SAGA and GolfRSA as a grave constitutional breach. Such inaction will be interpreted as the Union itself conducting its affairs in an improper manner and failing to uphold the Rules of Amateur Status.

Consequently, any Union that fails to follow the prescribed disciplinary process against a non-compliant member club could itself be subject to immediate disciplinary proceedings by GolfRSA. Sanctions against the Union may include, but are not limited to:

- The immediate suspension of the Union's voting rights at all national meetings.
- The withholding of all discretionary funding, grants, and administrative support from GolfRSA.
- Further governance interventions as deemed necessary by the national bodies.

5. EMPOWERING CLUBS AND UNIONS

This national directive is designed to provide your Union and your member clubs with an unequivocal, governance-based mandate to refuse any and all engagement with non-compliant tournament operators. There is no longer any room for discretion in this matter. The integrity of the constitutional framework of amateur golf must be upheld.

We expect and require your immediate and full compliance.

Yours sincerely,

Board of Directors: GolfRSA