



Rules of Golf and Refereeing - FAQ

Where can I look up Rules queries?

The Rules of Golf can be found on the R&A website [Rules of Golf](#)

They are also available as an App or a book. The app can be downloaded free to your phone or tablet from usual App stores and via the R&A website.

The book is available free from the R&A, [R&A Publications - The Rules of Golf 2023](#), but you will have to pay postage.

I'd like to learn more about the Rules – where can I go?

The R&A website is a good place to start. Not only does it provide extensive information about all aspects of the Rules of Golf, but the Rules Education section contains instructional videos, infographics and Rules quizzes to help your understanding of how to apply the Rules correctly. [Rules Education](#)

Hertfordshire Golf runs half day Rules Roadshows twice a year at different clubs in the county. These are practical outdoor sessions covering many common Rules. They are suitable for everyone, regardless of current level of Rules knowledge.

Upcoming Roadshows will be advertised on the HG website. Please ask your club to contact County Secretary Louis Matamala (secretary@hertfordshiregolf.org) if it is interested in hosting a Roadshow.

What Rules qualifications can I obtain?

There is a tiered structure to Rules Education.

Level 1 is the entry level and involves an online course and exam found in the Rules Academy on the R&A website [Rules Academy](#). This course covers situations encountered most frequently on the course and is aimed at all regular golfers.

If you pass the exam, you will receive a certificate from the R&A.

Anyone who attends an HG Rules Roadshow and subsequently scores 90% or more in the Level 1 exam will be awarded HG Rules Accreditation and listed on the HG website. This is recognition of a good knowledge of the Rules. [About Us – Hertfordshire Golf](#)

Level 2 courses are run by counties in conjunction with England Golf and are usually held when a county needs to recruit new referees. The 2 day seminar is partly classroom-based and partly held outside on the course. Participants will be invited to sit an online exam following the seminar.

Hertfordshire Golf held a Level 2 course in 2024. We are not looking to recruit any additional referees at the moment and so have no plans to stage another Level 2 course at present. It may be possible to attend a Level 2 course in another county. The England Golf website lists upcoming courses [Rules of golf - England Golf](#)

Level 3 courses are run by the R&A. They are for experienced Rules Officials nominated by their county.

How do I become a referee in Hertfordshire?

Hertfordshire Golf will advertise any planned Level 2 course on the HG website and through our clubs. Any delegate scoring at least 80% in the subsequent exam may be considered for further referee training. This would include practical role play and the opportunity to shadow existing referees at county events. If all that goes well, you would be added to the HG Tournament Panel. HG usually has about 25 active referees on this panel – there are no vacancies at present.

Who can I contact for further information?

HG Director of Championships Alan Thomson may be able to help with any additional queries. He is contactable via County Secretary Louis Matamala (secretary@hertfordshiregolf.org)

England Golf Rules Ambassador Programme

This is a new scheme that England Golf will be launching in 2025. It involves a one day course covering the Rules of Golf together with sessions on Local Rules, Terms of Competition and Pace of Play management. It is aimed at people who run club competitions, both club employees and volunteer members. It is intended to educate the delegates and equip them to offer Rules education to their own club members.

Dates and venues for 2025 courses will appear on the EG and HG websites in due course.

HG Championship Committee
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