FGAoE Handbook - 2026 season.

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1. **Welcome Message**

Welcome to the 2026 FootGolf season and the latest edition of the **FGAoE Handbook**. This guide brings together everything you need for a successful and enjoyable year within English FootGolf — from leisure play and club involvement, through the Club League, and all the way to the National Tour, where opportunities to represent your country begin.

As we celebrate our sixth year as an association, our commitment remains unchanged: delivering exceptional FootGolf experiences for players, families, and supporters. Following the remarkable achievement of hosting the world's largest FootGolf event in 2025, we continue to drive the game forward, with particular focus on expanding entry-level participation.

The 2026 season introduces several exciting developments:

- **Midweek Regional FootGolf**, expanding opportunities for players to compete and progress.
- **A new Club League competition**, strengthening local and regional pathways.
- **A brand-new National Tour venue**, adding fresh challenges and variety to the calendar.
- **A new Men, Rookie category**, replacing the former Newcomer class and providing a clearer, more supportive pathway for developing players.
- The use of **average points** to arrange **Men's categories** (Rookie & Amateur)
- Introduce a new **Men's Senior+ Amateur category**, separating it from the existing Senior Amateur division.
- **An end-of-season awards dinner**, giving us the chance to celebrate achievements and contributions across the community.

Plus, much more, as we continue refining and enhancing the structure of the Tour.

Since our formation, we have worked hard to keep FootGolf affordable and accessible for all. However, rising event-related costs — in some cases increasing by over 200% — have resulted in a third financial loss within the past three years. To protect the quality and sustainability of our events, we will be implementing a block increase in memberships and entry fees for the first time since 2022.

Our dedication to delivering high-quality bespoke FootGolf experiences remains stronger than ever as we look ahead to 2026 and beyond. Thank you for your continued support — we look forward to another outstanding season together.

Working with our partners — **FGAoE Lottery**, **The FootGolf Ball**, and **InteleTravel** — plays a vital role in supporting our Association throughout the seasons, with each partnership generating income through member use.
Every lottery subscription provides monthly support for our National team funding. The FootGolf Ball generates royalties from each sale, all of which return to the Association. InteleTravel also contributes a percentage from every FootGolfer booking, helping to reduce the organisation's financial pressures.
By supporting these partners, you not only enjoy personal benefits but also directly reinvest into the sport — strengthening the Association and enhancing your experience as players throughout the seasons.

Warm regards,
Paul Boulton
President

2. How to Get Involved

1. **Visit the Official Website:**
   https://www.fgaengland.com/
2. **Train and Compete:**
   Improve your skills by using local club training resources:
   https://www.fgaengland.com/courses
3. **Join a Club:**
   Find a club near you — or start your own: https://www.fgaengland.com/clubfootgolfengland
4. **Play on the National Tour:**
   Test your abilities against the best players in the country:
   https://www.fgaengland.com/nationaltour

Contact Information

- **Website:** www.fgaengland.com
- **Email:** fgaengland@gmail.com
- **Phone:** 07970 107 139
- **Social Media:** Follow us on Facebook, YouTube, X, TikTok, and Instagram — **@FGAoE**

3. FGAoE Membership

Membership Requirements – English FootGolfers

To compete in Club, Regional, and National Tour events, players must hold the following membership(s):
1. FootGolf Association of England (FGAoE), Recreational
Mandatory for participation in all official FGAoE-sanctioned events.
2. FootGolf Association of England (FIFG), Tour
Required for players competing in Regional, National, or International (World Tour) events.

Membership Fees

Membership Type	Fee	Description
FGAoE Midweek Membership	£0	For Midweek FootGolf only
FGAoE Recreational Membership	£8	For Club League Regional matches & Midweek FootGolf.
FGAoE Tour Membership	£30	For Midweek, Regional matches, National, & FIFG World Tour.

Membership Requirements – Non-English FootGolfers (UK-based)

To compete in English Club, Regional, and National Tour events, the following apply:
1. FGAoE Membership (FREE)
Basic registration required for all participants.
2. FGAoE Recreational Membership (£8)
Allows participation in Club League matches, Midweek FootGolf and Finals weekend in England only.
3. Federation for International FootGolf (FIFG)
Players must obtain FIFG membership from their home country's FootGolf organisation, as per FIFG regulations.
Note: Non-English players residing in England may represent England if permitted under FIFG rules.

Key Information for All Members

- Membership Validity:
  All memberships run from 1st January to 31st December each year.
- Club Matches Only Option:
  If you plan to play exclusively at club level, the FGAoE Recreational Licence (£8) is sufficient for both English and non-English players.

Membership Benefit:

- Access to Official Competitions
- Player Pathway & Development
- National Ranking & Statistics
- Exclusive Member Communications & WhatsApp Group
- Community & Club Support
- Priority Event Access
- Discounted or Included Services
- Eligibility for Awards & Recognition
- Pathway to National Team Selection
- 50% off entry to the End-of-Season Awards Night (full membership).

Visit Membership page: https://www.fgaengland.com/fgaoemembership

4. Competitive FootGolf Overview

4.1 National Tour Overview

The National Tour consists of officially sanctioned events held at selected courses across England. Players compete for ranking points, trophies, and qualification toward international competitions. The tour is designed to challenge all ability levels while maintaining a professionally operated and welcoming environment.

4.2 Club League

The Club League forms the foundation of competitive FootGolf, offering regular team-based matches between clubs across the country. It provides players of all abilities with accessible competition, supports local club growth, and serves as a stepping stone toward Regional and National Tour participation.

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5. Regional Tour & National Club League

All club information, including the **Club League Handbook**, is available on the **Club League** webpage: https://www.fgaengland.com/clubfootgolfengland

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6. FGAoE National Tour

6.1 Player Qualification

The National Tour welcomes players of all backgrounds, abilities, and experience levels. Participation is open to anyone who wishes to compete, ensuring that FootGolf remains an inclusive and accessible sport for all.

6.2 Playing Categories

National Tour Categories (FIFG Recognised)

1. Men
2. Women
3. Junior (Under 18)
4. Men, Senior
5. Men, Senior+
6. Women, Senior

FGAoE Exclusive Categories

1. Men, Senior++
2. Men (Amateur)
3. Women (Amateur)
4. Men, Senior (Amateur)
5. Men, Senior+ (Amateur)
6. Men, Rookie

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Club League & Regional Categories

1. Men
2. Women
3. Junior (Under 18)
4. Men, Senior
5. Men, Rookie

Playing Category Qualification

Category Definitions (Birth Year Based):

- **Man:** A man born between **1981 & 2008**.
- **Junior:** A player born **in 2008 or later**.
- **Woman:** A woman born between **1981 & 2008**.
- **Man, Senior:** A man born between **1970 & 1980**.
- **Man, Senior+:** A man born **in 1970 or earlier**.
- **Woman, Senior:** A woman born **in 1980 or earlier**.

FGAoE Amateur, Rookie & Men, Senior++ Eligibility – 2026 *(English located players only)*

Men (Amateur)

- Completed the 2025 season outside **Top 15** – National Rankings
- 2025 National Tour point average of **2000 or less**
- Did **not** win an FGAoE or FIFG accredited competition, **Category C or higher.**
- Did **not** qualify for the **2024/25 National Team**, including non-inclusion.

Senior (Amateur)

- Completed the 2025 season outside **Top 8** – National Rankings
- Did **not** win an FGAoE or FIFG accredited competition, **Category C or higher.**
- Did **not** qualify for the **2024/25 National Team**, including non-inclusion.

Women (Amateur)

- Completed the 2025 season outside **Top 4** – National Rankings
- Did **not** win an FGAoE or FIFG accredited competition, **Category C or higher.**

Men, Senior+ (Amateur)

- Completed the 2025 season outside **Top 3** – National Rankings
- Did **not** win an FGAoE or FIFG accredited competition, **Category C or higher.**
- Did **not** qualify for the **2024/25 National Team**, including non-inclusion.

Men, Rookie

- 2025 National Tour point average of **1500 or less**
- Did **not** win an FGAoE or FIFG accredited competition, **Category C or higher.**
- Did **not** qualify for the **2024/25 Development Team**, including non-inclusion.
- **New player in 2026**

Men, Senior++

- Man born in 1960 or earlier.

Additional Rule

- Any FootGolfer who has ever won an **FIFG500 or higher**, or has ever won an **FIFG National Team** event, **will not qualify** for an FGAoE amateur ranking in any category.
- All Junior FootGolfers moving to adult FootGolf will start in the Rookie category.

6.3 Tee-Off Areas

TEE ZONE	EVENT	ELIGIBLE DIVISIONS
MAIN TEE ZONE	Category A	Men; Men, Senior
	Category B	Men; Men, Senior; Men, Senior+
	Category C	Men; Women; Men, Senior; Women, Senior; Men, Senior+
	Category D & E	All Categories
RED TEE ZONE	Category A	Women; Junior; Women, Senior; Men, Senior+; Men, Senior++
	Category B	Women; Women, Senior; Junior; Men, Senior++
	Category C	Junior; Men, Senior++

Note: All additional categories follow their corresponding main category.

6.4 Tour Events & Information

2026 FootGolf Events Calendar

Date	Event	Venue	Category	Cost	FIFG
Saturday, 11 April 2026	Regional Tour Super Cup	Sysonby Acres FootGolf	–	£45.00	–
Sunday, 12 April 2026	Midlands Open	Sysonby Acres FootGolf	FGAoE B	£50.00	FIFG100
Saturday, 16 May 2026	Essex Open	Lexden Wood Golf Club	FGAoE C	£30.00	FIFG100
Sunday, 17 May 2026	South-East Open	Lexden Wood Golf Club	FGAoE B	£50.00	FIFG100
Saturday, 20 June 2026	Wiltshire Open	The Wiltshire Golf Club	FGAoE C	£30.00	FIFG100
Sunday, 21 June 2026	South-West Open	The Wiltshire Golf Club	FGAoE B	£50.00	FIFG100
4–5 July 2026	National Champions League	Pedham Place Golf Centre (Academy Course)	FGAoE B	£60.00	FIFG100
18–19 July 2026	Tour Championships*	Forest Hill Golf Club	FGAoE A	£110.00	FIFG250
Sunday, 19 July 2026	Tour Championships* – Day 2 Only	Forest Hill Golf Club	FGAoE B	£85.00	–
8–9 August 2026	National Masters	Oldham Golf Club	FGAoE B	£60.00	FIFG100
Sunday, 9 August 2026	National Masters – Day 2 Only	Oldham Golf Club	FGAoE C	£45.00	–
21–23 August 2026	English Open	Ashbury Golf Resort	FGAoE A	£150 / £200	FIFG500
Sunday, 6 September 2026	Club League Finals	Sysonby Acres FootGolf	FGAoE C	£45.00	FIFG100
Friday, 25 September 2026	Merseyside Open	Aintree Racecourse	FGAoE C	£30.00	FIFG100
Saturday, 26 September 2026	North Open	Aintree Racecourse	FGAoE B	£50.00	FIFG100
10–11 October 2026	brainstrust Grand Final	Macdonald Hill Valley Golf Resort	FGAoE A	£80.00	FIFG100

The FGAoE 2026 National Tour Season Tickets offer great value. The **Individual** including **Team Player Series** is **£880** and the **Individual** only ticket is **£835**—both include full access to all National Tour events, **including the English Open**, providing significant savings over single-event entry fees.

- Available from 1st January – 31st March 2026

The **English Open** will feature an **early bird entry fee for the first two months**, after which the **standard entry fee** will apply.

*The **Tour Championship entry fee** includes lunch upon arrival on Saturday, breakfast Sunday morning, and lunch on Sunday. The **Tour Championship entry fee** (Day 2 only) includes a breakfast and lunch on Sunday.

Junior participants will be charged 50% of the standard entry fee.

The Scottish Open & Welsh Open will be National Tour Category C event for all categories.

6.5 Event Registration

Event Registration is open to all players in our **inclusive FootGolf environment**. To participate, players must hold a **full FGAoE membership**. All FGAoE competitions will have a **default entry limit of 72 competitors**, at which point a **waitlist** will be activated. Any additional entrants will be added on a **first-come, first-served basis**, subject to **event approval**, ensuring fair and organised participation for all competitors.
The FGAoE offer a **Direct Debit** option to all members at a figure to suit your budget, event entry will only be available when credit covers the event costs. Contact fgaengland@gmail.com

National Tour Registration & Info: https://www.fgaengland.com/nationaltour

6.6 Event Kit & Clothing

Approved Attire

- A collared shirt (single layer).
- Tailored or smart shorts; women may also wear tailored shorts, skirts, or skorts.
- Long socks worn pulled up to the knee.
- Caps are permitted, including baseball caps and flat caps.

Footwear

- Players must wear shoes specifically designed for AstroTurf or indoor sports.
- Cleats of any kind are strictly prohibited.

Not Permitted

- Football boots.
- Clothing displaying football club badges.
- Tracksuit bottoms.
- Denim of any kind.

6.7 Event Scoring

All FGAoE competitions are administered through Golf Genius, including both player and team registrations. Players must have the Golf Genius app installed on a handheld device and be prepared to complete live scoring whenever required.
In addition, the FGAoE uses BlueGolf in accordance with the Federation for International FootGolf (FIFG) guidelines for accredited events. Players must have the BlueGolf FIFG app always installed and ready for use.

All players are also Paper markers track kicks and penalties for their assigned player. Check the scorecard after each hole and at the end, then sign and submit. Both marker and player must sign; errors or missing signatures can lead to penalties or disqualification.

Live scoring on your own device is mandatory, and players do so at their own risk.

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6.8 FGAoE Ranking Points

Position	Cat A	Cat B	Cat C	Cat D	Cat E
1	449	345	276	230	144
2	371	285	228	190	119
3	312	240	192	160	100
4	283	218	174	145	91
5	263	203	162	135	85
6	257	188	150	125	72
7	246	180	144	120	69
8	230	173	138	115	69
9	215	165	132	110	69
10	205	158	126	105	66
11	196	150	120	100	62
12	187	144	115	96	60
13	179	138	110	92	58
14	172	132	106	88	55
15	164	126	101	84	53
16	156	120	96	80	50
17	148	114	91	76	48
18	140	108	86	72	45
19	133	102	82	68	43
20	125	96	77	64	40
21	117	90	72	60	38
22	112	86	68	57	35
23	107	81	65	54	33
24	99	77	61	51	32
25	94	72	58	48	30
26	88	68	54	45	28
27	82	63	50	42	26
28	76	59	47	39	25
29	69	54	43	36	23
30	60	50	40	33	23
31	58	45	36	30	19
32	54	42	34	28	18
33	51	39	31	26	16
34	47	36	29	24	15
35	43	33	26	22	14
36	39	30	24	20	13
37	35	27	22	18	12
38	31	24	19	16	10
39	27	21	17	14	9
40	24	18	14	12	7
41	22	15	12	10	5
42	20	14	11	9	5
43	18	12	10	8	4
44	16	11	8	7	3
45	14	9	7	6	3
46	12	8	6	5	2
47	10	6	5	4	2
48	8	5	4	3	1
49	6	3	2	2	1
50	4	2	1	1	1

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Event Participation Points

Points are awarded to all participants based on the **event category**:

- **Category A:** 40 points
- **Category B:** 30 points
- **Category C:** 20 points
- **Category D:** 10 points
- **Category E:** 5 points

6.9 Event Play-Offs

Category A

Category / Position	Play-Off Method	Holes / Notes
Men; Men Senior; Women Victory	Three-Hole Play-Off	Holes 16, 17 & 18
Men Amateur; Men Senior+; Women Senior & Junior Victory	One-Hole Play-Off	Hole 18
Men, Senior+ Amateur; Women Amateur; Rookie & Men Senior++ Victory	Sudden Death Penalty Putts	Until tie resolved
Men; Men Senior; Men, Senior+; Women; Junior & Women Senior Podium (Top 3)	One-Hole Play-Off	Hole 18
Men (Positions 4 & 5); Men Senior++; Men Amateur; Men Senior Amateur; Men Senior+ Amateur; Women Amateur	Round Scores	Podium places separated by latest → earliest round scores; ties resolved by Sudden Death Penalty Putts

Category B

Category / Position	Play-Off Method	Holes / Notes
Men; Men Senior; Women Victory	Two-Hole Play-Off	Holes 17 & 18
Men Amateur; Women Senior; Men Senior+; Junior Victory	One-Hole Play-Off	Hole 18
Men Senior Amateur; Men Senior+ Amateur; Men Senior++; Women Amateur & Rookie Victory	Sudden Death Penalty Putts	Until tie resolved
Men; Men Senior; Men Senior+; Men Senior++; Men Amateur; Senior Amateur; Senior+ Amateur; Women; Women Senior; Women Amateur; Junior Podium	Round Scores	Podium positions separated by latest → earliest round scores; ties resolved by Sudden Death Penalty Putts

Category C

Category / Position	Play-Off Method	Holes / Notes
Men; Men Senior; Men Senior+; Women; Men Amateur Victory	One-Hole Play-Off	Hole 1 or 18
Junior; Women Senior Victory	5 Penalty Putts	To decide winner
Men Senior Amateur; Men Senior+ Amateur; Men Senior++; Women Amateur Victory	Sudden Death Penalty Putts	Until tie resolved
All Podium positions	Countback	Hole order: 9 → 6 → 3 → 1 (9631)

Category D & E

- All categories and positions points shared.

- Tie of aggregate scores – Sudden Death Penalty Putts
- Tie of Penalty Putts – Sudden Death Penalty Putts

In the National Masters and Tour Championships, events held on Saturday only or Sunday only shall allocate shared points to all positions.

6.10 Player Caddie

- Each player may nominate and register **one caddy**, who will have **full access to all playing areas**.
- **Registered players cannot act as a caddy** unless they have been officially **withdrawn from the competition**.
- To register a caddy, please **email**: fgaengland@gmail.com **or register at the registration desk**.

6.11 Event Prize Pots & Event Awards

The FGAoE offers **event prize pots** at our **Category A events** throughout the season. Prize pot amounts are determined based on **player participation** in each specific event.

- **English Open:** TBC
- **Tour Championships:** £750 for 72+ participants, or £500 for 55–71 participants
- **Brainstrust Grand Final:** £750 for 72+ participants, or £500 for 55–71 participants

Event Awards, based on Category A, B & C events.

Top 3 Finishers (Trophies & Medals)

- Men
- Men Senior
- Men Amateur
- Women (Categories A & B)
- Men Senior+
- Junior (Categories A & B)
- Rookie (Categories A & B)
- Men Senior Amateur (Categories A & B)

Winner Only (Trophy or Medal)

- Women (Category C)
- Women Senior
- Women Amateur
- Junior (Category C)
- Men Senior Amateur (Category C)
- Men Senior+ Amateur
- Men Senior++
- Rookie (Category C)

Note: A minimum of six competitors is required in any category for a full podium (Top 3 awards) to be activated.

Event Prize Pots & Event Awards Rulings
Award Ceremony
1. Player must be in attendance to claim any Award or Cash/Credit from each event.
Awards
2. Prizes are non-transferable.

Note: In 2025, the FGAoE invested £10,700 in trophies and medals, adding to £16,000 in prize money and £5,000 in tour credit, demonstrating our ongoing commitment to celebrating your success on and off the course.

6.12 Season National & Regional Rankings

Points are accumulated throughout the season across all events, with all points contributing to the relevant player rankings. Podium positions (top 3) will be determined using the FGAoE play-off system, while points for all remaining positions will be shared.

National Tour: All available events are eligible, with each player's best 16 scores counting towards their end-of-year ranking.

Regional Tour: Includes Regional Open events, add-on events, all Regional Club League matches, and other regional events, with each player's best 6 scores counting towards their end-of-year ranking.

7. Team Player Series

The Team Player Series comprises seven (7) events throughout the season, with each player's best six (6) results contributing to their end-of-year ranking. The competitions feature a variety of formats, each assigned a ranking value from Category A through Category C, ensuring a balanced and competitive points structure across the series. Absolute category awards presented to the Top 3 pairings.

DATE	EVENT	VENUE	CATEGORY
Saturday, 16 May 2026	South-East Open TPS	Lexden Wood Golf Club	FGAoE C
Saturday, 20 June 2026	South-West Open TPS	The Wiltshire Golf Club	FGAoE A
18th & 19th July 2026	Tour Championships TPS	Forest Hill Golf Club	FGAoE A
Saturday, 8 August 2026	National Masters TPS	Oldham Golf Club	FGAoE B
Friday, 21 August 2026	English Open TPS	Ashbury Golf Resort	FGAoE A
Friday, 25 September 2026	North Open TPS	Aintree Racecourse	FGAoE C
Saturday, 10 October 2026	brainstrust Grand Final TPS	MacDonald Hill Valley Golf Resort	FGAoE B

EVENT	Format
South-East Open TPS	9 Individual - 9 Betterball - 9 Alternate
South-West Open TPS	27 Foursomes
Tour Championships TPS	27 Foursomes
National Masters TPS	9 Individual - 9 Betterball - 9 Alternate
English Open TPS	18 Foursomes
North Open TPS	9 Individual - 9 Betterball - 9 Alternate
brainstrust Grand Final TPS	18/27 Foursomes

The overall rankings will for 2026 include new categories: **"Senior only," "Women only,"** and **"Junior only."** These categories are designed for pairings within the same group to compete for end-of-season awards. This optional enhancement allows players to compete against others in their own category, promoting a higher level of competition and recognition within each group.

8. Regional Tour Super Cup

8.1 Qualification

The Regional Tour Super Cup marks the opening of the National Tour and serves as the first event of each season. The competition features regional squads of 17 players, from which a matchday team of 13 is selected, leaving 4 substitutes. Teams compete in three round-robin group matches to determine the finalists. The event is played entirely in a match-play format, creating a highly competitive and entertaining start to the season.

Regional Teams

- Midlands
- North
- South-East
- South-West

Squad Composition and Qualification Criteria

Category	Team Composition	Qualification Criteria
Men	6 players + 1 substitute	Regional Rankings: Top 7
Senior	4 players + 1 substitute	Regional Rankings: Top 5
Women	1 player + 1 substitute	Regional Rankings: Top 2
Junior	1 player + 1 substitute	Regional Rankings: Top 2
Rookie	2 players	Regional Rankings: Top 2

9. National Team

9.1 FIFG World Cup

The FIFG World Cup is held every two years. Qualification for the 2026 edition was completed during the 2025 season, and England will send three squads to Mexico: Men – Men, Senior, and Women.

The next World Cup will take place in 2028, with the host nation yet to be announced. Qualification will be open to all English members and will be conducted during the 2027 season.

Website - https://www.fgaengland.com/fifgworldcup26

9.2 FIFG European Championships

England intends to field **Men's, Women's, and Senior** national teams at the 2027 FIFG European Championships.
Qualification will be determined through performance across the **2026 National Tour season**, with ranking points awarded at all **Category A, B, and C National Tour events and will be highlighted in the "**European Championships qualification – category".
Club League Finals (Category C) **are excluded** from the qualification pathway.

The best 12 scores count towards your European Championships qualification.

Qualified Players, £500 European Championships deposit required by no later than 30th November.

England squad qualification criteria:

Category	Squad Size	Qualification Pathways
Men	13 players	• National Tour Winner• Qualification Rankings – Top 9• Team Player Series – Top 2• Grand Final Shootout
Senior	10 players	• National Tour Winner• Qualification Rankings – Top 6• Men, Senior+ Champion• Highest Ranked player born in 1981 •Grand Final Shootout.
Women	6 players	• National Tour Winner• Qualification Rankings – Top 5

9.3 4-Nations Cup

The 4-Nations Cup is held every two years. Qualification for the 2026 edition was completed during the 2025 season, and England will send a 30-person squad to Wales as we look to retain the trophy.

The next 4-Nations Cup will take place in 2028; the event will take place in Scotland. Qualification will be open to all English members and will be conducted during the 2027 season.

9.4 Brainstrust Cup

England will host the brainstrust Cup in 2027 as we look to send a 30-person squad to the event. Qualification will be determined through performance across the **2026 National Tour season**, with ranking points awarded at all **Category A, B, and C National Tour events and will be highlighted in the "**brainstrust Cup qualification – category".
Club League Finals (Category C) **are excluded** from the qualification pathway.

The best 12 scores count towards your brainstrust cup qualification.

Qualified Players, £75 brainstrust Cup deposit required by no later than 30th November.

England squad qualification criteria:

Category	Squad Size	Qualification Pathways
Men	16 players	• National Tour Winner• Qualification Rankings – Top 7• Team Player Series – Top 2• Regional Champions • Qualification Rankings Men (amateur) Top 1• Grand Final Shootout
Men, Senior	5 players	• National Tour Winner• Qualification Rankings – Top 3 • Grand Final Shootout
Women	3 players	• National Tour Winner• Qualification Rankings – Top 2
Junior	2 players	• National Tour Winner• Qualification Rankings – Top 1
Men, Senior+	3 players	• National Tour Winner• Qualification Rankings – Top 2

9.5 Development Cup

The Development Cup is an annual event contested between England and Scotland, with hosting duties alternating each year. Its Ryder Cup–style format creates an exciting and engaging competition for both players and spectators.

The **2026 edition** will see us travel to Scotland in September, aiming to lift the trophy for the first time after our narrow defeat in 2025. The squad will consist of **30 players**, selected across all categories in which players earned their places during the 2025 season.

Looking ahead, **qualification for the 2027 event** will begin anew during the 2026 season.

Qualified Players, £55 Development Cup deposit required by no later than 31st October.

Category	Squad Size	Qualification Pathways
Men	12 players + 2 substitutes.	• National Amateur – Top 8• National Tour Rookie Champion• Regional Rookie Champions • Grand Final Shootout
Men, Senior	4 players + 1 substitute.	• National Amateur – Top 4• Grand Final Shootout
Women	2 players + 2 substitutes.	• National Amateur – Top 4

Junior	2 players + 1 substitute.	• National Tour – Top 3
Men, Senior+	2 players + 1 substitute.	• National Amateur – Top 3

Additional Rules:
1. If the **National Tour Rookie Champion** is also the **Regional Tour Rookie Champion**, the National Tour result takes precedence. In this situation, the qualifying place associated with the Regional Tour Rookie title is transferred to the **National Amateur Rankings**.

2. Juniors, who did not represent England in 2026 in the 4-Nations Cup are eligible.

9.6 Qualification Rulings

1. Ranking System

The overall ranking structure is made up of the following components:

- **National Ranking:** Best **16** scoring events
- **National Team Qualification:** Best **12** scoring events
- **Regional Ranking:** Best **6** scoring events from Regional Tour events
- **Team Player Series (TPS):** Best **6** scoring events from the TPS

2. Regional Tour Champion – Selection Priority

- If a player wins the **Regional Tour** and also finishes within the **National Team qualification** positions, the **Regional Tour title takes priority**.
- From **2nd place onward**, the National Team qualification list moves **down by one position** to accommodate the Regional Tour Champion.

3. Team Player Series (TPS) Champion – Selection Priority

- If a player wins the **Team Player Series** and qualifies through the National rankings, the **TPS title takes priority**.
- From **2nd place onward**, the National qualification list moves **down by one position** to accommodate the TPS Champion.

4. Dual Champion – Regional & National

- If a player wins **both** the Regional Tour and the National Tour, the **National Tour qualification** takes priority.
- The Regional Tour qualification list will then adjust in line with **Rule 7**, moving players down by one position in the National Team qualification rankings.

5. Qualification by Category

- All players compete in the **Category** they registered for through the FGAoE membership system at the **start of the season**.

6. Unavailability of Qualified Players

If a qualified player becomes unavailable:

- National Team Qualification:
  - The **next highest-ranked player** moves up into the vacant position.
- Regional Club League:
  - Rankings shift **down one place**, following the principles outlined in **Rule 7**.

7. Defining a Champion

If no clear champion can be determined in either the Regional Tour or National Tour:

- The qualifying place is awarded to the **highest-ranked player within the top three** of each competition (or **top four** for the TPS).
- If that player is unavailable, the position is given to the **next highest player** in the National Team qualification rankings.

8. Minimum Participation Requirement

To be eligible for qualification, a player must compete in at least:

- **Eight National Tour Individual events (Category C or above)**

10. **End of Season Awards Dinner**

The End of Season Awards Dinner is a vital moment in the FGAoE calendar, bringing our community together to celebrate the achievements, progress, and spirit that have driven FootGolf forward throughout the year. It is also a night to involve and bring partners, recognising the invaluable support networks behind our players, volunteers, and officials.
By honouring everyone who contributes to the game's success, the event strengthens our shared commitment to raising standards and growing the sport across England. As the FGAoE continues to move forwards, this special evening highlights how far we've come—and the exciting future we're building together.

National Tour Trophy Awards

Category	Trophy	Tour Credit	Breakdown
Men	✓	✓	750 / 300 / 200
Men, Senior	✓	✓	350 / 200 / 100
Men, Senior+	✓	✓	150
Men, Senior++	✓		
Men, Rookie	✓		
Women	✓	✓	100
Women, Senior	✓		
Women (Amateur)	✓		
Junior	✓	✓	100
Men (Amateur)	✓	✓	100
Men, Senior (Amateur)	✓	✓	75
Men, Senior+ (Amateur)	✓		
Team Player Series	✓	✓ (Top 2)	100 EACH
Team Player Series – Senior	✓		
Team Player Series – Women	✓		
Team Player Series – Junior	✓		

Club League Trophy Awards

Category	Award Type	Details
Regional Divisions – Team Trophy	Team Trophy	Awarded to each Regional Division winner
Club League Finals	Team Trophy	Main competition team trophy
Club League Finals (Vase)	Team Trophy	Vase competition team trophy
Club Player of the Year	Trophy & Tour Credit	£300 (1st), £200 (2nd), £100 (3rd)
Regional Player of the Year		
• Men	Trophy	Regional category winner
• Women	Trophy	Regional category winner
• Junior	Trophy	Regional category winner
• Men, Senior	Trophy	Regional category winner
• Rookie	Trophy	Regional category winner

Please note that details of the Awards Dinner and its associated awards will be continuously updated throughout the season.

Website: https://www.fgaengland.com/awardsdinner

11. **Event Etiquette, Player & Spectator Code of Conduct**

Our conduct and respect for tour venues have recently been brought into question. As a result, we have made necessary updates to our **Code of Conduct**. All attendees are expected to familiarise themselves with these standards and adhere to them at all times as we continue working to elevate the professionalism of our sport.

Code of Conduct: https://www.fgaengland.com/compendium

12. **FGAoE Lottery**

The new **FGAoE Lottery** plays a vital role in supporting both our Association and the national FootGolf teams, helping elevate England on the international stage. Every ticket purchased directly supports our athletes while giving players the chance to win up to £20,000. It's an exciting way for the community to back our work while being in with a shot at life-changing prizes.

13. **FGAoE Shop**

The **FGAoE Shop** remains your go-to place for FootGolf essentials, offering everything from high-quality footballs to stylish polo shirts and gear — fully stocked with the items players need both on and off the course.

Shop: https://footgolf-association-of-england-ltd.sumupstore.com/

14. **FGAoE Local Rules**

Drop Box
1.Any Drop Box will be briefed prior to the start of any competition.

Golf Course Stakes (Red, Yellow, Blue & White)
1.Stakes are active unless briefed prior to the start of any competition.

Footwear and Clothing Guidelines:
General Clothing:
1.Clothing should be respectful of the hosting environment, including when inside the clubhouse.
2.Weather-appropriate clothing is permitted.
Enforcement:
1.The Tournament Committee is responsible for enforcing these guidelines.

- Wearing incorrect footwear or clothing, either on the course or in the clubhouse, may result in disqualification.

Thank you for taking the time to read through our tour document. We've designed this guide to provide all the essential information you need to make the most of your FootGolf experience. Whether you're a seasoned player or new to the sport, we hope this document enhances your enjoyment and helps you fully immerse yourself in the excitement of the **2026 FootGolf Tour**!