



# SCRAMBLE

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rules | policies | eligibility



# SCRAMBLE

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## 1.1 INTRODUCTION

The RBC PGA Scramble presented by The Lincoln Motor Company is designed to be an enjoyable experience by all participants. In an effort to ensure a fun and equitable experience for all, the RBC PGA Scramble presented by The Lincoln Motor Company will be conducted as strictly as possible under the Golf Canada Rules of Golf and any Local Rules put in place by the PGA of Canada.

## 1.2 RBC PGA SCRAMBLE PRESENTED BY THE LINCOLN MOTOR COMPANY

The PGA will determine all rules and policies associated with the RBC PGA Scramble and will administer these in conjunction with the Golf Canada Rules of Golf, PGA of Canada Code of Conduct, specific RBC PGA Scramble presented by The Lincoln Motor Company rules and any Local Rules applicable on the day of the event. All participants of the RBC PGA Scramble presented by The Lincoln Motor Company by entering the event agree to abide by the rules and policies established and accept the PGA's jurisdiction over the championship. A list of the rules and regulations of play in the RBC PGA Scramble presented by The Lincoln Motor Company are posted on the official RBC PGA Scramble presented by The Lincoln Motor Company website at [www.rbcpgascramble.com](http://www.rbcpgascramble.com) and may be updated from time to time.

1. The Head PGA Professional at the Local Qualifier site must certify each entrant's current Golf Canada Handicap Factor and ensure that team handicaps are within the parameters of the policies outlined within.
2. An amateur player may attempt to advance to the Regional Final by playing at various Local Qualifiers in their local area. Once an amateur has qualified for a Regional Final he/she is no longer eligible to compete at another Local Qualifier. Competing in another Local Qualifier for prizes or Regional Final qualification will result in automatic disqualification for that team, with the original qualifying team also subject to disqualification (at the discretion of the PGA of Canada).
3. Only PGA of Canada Professionals who are in good standing may take a team to the Regional and National Final. The Professional who qualifies at the Regional Final must accompany that team at the National Final. See section 1.3 for further details.
4. The PGA reserves the right to adjust any team's or individual's handicap at Local Qualifiers, Regional Finals and the RBC PGA Scramble National Final based on their past performance or past scores, or on evidence forthcoming from an exam-

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ination of handicap records.

5. All teams that qualify at a club, whether from one event or multiple events, must play in the same Regional Final.  
Any variation to this rule will be at the discretion of the PGA of Canada. For example, an exception to this may be when a club hosts a large number of Local Qualifiers.
6. A handicap verification process takes place at all Regional Final & National Final events. Photo ID may be required to be provided by each team member to verify their Golf Canada Handicap. Failure to provide this will result in a team being disqualified.
7. The PGA reserves the sole and exclusive right to alter dates, venues and rules regarding the management and conduct of the event.
8. Event results are finalized and the competition will be considered closed only when teams tee off in the following stage of the event. Until this point, the PGA reserves the right to alter results of an event should it see fit. At the National Final, the competition will be considered closed when the awards are presented.
9. If during the current or previous RBC PGA Scramble season an amateur player plays in another RBC PGA Scramble event, and in order to play, accepts a handicap adjustment which is lower than his/her established handicap, he/she will be subject to the same handicap adjustment for events in the current year. It is the players' responsibility to inform the coordinator of their RBC PGA Scramble event of this adjustment.
10. If an amateur player's tournament playing privileges are suspended by a facility, he/she shall be considered ineligible until the suspension has been lifted, or until he/she has ceased to play at the facility for a period of one year, or whichever comes first. In either case, a new handicap must be established through an approved Golf Canada method.
11. An amateur who is found to misrepresent his/her handicap or who violates a RBC PGA Scramble tournament rule may be disqualified from further play.
12. The RBC PGA Scramble rules committee reserves the right to suspend handicap or rules violators from current or future tournament participation. Blatant amateur infractions shall be reported to Golf Canada and the applicable provincial golf association.



# SCRAMBLE

PRESENTED BY THE LINCOLN MOTOR COMPANY

## 1.3 PGA PROFESSIONAL ELIGIBILITY

The RBC PGA Scramble Regional and National Finals are eligible to all of PGA of Canada Class “A” members who are in good standing.

Tournament Professionals and Candidates for Membership may be accepted into the RBC PGA Scramble National Final by invitation only.

To join a team at the Regional Final or RBC PGA Scramble National Final level the Club Professional must meet one of the PGA Eligibility above along with one of the following:

- Must be an employee (or contractor) of the Local Qualifier site on the date of the Local Qualifier and Regional Final
- Must be an invited guest of the PGA of Canada.

The PGA of Canada will govern the eligibility of its PGA members.

PGA members are only permitted to play one Regional Final. This means, a host venue that wishes to conduct multiple Local Qualifiers must have enough eligible PGA of Canada Class “A” members to accompany each winning team to the Regional Finals.

PGA Members are reminded that whilst playing in any RBC PGA Scramble event, they are, as in other tournaments, participating under the PGA of Canada Code of Professional Practice. Professionals play off a scratch handicap.

PGA Members accompanying a team to the Regional Final and to the RBC PGA Scramble National Final are the Team Captain. It is their responsibility to adhere to all competition rules and to mark and sign the team’s scorecard in accordance with the RBC PGA Scramble rules and the Rules of Golf.

## 1.4 HANDICAP REQUIREMENTS - Local QualifierS

An amateur player’s approved Golf Canada Handicap Factor must reflect his/her potential playing ability. Any amateur golfer who carries a current Golf Canada Handicap is eligible to participate.

Handicap Factors as of the entry closing date will be used for the day of the competition.

The maximum Golf Canada Handicap Factor is 36.4 for males and 40.4 for females.

The four team members’ aggregate Golf Canada Handicap Factors must total at least 32.0. The maximum aggregate Golf Canada Handicap Factor is 112.0.

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For Local Qualifying, a team may have a maximum of two competitors with single-digit Golf Canada Handicap Factors (9.9 or less).

Eg.

$8.7 + 11.1 + 1.4 + 10.2$	$= 31.4$	(ineligible, aggregate team handicap is too low)
$13.5 + 12.7 + 8.3 + 2.4$	$= 36.9$	(eligible)
$2.3 + 11.7 + 25.3 + 27.2$	$= 66.5$	(eligible)
$1.3 + 5.7 + 9.9 + 28.7$	$= 45.6$	(ineligible, team consisting of more than two single-digit handicaps)
$9.8 + 28.3 + 33.7 + 40.4$ female	$= 112.2$	(ineligible, aggregate team handicap must not exceed 112.0)

To determine the net score on the day of the Local Qualifier, team members' Golf Canada Handicap Factors are converted to Course Handicaps (based on the Slope Ratings of the tees being played). The aggregate Daily Handicap is divided by 10 to determine the team Course Handicap. The resulting figure is then subtracted from the team's score for the Ambrose 18-hole event. For example:

Team aggregate Daily Handicap of 54 divided by 10 = 5.4

Team scratch score = 70

Net score = 64.6 (70 minus 5.4)

Note: It is the Committee's responsibility to do the conversions based on the tees that each individual is competing from. The competitor is responsible for ensuring the accuracy of their Golf Canada Handicap Factor on the day of the competition.

The team's aggregate Golf Canada Handicap (sum of all four Factors) established at the Local Qualifier is the base aggregate handicap for the Championship.

Amateur players will not be eligible for a Local Qualifier until their FULL team has submitted the online entry form and their payment has been successfully processed.

Every amateur must submit their Golf Canada ID number at the time of entry.

Each team's scorecard must show each team member's Golf Canada Handicap Factor and Course Handicap. The scorecard is to be signed by at least two members of each team. Signing for an incorrect scorecard or handicap will lead to automatic disqualification from the event.

Handicap examinations are a matter of standard procedure for the RBC PGA Scramble



# SCRAMBLE

PRESENTED BY THE LINCOLN MOTOR COMPANY

rules committee at all stages of the tournament. At its discretion, the rules committee reserves the right to make handicap adjustments and player and team disqualifications based upon evidence derived through handicap examinations or evidence of past performance.

The RBC PGA Scramble rules committee reserves the right to suspend handicap or rules violators from future tournament participation. Blatant amateur infringements shall be reported to Golf Canada and the applicable provincial golf association.

The RBC PGA Scramble reserves the right to investigate handicaps of all amateur participants. The disqualification of either a PGA of Canada Professional or an amateur team member under the provisions of this section shall result in the disqualification of their affiliated team.

## 1.5 HANDICAP REQUIREMENTS - REGIONAL / NATIONAL FINALS

Handicap checks will be carried out at all levels of the event.

Current Golf Canada Handicap Factors on the day of each competition are to be used to determine the team member's Course Handicap, based on the course Slope Rating.

Please note there will be NO upward adjustment of an individual's or Team's aggregate Golf Canada Handicap established at any level of the Event. For example, if a team member's Golf Canada Handicap Factor increases between qualifying at the Local Qualifier and playing in the Regional Final, then they must use the Golf Canada Handicap Factor they qualified with at the Local Qualifier to determine their Course Handicap.

If a player's Golf Canada Handicap Factor decreases between Local and Regional Events, then they must use the current lower Golf Canada Handicap Factor to determine their Course Handicap. If a team member's Golf Canada Handicap Factor increases between qualifying at the Regional Final and the National Final, they must use the Golf Canada Handicap Factor that they qualified with at the Regional Final.

Should team members lose strokes from their Golf Canada Handicap Factor then their team's aggregate Course Handicap is to be reduced accordingly.

Should a team have fewer than four amateur players available to play, they may still compete. Only the handicaps of those players participating will count towards the team's handicap. The aggregate team handicap is still divided by 10.

Just like in the Local Qualifiers, to determine the net score on the day of the Regional Final and the National Final, the aggregate team Golf Canada Handicap Factors are

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adjusted as per the Slope Rating of the tees being played to determine their Course Handicaps. The aggregate Course Handicap is then divided by 10 to determine the team Course Handicap. The resulting figure is then subtracted from the team's score for the Ambrose 18-hole event. For example:

Team aggregate Course Handicap of 56 is divided by 10 = 5.6

Team scratch score = 70

Net score = 64.4 (70 minus 5.6)

NOTE: Women are to use the Slope Rating from their respective tees to determine their Course Handicap.

NOTE: a team's aggregate Golf Canada Handicap may not be increased at Regional Final/RBC PGA Scramble National Final level, but it may be subject to reduction if any team member has reduced his or her Golf Canada Handicap Factor following the Local Qualifier. If the teams' aggregate Golf Canada Handicap drops below the minimum of 32.0 the reduced Golf Canada Handicap will apply at the Regional Final to determine the team's Course Handicap. Should three (3) team members' Golf Canada Handicap Factors drop to better than 9.9 after qualifying at the Local Qualifier and progress to the Regional Final, they will play off the lowest handicap. The team's aggregate Golf Canada Handicap established at the Local Qualifier is the base aggregate handicap for the entire championship, unless following a Local Qualifier a team member's Golf Canada Handicap Factor is reduced. In such a case, this reduced Golf Canada Handicap Factor will be applied to the team's base aggregate for the Regional Finals and/or RBC PGA Scramble National Final.

Regional Final winners will not be eligible to play in the RBC PGA Scramble National Final until they have been duly certified by the PGA of Canada. To become duly certified, the Golf Canada Handicap Factor of each amateur team member must pass an examination.

The disqualification of either a PGA of Canada Professional or an amateur team member under the provisions of this section shall result in the disqualification of their affiliated team.

#### 1.6 REGIONAL FINAL ELIGIBILITY

A club may send one qualifying team for each individual Local Qualifier it hosts. A club may not host more local qualifiers than the number of eligible PGA of Canada Professionals employed at the facility.



# SCRAMBLE

PRESENTED BY THE LINCOLN MOTOR COMPANY

Important Note: no club will qualify a team for a Regional Final unless the RBC PGA Scramble Local Qualifier it is hosting has at least the minimum number of 40 officially entered players (10 teams) who have paid the Local Qualifier Entry Fee (Social Guest Teams not paying an entry fee cannot be counted).

## 1.7 GOLF COURSE ELIGIBILITY

A regulation eighteen-hole or nine-hole golf facility with an official Golf Canada Course and Slope Rating that is serviced by a PGA of Canada member who meets eligibility requirements is eligible to host a Local Qualifier.

## 1.8 RULES OF PLAY

The Golf Canada Rules of Golf will govern all competition, except for those specialized Ambrose Scramble Rules in place for the RBC PGA Scramble. All Local Rules must be approved in writing by the PGA of Canada prior to the competition and may not supersede a RBC PGA Scramble Rule. See RBC PGA Scramble Local Qualifier Rules Sheet at the end of this section.

Substitutions - A team member may be substituted if he/she is unable to play in the next level of competition. Prior to the next stage of competition, the team must submit, in writing, their request for the substitution to the PGA of Canada. The letter must reference whether the substitute will accompany the team to the following stage of the RBC PGA Scramble should they be successful, or whether the original member at Local Qualifier level will return to the team for the final level of competition. If written notification is not submitted prior to the next stage it will be the right of the substitute player to proceed to the next stage of Competition.

The current Golf Canada Handicap Factor of a substituting amateur must be equal to, greater than or up to a maximum of two (2.0) strokes less than the approved Golf Canada Handicap Factor (the handicap that was in effect when the team played at the Local Qualifier) of the original team member.

For example, if the original team member had a Golf Canada Handicap Factor of 12.3 for the Local Qualifier and the substitute's Golf Canada Handicap Factor is 15.7, then the substitute player will use a Golf Canada Handicap Factor of 12.3 at the Regional Final to determine their Course Handicap.

If the original player had a Golf Canada Handicap Factor of 12.1, and the substitute is

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11.2, then the substitute will use a Golf Canada Handicap Factor of 11.2 to determine their Course Handicap for the Regional Final.

Only two (2) substitutions will be allowed for the duration of the tournament (Note: these two substitutions cannot occur at the same stage of the tournament e.g. the substitution of a Local Qualifier player for a Regional Final and a further substitution following a Regional Final for the team's qualification for the RBC PGA Scramble National Final is acceptable - the substitution of two Local Qualifier players for a Regional Final is not permitted). More than two substitutions over the duration of the tournament will not be allowed, as the team will no longer have the identity of the team that played at the Local Qualifier. If a team is unable to participate within this rule the next placed team from the previous level will advance in their place. The lowest aggregate team Golf Canada Handicap from the local or regional level will always apply when substitutes are involved.

Females can be substituted by a male (and vice versa) providing that all Golf Canada Handicap Factor requirements are met.

At its discretion, the PGA of Canada reserves the right to disallow a substitution of a team member when it is apparent that the substitution is being made to improve the team's chances of winning and/or not to replace a team member who is unable to play in the next level of competition.

A PGA of Canada Professional may be substituted by another PGA of Canada member in good standing from the same facility or by a PGA of Canada approved Professional.

Female Participants - Female amateurs and female PGA of Canada Professionals are to play from a shorter set of tees, approximately 10% of the yardage selected for the male competitors.

Scoring – Each Local Qualifier and Regional Final will consist of two (2) 9-hole stipulated rounds. A team's score is calculated after eighteen (18) holes has been completed. In the case of inclement weather, if all competitors complete the same nine (9) holes, and further play is no longer possible, the competition will be shortened to nine (9) holes.

Tie for Final Qualifying Position (LOCAL) - In the case where two or more teams are tied following a Local Qualifier, all tied teams will qualify for the Regional Final.

Tie for Final Qualifying Position (REGIONAL) - In the case where two or more teams are tied following a Regional Final, the final spot will be determined by matching score-



# SCRAMBLE

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cards. The team with the lowest score on holes 10-18 will be the winner. If that does not produce a winner, hole 13-18, 16-18 and then the 18th hole will be used. If that still does not produce a winner, a closest to the hole competition with all team members from 150 yards on any hole or practice area will determine the winning team.

Tie for the National Final - In the case of a tie at the RBC PGA Scramble National Final a (net) hole-by-hole playoff would be used to determine the winner.

The sequence of holes to be played will be announced identified on the Notice to Competitors prior to the start of the competition.

If no result has been achieved and play must be suspended due to darkness, the winning team will be decided by using the matching scorecard system applicable to Regional Final events (prescribed above) and applied to the final round of the RBC PGA Scramble National Final. If a tie still exists the count back will be applied to the first round to determine the winner. If a winner is still not determined, those teams still tied will be considered co-champions.

Conditions of Competition - If a team is disqualified for a rules violation, no entry fees will be refunded.

If a team cannot participate in the next level of play, their entry fee will be refunded providing the PGA of Canada is given 7 days' notice prior to the event.

If under extreme circumstances, a PGA Professional is unable to participate at the Regional Final, he/she may be replaced by a PGA Professional from the same facility, or if that is not possible, by any PGA Professional in good standing within that Zone with the permission of the PGA of Canada.

A team is not eligible to compete for prizes or Regional Final qualification at a Local Qualifier with only 3 players as the team has not met the requirements to enter the RBC PGA Scramble.

A team may play with one team member missing at the Regional Final and/or the RBC PGA Scramble National Final. The three tee shot rule will be limited to the remaining team members and the team's aggregate Course Handicap will also remain divisible by 10. If a team member should join during the play, the three tee shot rule would apply to the holes remaining. An absent partner may join the team between holes, but not during play of the hole. Should a team play the entire round with less than four amateur team members, normal handicapping rules will apply in regards to the Regional and/or National Final. No allowance or concession is provided in this regard.

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The PGA of Canada reserves the right to suspend from current or future participation, any PGA of Canada Professional who misrepresents the handicap of any of his/her club's members or who knowingly violates any tournament rule.

A PGA of Canada Professional who misrepresents a handicap or who knowingly violates a tournament rule may be reported to his/her respective PGA Zone Office and to PGA of Canada National Office where he/she may be held in violation of the PGA of Canada Code of Professional Conduct.



# SCRAMBLE

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LOCAL RULES - printable versions available at [www.rbcpgascramble.com/host-venue-resource-centre](http://www.rbcpgascramble.com/host-venue-resource-centre)

Golf Canada Rules of Golf - The Golf Canada Rules of Golf will govern all competition, except for those specialized Ambrose Scramble Rules in place for the RBC PGA Scramble. All Local Rules must be approved in writing by the PGA of Canada prior to the competition and may not supersede a RBC PGA Scramble Rule.

RBC PGA Scramble Format – Local Qualifiers will operate under standard Scramble rules. All team members may play from the teeing ground of each hole. The team then chooses the ball that gives them the best chance for the next shot and all team members play from that spot. This process continues until the ball is holed.

Regional and National Finals will be operated under the Ambrose Scramble Format. All team members may play from the teeing ground of each hole. The team then chooses the shot that gives them the best chance for the next shot. The golfer whose shot is selected is then eliminated from participating in the next shot. A player is only eliminated for the one shot following his/her selected shot.

This process continues with one person being eliminated for each shot up until the ball is on the putting green, where all players will have an opportunity to make a putt from each location until the ball is holed (i.e. only four players play each shot except for the tee shot & putts).

All five players then play from the next teeing ground and the elimination process begins again. The eliminated player cannot take a practice stroke or practice putt during the time they are eliminated. Should a player make a stroke during the time they are eliminated a two (2) stroke penalty will apply.

Three Tee Shots – A minimum of three (3) tee shots per team member must be used per eighteen (18) hole stipulated round. A marker must record whose tee shot was used on each hole. If this is not clearly marked on the scorecard, the team shall be disqualified.

Selected Shot - The position of the selected ball is marked. The team members may then place their ball within one club length of the marker, no nearer the hole, and play from this position. If the selected shot is in the general area (anywhere on the course, except any penalty area, bunker, the teeing area or putting green of the hole being played) the ball must be placed within one (1) club length of the selected shot, no nearer the hole, and must remain in the general area. If the selected ball is in a penalty

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area, the next shot must be played from the penalty area, or from outside the penalty area in accordance with the applicable Rule under penalty of one-stroke (unless additional penalties apply). A ball that is not on the putting green of the hole being played, may not be placed on the putting green, even if it is within one club length of the marked ball.

In a bunker, the sand may be raked prior to any ball being placed.

Advice - In accordance with Rule 10.2a, players are not permitted to seek advice from anyone who is not part of their team, and must prevent anyone else from providing advice to any team member.

Indicating Line of Play – Except on a putting green, a player may not intentionally indicate the line of play to a teammate while a stroke is being played. Penalty for a breach of this Rule is two (2) strokes.

On the Putting Green - Once the selected shot is on the putting green all players may putt. The position of the selected putt is marked. Team members may then place their ball within one putter head length of the marked position, no nearer the hole, and putt from this position.

NOTE: At the Local Qualifier level only, if the first putt is missed by each player on the team, the next putt is conceded, for a maximum of two-putts per hole.

Standing on an extension of line of play - Team members may stand behind one another while making any stroke.

Scorecard - The scorecard must show each team member's Golf Canada Handicap Factor and Course Handicap (provided by the host club). The scorecard is to be signed by at least two members of the group. It is the team's responsibility to ensure the accuracy of each individual hole score and handicaps on the scorecard. Signing for an incorrect score or handicap will lead to automatic disqualification from the event under Rule 3.3b.

Handicap - It is a requirement of the RBC PGA Scramble that all participants must use their current Golf Canada Handicap Factor to determine their Course Handicap based on the Slope Rating of the tees being played from for the Local Qualifier. Women are to use the Slope Rating from their respective tees to determine their Course Handicap. The aggregate Course Handicap of the team is divided by 10 to determine the team handicap for their net score.



# SCRAMBLE

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## AMBROSE SCRAMBLE FORMAT INSTRUCTION SHEET - REGIONAL AND NATIONAL FINALS ONLY

The event will be played as a five (5) person teams under the RBC PGA Scramble Ambrose (elimination) scramble format.

- All team members may play from the teeing ground of each hole
- Team chooses the shot they are going to use
- The golfer whose shot is taken is eliminated from participating in the next shot
- A player is only eliminated for the one shot following his/her selected shot
- This process continues until the ball is on the putting green with one person being eliminated for each shot (i.e. only four players play each shot except for tee shots)
- Once the ball is on the green, all five players attempt to hole the first putt. This process continues until the ball is holed.
- All five players tee off the next hole and the elimination process begins again
- The eliminated player cannot take a practice shot or putt during the time they are eliminated - penalty two (2) strokes.
- Each team member's tee shot must be used at least three (3) times per eighteen (18) holes
- A putt is any stroke made from the putting green. All five players can putt only if the ball is on the green. If the team chooses to putt from off the green only four players can play that shot.

### For Example

- John, Phil, Natalie & Katherine tee off the first hole, John's drive is selected as the best shot
- John is eliminated for the next shot and only Phil, Natalie & Katherine take the second shot
- Phil's second shot is selected as the best shot out of Phil's, Natalie's & Katherine's second shot
- Phil is eliminated for the next shot and only John, Natalie & Katherine take the third shot
- Natalie's third shot is selected as the best shot out of John, Natalie's & Katherine's and it lands on the green
- John, Phil, Natalie & Katherine can then all attempt the first putt
- John, Phil, Natalie & Katherine all tee off the second hole & the elimination process starts again

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