

Host Site

The site for the 2026 WEGA Senior Amateur Championship is **The Emerald Golf Club** in New Bern, North Carolina.

The Emerald Golf Club is a top ten public course in North Carolina. Its championship course layout is nonetheless amateur friendly. The Emerald Golf Club hosted the Shrine Classic for a decade.

www.EmeraldGC.com

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

This Championship is open to **female amateur golfers** who:

- Will be **50 or older by October 13, 2026**
- Have a **certified handicap index of 17.5 or less**
- Belong to a **WEGA Member Club** that has paid 2026 dues.

Annual nonrefundable dues are **\$35 per Member Club** and must be paid by the close of registration on October 12th. Clubs in all States in the United States are eligible to join the Association. A contestant may pay dues for her club if her club is not on the WEGA website's list of clubs that have already paid dues (under Membership). **Only clubs** can be WEGA members. There are no individual members. Dues should be paid via PayPal on the WEGA website but will be accepted by cash or check at registration. Member club dues are separate from the \$325 entry fee.

Questions about eligibility or WEGA dues? Call or text **Jan Sutherland (434-489-4497)** or **Shelley Savage (571-236-7551)**.

Entry Deadline & Field Size

- **Entries open August 1, 2026** and will be accepted in the order received as long as the entry form, handicap info (include GHIN#), and \$325 entry fee are complete.
- Handicaps will be updated to the **October 1st revision**.

- **Deadline:** Entries will be accepted until **October 5th at 5 PM**. Please contact either Shelley Savage or Jan Sutherland if you wish to enter but miss the entry deadline.
- Players are strongly encouraged to enter by **September 21st** so the Committee and Host Club can plan accordingly.

The Committee has sole discretion to accept/reject contestants.

Championship Fees

The tournament entry fee is **\$325**, paid online at www.wegatournaments.org.

This fee covers:

- Cart fees & range balls for three days of competition
- Opening buffet dinner on Monday, October 12th
- Awards Luncheon following play on Thursday, October 15th

Practice Rounds

Practice Rounds can be scheduled for **Monday, October 12th** by calling The Emerald Club: **(252) 633-4440**. Cost is **\$40 plus tax**; not included in the entry fee.

Practice Rounds on other dates must be arranged through the Pro Shop.

Cancellation & Refund Policy

If you must cancel, please do so promptly.

- Cancellations received **on/before September 13th**: full refund minus \$25 processing fee.
- Between **September 14th-27th**: \$100 refund.
- On or after **September 28th**: no refund.
- If a waiting list is needed those on the list who do not gain entry into the tournament will receive a full refund. The field is limited to 80 players.

Format and Conditions of Competition

This year there will be two separate **54-hole Stroke Play** competitions:

Both a Senior & Super Senior Champion will be crowned.

- WEGA Senior Championship: yardage will be **5400-5500 yds**
- WEGA Super Senior Championship (age 65+): yardage will be **4900-5200 yds**
- Players must designate on the entry form whether they will compete in the Senior or Super Senior event.
- Players 65+ may enter the Senior Championship but will play from the longer yardage and will not be eligible for the Super Senior Championship.
- Both events will be flighted by score after Round 2.
- Pairings for Rounds 2 & 3 will be based on prior scores.
- Distance measuring devices are allowed, but slope adjustment must be turned off.
- New groove specification adopted for elite amateur competitions is not in effect for these Championships.
- WEGA uses the **USGA tie-breaking system** however, a sudden death playoff will be held for ties in both the Senior & Super Senior Championship Flights.
- Play will follow **THE RULES OF GOLF**.
- Caddies are not permitted; carts for the 3-day tournament are included in the entry fee.

Awards:

- **Senior Amateur Champion & Runner-Up:** lowest 54-hole gross total (any flight)
- **Super Senior Champion & Runner-Up:** age 65+ as of October 13, 2026 (any Super Senior flight)
- **Flight Prizes**
- **Sheila Hopkins Cup:** Members of Winning Team
 - *This concurrent two-day team competition honors Sheild Hopkins, founder of the Championship. Teams will be announced during Monday evening's buffet.*

Registration & Late Arrival

All contestants **must register** on Monday, October 12th between **8:00 AM – 1:30 PM** at The Emerald Golf Club – or notify the Committee of late arrival by **phone only**.

Failure to register may forfeit your spot with no refund.

Late Arrivals: Call Jan Sutherland (434-489-4497) or Shelley Savage (571-236-7551). E-mails or calls to the Club are **not acceptable**.

Dress Code: No tank tops, tee shirts, or denim on course property. Men must wear collared shirts.

Golf Carts: Spectators may not use golf carts for viewing play but personal scooter carts for those with disabilities is permitted.

Schedule of Events

(Weather permitting)

Monday, October 12th

- 8:00 AM – 1:30 PM: Registration at The Emerald Club Clubhouse
- 4:00 PM: Putting Contest on practice green
- 6:00 PM: Rules Meeting & Buffet Dinner
 - Cash Bar available
 - First Round tee times distributed
 - Sheila Hopkins Cup teams announced

Tuesday, October 13th

- Starting times from the 1st tee

Wednesday, October 14th

- Starting times from the 1st tee

Thursday, October 15th

- Morning shotgun start
- Awards Luncheon immediately following play

