



2014 SUNSHINE TOUR EXEMPTION CATEGORIES

(Changes from 2013 are highlighted in grey)

CATEGORY 0a

Players finishing in the top 10 positions in previous event (for regular events)

Players finishing in the top 5 positions in previous event (for co-sanctioned events & limited field events)

CATEGORY 0b

Amateurs included in the field

CATEGORY 1

Honorary Members

Winners of: Major Golf Championships from 2004 – 2010;
World Golf Championships from 2004 – 2010;
Final Sunshine Tour OoM from 2004/2005 – 2010;
SA Open Championship from 2004/2005 – 2010;

for the remainder of the official season in which the players win takes place and for 10 official seasons thereafter

CATEGORY 2

Category 2a: Winners of the European Tour OoM from 2009 – 2013 inclusive;
Winners of the PGA Tour OoM from 2009 – 2013 inclusive;
Winners of the Telkom PGA Championship, Nashua Masters, Alfred Dunhill Championship, Joburg Open, Nedbank Golf Challenge from 2009 -2013 inclusive;
Winners of the Africa Open from 2010 -2013 inclusive;
Winners of the 2012 & 2013 Nelson Mandela Championship;
Winners of the 2013 Tshwane Open;
Winners of Major Golf Championships from 2011 – 2013 inclusive;
Winners of World Golf Championships from 2011 – 2013 inclusive;
Winners of the Final Sunshine Tour OoM from 2011 – 2013 inclusive;
Winners of the SA Open Championship from 2011 -2013 inclusive

for the remainder of the official season in which the players win takes place and for 5 official seasons thereafter

Winners of the Race to Dubai from 2014;

Winners of the PGA TOUR's FedEx Cup Points list from 2014;

Winners of Major Golf Championships from 2014;

Winners of World Golf Championships from 2014;

Winners of the Final Sunshine Tour OoM from 2014;

Winners of Sunshine Tour OoM tournaments with prize money of R3.5 million or more from the 2014 season

for the remainder of the official season in which the players win takes place and for 3 official seasons thereafter

Category 2b: Medical Extension Category

CATEGORY 3

Category 3a: Winners of Sunshine Tour Order of Merit tournaments with prize money of R700 000 or more for the 2012 & 2013 seasons;
Winners of more than one Sunshine Tour Order of Merit tournament in one season with prize money less than R700 000 for the 2012 & 2013 seasons;
Winners of Sunshine Tour Order of Merit tournaments with prize money from R1 500 000 to R3 499 999 from the 2014 season;
Winners of more than one Sunshine Tour Order of Merit tournament in one season with prize money less than R1 500 000 from the 2014 season;
Winner of the Chase to the Investec Cup
for the remainder of the official season in which the players win takes place and for 2 official seasons thereafter

Category 3b: Medical Extension Category

Category 3c: Winners of Sunshine Tour Order of Merit tournaments with prize money less than R700 000 for the 2013 season;
Winners of Sunshine Tour Order of Merit tournaments with prize money less than R1 500 000 from the 2014 season
for the remainder of the official season in which the players win takes place and for 1 official season thereafter

Category 3d: Medical Extension Category

CATEGORY 4

Category 4a: Tournament Invites:
Max of 2 invites for a field size of 120 players or less
Max of **<number to be confirmed>** invites for a field size greater than 120

Category 4b: Black Invitations:
Max of 2 black invites for a field size of 120 players or less
Max of 5 black invites for a field size greater than 120

NOTE: If a player gets into a tournament on a black invite, he stays in this Category 4b even if he subsequently becomes exempt on his ranking

Exceptions: The Dimension Data Pro-Am, Telkom PGA Pro-Am, SA Open, PGA Championship have their own invite criteria. The Investec Cup and Nedbank Golf Challenge have NO invitations or black invites. The Zimbabwe Open and Zambia Open have no tournament invitations

No member may receive more than 2 Invitations into co-sanctioned events, and more than 3 Invitations into all other Order of Merit events in any one Official Season. All invite requests need to be submitted by the close of entries in order to be considered

Category 4c: 10 pre qualifying spots (for co-sanctioned events)
15 pre qualifying spots (for regular events)
(This category will be excluded from the Zambia and Zimbabwe Open fields– i.e there will not be qualifying rounds for these events and the fields will be determined off the categories, excluding Category 4a, 4b & 4c).

In the event of all players ranked in Category 1 through Category 11 becoming exempt for a tournament, then any additional withdrawals **will result in an increased number of qualifying spots**. This means that players in Category 12 will automatically be placed into the qualifying round. Should the qualifying round be cancelled, then all players entered for the tournament, will be made exempt

CATEGORY 5

Past winners of the tournament* in question prior to 2004/2005. Past winners of the tournament* in question for 2005/2006 & 2006/2007 under 65 years of age on the first day of said tournament. Past winners of the tournament* in question under 55 years of age on the first day of said tournament.

* This exemption only applies to winners in those years when the tournament in question was a Sunshine Tour Order of Merit tournament.

CATEGORY 6

Category 6a: Players ranked 1 – 50 on the Final 2013 OWGR

Category 6b: Players ranked 1 – 50 on the OWGR @ closing date for entries of the tournament in question

Category 6c: Members of the last named Ryder or Presidents Cup

CATEGORY 7

Category 7a: Top 50 players off Final 2013 Sunshine Tour Order of Merit

Category 7b: Players who, due to participation on the PGA Tour, European Tour or Asian Tour*, did not participate in the required minimum number of tournaments to be ranked on the Final 2013 Order of Merit, and who finished within the top 50 positions on the Final 2012 Sunshine Tour Order of Merit may apply for membership in this category. No player will be granted this exemption more than once. (* a player participating on the Asian Tour needs to also have been playing on the European Tour in order to qualify in this category)

Category 7c: Medical Extension Category

Category 7d: Players ranked 51 – 70 on the Final 2013 Sunshine Tour Order of Merit

Category 7e: Players who, due to participation on the PGA Tour, European Tour or Asian Tour*, did not participate in the required minimum number of tournaments to be ranked on the Final 2013 Order of Merit, and who finished within the positions 51 – 70 on the Final 2012 Sunshine Tour Order of Merit may apply for membership in this category. No player will be granted this exemption more than once. (* a player participating on the Asian Tour needs to also have been playing on the European Tour in order to qualify in this category)

Category 7f: Medical Extension Category

CATEGORY 8

National/Regional Orders of Merit and exchange spots. (Non Sunshine Tour Members may be entered in this category).

CATEGORY 9

Category 9a: Top 50 players from the Final 2013 Sunshine Tour career money list

NOTE 1: Only Sunshine Tour members who played the required minimum number of events (8) to be ranked on the Final 2013 OoM are eligible in this category.

NOTE 2: There are no restrictions as to how many players may use this category. As long as a player meets these requirements, he will be eligible in this category

NOTE 3: This category will be reduced to the top 45 players in 2015 and further reduced to the top 40 players in 2016. It will remain as the top 40 career money leaders from 2016 onwards.

CATEGORY 10

Category 10a: Ranked Members of the PGA European Tour within exemption categories 1 - 10 on the 2014 Europe Tour (in their ranking order)

Category 10b: Top 125 ranked players on the Final 2013 PGA TOUR's FedEx Cup Points list (in their ranking order)

Category 10c: Players earning more in the 2014 Sunshine Tour season more than or equal to the 50th Placed player off final 2013 Sunshine Tour Order of Merit

CATEGORY 11

Category 11a: Players ranked 71 – 100 off the Final 2013 Sunshine Tour Order of Merit

Category 11b: Medical Extension

Category 11c: The leading 5 players off the Final 2013 Big Easy Tour Order of Merit who are not otherwise exempt in a category above

Category 11d: Leading 30 players & ties from the 2014 Qualifying School

Category 11e: The leading 15 players & ties players from the 2014 Vusi Ngubeni Q School

Category 11f: Players who have been Regular Members in good standing with the Sunshine Tour for at least five consecutive years, commencing with the 2009 season. Players in this category will be ranked in order of career money

Category 11g: Medical Extension

After the Investec Cup, the leading 10 money leaders within **Category 11** will be re-ranked in order of official money won on the 2014 Sunshine Tour Order of Merit. During the first week of September 2014, all players within **Category 11** will be re-ranked in order of official money won on the 2014 Sunshine Tour Order of Merit.

CATEGORY 12

Category 12a: Players eligible for Regular Membership in terms of paragraph 2.1.1a, 2.1.1b, 2.1.1d and 2.1.1i of the General Regulations, who are not already exempt in a category listed above

Category 12b: Affiliate Members

Category 12c: Founder members of the Professional Golfers' Association of South Africa ("**PGA of SA**") in good standing with that body;

Category 12d: Temporary Members

NOTE 1: In the event of an exempt player withdrawing, on conclusion of the qualifier, the next RANKED player will replace him - i.e this spot will NOT go to the first alternate from the qualifying round

NOTE 2: The exemption criteria for the, South African Open, Investec Cup and Nedbank Golf Challenge are not as listed above.