



For Immediate Release

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China's Wenyi Ding tops inaugural Global Amateur Pathway Ranking

- *Ding earns DP World Tour exemption for 2025 season*
- *Nine players earn professional membership via inaugural Global Amateur Pathway Ranking*
- *Global Amateur Pathway was launched by the DP World Tour, PGA TOUR and The R&A to provide direct access to professional golf for world's best non-collegiate amateurs*

Press Release

Wenyi Ding has topped the inaugural Global Amateur Pathway Ranking, earning a DP World Tour exemption for the 2025 season. Ding will turn professional and make his professional debut this week on home soil as a tournament invitation in the Challenge Tour's Hangzhou Open in Hangzhou, China.

The 19-year-old from China, who finished as the No. 3 player in the World Amateur Golf Ranking® (WAGR®), clinched the number one position in the Global Amateur Pathway Ranking following an impressive season that included victory in the Asia-Pacific Amateur Championship earlier this month, recording four rounds of 67 to claim the prestigious title at Taiheiyo Club Gotemba in Japan.

Ding, who will turn 20 in November, said: "I'm excited to start my journey as a professional, and look forward to teeing it up on the DP World Tour next season. The Global Amateur Pathway has given me an incredible opportunity, and my thanks go to the DP World Tour, The R&A and the PGA TOUR for supporting me and my fellow amateur players to reach their goals."

The Global Amateur Pathway – powered by WAGR® – was launched by the DP World Tour, PGA TOUR and The R&A to help the very best male amateur players take the next step in their careers.

The landmark initiative has created a pathway for non-collegiate amateur players on to the DP World Tour and partner Tours around the world. In all, the inaugural Global Amateur Pathway Ranking awarded professional membership to nine players across four partner Tours, with those players representing six different nationalities.

European Challenge Tour exemptions, available to European and Middle Eastern players, went to: Denmark's Jacob Skov Olesen, who won The Amateur Championship at Ballyliffin Golf Club in the Republic of Ireland in July; Luis Masaveu Roncal of Spain; and Frenchman Bastian Amat.

Americans Nathan Petronzio, Peter Fountain, Ben Warian and Jake Hall earned PGA TOUR Americas membership for the Latin America Swing of the 2025 season.

Lastly, South African Tyran Snyders earned an exemption on the Sunshine Tour and will make his professional debut tomorrow at the Fortress Invitational.

Guy Kinnings, DP World Tour Chief Executive, said: “The Global Amateur Pathway is a key component of the pathways system we’ve developed on the DP World Tour, in collaboration with our partners at The R&A and PGA TOUR. It brings together the best global talent and provides them with a worldwide platform to showcase their abilities. Congratulations to Wenyi Ding on becoming the inaugural winner, setting a high standard for future stars to follow, and we look forward to welcoming him to the DP World Tour next season.”

“With players more prepared than ever to succeed immediately upon turning professional, the PGA TOUR has invested heavily to formalize a clear pathway for elite amateurs as they transition to the professional game and the PGA TOUR,” said PGA TOUR Commissioner Jay Monahan. “With proof of concept in hand thanks to the immediate success of PGA TOUR University, we are excited about this next step with today’s announcement of the inaugural Global Amateur Pathway class alongside the DP World Tour and The R&A. With PGA TOUR University and Global Amateur Pathway working in parallel, we are confident these direct and strategic routes for high-performing, up-and-coming amateurs will accelerate the process in identifying and developing the stars of tomorrow.”

Martin Slumbers, CEO of The R&A, said, “We would like to congratulate the first group of golfers to have earned exemptions to compete on the professional tours through the Global Amateur Pathway. These players have enjoyed success by delivering notable results in prominent amateur championships played around the world this season and we look forward to watching their progress as they embark on a career in the professional ranks.”

The Global Amateur Pathway complements PGA TOUR University – which awards membership on PGA TOUR-sanctioned Tours to the top Division-I college golfers at the end of the NCAA Championship – to ensure opportunities are available for elite players across the amateur ranks.

Under the Global Amateur Pathway, Ding was the best eligible non-collegiate male amateur within the top 20 of the WAGR® during the Ranking period, and therefore receives a DP World Tour card for the following season.

FINAL GLOBAL AMATEUR PATHWAY RANKING FOR 2024

GAP Rank	Name	Country	GAP Average	GAP Points	GAP Divisor	GAP Events	WAGR Rank
1	Wenyi Ding	China	1137.67	165.50	14.55	21	3
2	Jacob Skov Olesen	Denmark	996.02	226.83	22.77	33	12
3	Luis Masaveu Roncal	Spain	950.39	173.22	18.23	28	17
4	Bastien Amat	France	945.82	240.20	25.40	38	19
5	Nathan Petronzio	United States	888.92	132.00	14.85	20	26
6	Peter Fountain	United States	868.40	162.05	18.66	27	28
7	Max Kennedy	Ireland	839.36	217.28	25.89	39	36
8	Tyran Snyders	South Africa	816.96	150.14	18.38	24	43
9	Ben Warian	United States	815.08	261.44	32.08	40	44
10	Will Hopkins	England	810.56	132.90	16.40	28	48
11	Jake Hall	United States	759.42	185.41	24.42	32	71

12	Gregor Graham	Scotland	752.13	169.44	22.53	37	79
13	Richard Teder	Estonia	740.55	130.37	17.60	25	88
14	Rintaro Japan	Japan	729.52	144.66	19.83	23	97
15	Quentin Debove	France	609.02	104.68	17.19	24	263

WAGR® comprises a women's ranking and a men's ranking for elite amateur players and is offered by The R&A and the USGA as a global service to golf. Players competing in Global Amateur Pathway eligible championships earn points equivalent to the number of points awarded by WAGR®.

To be eligible for the Global Amateur Pathway Ranking, amateur golfers must meet the following criteria:

- Not be a current NCAA Division-I player.
- Be at least 20 years of age by the end of the calendar year of the relevant Ranking Period.
- Be within the top 200 WAGR®
- Players who are outside the top 200 WAGR® by the end of the Registration Period who then move into the top 100 WAGR® at any time prior to the conclusion of the Late Registration Period in the relevant season.

The Global Amateur Pathway Ranking – based on the WAGR® – is published every week on the [Global Amateur Pathway page](#) following the registration period. Registration for the 2025 Global Amateur Pathway will open Sunday 1 December 2024 to non-collegiate players within the top 200 WAGR via email compadmin@europeantourgroup.com. The final Global Amateur Pathway Ranking for the class of 2025 concludes on 12 October 2025.

The Global Amateur Pathway Ranking is designed to identify and rank elite male amateur players (excluding NCAA Division-I collegiate players) competing in eligible tournaments based on their average performance in those tournaments.

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About the DP World Tour

The DP World Tour is the main men's professional golf Tour of the European Tour group.

Our 2024 global schedule features a minimum of 44 tournaments in 24 different countries across three distinct phases of the season: five 'Global Swings' from November 2023 to August 2024; the 'Back 9' from September 2024 to October 2024; and the 'DP World Tour Play-Offs', comprising two consecutive Rolex Series events in November 2024.

Overall, the 2024 season features five Rolex Series events – the premium category of events on the DP World Tour - and four Major Championships, all of which count towards the Race to Dubai Rankings in partnership with Rolex, the Tour's season-long competition which concludes at the DP World Tour Championship, Dubai.

DP World, the leading provider of global smart end-to-end supply chain and logistics solutions, has been the title partner of the DP World Tour since the start of the 2022 season, the Tour's 50th season following its formation in 1972.

About the European Tour group

The European Tour group is the overarching corporate brand which administers: the DP World Tour, the Challenge Tour, the Legends Tour and the G4D Tour and, along with the PGA of America, is the Managing Partner of golf's greatest team contest, the Ryder Cup.

Established in 1972, the European Tour group is committed to 'Driving Golf Further' through our guiding principles of being innovative, inclusive and global.

Innovative: We are driving innovation in golf through the creation of award-winning content, pioneering tournament formats and the use of the latest technology and inventive fan engagement. We are committed to attracting new audiences whilst respecting the tradition of our sport.

Inclusive: We are committed to include all who share a love for the game of golf. We are passionate about a closer collaboration with the women's game, golf for the disabled and promoting the many physical and mental health benefits of playing golf.

Global: Since 1972, players from 38 different countries have won tournaments on our main Tour, while our live broadcast reaches more than 490 million homes in more than 150 countries every week, generating in excess of 2,200 global broadcast hours for each event. We also enjoy the support of many of the world's leading business brands with DP World, Rolex, BMW, Emirates, Fortinet and Hilton as Official Partners.

The European Tour group has Strategic Alliances with the PGA TOUR, the Sunshine Tour and Challenger PGA Tour of Australasia. Those Strategic Alliances, combined with partnerships with the China Golf Association (CGA), Japan Golf Tour Organization (JGTO), the Korea Professional Golfers' Association (KPGA), and the TATA Steel Professional Golf Tour of India, provide global pathways for players from across the world to compete internationally on the DP World Tour, the main men's professional golf Tour of the European Tour group.

We ensure we have a positive long-term impact on the courses, countries and the communities we visit through 'Golf for Good', the umbrella name for the European Tour group's commitment to 'Driving Golf Further' in an environmentally and socially sustainable way.

About The R&A

The R&A group of companies was formed in 2004 to take on The Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews' responsibilities for governing the Rules of Golf, staging The Open, golf's original championship, and developing the sport. The R&A World Golf Museum in St Andrews is part of The R&A group.

Together The R&A and the USGA govern the sport of golf worldwide, operating in separate jurisdictions with a commitment to a single code for the Rules of Golf, Rules of Amateur Status and Equipment Standards. The R&A, through R&A Rules Ltd, governs the sport worldwide, outside of the United States and Mexico, on behalf of over 61 million golfers in 146 countries and with the consent of 165 organisations from amateur and professional golf.

The R&A has responsibility for running a series of world class amateur events and international matches in women's and girls' as well as men's and boys' golf. The R&A stages the AIG Women's Open and works with the DP World Tour to stage the Senior Open presented by Rolex.

The R&A is committed to investing £200 million over ten years in developing golf and supports the growth of the sport internationally, including the development and management of sustainable golf facilities. For more information, visit www.randa.org.

About PGA TOUR

By showcasing golf's greatest players, the PGA TOUR engages, inspires and positively impacts our fans, partners and communities worldwide.

The PGA TOUR, headquartered in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, co-sanctions tournaments on the PGA TOUR, PGA TOUR Champions, Korn Ferry Tour, PGA TOUR Americas and administers PGA TOUR Q-School presented by Korn Ferry and PGA TOUR University. TOUR members represent the world's best players, hailing from 28 countries and territories. Showcasing the biggest moments in the sport with history and legacy on the line, the PGA TOUR has long-term domestic distribution partnerships for broadcast coverage on CBS, NBC and Golf Channel and video streaming service on ESPN+. Internationally, PGA TOUR coverage is available across 200+ countries and territories in 28 languages via 44 broadcast and digital partners. Virtually all tournaments are organized as non-profit organizations to maximize charitable giving, and to date, tournaments across all Tours have generated more than \$3.93 billion.

Fans can follow the PGA TOUR on the new PGA TOUR app and PGATOUR.COM, and on social media channels, including [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) (in [Spanish](#), [Korean](#) and [Japanese](#)), [LinkedIn](#), [TikTok](#), [X](#) (in [English](#), [Spanish](#) and [Japanese](#)), [WhatsApp](#) (in [English](#) and [Spanish](#)), [WeChat](#), [Weibo](#), [Toutiao](#) and [Douyin](#).