



PGA TOUR COMPETITIONS OVERVIEW OF CHANGES FOR 2026

EXEMPT STATUS Exempt status for 2026 changes from top 125 to top 100 on the prior season's FedExCup Points List.

Players finishing between Nos. 101-150 will have conditional status and be broken into three different categories on the Priority Ranking: 101-110, 111-125 and 126-150. These three categories will have varying levels of access to Full-Field Events.

FIELD SIZES Beginning in 2026, the maximum number of players in a Full-Field Event will be 144 players*, down from 156. Due to circumstances such as limited daylight, some events will have field sizes of 120 or 132.

*The American Express, played on three courses, and the Genesis Scottish Open, co-sanctioned with the DP World Tour, maintain a field size of 156.

THE PLAYERS Championship field size will be 120 beginning in 2026.

These reductions in field sizes will have a positive impact on Speed of Play through a better flow of play on the golf course.

SPONSOR EXEMPTIONS Sponsor exemptions restricted to players in the DP World Tour/Korn Ferry Tour/Q-School category as well as those restricted to PGA TOUR members have been removed and reallocated to the next eligible members on the Priority Ranking.

NOTE: There are no changes to unrestricted sponsor exemptions, which are typically a standard of four.

OPEN QUALIFYING Open Qualifying spots have been eliminated for Full-Field Events with fields of 120 and reduced to two for fields of 132. Fields of 144, which make up the majority of Full-Field Events, maintain four Open Qualifying spots. There are no changes to Open Qualifying for Opposite Events and the FedExCup Fall, which maintain four spots.

In total, there are six events affected by the changes to Open Qualifying (reduction of 17 spots over the course of the season):

Tournament	2026 field size	2026 OQ spots
Sony Open in Hawaii	120	None
WM Phoenix Open	120	None
Cognizant Classic	120	None
Valspar Championship	132	2
Texas Children's Houston Open	132	2
Valero Texas Open	132	2

DP WORLD TOUR/KORN FERRY TOUR/Q-SCHOOL As a result of these changes, players who receive their cards via the Korn Ferry Tour/DP World Tour/Q-School have exempt access to Full-Field Events.

Tour/Pathway	2026 PGA TOUR cards available
DP World Tour	10 (no change)
Korn Ferry Tour	20 (down from 30)
PGA TOUR Q-School	5 (rather than top five and ties)

2026 PRIORITY RANKING The restructured Priority Ranking delivers fair and equitable playing opportunities for all who earn exempt status on the PGA TOUR.

Categories in **BOLD** are considered to have a PGA TOUR card in 2026 (thru Life Members), with conditional status for the remainder of the categories (beginning with Nos. 101-110).

TOURNAMENT WINNERS

Including multi-season exemptions for majors, PLAYERS, WGCs, etc.

TOP 70

Top 70 on the FedExCup Points List thru the FedExCup Playoffs

71-100

Nos. 71-100 on the FedExCup Fall Points List thru The RSM Classic

DP WORLD TOUR TOP 10

Leading 10 finishers, not otherwise exempt, from the 2025 Race to Dubai

KORN FERRY TOUR TOP 20

Q-SCHOOL TOP 5

PGA TOUR UNIVERSITY

No. 1 and Accelerated, prior season and current season

TOP 70 NON-MEMBER

Non-member FedExCup points greater than or equal to No. 70 on the 2025 FedExCup Fall Points List

TOP 30 (YEAR 2)

Top 30 on the 2024 FedExCup Points List, not otherwise exempt

CAREER MONEY

Top 25 and top 50

LIFE MEMBER

101-110

Nos. 101-110 in the FedExCup Fall Points List thru The RSM Classic

300 CAREER CUTS

THREE-TIME WINNERS ON KORN FERRY TOUR/DP WORLD TOUR

MAJOR MEDICAL EXTENSION

111-125

Nos. 111-125 in the FedExCup Fall Points List thru The RSM Classic

MINOR MEDICAL EXTENSION

126-150

Nos. 126-150 in the FedExCup Fall Points List thru The RSM Classic

NON-EXEMPT MEDICAL EXTENSION

BEYOND 150

Past Champions and Veteran Members beyond 150 on the 2025 FedExCup Fall Points List

PAST CHAMPION

SPECIAL TEMPORARY MEMBER

VETERAN MEMBER