

# **BLIND GOLF AUSTRALIA – CORE DOCUMENT 3**

## **BLIND GOLF AUSTRALIA ORDER OF MERIT POLICY**

(Updated March 2026)

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 Blind Golf Australia (BGA) has devised this policy to ensure that all blind golfers are participating on a fair and equitable basis and receive the appropriate recognition for their efforts and endeavours towards selection to compete in international competitions.
- 1.2 This policy is to be read in conjunction with the BGA Selection Policy which states that the highest ranked OOM player in the B1, B2 and B3 categories are automatic selections for World Championships provided they meet any selection criteria set down by IBGA.

### **2. COMMENCEMENT**

- 2.1 The BGA Order of Merit Policy is for all BGA Sanctioned blind golfers and tournaments effective from 1 January to 31 December the following year or the year prior to a World Championships.
- 2.2 The BGA Order of Merit Policy is to be used for all BGA Sanctioned tournaments.

### **3. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BGA MEMBER ORGANISATIONS**

- 3.1 Each BGA Member organisation shall provide the BGA Secretary and Handicapper with the full scores/results of their BGA Sanctioned tournament within 14 days of the completion of that tournament.

### **4. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BGA HANDICAPPER**

- 4.1 The BGA Handicapper shall check all relevant scores/results and calculate the Order of Merit points to be awarded to each blind golfer in line with Section 5. Calculation of Order of Merit Points.
- 4.2 The BGA Handicapper shall provide all BGA Member organisations with the updated Order of Merit standings within 28 days of the completion of that tournament.
- 4.3 The BGA Handicapper shall ensure that all BGA Member organisations provide the relevant information at the appropriate time.
- 4.4 The BGA Secretary shall ensure that the up to date Order of Merit standings are published in full on the BGA Website within 28 days of the completion of that tournament.

## 5. CALCULATION OF ORDER OF MERIT POINTS

- 5.1 Only BGA B1, B2 & B3 registered Blind golfers shall be awarded points following each BGA Sanctioned tournament in line with 5.2 – 5.11.
- 5.2 Points are to be awarded for participation in BGA Sanctioned tournaments provided those tournaments and blind golfers comply with all BGA Rules & Policies. Current BGA Sanctioned tournaments include the Victorian Open, NSW Open, Western Australian Open, South Australian Open, Queensland Open, Tasmanian Open, Australian Open, Australian Stableford Championship and BGA Classic. Addition to or deletion of the current tournaments is at the discretion of the BGA Board.
- 5.3 A minimum of 8 players must participate in the event for that event to maintain it's OOM status for that year.
- 5.4 To be eligible for OOM points the event must be played on a course that meets the IBGA criteria for a qualifying round for handicap purposes.
- 5.5 2 points are automatically awarded to each blind golfer for participating in any of the BGA Sanctioned tournaments mentioned in Section 5.2.
- 5.6 An additional 2 points are automatically awarded for those blind golfers who travel interstate to participate in any of the BGA Sanctioned tournaments mentioned in Section 5.2.
- 5.7 Overall Points to be awarded for each BGA Sanctioned tournament scheduled over 2 days are as follows:

The Victorian Open, NSW Open, Western Australian Open, South Australian Open, Queensland Open, Tasmanian Open, Australian Open, Australian Stableford Championship and BGA Classic receive the following points based on net results or stableford points.

1 <sup>st</sup> Net	10 points.
2 <sup>nd</sup> Net	8 points.
3 <sup>rd</sup> Net	6 points.
4 <sup>th</sup> Net	5 points.
5 <sup>th</sup> Net	4 points.
6 <sup>th</sup> Net	3 points.
7 <sup>th</sup> Net	2 points.
8 <sup>th</sup> Net	1 point.

In addition, the following points are awarded to the best overall gross scores at the Australian Open only.

1 <sup>st</sup> Gross	5 points
2 <sup>nd</sup> Gross	4 points
3 <sup>rd</sup> Gross	3 points
4 <sup>th</sup> Gross	2 points
5 <sup>th</sup> Gross	1 point

Sight Category B1, B2 & B3 Winners for each tournament provided there are a minimum 3 players in the sight category.

1 <sup>st</sup> Net	3 points
2 <sup>nd</sup> Net	2 points
3 <sup>rd</sup> Net	1 point

If only 2 players, 2 points to best net, 1 point to second net. If only 1 player, that player gets 1 point.

- 5.8 For events that are scheduled over one day only or reduced to one day only, players will be awarded half the above points.
- 5.9 Points are to be awarded on finishing positions/results not prize presentations or awards.
- 5.10 Blind golfers may earn points in more than one category. For example, if the blind golfer finishes 1<sup>st</sup> Net and 1<sup>st</sup> Net in their Sight Category, therefore earning a total of 13 points.
- 5.11 If two or more blind golfers are to finish in a tie for any one or more positions, The blind golfers that finished in the tie will be declared as follows:
- As finishing in the higher position.
  - Points for all tied positions are to be added together and divided equally between those blind golfers finishing in the tied positions, for example, if two blind golfers are tied for Net 1<sup>st</sup> position, points for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> are added together (10 & 8 points, totalling 18 points), therefore both players receive 9 points each and the next points to be allocated are for 3<sup>rd</sup> position and onwards.