



Membership Pathway Program Tour Professional Articulation Structure

1. Overview:

The Tour Professional Articulation is a pathway within the PGA Membership Pathway Program (MPP), only accessible to eligible current or former tournament professionals. It is designed as a golf-specific educational pathway to Full Membership (Vocational) with the PGA of Australia.

The Program is comprised of:

- Academic Course Work
- Vocational Work Placement
- Training School Requirements

The course is self-paced in nature and designed to be completed over a 2-year duration.

2. Credentials Offered Upon Graduation

Upon successful completion of all components of the Program, graduates will be provided with the following memberships, qualifications and accreditations:

a. Full Membership (Vocational)

Full Membership (Vocational) of the PGA provides the Member with various rights and responsibilities including, but not limited to:

- Employment services
- Membership services
- Training, education and accreditation programs
- Member benefits, discounts and offers
- Voting and meeting rights
- Program and event access
- Playing rights
- Professional Golf Coaching Accreditation Recognition

b. Diploma Level Qualification

As outlined below, individuals enrolled will have the opportunity to specialise in one of four (4) streams. Each aligning with a Diploma level qualification delivered by the PGA's Registered Training Organisation – PGA of Australia Institute (RTO No. 31270/CRICOS No. 02754G)

Via completion of specific requirements within the Program, enrolled individuals will complete the necessary units towards one of the following nationally recognised vocational qualifications aligned with their chosen stream:

- 11256NAT Diploma of Golf Business and Management.
- SIS50321 Diploma of Sport
- SIS50321 Diploma of Sport (Coaching)
- SIS50321 Diploma of Sport (Golf Professional)

Each of the Diploma qualifications are robust and require significant dedication to competent completion. Please note qualifications are subject to change.

c. Professional Golf Coach Accreditation

The PGA is approved by Sport Australia to allocate Professional Golf Coach Accreditation to each graduate to Full Membership (Vocational) of the PGA.

Professional Golf Coach Accreditation is recognised as the highest level of coach accreditation available in the golf and therefore positions PGA Members as the experts in golf coaching and instruction.

3. Academic Course Work:

The Program is structured into three (3) course work groups; course work A, course work B and open course work (see appendix 1 for example).

Individuals can commence the course at designated commencement period(s) and move through the course material as quickly as they feel comfortable. Recommended maximum timeframe associated with each section to ensure you stay on track to complete the Program within the 2-year period. Please note that additional course fees will be payable for individuals who don't complete the course within the 2-year period, with a maximum of 8 years to complete all course requirements from the date of commencement.

4. Vocational Work Placement Requirements (2000 hours):

To successfully complete the Vocational Work Placement requirements, you need to complete a minimum of 2000 hours at an approved facility under an approved supervising Professional

A minimum of 150 hours must be completed each year an individual is enrolled in the Program.

It is the responsibility of the individual to source and meet the work placement requirements prior to being eligible for graduation.

Both paid or volunteer-based placements can be counted towards Vocational Work Placement requirements.

Please be aware that access to a suitable workplace is required at various stages throughout the Program in order to meet specific training and assessment requirements.

Individuals eligible for the Tour Professional Articulation may have up to 1000 hours of vocational work placement recognised for hours completed under suitable conditions prior to commencing the course. To be eligible for these hours to count towards the work placement requirement, they must be completed at an approved facility under the supervision of an approved PGA Member within the last 5 years.

Please ensure you discuss your individual circumstances with the PGA Education Department prior to enrolment.

5. Training School Requirements

The PGA runs various Training School requirements both face to face and virtually each year. Individuals within the Program must complete a minimum of nine (9) days of training to meet their training school requirements for the Program.

6. Membership

Individuals enrolled in the Tour Professional Articulation of the Membership Pathway Program who hold other PGA Membership Classification will be still be considered PGA Associate Members in regards to any relevant Membership Regulations and Policies being applicable.

Individuals undertaking the Tour Professional Articulation cannot compete in PGA Associate - specific tournaments.

Entry into the Tour Professional Articulation does not provide any playing eligibility for Tier 1, Tier 2 or Pro-Am tournaments unless Full Tournament Membership status is held and Tour Membership is maintained.

7. Coaching Rights During the Tour Professional Articulation:

All Members of the Tour Professional Articulation Program are subject to coach in line with the *Policy for Coaching by PGA Associates* and are not permitted to coach until they meet the minimum requirements outlined in the aforementioned policy.

8. Tour Professional Articulation Eligibility

A credit system is in place to determine eligibility for the Tour Professional Articulation in the MPP. Applicants must obtain a minimum total of five (5) credits to be considered for Tour Professional Articulation into the program. Credits are obtained as follows;

- 1 credit for each year an applicant retains Full Member (Tournament) of the PGA of Australia.
- 1 credit for each year an applicant retains full playing rights/membership of a *recognised worldwide professional golf tour*.

Recognised Worldwide Professional Golf Tours - males

For male professionals, a *recognised worldwide professional golf tour* incorporates professional golf tours listed in the PGA policy for recognition of professionals from overseas PGA's.

Recognised Worldwide Professional Golf Tours - females

For female professionals, a *recognised worldwide professional golf tour* incorporates the following:

- WPGA Tour of Australasia (Category 1 Playing Rights Membership only) – 2021 Season onwards
- LPGA Tour
- LET Tour
- Japan LPGA
- Korean LPGA
- Thai LPGA
- China LPGA
- Taiwan LPGA
- Sunshine Ladies Tour

Please Note:

- Tour Membership must be active and playing regularly to be considered.
- Any applicant may have a playing record requested to validate playing amount and level.
- PGA of New Zealand Full Tournament Membership is not eligible for credit.
- To be eligible for credit, One Asia Tour Membership must be the applicable category or higher.
- ALPG Membership alone is not eligible for credit. ALPG Membership will be assessed on a case by case basis.
- There is a one (1) credit maximum available per calendar year.
- Vocational Memberships of international PGAs do not constitute recognised worldwide tours and are not eligible for credits.
- Years of membership of a *recognised worldwide professional golf tour* must have occurred within the last ten (10) years.
- Senior Tournament Members of the PGA of Australia may apply however their application is assessed on a case-by-case basis and must be supported with full playing history for consideration by the Vocational Members Council.

What if you do not have the five (5) credits?

Should the appropriate number of credits not be obtained, candidates will be ineligible for the Tour Professional Articulation but are welcome to apply for the PGA Membership Pathway Program at the designated intake period of any given year.

9. Tour Professional Articulation Applications

To apply for the Tour Professional Articulation, applicants are required to complete and provide the following:

1. Tour Professional Articulation application form, including details relating to intended vocational work placement/s.
2. Evidence of a minimum of five (5) credits relating to full playing rights/membership of a recognised worldwide professional golf tour.
3. Minimum of two (2) letters of recommendation from PGA of Australia Full Vocational Members.
4. Resume relating to education, playing, professional and workplace experience.
5. Language, literacy and numeracy assessment (Used to understand your current levels of language, literacy and numeracy and then, if required, tailor your training to suit your needs)

Upon submission of the required application form and supporting documents, the application review process will be as follows:

1. Application is received by the *PGA Education Department* and confirms eligibility for the program.
2. Applicant undertakes an interview to discuss their suitability for the Program
3. Pending approval/support of application from the Education and Coaching Vocational Committee applications are forward to *Vocational Members Council* for approval and acceptance via the Pathway into the Membership Pathway Program.

Please note: Meeting the eligibility criteria does not guarantee access to the Pathway, only that the application will be considered for commencement. Professional conduct with the PGA, its Members and key stakeholders in addition to interactions with the wider golf community will all be taken under review for suitability to commence the Program.

Intake Period

Whilst applications will be accepted all year round there are two designated commencement periods each year – February and July.

10. Tour Professional Articulation Fees

The cost of the Tour Professional Articulation program is \$7,170, based on a standard two-year completion period.

Fees can be paid:

- Upfront in full, or
- Via an 18-month payment plan (*additional fees apply*)

Please note:

- If the program extends beyond the nominal two-year timeframe, additional fees will apply.
- PGA Tour Membership is not included in the course fee and must be maintained separately if applicable.

11. Further Information

To request an application or for additional information, please contact the PGA Education Department – education@pga.org.au

Please Note: The PGA Education Department reserves the right to vary program requirements or eligibility criteria.

12. FAQs

Do I need to have secured my vocational work placement venue(s) before applying?

No – you can submit your application without this confirmed. However, you will need to secure a suitable placement once you commence the program or ensure at a minimum you have access to appropriate golf facilities as required to commence the program.

I don't yet have 5 credits, but I want to start working towards Full Vocational Membership now. What are my options?

There are several pathways available. We recommend reaching out to the Education Team to discuss your personal circumstances and determine the best option for you.

This current season will give me my 5th credit. When can I apply?

You'll need to complete the season and receive your 5th credit before submitting your application.

I've completed other qualifications—am I eligible for RPL?

You may be eligible for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) toward one of the Diploma qualifications. Please contact the Education Team to discuss your previous studies and how they may align.

Do I need to choose which Diploma or stream I want to pursue before applying?

No – you don't need to decide right away. It typically takes 3–6 months to complete the initial course work (Coursework A). Once you're nearing completion of this stage, we'll work with you to determine which Diploma best suits your career goals and current access to facilities.

I started the Tour Professional Articulation or Bridging Program several years ago. Can I return to study?

We'd be happy to welcome your reapplication. Please contact the Education Team to discuss re-entry requirements and how we can support your return to the program.

I just want to coach; can I just complete part of the program?

No, all Full Vocational Members are expected to have a minimum competency across all aspects of the golf industry including coaching, game development, small business and management.

What are the deadlines within the Program?

The course is self-paced and therefore you can work through as quickly as you feel comfortable. It is designed to be completed over a 2-year period, however you can have a maximum of 8 years from commencing the Program to complete all the Program requirements (subject to additional fees). However, you do need to demonstrate you are actively working through the course material to be permitted to continue.

Do I need to be in Australia to complete the course?

Technically no, however you will need to access a Full Vocational Member of the PGA of Australia to complete your minimum workplace requirements with each year.

Do I need to attend face to face classes?

Not if you don't want to, we host several practical days in each state throughout the year which we encourage you to attend. However, all the course assessment work can be completed online without attending any face-to-face sessions

Appendix 1:

Example Course Work A

Code	Title
TPACWA01	CO101 Laws and principles of Golf Coaching
TPACWA02	CO102 Club based coaching programs
TPACWA03	CO103 Motor learning and technique analysis
TPACWA04	GD103 Junior development
TPACWA05	GD104 Delivering participation programs
TPACWA06	MA101 Communication within the workplace
TPACWA07	MA103 Golf facility operations
TPACWA08	SB101 Managing stock
TPACWA09	SB104 Successful small business principles
TPACWA10	CO203 Coaching the game
TPACWA11	CO204 Golf equipment and club fitting
TPACWA12	MA203 Pro shop management and strategic direction
TPACWA13	SB202 Business management
TPACWA14	SB203 Small business marketing
TPACWA15	SB204 Small business planning
TPACWA16	CO104 Golf Anatomy & Coaching Unsupervised

Example Tour Professional Articulation Course Work B - Choose One (1) of the Following Streams:

	Coaching	Game Development	Management	Small Business
Job Outcomes	High performance coach High performance program manager Teaching Professional	Teaching Professional Golf Development Officer	Golf Club General Manager Golf Facility Owner Golf Business Owner	Head Professional Director of Golf Golf Operations Manager Assistant Professional
Topics	Manage risk	Manage risk	Manage meetings	Manage risk
	Maintain work health and safety	Maintain work health and safety	Address client needs	Maintain work health and safety
	Lead and manage people	Lead and manage people	Manage quality customer service	Lead and manage people
	First aid	First aid	First aid	First aid
	Coach advanced level golfers	Coach advanced level golfers	Manage golf competitions and tournaments	Coach advanced level golfers
	Meet participant coaching needs	Meet participant coaching needs	Manage legal compliance	Meet participant coaching needs
	Coaching programs	Coaching programs	Hospitality and the events industry	Manage people performance
	Sport psychology principles	Sport psychology principles	Manage operational plan	Manage Quality Customer Service
	Anti-doping policies	Anti-doping policies	Manage recruitment selection and induction processes	Manage Meetings
	Manage integrity in sport	Manage integrity in sport	Manage people performance	Manage Operational Plan
	Technology in golf	Fit and alter golf equipment	Manage on course golf operations	Technology in golf
	Long-term training programs	Manage golf competitions and tournaments	Manage budgets and financial plans	Manage budgets and financial plans
	Sport talent identification programs	Manage on-course golf operations	Ensure a safe workplace for a work area	Manage golf competitions and tournaments
	Coaching during competitions	Participate in Golf Competitions and Tournaments	Develop workplace policy and procedures for sustainability	Manage on-course golf operations
*Diploma Qualification	SIS50321 Diploma of Sport (Coaching)	SIS50321 Diploma of Sport (Coaching)	11256NAT Diploma of Golf Business & Management	SIS50321 Diploma of Sport

*Subject to change. A full list of units of competency will be provided prior to commencing the elected stream

Example Open Course Work

Can completed at any stage during your course duration.

Code	Title
TPAOCW1	TrackMan Level 1
TPAOCW2	Training Day One
TPAOCW3	Training Day Two
TPAOCW4	Training Day Three
TPAOCW5	Training Day Four
TPAOCW6	Training Day Five
TPAOCW7	Training Day Six
TPAOCW8	Training Day Seven
TPAOCW9	Training Day Eight
TPAOCW10	Training Day Nine
TPAOCW11	Graduation Requirements
TPAOCW12	PGA Vocational Work Placement