



Following requests for a European Ladies' Team League and general acknowledgement that international ladies' open championships around Europe would benefit from further participation, the EGA Championship Committee has developed the EGA Ladies' International Team Eclectic (ELITE).

The ELITE is the EGA Championship Committee's proposal to boost international championship participation by motivating Europe's lady golfers to earn ranking points. It aspires to create many of the desired outcomes of the proposed ladies' team league, without having to schedule special events.

To summarise the conditions, the ELITE is the derivation of Ladies' European Amateur Ranking (LEAR) points from a number of players from each participating country to make a running national total, i.e., an eclectic. The "league" concept is therefore introduced using ranking points and the motivation is provided for teams to enter players in international championships. A divisor is used so that countries can compete on equal footing, provided that a minimum number of players contribute a minimum number of rounds. A division two competition will be run for those teams unable to contribute the minimum requirement.

The counting events will comprise all events listed for the European Ladies' Amateur Ranking (LEAR).

A number of trials were undertaken to ascertain the best method of calculating team points based on prototype data collected in 2008. An example of the chosen method can be seen on the EGA ELITE webpage.

The annual title of ELITE Team Champions will be declared following the last event on the LEAR schedule.

The EGA strongly encourages each of its member national golf authorities to promote the participation of its ladies golfing elite and to formally recognise the best contributions made by their players. The EGA shall trial the ELITE in 2009 and, if popular, the EGA will consider commissioning a formal trophy.

A dedicated website will show the each team's points, photos of the contributing players and all ancillary information.

Richard Heath, EGA Championship Manager