



The **Ladies' European Amateur Ranking (LEAR)** is the EGA method of ranking the top female European amateur golfers on the basis of their performance in Counting Events in a calendar year.

## PART 1. DEFINITIONS

**Amateur Golfer** has the meaning assigned by R&A Rules Limited in the Rules of Amateur Status; that is a golfer who plays the game as a non-remunerative and non profit-making sport and who does not receive remuneration for teaching golf or for other activities because of golf skill or reputation, and shall take account of any amendments to that definition that may be made from time to time.

**Bonus Ranking Points** are awarded to the leading players in stroke play Counting Events and the stroke play stage of combined Counting Events, see Appendix 5.

The **Committee** is the European Golf Association (EGA) Committee established to administer the LEAR System.

A **Counting Event** is a match play, stroke play or a combination event selected by the Committee to count for LEAR.

### Counting Event Categories:

Having extracted the Elite Events from the List of 33 Counting Events:

A Category A Event is a Counting Event ranked 1-10 on the week of playing based on LEAR Event Rating.

A Category B Event is a Counting Event ranked 11-20 on the week of playing based on LEAR Event Rating.

A Category C Event is a Counting Event ranked 21 or over on the week of playing based on LEAR Event Rating.

The **Counting Events List** is the official list of all Counting Events determined by the Committee.

**Counting Rounds** are (a) in stroke play, all rounds in a Counting Event and they will be used in the calculation of a player's Divisor whether or not the player plays all rounds in that event, and (b) in match play, specific rounds in a match play Counting Event, see Appendix 4.

A **Counting Score** is a gross score recorded by a Ranked Player in a round of a Counting Event.

The **Divisor** is calculated by adding the Ranked Player's number of stroke play Counting Rounds to the number of match play Counting Rounds.

The **Event Rating Table** includes all Counting Events, ranked on the basis of the strength of the starting field on commencement of the event, see Appendix 6.

**LEAR** is the EGA method of ranking the top female European amateur golfers on the basis of their performance in Counting Events in a calendar year.

The **LEAR Event Rating** determines the ranking of Counting Events on the Event Rating Table, see Appendix 6.

A player's **LEAR Performance** determines the player's position in LEAR and is itself calculated by applying the LEAR Technical Performance formula.

**LEAR Ranking Points** are awarded to a player on the basis of performance in a Counting Event.

The **LEAR Ranking Points Total** is calculated by totalling a player's Match Play Ranking Points, Stroke Play Ranking Points and Bonus Ranking Points.

**LEAR Technical Performance Formula:** LEAR Performance = LEAR Points Total / Divisor x 100

Note: The minimum value of the divisor is 24.

**Match Play Ranking Points** are awarded for winning matches in a match play Counting Event, see Appendix 4.

To become a **Ranked Player**, a player must fulfil at least one Condition in Appendix 1.

The **Ranking Scratch Score (RSS)** is the calculated standard used to convert a player's Counting Scores to Stroke Play Ranking Points.

**Rules:** The rules for the calculation of LEAR, as may be amended from time to time.

**Stroke Play Ranking Points** are points awarded to a player on the basis of his performance in each stroke play Counting Round: Stroke Play Ranking Points are awarded in relation to the RSS, see Appendix 3.



## **PART 2. LEAR SYSTEM**

### **2.1 Introduction**

LEAR has been developed by EGA to establish rankings for female European Amateur Golfers. The Rankings are calculated in accordance with these Rules on the basis of performance in Counting Events over the calendar year.

### **2.2 Counting Events**

2.2.1 The List of Counting Events shall be at the discretion of the Committee and may be added to or reduced.

2.2.2 EGA shall have no responsibility or liability for any listing of Counting Events failing to include the name of a sponsor of a particular Counting Event.

### **2.3 Allocation of Ranking Points**

2.3.1 Ranking Points will be allocated in relation to Stroke Play Ranking Points, and in relation to Match Play Ranking Points.

2.3.2 Where a player has a No Return in, or withdraws from, a Counting Round, no Ranking Points will be awarded to the player but the round will count in the Divisor.

2.3.3 Where a player has a score of 8 or more over the RSS or her score has been disqualified, no Ranking Points will be awarded to the player but the round will count in the Divisor.

2.3.4 Where a player misses a cut in a 54 or 72 hole Counting Event, Ranking Points will be awarded to the player for the rounds he played and the round/s not played will count in the Divisor.

### **2.4 Ranking Scratch Score**

2.4.1 The RSS is calculated as the standard to convert a player's Counting Scores to Stroke Play Ranking Points.

2.4.2 The RSS for a Counting Round is calculated by use of the formula  $(a) / (b)$ , where (a) is the sum total of the gross scores of the leading (X) players in the round, with (X) representing the total number of Ranked Players in the round and (b) is the total number of gross scores in (a) above.

2.4.3 If less than three Ranked Players play a Counting Round, the RSS for that round will be the average of the lowest three scores by amateur players.

2.4.4 If less than three amateurs play a Counting Round, the RSS will equate to par.

Note: Fractions from the RSS calculation will be rounded to the nearest whole number.

### **2.5 Ranked Players**

2.5.1 A Ranked Player has fulfilled at least one Condition in Appendix 1.

2.5.2 If a Ranked Player turns professional or loses his amateur status, he will lose the status of Ranked Player.

2.5.3 If a player has lost her status as a Ranked Player, her new LEAR will start once she has fulfilled at least one of the Conditions in Appendix 1.

2.5.4 A player who becomes ranked by stroke play performance will have the scores in the event in which she becomes ranked regarded as Counting Scores.

2.5.5 A player who becomes ranked through match play performance in a combined event will have the stroke play scores in the event in which she becomes ranked regarded as Counting Scores.

## **PART 3. PROCEDURE FOR MAKING DECISIONS UNDER THE LEAR SYSTEM**

### **3.1 General**

3.1.1 All decisions and calculations made under LEAR shall be made by the Committee in the first instance.

3.1.2 All decisions shall be made in accordance with the Rules.

## **APPENDIX 1. RANKED PLAYERS**

To become a LEARanked Player, a player must have fulfilled one of the following:



**Stroke Play**

1. Make the cut in the European Ladies Amateur Championship, the Ladies' British Open Amateur Championship or the NCAA Division 1 Championship.
2. Finish in the top 16 & ties in a Category A Event.
3. Finish in the top 8 & ties in a Category B Event.
4. Finish in the top 4 & ties in a Category C Event.

**Match Play**

5. Reach the last 16 of a Category A Event.
6. Reach the last 8 of a Category B Event.
7. Reach the last 4 of a Category C Event.

**Combination of Stroke Play & Match Play**

8. Qualify for the match play stage or finish on the qualifying score in the stroke play stage of the US Women's Amateur.
9. Finish in the top 16 & ties in the stroke play stage of a Category A Event.
10. Reach the last 16 of the match play stage of a Category A Event.
11. Finish in the top 8 & ties in the stroke play stage of a Category B Event.
12. Reach the last 8 of the match play stage of a Category B Event.
13. Finish in the top 4 & ties in the stroke play stage of a Category C Event.
14. Reach the semi-final of the match play stage of a Category C Event.

**APPENDIX 2. COUNTING EVENTS**

1. A Counting Event is an event selected and approved by the Committee to count for LEAR.  
Note: cancellation of a round or rounds for reasons of weather, safety etc. will not render the event "non-counting".
2. The Committee shall consider proposals for inclusion of events as Counting Events at any time but the final selection of Counting Events shall be at the sole discretion of the Committee.
3. Where the Committee decides not to approve an event as a Counting Event, the Committee shall give written reasons as to its decision to the body nominating the event.

**APPENDIX 3. STROKE PLAY RANKING POINTS**

The number of Stroke Play Ranking Points is calculated by applying the player's gross score for each round to the Stroke Play Ranking Points table(s) below:

12 under RSS 20 pts	11 under RSS 19 pts	10 under RSS 18 pts	9 under RSS 17 pts	8 under RSS 16 pts	7 under RSS 15 pts	6 under RSS 14 pts
5 under RSS 13 pts	4 under RSS 12 pts	3 under RSS 11 pts	2 under RSS 10 pts	1 under RSS 9 pts	= RSS 8 pts	1 over RSS 7 pts
2 over RSS 6 pts	3 over RSS 5 pts	4 over RSS 4 pts	5 over RSS 3 pts	6 over RSS 2 pts	7 over RSS 1 pt	8+ over RSS 0 pt

Strokes under RSS	0	-1	-2	-3	-4	-5	-6	-7	-8	-9	-10	-11	-12
Stroke Play Ranking Points	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20

Strokes over RSS	0	+1	+2	+3	+4	+5	+6	+7	+8	+9
Stroke Play Ranking Points	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	0



## APPENDIX 4. MATCH PLAY RANKING POINTS

Match Play Ranking Points are awarded for reaching specified rounds in a match play Counting Event. The Divisor for each specified round of that event will be one regardless of the number of holes played. The number of Match Play Ranking Points to be awarded is determined by reaching the specified rounds of the following:

### 1. Elite Events.

Winner: 36 pts	Finalists; 32 pts	Last 4: 28 pts	Last 8: 24 pts	Last 16: 20 pts	Last 32: 16 pts
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Example: A player reaching the last 4 in The US Women's Amateur will get  $28 + 24 + 20 + 16 = 88$  points  
4 match play Counting Rounds will be included in her Divisor.

### 2. Category A events.

Winner: 32 pts	Finalists: 28 pts	Last 4: 24 pts	Last 8: 20 pts	Last 16: 16 pts
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### 3. Category B events.

Winner: 28 pts	Finalists: 24 pts	Last 4: 20 pts	Last 8: 16 pts
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### 4. Category C events.

Winner: 24 pts	Finalists: 20 pts	Last 4: 16 pts
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## APPENDIX 5. BONUS RANKING POINTS

Players tying for places will be awarded the maximum number of points commensurate with that position irrespective of the results of play-offs, count-backs or other conditions of the competition.

### 1. The European Ladies Amateur Championship, the Ladies' British Open Amateur Championship and the NCAA Division 1 Championship.

Winner 36 points	2 <sup>nd</sup> player 12 points	3 <sup>rd</sup> player 6 points	4 <sup>th</sup> player 3 points	5 <sup>th</sup> player 1 point
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### 2. Category A events.

1 – 18 points	2 – 12 points	3 – 6 points	4 - 3 points	5 – 1 point
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### 3. Category B events.

1 – 12 points	2 – 6 points	3 – 3 points	4 – 1 point
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### 4. Category C events.

1 – 6 points	2 – 3 points	3 – 1 point
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## APPENDIX 6. LEAR EVENT RANKING TABLE

The strength of the starting field is based on the number of LEARanked competitors in the field and their positions in the LEAR Top 350 on commencement of the event. These competitors will contribute rating points, see the Rating Points below, which the total of these points will determine the category of the event on the LEAR Rating Table.

LEARanked 1 to 5 180 points	LEARanked 6 to 15 90 points	LEARanked 16 to 30 60 points	LEARanked 31 to 50 45 points	LEARanked 51 to 100 30 points	LEARanked 101 to 200 15 points	LEARanked 201 to 350 5 points
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## APPENDIX 7. Elite Team Match Play Events

- European Ladies Team Championship
- Home Internationals (if necessary)
- Vagliano Trophy (if necessary)

Each player gains 4 event points for each singles match won against a LEARanked player.

Each player gains 3 event points for any other singles match won.

Each player gains 2 event points for each singles match halved.

Based on the number of event points attained, LEAR Match Play Points will be awarded with addition/s to the player's divisor as follows:

Event Points attained	4 – 7	8 – 11	12 – 16	17 – 21	22 – 26	27+
	LEAR Match Play Points allocated					
Category A event	16	20	24	28	32	36
Addition to divisor	1	2	3	4	5	6
<i>Average Points</i>	16	18	20	22	24	26
Category B event	12	16	20	24	28	32
Addition to divisor	1	2	3	4	5	6
<i>Average Points</i>	12	14	16	18	20	22
Category C event	8	12	16	20	24	28
Addition to divisor	1	2	3	4	5	6
<i>Average Points</i>	8	10	12	14	16	18

- Notes:
1. No bonus points will be awarded.
  2. A non-LEARanked player in a winning team will become LEARanked.
  3. A non-LEARanked player who beats a LEARanked player will become WAGRanked.