



## **PGA Golf Performance Program - Frequently Asked Questions**

### **Pre Application Questions**

#### **Where can I stay, do you have accommodation available?**

We can assist you to arrange a home stay family on site here at the Sandhurst Club. Typical home stay arrangements cost between \$150 - \$300 per week depending on the quality of accommodation and meals negotiated. A fee is negotiated between you and the host family that will include accommodation and some meals. The Sandhurst community has a network of over 1,000 homes so your chances of finding a suitable family are good. All homes on the estate are a 5-15 minute walk to the golf course. You can also choose to stay in serviced apartments, hotels or private rental accommodation.

<http://www.homestay.com/australia/melbourne> - is an online directory of home stays in Melbourne.

Sandhurst based home stays can be facilitated by contacting Nick Bielawski, PGA Coaching Programs Manager on 03 8320 1902 or [nbielawski@pga.org.au](mailto:nbielawski@pga.org.au)

#### **Do I need a vehicle?**

Ideally yes. Monday is the only day transport is required for the program. A vehicle would be ideal for personal leisure activities. Melbourne CBD is a 45 minute drive away. "Car pooling" may be available with other students but will need to be arranged privately.

#### **Do I lose my amateur status during the program?**

No, although you are playing in Trainee matches you are not eligible for prize money. This means you can play Australian Amateur events also such as the Ivo Whitton events (Golf Victoria) or the National Ranking Tournaments.



**Must I attend a trial day to be able to apply?**

Attending the trial day is not necessary although it gives the student a chance to try the program and experience the training environment and facilities. After applying, the written application and phone/1on1 interview will be used to assess the quality of application.

**Is it possible to fit in employment with this program?**

Yes, the program runs from Monday to Thursday with the latest finish being 4:30pm. Evening work could be achieved as well as Friday, Saturday and Sunday all day.

**How much extra study is required outside of hours?**

Most of the assessment will occur inside of scheduled class hours. Students may be required to do an extra 5-10 hours per week depending on the current workload in the program.

**Can I practice at Sandhurst outside of the program?**

Yes, we have arranged unlimited range balls for students. As a member of the Sandhurst Club you are also eligible to play club competitions on the weekend. Access to both golf courses is subject to availability.

**Previous study, Credit Transfer & Recognition for Prior Learning**

**Do I need to have completed Year 12 to apply?**

No, however you will be required to pass a Literacy, Language and Numeracy (LLN) test after applying for the program. All applicants are required to take this test to determine potential need for an individual learning plan or modification to training and assessment methods.



**I have already completed similar units of study, do I get credit transfer or recognition for prior learning (RPL)?**

This is done on a case by case basis after an application form is submitted and the \$100 application fee is paid. There is an additional RPL assessment fee payable to the SEDA Group Pty Ltd.

For credit transfer the exact units of competency attained need to be provided on a statement of attainment from the issuing Registered Training Organisation (RTO) If you are eligible, your total course fee will be reduced and you are not required to study those units and attend those particular classes.

For RPL a body of evidence needs to be supplied with your application detailing similar qualifications, work skills and experience. An interview must be arranged to formally assess your RPL application. If you are eligible, your total course fee will be reduced and you are not required to study those units and attend those particular classes.

**I have already completed a Diploma of Sport Development with another organisation, can I do your course?**

You may receive Credit Transfer for your Diploma however you will still be required to complete units of study to graduate the PGA Golf Performance Program, this is necessary for you to articulate successfully into Year 2 of the PGA Traineeship. The required units will be “user pays” with payment plans available. You must first apply for the program and pay the \$100 application fee.



## **Pathways available**

### **Is there a scholarship available for future study or pathways?**

Yes, we have an internal order of merit system that takes into account playing results, attendance and attitude to training. The winner of the order of merit will have their PGA Tour of Australasia Qualifying School entry fee paid for or the tuition fees of their first year of the PGA Traineeship paid.

### **If I graduate the program with a scoring average of 4.75 over par or better do I have to enter the PGA Traineeship the following year?**

No, you can enter Year 2 of the PGA Traineeship up to 5 years after completion.

### **I'd like to ask about the University articulation with Victoria University, who can I talk to?**

We can put you in touch with the appropriate person at SEDA Group, our education partner for the Golf Performance Program. Email [nbielawski@pga.org.au](mailto:nbielawski@pga.org.au) to enquire.

## **Other questions**

### **Why don't students get golf clubs like in competitor programs?**

There are several reasons for this:

1. Students should be free to use whatever brand of equipment they feel is best and shouldn't be tied to one brand.
2. At the PGA Centre for Learning and Performance we can fit you for almost any brand of club using the Trackman Optimizer system and a well trained PGA professional. On site we have Callaway, Titleist, Taylormade, Cobra and Henry Griffitts clubs. We are also not a retailer of golf clubs only fitters.



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3. The purchase of brand new clubs isn't necessary for the success of the student in the program and is not a requirement to complete a unit of the Diploma of Sport Development.

If you have any further questions please contact PGA Coaching Programs Manager Nick Bielawski on 03 8320 1902 or [nbielawski@pga.org.au](mailto:nbielawski@pga.org.au)