

# Standard Bearer

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## RBC Canadian Open



# Standard Bearer

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

The Standard Bearer committee will assign one volunteer to each group of golfers during the Championship Pro-Am and the four tournament rounds. Their job will be to carry a standard to inform spectators of the golfers' score in each group in relation to par for the Championship. **This can be a physically demanding role as each volunteer will need to be able to walk 18 holes in various weather conditions and elevation changes while carrying the standard.**

This is an extremely high-profile volunteer position. Standard Bearers will be in the middle of the action and in a unique position to see the event from inside the ropes. Being a Standard Bearer is a very important part of the championship and there are some stringent procedures that have to be followed. They are seen and observed by everyone from spectators, tournament staff, tour officials, T.V. viewers and the players. In doing so, Standard Bearers represent the tournament sponsors and organizers and must act accordingly.

## PROCEDURES FOR STANDARD BEATERS

### The Standard

This is the piece of equipment that the volunteer will carry and update from the 1<sup>st</sup> tee right through to the 18<sup>th</sup> green. Standards weigh approximately 10 pounds but can be cumbersome in breezy conditions and can become heavy after carrying them in the summer heat for 4 ½ hours. Standard Bearers will have a "home-base" likely in the Volunteer Centre where volunteers will report for duty, pick up their standard, standard bib and numbers and be assigned to a group.

### Standard Numbers

As the Standard Bearer starts out for a round they will be provided with enough numbers to cover each player from about +15 to -15 from his starting score. The Standard Bearer will wear a bib with pockets to hold the numbers they will need. The numbers in each bib will be customized for the players in each group. The Vice Chair, will have set up the standard with the appropriate professionals' names prior to the round. When picking up their standard the Standard Bearer should check the numbers to be sure there are not any missing and get acquainted with how they are organized in the bib. Once the Standard Bearer has set the correct numbers into the standard they must then ensure that they meet with the Walking Scorer volunteer who is also assigned to that group and report to the correct tee at their assigned time.

The scores displayed on the standard are the golfers' scores 'in relation to par' for the championship up to that point rather than his score for his current round. He will be either even par, above par, or below par. If a player shoots above or below par on any hole, the Standard Bearer will have to make a change in his score. The Standard Bearer will do this after all the players have completed putting on the hole and are walking to the next tee. Walking with the Standard Bearer and the players will be a Walking Scorer who will keep track of each players' strokes on each hole. The Walking Scorer will advise the Standard Bearer whenever a change has to be made to the standard. It is important that the Standard Bearer work with the Walking Scorer. **Note:** Black numbers are for over par and red numbers are for below par; even par is a green "E".

### Championship Pro-Am

A Pro-Am is an event where a tour professional will play with amateur guests. The amateurs pay a significant amount of money to be in these events and having a Standard Bearer with each group really adds to their experience. Typically, Pro-Am days are a lot of fun to work as you have the opportunity to

see the player interact with the gallery and his playing partners. A Standard Bearer will accompany each group during the Wednesday Pro-Am. Pro-Am play is typically slower than the championship rounds. On subsequent days the walking will be faster – keep up with your group but do not go ahead of them either. The standards during the Pro-Am will display the pro’s name and the group score. Therefore, the walking scorers and the standard bearers must be aware of the format.

### **Reporting for Duty**

Volunteers will be given their tee-times by the Standard Bearers’ chair. Immediately upon their arrival at the club, volunteers are to report to the Standard Bearer area to sign in, usually located in the Volunteer Centre. This should be done at least 30 minutes prior to your assigned tee-time. You may sign-in earlier; in fact, you are encouraged to do so because if another standard bearer is late, you may be asked to go out ahead of your scheduled time.

**REPORT IN EVEN IF IT IS RAINING!**

### **Directions for volunteers**

Volunteers are to report to their starting tee 10 minutes before their tee time in full uniform, with bib, numbers and standard, ready to go. On Wed. /Thurs. /Fri. some groups start on the 1st tee and others start on the 10th tee. When you sign in at the Standard Bearer area, confirm your tee-time and whether you start at Tee #1 or Tee #10. Players play 18 holes, so if you start at Tee #10, when you finish at the 18th hole, you are not done--you will then cross over and play holes 1 through 9. When you report for duty at the Standard Bearer area you are to be introduced to the Walking Scorer for your group. Once you have found your Scorer, stay with them until your group tees off. The Walking Scorer and the Standard Bearer are to work as a team to make sure the scores displayed are accurate. You are to walk with and stand next to your Scorer for the entire 18 holes. (There is one exception: If the players in your group hit their tee shots to opposite sides of the fairway, the Scorer will have to go to each ball to watch each player hit their next shot. If this occurs, you should wait on line with the ball(s) in the middle of the fairway.

### **Procedure on Course**

#### Teeing Off

When the players are teeing off at the start of a hole, you should stand at the extreme right side of the tee area holding the standard so the spectators can see it. You should always be still and quiet whenever a player is hitting. There will be water for you to drink at each tee. Do not stop to buy food or drinks at concession stands while working - this holds up play. Please note that the water is for players and caddies first. If there are only a couple of bottles of water left, it is recommended that you wait until reaching the next tee. Water is constantly replenished throughout the day.

#### On the Fairway

As you walk down the fairway stay at least five yards behind the players. Hold the standard so that the spectators on both sides of the fairway can see it, slowly rotating it periodically. As a player prepares to hit, stand even with the ball, facing the player, at least 10 yards from him. However, if he is well into the rough to either side of the fairway, stay in the fairway. After the player has hit, move up even with the next ball to be played. **Note:** Do not stand behind a player as he shoots, whether on the tee, fairway or green.

#### On the Green

As you get to the green, turn the standard so that the spectators behind the green can see it. (Again, slowly rotate it periodically). Stand with your Walking Scorer near the exit from the green which is marked with by a tall sign with an “X”. Do not change numbers until all putts have been completed on that green. At any time if you have any doubts about what procedure to follow, discuss with the walking scorer.

### After the Last Hole

After all putts have been holed, update your scores and proceed promptly back to the Standard Bearer area with the standard raised high. Spectators along the way will want to see the scores. Upon arrival, report the players' final scores to the committee member on duty. Sort your numbers and put them back in their box. Do not stop to eat, etc. on the way back as the committee may need to use your numbers again right away. After turning in your standard and bib and after sorting and replacing your numbers, report to the committee member on duty. If you are working another day, you will be reminded of your report-in time for your next shift.

### Behaviour

Your behaviour is extremely important. Professional golfers are at work, earning their living. Since the slightest move of a standard or noise may distract them, your behaviour must be professional. Any serious behaviour problems will be called to your attention and may result in your dismissal.

- Do not speak or change your scoreboard during play in your area
- Do not talk to a player unless he talks to you first
- Never run

### Other Circumstances

It may be possible that a player in your group plays very poorly that day. The player may ask you to stop posting his score; please consent with his wishes. In case of a weather warning, you will be directed to leave the golf course. Please return to the Standard Bearer area.

### Dress

Wear comfortable flat soled shoes or sneakers suitable for the long walk you will be making.

**Note:** No golf spikes or spike less golf shoes are permitted. Uniforms are provided as part of your volunteer package, and consist of a hat/visor and a uniform golf shirt. Because you will be outside for up to 6 hours, it is also recommended that you check the weather for the day prior to coming to the golf course and be prepared. Sunscreen and water are also very important and are essential to protect from heat-stroke and sunburn.

### Hours of Operation

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Volunteers will be needed at least ½ hour before the start of play right up to the last tee-time. Volunteers will finish at the end of the player's round, which may lead to a shift of up to 6 hours.

### **Tournament Week**

- Wednesday: 7:00a.m. – 9:10 a.m. (26 groups, 1<sup>st</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> tees), 12 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. (26 groups, 1<sup>st</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> tees)
- Thursday: approximately 7:00 a.m. – 9:20 a.m. (26 morning groups, 1<sup>st</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> tees), approximately 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. (26 afternoon groups, 1<sup>st</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> tees)
- Friday: approximately 7:00 a.m. – 9:20 a.m. (26 morning groups, 1<sup>st</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> tees), approximately 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. (26 afternoon groups, 1<sup>st</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> tees)
- Saturday: approximately 7:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. (36-40 groups in 2-somes, 1<sup>st</sup> tee)
- Sunday: approximately 7:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. (36-40 groups in 2-somes, 1<sup>st</sup> tee)

## **Event Checklist – Chair, Standard Bearers**

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### **Pre-Tournament**

#### Sunday

- Set-up standard bearer area
- Check supplies and notify Golf Canada of anything missing

#### Monday

- Potential of a small group working on this day

### **Tournament Week**

#### Tuesday

- Build standards for Wednesday Pro-Ams
- Check list of alternates and Monday qualifiers to complete the field of competitors
- If any names are missing, submit a list to Golf Canada Operations
- Double check names of Wednesday Pro-Am pros for spelling errors
- Train any Standard Bearers that may have missed orientation meeting

#### Wednesday

- Complete building standards for afternoon portion of Pro-Am
- Train remaining Standard Bearers
- Build standards for Thursday a.m. 1<sup>st</sup> round, check last minute withdrawals and changes to field

#### Thursday

- Complete building standards for afternoon pairings in 1<sup>st</sup> round
- Debrief Standard Bearers after their round, make sure they check time for next assignment
- Begin determining standard bearer tee-times for the weekend
- As Standard Bearers complete their rounds, store built standards in reverse order for 2<sup>nd</sup> round.

#### Friday

- Customize numbers (bibs) for players based on 36-hole score (add numbers to bibs for players who had an extreme score in the first round - very high or very low)
- Record players scores as they finish
- Debrief Standard Bearers after their round, make sure they check time for next assignment
- Upon completion of 2<sup>nd</sup> round, sort players names according to finishing score
- Begin building Saturday standards

#### Saturday

- Customize numbers (bibs) for players based on 54-hole score
- Record players scores as they finish
- Upon completion of 3<sup>rd</sup> round, sort players' names according to finishing score
- Begin building Sunday standards

#### Sunday

- Breakdown standard components, and store in boxes provided
- Record players scores as they finish

## **EQUIPMENT CHECKLIST**

Golf Canada will furnish and supply the following items the Friday preceding tournament week. Please ensure that all the supplies have arrived and are accounted for

- Office space with tables and chairs
- Standards
- Names
- Numbers
- Bibs
- Radio
- Office Supplies
- Player lists and pairing sheets