— THE — PLAYERS TOUR

Welcome to The Players Tour!

You are now one of more than 1,800 Players Tour Members gaining more competitive experience with over 175 tournaments at your fingertips. With many different tournament opportunities in this Tour, we hope the following handbook helps you on your competitive journey.

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Membership

Age Divisions & Yardages

The Players Tour consists of three age divisions. Players play specific yardages per age division; however, yardages are subject to change based on course layout and difficulty.

Girls 9-11: 2,400 - 2,800 (9-holes)

Girls 12-14: 5,300 – 5,700 Girls 15-18: 5,500 – 5,900

Boys 9-11: 2,500 – 2,900 (9-holes)

Boys 12-14: 6,100 - 6,500 Boys 15-18: 6,400 - 6,800

*Players must hole out in the total amount of strokes it takes to complete the hole. The double par plus one rule is **NOT** in effect on the Players Tour. If this rule is neglected, players will be deemed **Disqualified** from the tournament (Rule 3.3c).

The age division you will be placed in is based on the age you will be at the END of that specific season.

If a player scores 30 over par or more in 18 holes OR 15 over par or more in 9 holes in 3 of their first 7 tournaments on the Players Tour, they will be moved to the JDT so they can gain more experience.

Tournaments & Points Race

Single-Day Tournaments

Single-day events will be provided throughout the calendar year on weekends and weekdays during the Summer Series. Both 9-11 divisions will play **9-holes** and both 12-14 & 15-18 divisions will play **18-holes**.

- The Players Tour Single-Day events offer Toyota Tour Cup exemptions to the following players based on the number of points they earn from the seasonal one-day events:
 - Players who finish as the top 2 Boys & Girls in the 12-14 division and the top 4 Boys & Girls in the 15-18 division with the most cumulative points at the end of each series will receive their Toyota Tour Cup Exemptions.

<u>Points Race:</u> Points will be awarded to the 12-14 and 15-18 divisions ONLY. The points breakdown is listed at the end of this document.

Players Tour 2-Day Series

The Players Tour 2-Day Series offers competitive Players Tour members the opportunity to compete in a multi-day championship similar to the Toyota Tour Cup. These events are submitted to the Junior Golf Scoreboard and AJGA.

Points from the 2-Day Series are also weighted so Players Tour members will receive more points than if they were to compete in two single day events. Also, please note that there are 14 Players Tour 2-Day events in 2024.

There is a priority registration policy in place. If a player plays one 2-Day event, they will be put on the waitlist for the following event. Players that were unable to play in the previous 2-Day will have 24-hour priority registration for the next one. After that time, all remaining players will be filtered in by registration time. Priority registration will carry over between seasons.

Junior PGA Section Championship & Qualifier

This event is a 2-day tournament only for Toyota Tour Cup members. However, Players Tour members may qualify through the one-day qualifier.

The top 5 boys and top 3 girls will earn an exemption into the Section Championship. As with a normal Toyota Tour Cup event, for those that

qualify, in order to retain TTC Exemption, boys need to place in the top 15 and girls in the top 10 at the Junior PGA Championship.

Results will be submitted to AJGA and Junior Golf Scoreboard.

Series Championships

Every season there will be a Series Championship for all top point earners in each division for the season.

The top 27 Boys 15-18 The top 27 Boys 12-14 The top 18 Girls 15-18 The top 18 Girls 12-14

The Championship for the 9-11 division will be a one-day, 18-hole event, which is open to players on a first come, first serve basis. The Championship for the 12-18 divisions will be a two-day, 36-hole event.

The Series Championship will have the 12-14 and 15-18 division competing against each other and the overall winner and overall runner-up for both the boys and girls will earn a Toyota Tour Cup Exemption. <u>Although the age divisions will be mixed, points will be awarded by age division only.</u>

Toyota Tour Cup Exemptions

Listed below are the four ways you can earn an invitation to the Toyota Tour Cup:

Exemptions will run through the current calendar year for the Spring Series and through the following year's Spring. The Summer Series will be exempt for the Fall Series and the next calendar year. The Fall Series will gain exemption into the next calendar year.

 Players Tour Season Series Points: Toyota Tour Cup Invitations will be extended to the following:

- Spring Series (January 1st -May 31st) Boys 12-14: top 2; Boys 15-18: top 4 Girls 12-14: top 2; Girls 15-18: top 4
- Summer Series (June 1st –August 31st) Boys 12-14: top 2; Boys 15-18: top 4 Girls 12-14: top 2; Girls 15-18: top 4
- Fall Series (September 1st December 31st) Boys 12-14: top 2;
 Boys 15-18: top 4 Girls 12-14: top 2; Girls 15-18: top 4
- Toyota Tour Cup Qualifying School: 36-hole qualifying event for a year-long exemption to the Toyota Tour Cup. Ten percent (10%) of the final field size (boys and girls) will earn an exemption. No age divisions. The first Qualifying School will be held in June and the second will be held in December.
 - *Points WILL NOT BE awarded for Qualifying School.
- 3. Local Qualifiers: We will be hosting a local Qualifier for (16) different TTC events in 2024. From each qualifier, the top five (5) boys and top three (3) girls will earn exemptions to a specific Toyota Tour Cup tournament. The TTC event name will be listed on the qualifier page. Players will not have the option to transfer their exemption for a different TTC event. If they choose to forgo their spot in the TTC event that they qualified for, that spot will go to the next TTC member on the waiting list. Please note:
 - All boys who finish in the top 10 and girls who finish in the top 6
 will earn their exemptions for the current year and remain
 exempt for the following year as well.
 - Boys who finish 11th-15th of the TTC event will earn an exemption for the remainder of the current season and the following season.
 - Girls who finish 7th-10th of the TTC event will earn an exemption for the remainder of the current season and the following season.
- *Players Tour Points WILL BE awarded for local qualifiers*
 - 4. Series Championships: The Overall Boy/Girl Champion and Overall Boy/Girl Runner-Up at the Series Championships will earn a TTC Exemption. If that player already has a TTC Exemption, we will <u>not</u> drop down to the next player.

TTC Exemption Conditions

A. If a player earns an exemption from the Series Championship and the Series Points Race within the same season, an exemption will not be extended to the next player on the Series Championship leaderboard nor the Points Race.

B. The Series Championship TTC exemption will be given to the overall champion and overall runner-up only regardless of the players' Toyota Tour Cup status.

C. The SCPGA Junior Tour will only drop down to the next player on the Series Points List if a player within the top 4 for the 15-18 division or within the top 2 for the 12-14 division is fully exempt (meaning that the new TTC exemption will not extend the life of that player's TTC membership.)

D. If there is more than one fully exempt player at the top of the points standings, the SCPGA Junior Tour will only drop down a maximum of two players.

Pace of Play

In an effort to better pace of play across The Players Tour and The Toyota Tour Cup, The SCPGA Junior Tour will be implementing an "Automatic 2-Stroke Penalty" solution to a group's final hole if they arrive to the scoring area **15 minutes** after the group ahead of them, or in the case of the first group of the tournament, 15 minutes behind the maximum pace of play set by the Tournament Committee.

Exemptions from the Penalty include if a group finishes outside of 15 minutes from the group ahead of them but finishes within the maximum allowable time (time par) set by the Committee, the group will not be assessed a penalty. If a group does not arrive at the scoring area within their allotted time due to circumstances out of their control, such as ball searches or ruling situations during the final two holes, the Committee may exempt the group from the automatic penalty if the group has maintained their positioning before the circumstance occurred.

At any time, if a group feels there is a specific player or players in the group which is causing them to play outside of their allotted time, those facts should be reported as soon as possible to a SCPGA Staff Member so the situation can be monitored. If the group fails to meet their allotted time

due to a specific player(s), the committee may deem the penalty to only be applied to them.

Pace of Play on the Players Tour is monitored more strictly and taken into consideration throughout the round. Groups will be placed on the clock if a group is out of position and behind their maximum allotted pace of play while on the course. A SCPGA Staff Member may place the group on the clock and the group must finish the hole within an allotted time, 17 minutes for a par-5, 15 minutes for a par-4, and 13 minutes for a par-3. If the group does not finish the hole within their allotted time, and there were no extreme circumstances preventing them from doing so, a 1-stroke penalty may be applied to the group or individual for playing in a bad time. If a second offense occurs, a two-stroke penalty may be applied, and if a third offense occurs, disqualification may occur.

Pace of Play Tips

These will make our tournaments more enjoyable for everyone and could prevent you from getting penalty strokes for slow play:

- Get your yardage before it is your turn to play.
- Recognize when a fellow competitor will need the flag tended or your ball marked.
- Do not walk in packs. Each player should walk directly to his/her ball without delay.
- Be aware of who is away. If that player is not ready to play, play READY GOLF.
- Keep pace with the group ahead. If you don't know where they are, your group needs to pick up their pace.
- If your ball may be lost outside of a water hazard or out of bounds, play a provisional ball (Rule 18.3).
- If you are unsure how to proceed under a rule, play a second ball under Rule 20.1c(3) and continue play. You must report the facts to a member of the SCPGA staff regardless of score.
- When arriving at the green, position your bag so it is on the way to the next tee to avoid holding up the group behind.

Rankings

- Junior Golf Scoreboard (JGS) is a ranking system that helps junior golfers market themselves, find tournaments, and more easily assess their playing skills against other golfers without having to travel across the country. Please visit www.juniorgolfscoreboard.com for more information.
 - The AJGA is a nationwide junior golf organization that provides highly competitive tournaments, a ranking system, and member benefits. www.ajga.org
- World Amateur Golf Rankings (WAGR) is a comprehensive ranking system that compares players from around the world. www.wagr.com

Player Classifications

With our partnership with Junior Golf Scoreboard and AJGA, we are conforming to their player classifications of DQ's, WD's, and JWD's while submitting tournament results.

- Justified Withdrawals (JWD) Will no longer be used in SCPGA Junior Tour Events.
- Withdrawals (WD) Only used when a player discontinues play during a tournament and provides documentation verifying illness, injury, or outstanding circumstances.
- **No Cards (NC)** When a player discontinues play during a tournament or in between rounds.
- No Show (NS) When a player does not show up for their first-round tee time.
- **Disqualification (DQ)** When a player does not show up for their second or third round tee time without notifying the Tournament Director beforehand.

No Show/No Cards

No Show (NS) Policy:

If a player fails to appear for their tee time and has failed to withdraw from an event in accordance with the SCPGA's Policies, the player will be considered a No

Show. Players may cancel from an event through their BlueGolf Account up until 11:59 pm of the day prior to the event. After that time, please email the Tournament Contact listed on the Tournament's Information Page.

Penalty for Breach*:

1st Offense: Players will be sent a warning email.

2nd **Offense**: The player will be removed from their next tournament. Refunds will not be issued.

3rd Offense: Player will be suspended for three months. Refunds will not be issued.

A player that No Shows for a 2nd or 3rd round tee time without properly notifying the tournament director will be considered a DQ.

No Carding (NC) Policy for SCPGA Junior Tour Multiday Events:

Any player who does not complete the event by either withdrawing mid-round or in between rounds will be considered a **No Card**. Documentation may be provided to prove illness, injury, or outstanding circumstances; however, approval of documentation will be made at the Tournament Director's discretion.

Penalty for Breach*:

1st Offense: Players will be sent a warning email.

2nd Offense: The player will be removed from their next tournament. Refunds will not be issued.

3rd Offense: Player will be suspended for three months. Refunds will not be issued.

*Within the calendar year.

Spectator Policy:

Spectating is a privilege on the SCPGA Junior Tour, not a right. If the host club does not permit spectators, then the SCPGA Junior Tour will abide by their wishes and not allow spectators. If permitted by the host course, spectators will be allowed, provided they abide by the guidelines set forth below.

Golf cars will be allowed for Spectators with legal proof of disability, <u>please click</u> <u>here to download the application.</u>

The following are our guidelines for Spectating:

- 1. Spectators may NOT speak to, communicate with (includes hand signals) or give advice to any player during competition.
- 2. Spectators may give necessary items (food, drink, medicine, etc.) to players. These items may only be given following the completion of a hole or at the turn and must not interrupt play. ***Abuse of this privilege will not be tolerated, and the player will be subject to penalty.
- 3. All spectators must stay in the rough or on the cart path and maintain at least a 20-yard distance between all players during competition.
- 4. Spectators are NOT to get involved in scoring matters, (including rulings) unless requested by the SCPGA staff.
- 5. Spectators are permitted to assist in a ball search and/or give information as to a ball's location if needed and can be done in a safe manner.
- 6. Spectators may be called upon by Tournament Staff to verify a score or order of events during play.
- 7. Any misconduct or unbecoming behavior by the Junior Member or their parent/guardian may result in the immediate disqualification of the player from the event, or the removal of the parent/guardian from the facility. Examples of misconduct include, but are not limited to, throwing clubs, use of vulgar or obscene language, smoking, drinking alcohol, use of tobacco, littering, abuse of SCPGA Staff, volunteers, or PGA Members. If you witness any unbecoming behavior, please report it immediately to the SCPGA Staff on-site. Excessive and continued abuse of SCPGA Rules and Regulations by a Junior Member or Parent will result in a hearing with the SCPGA Advisory Committee and /or suspension or expulsion from the SCPGA Junior Tour. If a junior or a parent is suspended, the suspension may last throughout the end of the calendar year.

Dress Code:

When visiting or competing, all participants and spectators must wear what is considered proper seasonal golf attire for everyone, as well as consideration of the host facility's policies.

The following are not considered proper golf attire and are prohibited: blue jeans, tank tops, t-shirts, bare midriffs, workout attire, and joggers/sweatpants.

It is the responsibility of the participants to review and adhere to the host golf course's dress code policies prior to arrival.

Any player or spectator not adhering to these guidelines will be asked to leave or correct the violation before participating.

Cancellation Policy and Procedure:

Cancellation Fee: \$10 if canceling 7 days or more prior to an event, and \$25 if the Players Tour event is 36-54 holes. There is no refund if you cancel less than 7 days prior to the event.

Cancellations within one week with a verifiable doctor's note will be granted a refund on ½ the entry fee. The doctor's note cover letter must be received by SCPGA staff within 5 days of the tournament and must be accompanied with the participant's name, the official tournament name, and tournament date. An individual doctor's note will be valid and accepted by SCPGA staff for 2 weeks after its issue date. After two weeks, individuals will be required to get a new doctor's note for cancellations and refunds.

To cancel from an event, sign into your Player's Club Account <u>here</u> and hit the *Cancel* button next to the event you wish to cancel from.



The Players Tour | Contact Information

We are excited to welcome you to The Players Tour and we wish you the best of luck! If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us.

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