

JDT Tournament Levels Gateway Junior PGA

Level 2: The Birdie Ballers

Mission Statement:

To build on the positive golf experiences by continuing to encourage juniors and guide them through the Junior Development Tour; where the level 2, *Birdie Ballers* goals are to have FUN, meet new friends & find new ways to improve!

Description:

Format:

Keeping in mind the learning and development nature of the Junior Development Tour, each event will feature a combination of the following, always including 9 hole course play:

- Youth Clinic led by a PGA Golf Professional
- Rule of the Day

Ages:

- Boys 5 – 12
- Girls 5 – 12

Equipment:

Golf clubs are required for every junior, however they will not be provided.

Number of Holes:

Juniors will play 9 holes of golf from approximately 1,300-1,650 yards (shortened regulation-length & executive courses).

Requirements:

The Gateway PGA will notify the junior's family when s/he has hit an *Instant or (3) Average scores* in their respective level of play & will recommend that junior moves up to a more advanced division. All target

scores (*Instant & Average*) will be posted on the tournament information page.

Cost: \$18 Member standard fee // \$35 Non Member standard fee

Levels of Player Progression: The following levels/divisions of play will replace the 2016 Mini/Novice 9 divisions. Each level is based on skill and is available to ALL juniors ages 5 – 12.

Fairway Finders (Level 1)

Birdie Ballers (Level 2)

Links Legends (Level 3)

Gateway PGA Jr Team will recommend when a junior is ready to move up to the next level of play

ALL Gateway PGA Jr Team recommendations are final

Juniors that have previously played in the Gateway PGA's JDT will be given a recommended level of play

New juniors must first play in a level 1, *Fairway Finders* event

(Or) Ask your junior's coach/PGA Pro to contact Gavin Hagar with the Gateway PGA to recommend a specific division of play

Recommendations will be based on established standardized (*Instant & Average*) scores, which will be calculated & posted for each tournament course

The three levels of play will have target **Instant & Average scores** posted on the tournament information page.

Instant Score – Allows your junior to “instantly” move up to the next level of play

Average Score – Your junior must successfully shoot an average score (3) times throughout the year (Spring – Summer – Fall seasons) to move up to the next level of play

Note from the Gateway PGA Junior Team

This new system of player progression was put into place to better ensure that ALL juniors compete in a division that fits their skill. The Gateway PGA's goal with this new design is to lessen the likelihood that a beginner golfer gets discouraged due to an advanced junior playing in an improper division. By changing the guidelines of the JDT levels/divisions from age to skill; the Gateway PGA's Junior Development Tour has created a welcoming environment for ALL interested juniors to begin discovering the game of golf!