



PGA

Gateway Section

Junior **D**evelopment **T**our

Player Handbook

2022

**Gateway PGA Junior Development Tour
Players & Caddie Rules, Policies & Procedures**

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Contact Information

Gateway Section PGA Office:

Address: 262 Chesterfield Mall, Chesterfield, Missouri 63017

Office Phone: 636-532-3355

Office Hours: Monday – Friday (8:00 AM – 4:00 PM)

Please note: Contact hours may vary during the junior golf season. During the summer season, Gateway PGA Junior Golf Staff may be on site at events during the above office hours. Staff may be temporarily unavailable to immediately answer calls and emails. Please allow up to 24 hours for staff to return calls and emails. We will be in touch with you as soon as possible.

Junior Golf Primary Contacts:

Junior Tour Coordinator

Jason Eisenhauer

jeisenhauer@pgahq.com | 636-579-2482

Junior Golf and Player Development Coordinator

Mackenzie Myers

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Additional Junior Golf Staff:

PGA WORKS Fellow

2022-2023 Works Fellow – Karena Ballard

Gateway PGA Junior Golf Summer Intern Team

seasonal staff at all summer junior golf events

Junior Rundown Email Newsletter:

Read our weekly newsletter to keep informed on all things Gateway PGA Junior Golf! Junior Tour and Junior Development Tour members will be automatically added to our email list.

To subscribe or resubscribe to our email list, please contact XXX (Gateway PGA Communications Coordinator) at @pgahq.com.

FOLLOW US:

Instagram: @gatewaypgajuniors

Twitter: @GatewayJuniors

Facebook: @GatewayPGAJuniors

Website: www.gatewaypga.org/junior-golf

Junior Development Tour Overview

The Gateway PGA's Junior Development Tour (or "JDT") is the Gateway PGA's most beginner focused tournament program offering. The Junior Development Tour offers a non-intimidating, FUN, beginner focused, junior golf environment purposed to foster friendships, inspire commitment and offer guidance in skill development.

Eligibility

Ages 7-12

- ONLY boys and girls ages 7 to 12 **as of June 1, 2021** are eligible to participate.
- Junior's results from previous JDT events will determine their division of play for the 2022 season.
- 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
- For those juniors further along in their skill development, the Gateway PGA has several competitive 9-hole divisions on the Gateway PGA Junior Tour.

Membership

- Membership **Not Required** for access to Junior Development Tour Events but members will receive discounted entry fees for each event (\$18 Member Entry Fee vs. \$35 Non-Member Entry Fee)
- Standard Membership = \$80 (1-year)
- Please note: Membership is required to compete in higher level Junior Tour Summer tournaments. Player who graduate from the JDT Level 3 "Links Legends" are required purchase a membership if they choose to move up to the Junior Tour 9 Hole Division and Events.

What to Expect at a JDT Event?

Each JDT event will offer those in attendance the opportunity to learn the rules & regulations of golf, and to further the junior's skill development during the on-course 9-hole play. The type of learning component will vary from event to keep the format from getting stagnant over the course of the year.

Learning & Skill Development Components:

- Environment Geared Towards Fun & Development
- 3 Level Progression System
- Target Scores to Inspire Motivation
- Parent Caddies
- Rule of the Day
- JDT's Rules of Golf Cheat Sheet

JDT Levels of Progression

Level 1 – Fairway Finders

Level 2 – Birdie Ballers

Level 3 – Links Legends

New juniors must first play in Level 1 -Fairway Finders (OR) Ask your junior’s coach/PGA Pro to contact the Gateway PGA to recommend a specific division of play.

Returning Juniors that have previously played in JDT Events will be given a recommended level of play based on the level they were in at the end of the prior year. ALL Gateway PGA Staff recommendations are final.

Approximate JDT Course Yardages

Level 1: Fairway Finders	Level 2: Birdie Ballers	Level 3: Links Legends
1,000 – 1,300 yards	1,300 – 1650 yards	1,650 – 2,000 yards

**Insta
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Aver
age
Score**

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Juniors advance to the next level by shooting ***Instant Scores & Average Scores***.

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

All target scores (Instant & Average) will be posted on the event’s information page.

Gateway PGA Staff will track juniors’ target scores throughout the season and automatically move juniors up to the next level when they reach 3 average scores or an instant score.

Rule of the Day

Each JDT Event will have a “Rule of the Day” taught by a Gateway PGA Staff Member. The Rule of the Day will be explained to each group prior to starting their round. The Rule of the Day will vary for each event in order to provide continual learning and development components for players.

Starting Times & Shotgun Starts

Tee times and pairings will always be sent out after registration for the event closes (the week prior to the event). Starting times are different for each event and can be found on the Tournament Information Page. Starting times are at the discretion of the host golf course and may be subject to change. Tee times and pairings are decided randomly (by division) through our Golf Genius software; therefore, the Gateway Junior PGA **CANNOT** and **WILL NOT** accept tee time or pairing requests. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Upon arrival at a JDT Event, players and parent caddies must check-in at the registration table (usually located at the facility's entrance or in easily identified area). We recommend arriving 30-60 minutes prior to your assigned starting time. This will allow you plenty of time to check-in, warm-up, and arrive at the 1st tee on time. Please note that not all facilities have driving ranges.

JDT Events will vary between shotgun starts and tee time starts. See the event's registration page for specific details.

For a shotgun start, all the players will all start at the same time on different assigned holes. Players should report at the designated meeting area **20 minutes before** the event's start time. Here, a Gateway PGA Staff members will explain the Rule of the Day and provide any additional needed instructions. Upon the direction of the Staff Members, players and caddies will then make their way to their assigned starting hole. Play will begin when all members of the group have arrived, and it is safe to do so.

For tee time starts, players will be assigned a specific tee time and start on the same hole (#1 or #10). Players must report to the 1st tee **at least 10 minutes before** their assigned tee time. Players will be given the Rule of the Day and instructions prior to their group teeing off.

JDT Rules & Regulations

- **Parent Caddies Allowed:** Each player is allowed 1 parent caddie
 - Additional spectators are allowed and encouraged to attend!
- **10 Stroke Limit per hole rule**
 - There is a 10 stroke per hole limit at all JDT events
 - The rule for JDT is as follows:
 - Once the Golfer has made 8 strokes, they **MUST** then pick their ball up and proceed to the green and place the ball approx. 15 feet from the hole and attempt max 2 putts and record a 10.
 - This will help pace of play and prevent discouragement for the junior golfers
- **2 Practice Swings Maximum!**
- **Bunker Rule:** If a player's ball is in a bunker and has taken two strokes at the ball in the same bunker and has not advanced the ball out of the bunker, the player may under no penalty, drop the ball outside the bunker at the nearest point one club length, **NO CLOSER** to the hole and continue play.
- **Red Penalty Area Rule:** If a player hits 2 balls into the same red penalty area, they may drop a ball on the opposite side of the penalty area.
 - Example: Player hits his or her first (1) shot into water. Player drops and lays two (2). Player proceeds to hit his or her third shot (3) into the same penalty area. The player then can drop on the other side of the penalty area and lay four (4) and proceed to hit their fifth shot (5).
- The Gateway PGA Junior Development Tour does NOT take walk-ons at events

Parent Caddies



PGA

Junior Development Tour

The Gateway PGA's "How to Caddie" Guide

THE DO(S)

- Visit the Pro Shop & purchase range balls for warm-up
- Make sure your junior has: snacks, drinks, sunscreen, golf balls, divot repair tool, & a ballmarker
- Maximum of (1) caddie per junior
- Get to know the other players & caddies in your group
- May help players look for golf ball, determine distance to the hole, fix divots, repair ball marks & tend the flag stick
- After each hole, (at the next tee box) mark the scores of the junior your child is to be keep score of & your junior
- Help your junior with strategy & decision in a timely manner
- Walk FASTER than your junior
- Encourage ALL juniors after both good & bad shots (this game is hard enough - Always stay positive on the course)
- May position yourself on an extension of the line of play or putt BEFORE your junior attempts their stroke (NOT DURING)
- May point out a line for putting BEFORE the putt is attempted (NOT DURING) & you may not touch the green

THE DON'T(S)

- Any rules violation by the caddie has the same consequence as if the junior violated the rule.
- Standing behind the extension of the line of play or putt during your junior's attempt
- Touching the putting green to determine your junior's best line for his/her putt
- More than (1) caddie per junior
- Inappropriate conduct of any sorts
- Walking slower than your junior and the rest of the group (one of your goals should be to keep the group & your junior on pace!)
- Riding in a golf cart (unless physically unable to walk the course) of juniors may not ride in golf carts, even if there caddies are (out of necessity)
- Kick or move a ball in any way from its original path or placement
- Give advice to other players (unless you are caddying for them both)
- Over Coach - the time to teach & coach is at the range & practice area, not on the competition course



Mobile Scoring

Golf Genius Mobile Scoring will be used for some Gateway PGA JDT Events. Players/parent caddies with mobile devices should download the Golf Genius App (orange icon) onto their device prior to arriving at an event. One player/parent caddie in each group will be asked to enter the group's hole by hole scores into the Golf Genius app throughout the round. Players will still be provided a physical scorecard to record their fellow competitors and own scores. Scores entered in the mobile scoring app are not final until players have finalized their scores in the Scoring Area following completion of their round.

Mobile Scoring Instructions:

1. Go to your app store on your Android or iPhone. Search "Golf Genius".
2. Download the app (orange icon).
3. When you receive your printed scorecard, open the mobile app on your phone.
4. Enter the GGID found on your printed scorecard. (Do not enter your email or any password)
5. Click on your name.
6. Enter the correct hole score for all the players in your group.
7. After scores are entered for a hole, click "Save Scores".
8. You will then be directed to the next hole.



Download the free Golf Genius app from the app store. Log in using your GGID located in the bottom right hand corner of your scorecard



Only 1 person in each group needs to do the live scoring - select your name



Use the numbers to enter the GROSS scores. Golf Genius will work out your points for you



Stay up to date with the live leaderboard whether you're out on the course, or in the bar