

2016 MAPGA JUNIOR TOUR

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Tournament/City</u>
Monday	20-Jun	MAPGA Jr Tour - Suburban Club - Pikesville, MD
Wednesday	22-Jun	MAPGA Jr Tour -Laytonsville GC - Laytonsville, MD
Thursday	23-Jun	MAPGA Jr Tour - Northwest GC - Silver Spring, MD
Friday	24-Jun	MAPGA Jr Tour - Westpark GC - Leesburg, VA
Monday	27-Jun	MAPGA Jr. Tour - Winchester CC - Winchester, VA
Tuesday	28-Jun	MAPGA Jr. Tour - Shenandoah Valley GC - Front Royal, VA
Wednesday	29-Jun	MAPGA Jr. Tour - Bowling Green CC - Front Royal, VA
Thursday	30-Jun	MAPGA Jr. Tour -University of Maryland GC - College Park, MD
Friday	1-Jul	MAPGA Jr Tour -The Gauntlet GC - Fredericksburg, VA
Tuesday	5-Jul	MAPGA Jr. Tour - 1757 Golf Club - Dulles, VA
Monday	11-Jul	MAPGA Jr. Tour - Chantilly National G & CC - Chantilly, VA
Tuesday	12-Jul	MAPGA Jr. Tour - Herndon Centennial GC - Herndon, VA
Thursday	14-Jul	MAPGA Jr. Tour -The Bay Club -Berlin, MD
Friday	15-Jul	MAPGA Jr. Tour - Ocean City G&YC - Berlin, MD
Monday	18-Jul	MAPGA Jr. Tour - Ft. Belvoir GC - Fort Belvoir, VA
Tuesday	19-Jul	MAPGA Jr. Tour - Piedmont Club - Haymarket, VA
Wednesday	20-Jul	MAPGA Jr. Tour - Fauquier Springs CC - Warrenton, VA
Friday	22-Jul	MAPGA Jr. Tour - Sparrows Point CC - Baltimore, MD
Monday	25-Jul	MAPGA Jr. Tour - Turf Valley GC - Ellicott City, MD
Tuesday	26-Jul	MAPGA Jr. Tour - US Naval Academy GC - Annapolis, MD
Wednesday	27-Jul	MAPGA Jr. Tour - University of Maryland GC - College Park, MD
Friday	29-Jul	MAPGA Jr. Tour - Clifton Park GC - Baltimore, MD
Monday	1-Aug	MAPGA Jr. Tour - Springfield G & CC - Springfield, VA
Monday	2-Aug	MAPGA Jr. Tour - Prospect Bay CC - Grasonville, MD
Wednesday	3-Aug	MAPGA Jr. Tour - Crofton CC - Crofton, MD
Thursday	4-Aug	MAPGA Jr. Tour - Hidden Creek CC - Reston, VA
Monday	8-Aug	MAPGA Jr. Tour - Reston GC - Reston, VA
Tuesday	9-Aug	MAPGA Jr. Tour - Stoneleigh Golf Club - Round Hill, VA
Thurs-Fri	August 11-12	MAPGA Jr Tour Championship - Musket Ridge GC - Myersville, MD

How to Use This Handbook

This handbook is designed to serve as a guide to the MAPGA Junior Tour. To assure that you (or your child) register properly for our programs, **please read all information carefully.**

1. Read carefully all information on the program and each of its events. Juniors may participate in a maximum of 5 number of tournaments.
2. Update your Player's Club file immediately with any change in address or email.
3. All correspondence should include Member's name.
4. Be sure to refer to the "Online Registration Instructions" document posted on the MAPGA website for the

Benefits of Membership

- Eligible to participate in Junior Tour events.
- Eligible to receive a Tony Marlowe Junior Scholarship
- gift pack (including golf balls)
- MAPGA Junior Tour hat.
- MAPGA Junior Tour bag tag.
- MAPGA Junior Tour Ball Mark Repair Tool.
- 2016 USGA Rules of Golf booklet.

Membership & Tournament Fees

Junior Tour membership is \$110.00 per member. An entry fee of \$65.00 will be charged per tournament for ages 12 and over, and \$35.00 for ages 10-11. Members may participate in 5 tournaments per year. Members may have the opportunity to sign up for additional events following a specific date. These fees cover all costs of membership and golf fees. All membership and tournament fees must be paid online using a credit card or debit card.

Membership & Tournament Refunds

Membership refunds will be granted only if written notification (email is acceptable) is received by the MAPGA Section Office no later than 5:00pm ET on June 1, 2016. Refunds requested after June 2, 2016 due to medical reasons or other extenuating circumstances will be handled on a case by- case basis. A \$25 service fee will be deducted from ALL refunds. **The \$110 Membership Fee is nonrefundable for any reason after the Membership packets have been mailed out on June 1, 2016. Tournament fees are subject to a \$15 cancellation fee up until the entry deadline. After the deadline, no refunds will be issued.**

Deadlines

Membership registration will close when 720 members have joined the tour. Tournament registrations will close one week prior to the event at 12:00pm or when the event reaches maximum capacity (90 players), whichever occurs first.

Eligibility

The MAPGA Junior Tour is open to boys and girls ages 10-18 as of **August 11, 2016**. They must either reside in or be a member of a golf club within the boundaries of the Middle Atlantic Section PGA (MD, VA, DC and small portions of WV and PA). 18-year olds who have attended college will NOT be eligible. Entries are subject to rejection at any time by the MAPGA Junior Tour. **The program will be limited to the first 720 paid applications.** To compete in any MAPGA Junior Tour events, you must be a member of the MAPGA Junior Tour

Entry Procedure

Entries will only be accepted online through the MAPGA website this year. Mailed or faxed entries will NOT be accepted. Starting March 31, 2016 at 12:00pm, juniors may register online to become a member of the MAPGA Junior Tour. Starting April 28, 2016 at 12:00pm Juniors are eligible to sign up for tournaments. The first 720 juniors to register for membership will be able to register for MAPGA Tour events, **Memberships and Tournament registrations are filled on a first-come, first-serve basis.** By registering online for the MAPGA Jr Tour, you agree to abide by all Rules & Policies set forth in this Member Handbook. The MAPGA reserves the right to refuse or reject any entry, at any time.

Tournament Information

Juniors participating in any of the events in this program must be "tournament ready." Any player who does not demonstrate a good knowledge of the Rules of Golf; fails to maintain a reasonable pace of play; cannot keep an accurate score for him (her)self and a fellow competitor will be asked to withdraw from the tournament. All Juniors are expected to abide by the Rules of Golf and the Rules, Policies and Procedures of the MAPGA Junior Tour at all times.

Withdrawal & No Show Policy

A player must contact the MAPGA office at least **48 hours** prior to the tournament from which they wish to withdraw. No refunds will be granted. A player failing to properly withdraw from a tournament and/or failing to compete will forfeit the entry fee and be suspended from the next tournament. If a second offense occurs, the participant will be suspended from the entire MAPGA Junior Tour with no refund.

Footwear

It is a condition of competition at all tournament sites that shoes with metal or traditionally-designed spikes are prohibited. Penalty for breach of this condition: DISQUALIFICATION.

Care for the Golf Course

All players are expected to maintain the golf course by repairing ball marks, raking bunkers, replacing divots, picking up and disposing of trash, etc. "Leave the course in better condition than you found it."

First Offense: Warning

Second Offense: Two-stroke penalty

Third Offense: Disqualification.

All players and parents are also encouraged to thank the host club, staff and volunteers for their support of junior golf.

Cell Phones

Cellular phones, pagers and other similar electronic devices must be turned off while on the competition course. Penalty for first offense is disqualification. Emergency use of a cellular phone may be permitted at the discretion of the on-site rules committee.

Practice Rounds

Your membership and tournament entry fee does not entitle you to a practice round. However, certain facilities are generous enough to offer practice rounds to participants. Please contact the Host PGA Professional at each facility for their policy on practice rounds

Caddies and/or Carts

Caddies and/or carts will **not be permitted (except for the Boys and Girls 10-11 divisions)** at any MAPGA Junior event. Each player must walk and carry his/her own clubs. **Pull carts are acceptable as long as the host facility approves.** A player with a physical disability may request an exemption from this policy from the MAPGA Junior Tour Officials. Caddies will be permitted in the Boys and Girls 10-11 division but must pay a fee of \$25 and are required to complete a caddy quiz.

Cancellation Policy

It will be at the discretion of the MAPGA Junior Golf Staff or Host PGA Professional to cancel play. An event will not be canceled due to rain unless the Host PGA Professional/ staff deems it necessary. In the event of lightning or other dangerous situations, play will be suspended until conditions are safe. There will be no "make-up" dates for canceled events. . If a tournament is cancelled prior to play, members scheduled to participate in the event will be refunded entry fee minus a \$5 transaction fee to their account or have the option to transfer into another event of the same level for not charge. If the Tournament is cancelled during play, the MAPGA reserves the right to retain the full entry fee.

Dress Code & Conduct Guidelines

Teaching sportsmanship, etiquette, and the Rules of Golf are major goals of the MAPGA Junior Tour. To promote these areas and to maintain the integrity of the Tour, the following guidelines for dress and conduct will apply.

Tournament officials will enforce these guidelines at all MAPGA Junior Tour functions.

Dress Code

1. All boys shirts must have collars and sleeves. All girls shirts must be golf type shirts. Girls shirts may or may not have collars and sleeves.
2. T-shirts and tank tops are not acceptable.
3. All shorts must be golf type shorts and Bermuda length. Tennis shorts, gym shorts, and short shorts are not acceptable.
4. Blue jeans or cutoffs are not acceptable.
5. **Shirts must remain tucked in at all times.**
6. During tournaments all participants must wear golf or tennis shoes.

Conduct

1. Any conduct that is detrimental to the MAPGA Junior Tour will not be tolerated.
2. No club throwing.
3. No abusive language or profanity.
4. No drinking of alcoholic beverages.
5. No use of any tobacco products.
6. No drug use.
7. No gambling.
8. Abuse of the club facilities will not be tolerated.

Any breach of the above guidelines will result in disqualification from the event where the incident occurred as well as the next event entered without refund. A second infraction will result in suspension from the Tour for the remainder of the season and forfeiture of all applicable entry fees.

Spectators

Spectators are welcome and encouraged to attend tournaments.

Rules for spectators are as follows:

1. **Spectator carts will be allowed if approved by host facility.**
2. Carts **MUST** remain on cart path at all times! **NO EXCEPTIONS!**
2. Spectators must stay in the rough or on the cart path and at least **30 yards** away from the players.
3. Spectators are allowed to carry water, umbrellas, jackets, towels, and food for the players.
4. Spectators are not allowed to give advice to the players. The player may be penalized for a violation. "Advice" is any counsel or suggestion, which could influence a player in determining his/her play, the choice of club or the method of making a stroke.

Examples of advice:

"You should hit a 6-iron here"

"Keep your head down"

"Relax, take it one shot at a time"

Penalties for violation of this policy:

- 1st offense Verbal warning
- 2nd offense Two-stroke penalty
- 3rd offense Disqualification of player
5. Spectators shall not carry on conversations with players. This action could be construed as **ADVICE**. Players may be penalized for this action.
6. The **player** is responsible for the actions of his/her spectators.
7. Spectators may not carry a player's golf bag and/or clubs.
8. Cellular phones, pagers and other similar electronic devices must be turned off while on the competition course. Penalty for first offense is verbal warning. Penalty for second offense is two-stroke penalty to the player. Third offense is disqualification of the player.

Age Divisions

Each field will be divided into the following age divisions:

Boys 10-11 9 Forward
Boys 12-13 18 Middle
Boys 14-15* 18 Championship*
Boys 16-18 18 Championship
Girls 10-11 9 Forward
Girls 12-14 18 Forward
Girls 15-18 18 Forward

*The Boys 14-15 age division will play from the same tees as the Boys 16-18 age division unless The Committee deems it necessary to move up to the Middle tees based on the difficulty of the course. The junior that accumulates the most points in his/ her events plus the MAPGA Junior Tour Championship will be awarded the "Player of the Year" for his/her respective age division.

NOTE: A junior may "declare up" to a higher age division if he/she desires; however, once a junior has declared up, he/she **MAY NOT** return to his/her age division for the remainder of the season.

Player of the Year Point System

Points will be awarded within each age division to all MAPGA Junior Tour events as follows:

1st Place 100 pts.
2nd Place 80 pts.
3rd Place 60 pts.
4th Place 50 pts.
5th Place 40 pts.
6th Place 30 pts.
7th Place 25 pts.
8th Place 20 pts.
9th Place 15 pts.
10th Place 10 pts.

Points will be divided if there is a tie. Points will be increased during the MAPGA Junior Tour Championship.

Playoff Procedure

All ties for first, second or third place in each age division will be decided by a scorecard play-off using the USGA recommended method (2016-2017) USGA Rules of Golf Appendix 1, Page 111-112). MAPGA Player of the Year points will be shared among the players.

Rules Violations and Cheating

Rules violations will be administered by the on-site tournament officials and as prescribed by the USGA Rules of Golf, Junior Golf Director, and MAPGA Executive Director. Cheating will **NOT** be tolerated. If a player suspects another of violating a rule of golf or cheating, the player should seek a rules official as soon as possible to handle the situation. Cheating will result in immediate disqualification from the MAPGA Junior Tour with no refund. The player will forfeit all remaining entry fees and also incur a one-year suspension from all Middle Atlantic PGA sanctioned events.

**MAPGA Junior Tour
Championship
\$75 for 36 holes & \$40 for 18 ~
Invitation Only**

The MAPGA Junior Tour Championship is a year-end invitational tournament for those junior golfers who have qualified based on the following formulas:

Boys 16-18 Top 12 from point list
Boys 14-15 Top 12 from point list
Boys 12-13 Top 8 from point list
Boys 10-11 Top 8 from point list
Girls 15-18 Top 6 from point list
Girls 12-14 Top 6 from point list
Girls 10-11 Top 4 based on avg. score vs. par*.

The 2016 event will be *Thurs. & Friday, August 11th & 12th Musket Ridge Golf Club in Myersville, MD.* Golf Cart rental is available at this event only for all parents.

*Due to the low number of participants in the Girls 10-11 age division, the 4 girls with the lowest average score in Relation to par will qualify. The average score will also be used to determine the Girls 10-11 Player of the Year

Keeping Score

The USGA Rules of Golf Rule 6-6a states:

“After each hole the marker should check the score with the competitor and record it. On completion of the round the marker shall sign the card and hand it to the competitor.”

Rule 6-6d states:

“The competitor is responsible for the Correctness of the score recorded for each hole on his card. If he returns a score for any hole lower than actually taken, he shall be disqualified. If he returns a score for any hole higher than actually taken, the score as returned shall stand.”

**DO NOT JUST LOOK
AT THE TOTAL SCORE**

Be sure that the score for each hole is correct. Check your hole-by-hole score, not just the total score or how many over par you think you should be!

FAQ's

Q: Will golf carts be available for spectators?

A: Spectator carts will be allowed as long as the host facility allows them.

Q: As a parent, am I able to advise my child during play?

A : No. “Advice” is any counsel or suggestion which could influence the player in determining his/her play, the choice of club, or the method of making a stroke. Giving advice is a breach of USGA Rule 8 located on pages 33 & 34 of the 2015-2016 USGA Rules of Golf booklet.

Q: If I have a birthday during the tournament season, in which age group do I participate?

A : Your age on August 11, 2016 will determine the age division in which you will participate during the entire 2016 MAPGA Junior Tour season

Q: If an event is cancelled, will I be entered into another event?

A: Each situation will be decided on an individual basis. Your placement into an alternate event will be on a space-available basis.

Q : If I withdraw from a tournament after the deadline do I receive a refund?

A: No. However, it may be possible to enter you into a different event on a space-available basis. Refund requests due to medical reasons or other extenuating circumstances will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

Q: Where and when can I find out my tee time?

A : Tee times will be posted on the website and emailed to participants approximately one week prior to each event.