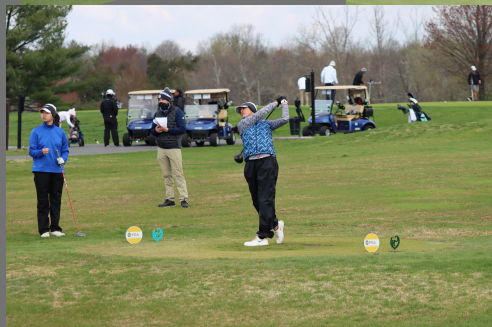




MIDDLE ATLANTIC *Junior Golf* TOUR HANDBOOK



2021

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MIDDLE ATLANTIC PGA JUNIOR GOLF

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OFFICE HOURS

Mon-Fri 8:30 am- 5pm (excluding holidays)

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9 Hole Divisions

Mini Mulligans

The Mini Mulligans is for junior golfers ages 7 to 10 who want to gain experience with tournament golf in a friendly and competitive environment. The tour uses a modified set of rules to make the game fun for young players. Medals are awarded for the top 3 finishers in each age group.

Intro Tour

The introductory tour is for junior golfers who want to gain experience with tournaments, with longer yardages than Mini Mulligans, and geared towards players ages 9-14 who want to start playing competitively. Medals are awarded for the Top 3 finishers in each division. There is a Tour Championship at the end of the season open to players that win a medal during the season.

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9 Hole Tour

Membership \$60

Mini Mulligans 9 Hole Events-\$35 Recommended Average- Any	Intro Tour 9 Hole Events-\$35 Recommended Average- 50 or Better
<u>Coed 7-8 Division</u> Distance:1,400-1,700 yards	<u>Boys 9-14 Division</u> Distance: 2,300-2,700 yards
<u>Coed 9-10 Division</u> Distance:1,400-1,700 yards	<u>Girls 9-14 Division</u> Distance:1,900-2,300 yards

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18 and 36 Hole Divisions

Patriot Division

This is the division for players that are relatively new golfers to 18 and 36 hole events that want to compete in events with other juniors of similar skill levels. With more than 40 events in Maryland and Virginia at some of the region's best courses, this is a tour that is loads of fun and offers great competition.

Championship Division (13-15 and 16-18)

This division is for advanced players looking to compete at the highest level. The yardages will be longer than the Patriot Tour and there will be 18 and 36 hole events. All of the results from the 16 hole events will be listed on Junior Golf Scoreboard.

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MAPGA Junior Tour

Membership \$120

Patriot Division Ages 9-18 18 Hole Events - \$65	Championship Division 18 Hole Events -\$65 36 Hole Events-\$130+
<u>Boys Division</u> Distance:5,500-5,900 yards Recommended Average- 85 or above	<u>Boys 16-18 Division</u> Distance:6,400-6,900 yards Recommended Average- 82 or below
<u>Girls Division</u> Distance:4,900-5,300 yards Recommended Average- 88 or above	<u>Boys 13-15 Division</u> Distance:6,100-6,600 yards Recommended Average- 84 or below
Three overlapping hexagonal logos. The top one is red and yellow with "Patriot Division" and "Junior Golf". The middle one is blue and yellow with "Championship Division" and "PGA". The bottom one is blue and yellow with "Girls Division" and "PGA".	<u>Girls 16-18 Division</u> Distance:5,600-6,000 yards Recommended Average- 87 or below
	<u>Girls 13-15 Division</u> Distance:5,400-6,000 yards Recommended Average- 87 or below

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Player of the Year Points System

- Points are awarded to players who compete in and finish in a ranked event during the 2021 Junior Tour season. These points count towards POY standings and will be cumulative as the season progresses.
- Base points are established in reverse order based on the field size.
- The total field size determines the base point value the first-place finisher receives.
- Points are then distributed in 1-point decreasing increments to each player
- The overall winner also receives 5 additional points

For example, an event has 10 players in one division. The base points for that division will be distributed as follows:

1st Place: $10+5 = 15$ points

2nd Place: 9 points

3rd Place: 8 points

4th Place: 7 points

5th Place: 6 points

6th Place: 5 points

7th Place: 4 points

8th Place: 3 points

9th Place: 2 points

10th Place: 1 point

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POY Continued - Event Multiplier

The corresponding base points are then multiplied by the “event multiplier” before being awarded. The event multipliers for all ranked events are as follows:

Junior Tour "Classic" Events	1x Multiplier
Junior Tour "Open" Events	2x Multiplier
Invitational/Memorial/ Championship	3x Multiplier
Junior Tour Championship	5x Multiplier

What is the scoring differential?

Scoring differential is the difference between the player's overall ranked-event scoring average and the average course rating of competitions played.

The differential is a representation of a player's skill in relation to the course difficulty.

For example, a player competes in the following three ranked events:

Event One: Player scores 75 and the course rating is 69.6

Event Two: Player scores 78 and the course rating is 70.2

Event Three: Player scores 81 and the course rating is 72

The player's scoring average is 78 and course rating average is 70.6. Therefore, the player's scoring differential is 7.4.

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What is the purpose of the MAPGA Junior Tour Rankings?

A player's ranking is one criterium that may be used to determine eligibility for invitation-only events and postseason honors.

How are the rankings determined?

Each player is ranked on the two criteria (total points earned and tournament scoring differential) separately. These ranks are then weighted, total points earned (39%) and tournament scoring differential (61%), to determine the final ranking position for each player.

What events are NOT being used?

Capital Cup qualifiers, Non-Junior Tour Events, MAPGA Championship.

Who can earn points?

Anyone who competes and finishes a ranked event.

Is there an event minimum/maximum?

No. There is not an event minimum to be included in the rankings. However, we accumulate the best 5 scores at the completion of the season that count towards the rankings.

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Do you have to be a MAPGA Junior Tour member to be included in the rankings?

Yes. However, non-members can earn and accumulate points and will appear in the rankings if they become a member during the 2021 season.

Do you have to be a MAPGA Junior Tour member to earn points?

No. Non-members can earn and accumulate points. However, they will not be eligible for invitation-only events or postseason honors.

If I play in an event as a non-member and then register for membership will I retain my points?

Yes. Points earned by non-members will be retained and added to points accumulated as a member.

What is a course rating?

The course rating is the USGA's mark that indicates the playing difficulty of a course for a scratch golfer under normal course and weather conditions.

What about ties for points earned?

All ties for points will be awarded at the value of position finish except when hole-by-hole playoffs are conducted for awarded positions.

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Tour Championships

Jr Tour Championship (Patriot & Championship Divisions)
August 2nd and 3rd - Belmont Country Club

9 Hole Championships (Mini Mulligans & Intro Tour)
Location and date: TBD

Eligibility

Place On Points List

Champ Boys 16-18	Top 12
Champ Boys 13-15	Top 9
Champ Girls 16-18	Top 12
Champ Girls 13-15	Top 12
Patriot Boys	Top 9
Patriot Girls	Top 10
Intro Tour	Top 8
Mini Mulligans	All Medalists
	All Medalists

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Playoff Pcedure

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. 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.

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Care for the Golf Course

All players are expected to maintain the golf course by repairing ball marks, raking bunkers, replacing the golf course 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 **NOT** be used outside of using MAPGA Jr. Golf App . Emergency use of a cellular phone may be permitted at the discretion of the on-site rules committee. Spectators are encouraged to limit the use of cellphone activity while on the course.

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Eligibility

The MAPGA Junior Tour is open to boys and girls ages 7-18 as of August 17th, 2021. 18-year old's 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 850 paid applications.**

Deadlines

Membership registration will close when 850 members have joined the tour. Tournament registrations will close 5 days prior to the event at 11:59pm on the last day of registration or when the event reaches maximum capacity (70-90 players depending on venue) whichever occurs first.

Entry Procedure

Juniors may sign up for a Membership now. Entries will only be accepted online through the MAPGA website this year. Starting February 1st at 12:00am Juniors are eligible to sign up for tournaments (there is no event limit). The first 850 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 *excluding invitationals or championship events*. 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 re-fuse or reject any entry, at any time.



Event Registration Limit

There is no limit on initial event registration. In order to make sure all members have a chance at registering for the most popular events, players may only register for a maximum of 5 Junior tour events until March 1st, at which time there will no longer be any limit, and players may sign up for as many additional events as they wish. Events that will not count towards the 5 event limit:

- **All events before June 16th and after August 13th**
- **All Junior PGA qualifiers and the Middle Atlantic Junior PGA Championship *This includes the events that have a Junior PGA as a qualifier (add-on)**

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Tournament Information

All juniors are expected to abide by the Rules of Golf and the 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. Otherwise, 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.**

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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 facility for their policy on practice rounds.

Caddies and/or Carts

Caddies and/or carts will not be permitted (except for 9 hole divisions) at any MAPGA Junior Tour 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 are required to complete the caddie quiz and pay the \$20 caddie registration fee.

***Caddies may be permitted during certain two-day events
please check tournament information page for more info.***

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/ tournament committee 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.

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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

- T-shirts and tank tops are not acceptable.
- Blue jeans or cutoffs are not acceptable.
- Shirts must remain tucked in at all times.
- During tournaments all participants must wear close-toed shoes

Conduct

- Any conduct that is detrimental to the MAPGA Junior Tour will not be tolerated.
- No club throwing.
- No abusive language or profanity.
- No use of any tobacco products.
- No drug use.
- No gambling.
- 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.**

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Spectators COVID-19 Restrictions

Spectators are welcome and encouraged to attend tournaments. Rules have been modified due to COVID-19 precautions.

- **There is a (2 spectator) per junior limit.**
- **Spectator carts will be allowed if approved by host facility.**
- Carts MUST remain on cart path at all times! NO EXCEPTIONS!
- Spectators must stay in the rough or on the cart path and at least 30 yards away from the players.
- Spectators are allowed to carry water, umbrellas, jackets, towels, and food for the players.
- 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 fo this Policy

First Offense: Warning.

Second Offense: Two-Stroke Penalty.

Third Offense: Disqualification.

- Spectators shall not carry on conversations with players. This action could be construed as **ADVICE**. Players may be penal-ized for this action.

This is not to be confused with distributing food, drink, additional clothing, and or medication to the player.

- Spectators may not carry a player's golf bag and/or clubs.

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FAQ's

Q: Can I change divisions?

A: Yes, you may switch divisions once during the season if you feel your current division is not correct for your current skill level, whether the division is not challenging enough or too easy. Points will then be reset.

Q: Will golf carts be available for spectators?

A: Spectators carts will be allowed as long as the host facility permits 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 Rules.

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 even will be on a space-available basis.

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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 can I find out my tee time?

A: Tee times will be posted on the website and emailed to participants approximately 5 days prior each event.

Q: Which events count towards the Tour Championship / POY?

A: Only summer Junior Tour events count towards POY points.

Q: In the Championship Division, do the 36 hole events count for more POY points than the 18 hole events?

A: Each summer Junior Tour event, regardless if it is 18 or 36 holes, uses the same points structure outlined on page 7. Therefore, the 36 hole events do not have additional points associated with them.

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Q: In what events may the player have a caddie, and who may caddie for them?

A: Players may have anyone that has passed the caddie quiz caddie for them in 9 hole events (Mini Mulligans and Intro Tour).

For further questions please contact
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