

Welcome to The North Florida Junior Golf Foundation



# THE PREMIER JUNIOR TOUR



2024-2025 SEASON

100



## Player Handbook

*Last Updated: December 6, 2024*



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## **Who we are:**

North Florida Junior Golf Foundation creates competitive, fun, and valuable playing opportunities for junior golfers ages 7-19 by operating premier golf tournaments and programs throughout the year.

## **The Mission.....**

To provide junior golfers with access to premier golf competitions, and programs that teach them the values of the game.

## **The Vision.....**

To make a positive impact on junior golfers by running high-quality events and creating a culture that challenges their skillsets and encourages them at every step of their journey.

## **The Values.....**

NFJG strives to help promote and develop the following values within every member who participates in an event or program:

- Honesty
- Commitment
- Responsibility
- Sportsmanship
- Confidence
- Respect
- Communication
- Character



# 2024/2025 Tournament Season

The **NFJG Foundation (NFJGF)** will conduct premier tournaments consisting of a minimum of 24 one/two-day events. The tournament schedule will include the “**Tournament Series**” (**TS**) (1-day events) broken down by skill divisions called the “**Elite Tour**”; the “**Rising Tour**”, “**Futures Tour**” and the “**Foundation Tour**” for our beginner core. The schedule will also include the “**Junior Players Tour**” events (2-day events) along with additional specialty events within the North Florida area.

**The season schedule will be split into 3 time periods, Fall (Oct-Jan), Spring (Feb-Apr) and Summer (May-Aug).** Each series will have a minimum of eight events. Specialty formats will be added to the schedule as available. All events are open to **NFJGF** members in good standing and guests when space is available. The tournament season runs from September 1 to August 31, each competitive cycle. Guests are always welcome and may play in and experience one tour event without becoming an NFJGF Member (space available). Membership is required for any future events unless approved by the NFJGF Executive Director (ED). However, Guests will pay a higher entry fee.

The player competition is divided into five tours with corresponding age divisions to provide a more competitive environment for junior players within their skill set. Below are general guidelines for each tour where the yardage and difficulty are adjusted based on skill level and scoring. **Age levels and age groups are subject to change based on membership demographics and player skill level. Divisions could be split or combined at the Executive Directors discretion.**

<b>NORTH FLORIDA JUNIOR GOLF FOUNDATION</b>						
<b>NORTH FLORIDA JUNIOR GOLF - TOUR REQUIREMENTS</b>						
	<b>FOUNDATION TOUR</b>	<b>FUTURES TOUR</b>	<b>RISING TOUR</b>	<b>ELITE TOUR</b>	<b>JUNIOR PLAYERS TOUR</b>	
<b>Scoring Average</b>	60 and under	110 and under	Boys 85-110 Girls 90-120	Boys 84 and under Girls 89 and under	Boys 94 and under Girls 100 and under	
<b>Yardage</b>	2300-3000	5200-6200	Boys 5800-7000 Girls 4600-6000	Boys 5800-7000 Girls 4600-6000	Boys 5800-7000 Girls 4600-6000	
<b>Age Division</b>	Boys/Girls 7-15	Boys/Girls 10-12	Boys 13-19	Boys 13-19	Boys 13-19	
<b>Age Division</b>			Girls 13-19	Girls 13-19	Girls 13-19	

## The Foundation Tour:

The Foundation Tour Is the **NFJGF’s** nine-hole beginners Tour. This is a combined boys and girls division ages 7-15.

The **Foundation Tour** will be reserved for those players who have been approved for tournament play and who have a scoring average of 60 and below. A player winning more than three times within a single series **could** automatically be moved to a higher-level Tour (see **CHANGING DIVISIONS**). The **NFJGF** Executive Director reserves the right to reassign a player to another Tour at any time.

On the Foundation Tour caddies are permitted regardless of age. (Refer to handbook for rules and regulations) Players will be closely monitored by **NFJG TOUR** staff and officials. Every effort will be made to accommodate serious junior players under the age of seven. Players under the age of seven may be considered for placement on the Foundation Tour only. It is at the sole discretion of the **NFJGF** Executive Director. **Foundation Tour event fees are normally \$55 with early registration. After the early registration deadline entry fees will be \$65.00 per event.**

### AGE DIVISION

Foundation (7-15) (younger if approved by ED)

### YARDAGE TOTAL

2300-3000

### SCORE AVERAGE

60 and below.

**NFJGF PREP TOUR:** Before acceptance into the Foundation Tour players 13 years of age and younger must complete the NFJG PREPTOUR certification and be evaluated and approved by the lead instructor.

- Prep Tour classes will be held prior to the start of the season, quarterly prior to the new series start, and on tournament days at the host facility. The cost for the certification class is \$30.00 per session.
- Players will be evaluated to determine TOUR readiness. Evaluations will include swing performance, rules of golf and course management evaluation.
- Players who are not certified for TOUR status will be offered private or group instruction and will be introduced to the rules of golf and competitive play, instructed on the swing, etiquette of the game and instructed on other skills necessary to move up to NFJG TOUR Status.
- Summer Camps and Clinics are also available for certification. Available dates are listed on the website.

## **The Futures Tour (fTour)**

The Futures Tour is an 18-hole competitive playing division containing one age group, Boys and Girls ages 10-12. The division may be split or combined into additional age/gender divisions based on player demographics. Players on the **fTour** play yardages from 5200-6200 yards depending on their age and gender group. Scoring averages for the **fTour** is 110 and below.

TS event fees are normally \$65 with early registration. After the early registration deadline entry fees will be \$75.00 per event.

<u>AGE DIVISION</u>	<u>YARDAGE TOTAL</u>	<u>SCORE AVERAGE</u>
Boys/Girls 10-12	5200-6200	110 and Under

**Rising Tour (rTour)**: The Rising Tour is an 18-hole competitive playing division containing divisions with two age groups, Boys 13-19 and Girls 13-19. The divisions may be split or combined into additional age divisions based on player demographics.

Players on the **rTour** play yardages from 4600 to 7000 yards depending on their age and gender group. Scoring averages for the **rTour** range from 85 to 110 for boys and 90 to 120 for girls.

**A player winning three times in a single series on the rTour (fall or Spring series) may be moved to the eTour.** The NFJGF Executive Director reserves the right to reassign a player to another Tour or set age divisions based on tournament results at any time during the season.

TS event fees are normally \$65 with early registration. After the early registration deadline entry fees will be \$75.00 per event.

**Rising Tour (rTour) Guidelines:** To be competitive, players in this division must meet the following requirements and skills:

<u>AGE DIVISION</u>	<u>YARDAGE TOTAL</u>	<u>SCORE AVERAGE</u>
Boys 13-19	5800-7000	85-110
Girls 13-19	4600-6000	90-120

**Elite Tour (eTour)**: The Elite Tour is an 18-hole competitive playing division containing two age groups, Boys 13-19 and Girls 13-19. The divisions may be split or combined into different age divisions based on player demographics. Players on the **eTour** play yardages from 4800 - 7000 yards depending on their gender and age group. Scoring averages for the **eTour** are described below. **NFJGF Executive Director reserves the right to reassign a player to another Tour when appropriate.**

TS event fees are normally \$65 with early registration. After the early registration deadline entry fees will be \$75.00 per event.

**Elite Tour (eTour) Guidelines:** To be competitive, players in this division must meet the following requirements and skills:

<u>AGE DIVISION</u>	<u>YARDAGE TOTAL</u>	<u>SCORE AVERAGE</u>
Boys 13-19	5800-7000	84 and Under
Girls 13-19	4600-6000	89 and Under (eligibility (under 12) requires ED's approval)

## THE JUNIOR PLAYER'S TOUR (JPT)

The Junior Players Tour consists of two-day events open to all eligible members and to guests when space is available. Players from all TOUR may compete on the Junior Player tour. **Age divisions are Boys 13–19, and Girls 13-19.** Age divisions may be flighted or split based on the number of participants, but normally will not be. Younger players may participate but players must be approved by the Tournament Operations Manager or Executive Director and must play yardages set for the competition.

**JPT** events are separate and have separate application and entry fees (\$145 - \$160) with early registration. After an early registration deadline, the fees are normally \$160-\$175.00. Age at the time of the event will be used to determine your age group.

Participants may earn exemptions to the **Florida Junior Tour (FJT)** and receive Performance Based Entry Stars to **American Junior Golf Association (AJGA)** events, if tournament requirements are met. In addition, other higher-level golf opportunities called "NFJGTour Incentives" will be awarded. The **Florida Junior Tour (FJT) STEP** program was designed to forge an easier pathway through the various levels of junior golf. This program is a strong reason to support the **JPT** as they are local events played on our best courses in the area. Exemptions may be earned by the winner in all 18-hole age divisions.

**Players under the age of 13 will not receive FJT exemption or AJGA PBE Stars.**

Double "Player of the Year" Points are awarded in all our **JPT** events. These points will be awarded based on the results of the OVERALL in each age division and will count towards the **JUNIOR PLAYERS AWARD**, formally the TOP HONOR AWARD and the **Player of the Year Award**. (Please see awards on page 6.)

Note: FJT exemptions may be awarded to champions of the Boys and Girls Divisions 13 years of age and up.

**NOTE: NON-MEMBERS, ON A SPACE AVAILABLE BASIS WILL BE PERMITTED TO PARTICIPATE IN SOME NFJG EVENTS. NON-MEMBERS WILL NOT EARN PLAYER OF THE YEAR POINTS UNLESS BECOMING A MEMBER AFTER THE EVENT, THEN POINTS WILL BE ACCEPTED. ENTRIES WILL BE AT THE SOLE DISCRETION OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR. THE ENTRY FEE FOR NON-MEMBERS WILL BE AT AN INCREASED PRICE OVER THE REGULAR POSTED ENTRY FEE FOR MEMBERS.**

## TEE IT UP PROGRAM/PREPTOUR (Camps)

This is a developmental program conducted in the months of June and July of each year designed to prepare the junior golfer for competitive course play. The camps are eight hours a day, four days a week teaching Juniors aged 7 to 15 the golf swing, the rules of golf, etiquette, scoring, golf course management, specialty shots, bunker play, different lies, club choices etc. Tee It Up will also emphasize integrity, respect, and responsibilities for the game of golf. The program has an adult to junior ratio of 1:5. Juniors must have had some golf clinic instruction and be able to hit the ball at least 75 yards. All juniors will be pre-certified to be in the program by the TEE IT UP Coordinator or approved by the Executive Director. **PREPTOUR classes** for tour certification are also conducted prior to the season and once a quarter prior to the new series. Please review the "Clinic Schedule" found under PLAY NFJG – Camps, Clinics and Lessons".

## SPECIAL AWARDS/EVENTS

**TOURNAMENT SERIES WINNERS (TSW):** Will be determined by the total number of points earned for the **entire Tournament Series**. **NOTE:** There are three different Tournament Series (fall, spring, and Summer) in the different age groups/divisions.

**JUNIOR PLAYERS AWARD:** This award is presented to the player who earned the most player of the year points from all 2-day "**Florida Junior Players Tour**" events played.

**PLAYER OF THE YEAR (POY)** Player of the Year will be determined by the combined total number of points earned for the **entire season** in the different age groups/divisions. Points for this award will include points from each TOURNAMENT SERIES and from all JPT events.

**THE JACK NICKLAUS AWARD:** Given by the North Florida Junior Golf Foundation and TOUR and presented by the Jacksonville Area Golf Association. The Jack Nicklaus Award will be given annually at the annual NFJG Foundation Banquet and Awards Dinner. This award was awarded for the first time in 2017. The Jack Nicklaus Award is given to the player in each age group (boys and girls) who exemplifies the spirit of the game by his/her attitude, demeanor and whose values align with the character, sportsmanship, dedication, and respect for fellow players as Mr. Nicklaus would require.

**VARDON TROPHY AWARD:** A combination of the scoring from all returned scores of 18-holes (**over entire season**) will be used to determine the low scoring average for each age division. Each age division's winner will be awarded prizes and receive special recognition at the end of the year Awards Banquet. Elite Tour, Rising Tour Players must have competed in 20 rounds of golf to be eligible. Futures Tour 12 18-hole rounds and Foundation Tour must have competed in 12 9-hole rounds.

**THE NFJG TOUR BIRDIE AWARD:** Is an annual award presented to the birdie leader in each of the respective divisions. This award is presented at the Annual Awards Banquet. A minimum of 10 competitive events must be played to receive this award.

**TOUR CHAMPIONSHIP: Winners of any 1 or 2-day event** automatically receive an invitation to play in this event. Typically, the top 7-10 players in each age division will also be invited to participate. Depending on the size of the age division this number could increase or decrease. Invitations will be at the discretion of the Executive Director.

**SPECIAL EVENTS:** The special events are open to all members in good standing. The special events are:

- **Florida Coast Junior Ryder Cup**
- **FSGA Team Championship** (2-4 teams picked by the NFIGTOUR Staff)
- **Holiday Junior Team Championship/Par-3 Championship**
- **Adult/Junior Championship** (1-3 event per season)
- **Pro/Junior Championship** – This event will be coordinated by the Northern Chapter PGA
- **NFJG Tour Championship** (field determined by points list and event winners)
- **North Florida Cup Matches**
- **Senior Classic**
- **Tournament of Champions**

## Player of the Year (POY) Points System

The **NFJGTOUR** Players will earn “Player of the Year” points for each competitive event played. The list below presents the breakdown of points a player may receive per event (TS, NFJGT and Overall). Players will be assigned a division based on their age and skill level as identified on pages 4 and 5 above. All points earned by a player will stay with the player in the event of any Level changes. **PLEASE NOTE: Points earned on each tour carry different values (see below). Players with birthdays occurring while in a division will stay in that division until the end of the series.** Players may make a request at any time to the Executive Director to be moved to the next higher division prior to the end of a tournament series.

### POINTS:

Place	Tournament Series Points List				Junior Players Tour	Junior Players Cup Points
	Elite Tour	Rising Tour	Futures Tour	Foundation Tour		
	<i>Boys and Girls</i>	<i>Boys and Girls</i>	<i>(Boys and Girls)</i>	<i>Boys and Girls</i>	<i>eTour and rTour</i>	<i>(Boys 13-19)</i>
1st	800	600	500	450	1600	100
2nd	700	500	450	350	1400	90
3rd	650	450	400	300	1350	80
4th	600	400	350	250	1300	78
5th	550	350	300	225	1250	76
6th	500	300	250	200	1200	74
7th	450	250	200	175	1150	72
8th	400	200	150	150	1100	70
9th	350	150	125	125	1050	68
10th	300	125	100	100	1000	66
11th	250	100	75	75	950	64
12th	200	75	50	50	900	62
13th	150	50	50	50	850	60
14th	125	50	50	50	800	58
15th	100	50	50	50	750	56
16th	75	50	50	50	700	54
17th	50	50	50	50	650	52
18th	50	50	50	50	600	50
19th	50	50	50	50	550	50
20th	50	50	50	50	500	50
21st	50	50	50	50	450	50
22nd	50	50	50	50	400	50
23rd	50	50	50	50	350	50
24th	50	50	50	50	300	50
25th	50	50	50	50	250	50
26th	50	50	50	50	200	50
27th	50	50	50	50	150	50
28th	50	50	50	50	125	50
29th	50	50	50	50	100	50
30th	50	50	50	50	100	50

**Awarding Player of the Year Points:** 100% of the age group at each event will be awarded POY points ending with a minimum of 50 points for one-day events and 100 points for two-day events. Points will be distributed equally among ties except for the first place which will have a tie breaker. Tie breakers may come in the form of an official sudden death play-off or a scorecard play-off in accordance with the USGA Book of Rules. **NOTE: CONTESTS MUST HAVE A MINIMUM OF FIVE (5) PLAYERS TO RECEIVE FULL PLAYER OF THE YEAR POINTS. CONTESTS WITH LESS THAN FIVE PLAYERS WILL RECEIVE 100 PARTICIPATION POINTS.**

**Tournament Series** points (1-day) will be combined for a grand total at the end of each tournament series (Fall, Spring and Summer) to determine Tournament Series Winners.



**Junior Player Tour (JPT)** event points are doubled in value and will be awarded to all players for each 2-day event and combined at the end of the season to determine the “**Junior Players Award**” for each age division. Points will be awarded as a group to the following age divisions. Boys/Girls 10-12, Boys 13-19, and Girls 13-19. The Foundation Division will only be awarded Tournament Series Points and will only play on the first day of any 2-day event, when scheduled. **Overall points** will be used as bonus points on select events.

## **TS + NFJPT = Total Player of Year Points**

### **Note:**

- A minimum of TEN (10) events must be played to be eligible for Player of the Year.
- A minimum of three (3) events must be played within the series to be eligible for any of the three Tournament Series Winner.
- A minimum of three (3) events must be played to be eligible for the NFJG TOP Honor Award.
- Players who transfer from one division to another MUST compete in a minimum of three (3) events in the new division to be eligible for awards in the newly assigned division. Previous division points will stand as is.

### **Florida Junior Tour Exemption Policy**



The Executive Director of the North Florida Junior Tour shall award FJT Tour exception to deserving players utilizing the established guidelines listed below. The Executive Director reserves the right to modify the distribution based on special circumstances.

The following standards for exemptions to a **Florida Junior Tour (FJT)** are:

- Have a minimum field of eight players in the division of play.
- Before awarding an FJT exemption a player must have played in three (3) NFJG TOUR events in the past 24 months.
- Be a winner of the Elite Tour Boys and post a score of 78 or better.
- Be a winner of the Elite Tour Girls Division and post a score of 78 or better.
- Be an overall winner of the Junior Players Tour in Boys or Girls 13-18 Division (36-hole) and post a two-day score of 160 or better.

**\*\* Exceptions for “conditions of play” may be considered for modifying the above scoring guidelines.**

## American Junior Golf Association (AJGA) Performance Based Entry Policy



AJGA Performance Based Entry (PBE) Stars are awarded only during selected two-day events open to members 11-18 years of age. The PBE Stars are awarded to the NFJG TOUR from the American Junior Golf Association on an annual basis, per event. The number of PBE Stars awarded for each age group is determined from the number of players who played the year prior. When awarded, these PBE Stars are guaranteed.

In any given event, should a division meet the AJGA player's requirements the Executive Director will request PBE Star status for NFJG TOUR Players.

Players will compete in their respective age and gender divisions. Age divisions are listed below. AJGA Performance Based Entry exemptions may be presented to boys and girls if the following AJGA criteria is met:

- Fields must meet the following criteria:
  - Girls (11-14) – 12
  - Girls (12-18) – 18
  - Boys (11-14) - 20
  - Boys (12-18) – 48 when age groups are combined players must play the same tee.
  
- Divisions for any event to be recognized must meet the minimum yardages below:
  - Girls 11-14 Minimum yardage of 5,000
  - Girls 12-18 Minimum yardage of 5,600
  - Boys 11-14 Minimum yardage of 5,700
  - Boys 12-18 Minimum yardage of 6,600

**Note:** If older and younger divisions play from the same yardage, divisions will be combined to determine PBE status.

# MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

The NFJGTOUR Season runs from September 1, 2024 to August 31, 2025

**Membership fee is \$200.00 for each season.**

Please see membership forms, code of conduct, and proof of age and waiver of liability forms under the “**BECOME A MEMBER**” tab on the website at [www.nfjg.org](http://www.nfjg.org)

- You may register for events online after you become an approved member.

## ELIGIBILITY

The NFJGF conducts programs and special events for juniors and is open to all young men and women ages 7 to 19 (and younger approved by the Executive Director) actively enrolled in school, certified home school, graduated high school and attending college.

## EVALUATIONS:

All new members 13 years of age and younger must be evaluated by a NFJGTOUR staff via tournament day evaluation or the NFJGF PREPTOUR.

- Recommendations provided by local PGA/LPGA Professionals may be accepted to determine player certification.

**The Executive Director reserves the right to contact any PGA/LPGA Professional regarding the playing ability of any applicant desiring NFJG TOUR Status.**

## Benefits of membership include:

- A privilege to compete on some of the best golf courses in North Florida.
- Potential Invite to the annual Awards Golf Outing at TPC Sawgrass -Stadium Course, Banquet and Dinner
- Potential invite to the “Florida Coast Junior Ryder Cup” and FJT Team Championships
- Reduced tournament entry fees throughout the season
- Higher level golf opportunities
- Various Tee Gifts Throughout the season
- NFJGTOUR Bag Tag

**NOTE: Membership fees are non-refundable.**

## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

NFJGF offers a limited number of exceptions to those players whose families may need financial help. Requests for financial exemptions must be submitted with the player's application. All information submitted as part of the financial request will be considered confidential. Contact the Executive Director direct at [jackaschenbach@pga.com](mailto:jackaschenbach@pga.com)

## TOURNAMENT REGISTRATION DEADLINES and WITHDRAWALS

All events have an open and close date for registering and there is a penalty for withdrawing from an event (\$15.00-\$25.00).

**Late Entry Fee:** Late entry to any event is based on a space available basis. A \$25.00 late entry fee will be assessed to any entry after an initial registration deadline of an event. This will be strictly enforced. The normal deadline is the Tuesday before the tournament weekend at 8:00 PM. All no-shows are non-refundable.

Registration is done at [www.nfjg.org](http://www.nfjg.org) or on player profile.

### Withdrawing from an Event:

**If a player needs to withdraw from an event, they must notify the Executive Director. Failure to do so prior to the 72-hour deadline will result in forfeiture of the entry fee and may result in TOUR suspension.**

**Cancellation Policy** – Seventy-two-hour cancellation policy is in effect and is STRICTLY ENFORCED. For event cancellations, Players must contact the NFJG Executive Director by phone (904) 868-9535 three days prior to the tournament start or If unable to make phone contact by email to the [jackaschenbach@pga.com](mailto:jackaschenbach@pga.com) or to [jodyclark11@outlook.com](mailto:jodyclark11@outlook.com).

After 72 hours a full entry fee will be forfeited. This policy will be strictly enforced.

Emergency cancellations will be considered on a case-by-case basis when submitted in writing and accompanied with justifying documentation.

**No Show Policy:** Players who have registered for an event and do not show up at the event without having given prior notification to the Executive Director or Tournament Coordinator will be considered a "No Show". If you are listed on the tee sheet as a no show you are subject to suspension for the following event. You must request to be reinstated in writing, if suspended.

## PAYMENTS & REFUNDS

All payments are received and refunded through [www.nfjg.org](http://www.nfjg.org)

**PROCESSING FEES:** Processing fees of \$15.00-25.00 for all refunds apply unless otherwise indicated on the tournament website.

**Transfers of tournaments:** Tournament transfers without penalty can be arranged for players who register for an event but find out they are unable to play due to various circumstances. **The ED or Tournament Operations Manager must know this prior to the 72-hour cancellation restriction taking effect. After 72 hours-cancellation policy is strictly enforced.**

**LATE FEES:** Late fees are non-refundable and are the penalty for registering after the deadline. If transferring, this fee will be transferred to the new event. If the tournament fee is refunded, the amount will be minus the late fee plus processing fee.

**Membership fees or late fees are non-refundable.**

# TOURNAMENT POLICIES AND GUIDELINES

## Practice Rounds & Driving Range:

Arrangements have **not** been made for practice rounds (unless stipulated) at any of the tournament sites. Some of the courses are open to the public; therefore, you may arrange a practice round. You may mention that you are a member of the **NFJGTOUR**, and some courses may allow you to play at a discount. Do not expect a discount or ask for a discount – it is not proper etiquette. Driving Range privileges are for the tournament day only.

## Tee Times:

Tee Times will be emailed to all players and or posted on the website at [www.nfjg.org](http://www.nfjg.org) prior to each event. Typically, 72 hours prior to the event day. Players who do not have access to the internet may contact the Executive Director or the host club for tee time information two days prior to the event. ***The host courses do not prepare and cannot change tee times; therefore, please do not make a request to them.***

## BREAKING TIES

If time permits, all ties for 1<sup>st</sup> place will be played off starting on holes #1 or #10, if possible. All other ties will be determined by a scorecard play-off as defined below.

In the event of ties, whether for 18- or 36-hole events and time does not permit for a playoff, USGA Scorecard guidelines will be used. NFJGTOUR uses the last nine total (holes 10-18 regardless of starting hole), last six-hole total (holes 13-18), last three-hole total (holes 16-18), the 18<sup>th</sup> hole and finally the coin toss to break ties.

If multiple players tie, play-off tie breakers will be used to determine 1<sup>st</sup> place, and a scorecard tie breaker will be used to determine 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place if necessary. Any other ties will be split. Tie breakers will determine who will receive an award at the end of the event. Awards are based on field size.

In the case of 9-hole events if a tie exists the tie breaker will be- last 6 holes, last 3 holes, 9th/18th hole and finally a coin toss.

## CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION

**The Rules of the United States Golf Association govern play, including local rules on the Notice to Competitors (Rules Sheet), which is distributed at every event.**

## TOURNAMENT DAY CHECK-IN:

Each player is required to check-in at the registration table at each event. Players are to check-in prior to going to the practice areas each day of an event.

## **ASSISTANCE:**

Unless otherwise permitted by the Committee, players shall not use caddies during a stipulated round. Penalty for Breach of Condition: Disqualification. Range finders are allowed in all events.

## **PULL CARTS:**

Players are permitted to use a pull cart during a stipulated round. **NFJGF** is not responsible for providing such pull carts.

**\*\* NOTE: SOME GOLF COURSES DO NOT PERMIT THE USE OF PULL CARTS.**

## **SUSPENSION OF PLAY FOR DANGEROUS SITUATION:**

Optional Condition as prescribed in Appendix I is in effect. When play has been suspended for a dangerous situation, all practice areas are closed until the committee has declared them open for use. If a player sees lightning or believes they are in danger, he or she may discontinue play and seek shelter.

## **SIGNALS FOR SUSPENSION OF PLAY:**

Suspension for a dangerous situation:

- One prolonged siren or horn note.

## **Resumption of play:**

- Two air horn notes.
- All other types of suspension: Three consecutive air horn notes.

## **RIGHT TO REJECT**

The Executive Director reserves the right to deny or revoke the right of any individual to participate, if in its sole discretion, **NFJGF** determines that the applicant's or participant's presence would impact adversely upon or be detrimental to the image of the Tour in any way, which is to include not only behavior but also score.

## **CODE OF CONDUCT:**

As a member of the **NFJGF** you will have the privilege of visiting some of the finest golf clubs in the North Florida area. TOUR Members, their parents and spectators are expected to conduct themselves as ladies and gentlemen.

## **CONDITIONS OF PLAY:**

Entries are subject to withdrawal at any time (including during the event) by the **NFJG TOUR Committee**. The reason for withdrawing may include improper attire and/or unbecoming conduct. Any person whose entry is accepted shall be subject to the rules and conditions of play set forth by the **NFJG TOUR**.

## **VIOLATIONS ON THE GOLF COURSE:**

Unsportsmanlike conduct includes abusive language (profanity), club throwing, disrespect to volunteers, disrespect to officials or fellow competitors, abuse of the course or facilities, or the use of drugs, alcohol, or tobacco products. **Cell phones and IPODS for normal use are prohibited but may be used for course knowledge and the understanding of USGA and local rules.**

## **CODE OF CONDUCT VIOLATION PENALTIES:**

The game of golf relies on the integrity of the individual to show consideration for other players and behave in a disciplined manner, irrespective of how competitive they may be that day.

### **The NFJGTOUR Tournament Committee, based on severity and frequency of the violation(s), may:**

- Warn the player, or
- Penalize the player with two strokes.
- Disqualify the player from the tournament at which the violation occurs, or
- Depending on the severity of the violation, a tournament disqualification may also result in disqualification from the next tournament(s) for which a player has been accepted.

**NFJGF** via the ED reserves the right to suspend or revoke a player's membership or entries for a serious breach of the **NFJGTOUR** Code of Conduct.

A player's disregard of others is not limited to the current round but may include repeated offenses from tournament to tournament.

### **Examples may include, but are not limited to:**

- Club tossing or throwing.
- Words or phrases (profanity) that may be disrespectful to others.
- Kicking or throwing their bag
- Poor etiquette
- Any unnecessary/intentional damage to the golf course or property

## **ATTIRE**

All attire must also meet host club guidelines, when in doubt, dress traditionally. In addition to this policy:

- Hats/visors must be worn with brim forward; males must remove hat/visor while indoors at host facility.
- Golf shirts must always be worn and tucked in.
- Men's collarless shirts are acceptable when designed for golf.
- Men's shorts must not hang past the knee.
- Women's fashion shirts without a collar are acceptable but should have sleeves. Sleeveless shirts are permitted.
- Women's shorts must be no more than 5" above the knee or the inseam of the shorts must measure at least 5".

## **PROHIBITED ATTIRE**

- Tank tops, T-shirts
- Denim shorts, short shorts, cut-off shorts, gym shorts, jeans
- Attire deemed inappropriate by the NFJG TOUR Committee at any tournament site.

Proper attire is always required at the host facility, including players meetings and cookouts. Questionable attire will be reviewed by the **NFJGTOUR** Tournament Committee. Should a host facility have a stricter dress code, its policy will take precedence. Players in violation will not be allowed to tee off.

**APPEALS:** Any appeal must be made in writing and must be made within two weeks of the occurrence. Send appeals to:

NFJGF Executive Director  
2104 Lady Di Lane  
Jacksonville, FL 32246

## PACE OF PLAY

Up to Four Checkpoints can/will be used. The checkpoints will be listed on the rules sheet. All players in a Group are subject to penalty, but specific players may be addressed individually. During our events players may receive warnings. Each group is responsible for monitoring their own pace of play.

### Allotted Time:

- Standard Time par is 4 hours and 30 minutes.
- 13 minutes for a par 3, 15 minutes for a par 4 and 17 minutes for a par 5.
- Time for ball searches, rulings and walking between Holes is included in the allotted time.

Checkpoints are to be completed in the following amount of Time.

- Hole #'s            4/13   9/18   13/4   18/9
- Time allotted       1:00   2:15   3:15   4:30

### **TIMING:**

A Group's Time begins when its first player is announced off their starting tee. Check-Point Times are measured when the flagstick is replaced in the Hole after all players in the Group have holed out.

### **OUT OF POSITION:**

- First Group: At any time, they exceed the allotted time to play.
- Following Groups: At any time, they exceed the allotted time to play and are more than 14 minutes behind the Group ahead.

Notification: **A group in breach of the pace will be verbally notified by an official.**

### **PENALTY:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Potential breach – Warning
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Potential breach – One-stroke penalty
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Potential breach – Two-stroke penalty
- 4<sup>th</sup> Potential breach – Disqualification

Penalties are added to the Check-Point Hole where the breach occurred.

**PHONES:** Players are authorized to use phones for reviewing tournament/course information, however phone conversations are restricted to rules decisions with staff members and for emergencies situations.



## SPECTATOR GUIDELINES AND POLICIES

### All spectators are to adhere to the following guidelines:

#### Spectators are asked to:

- View play from cart path only or rough areas when there is no cart path, no closer than 30 yards. It is recommended that spectators always walk a minimum of 30 yards in front of the players. Spectators need to “stay up” with the group they are watching. Lagging behind slows play for the entire field.
- Please be courteous to all players and **encourage all players with applause and compliments.**
- Make sure that you are never standing directly behind or in front of any player preparing to hit.
- Keep small children under control.

#### Spectators May:

- Help search for balls when a ball cannot be found or hit in a wooded or penalty area. After finding the ball the spectator must immediately return to the cart path or rough viewing area when there is no cart path.
- When authorized by the NFJGTOUR Staff – transport players to and from the next teeing ground or green.
- Assist in course evacuation due to severe weather.

#### Spectators are not permitted to:

- **Walk down fairway or go onto any green.**
- Talk to or advise players during play as this is a rules violation in accordance with the USGA Rule Book (seeking advice). A player may be assessed a **2-stroke penalty** for each violation of this rule, with a maximum penalty of 4 strokes and/or disqualification.
- Make rulings: Spectators are not officials and should not make rulings on the golf course. Speaking to players, or transportation of players is prohibited (unless previously arranged prior to the start of the event) and could lead to penalties to the competitors.
- Be conscientious when talking with others when players may be preparing to hit.

Please remember that part of the player's experience with **NFJGTOUR** is a learning experience. Therefore, spectators are not allowed to interfere with the assessment of penalties and/or score keeping. If a competitor has a score or ruling question, they should ask for assistance from a tournament official or if a tournament official is not present use the “second ball rule.”

A player may also call the Tournament Operations Manager via phone for a ruling. This number is on the “Tournament Scorecard”.

#### Cell Phones:

Please set your phone on silent ring. If you must make a call, please leave the competitive area. Please keep in mind that some courses do not permit the use of cell phones.

#### Attire:

All spectators should be appropriately dressed. Please refer to the Code of Conduct, Attire section of the Member Handbook. Please act appropriately and be appreciative of the staff and host facility.

Spectator carts may be permitted – please check with the registration at each event.

# Caddie Program

## Foundation Division (7-15).

In this tour caddies are permitted for players in the Foundation and when authorized by the Executive Director. The Executive Director has the authority to eliminate or modify caddie policy at any time.

*In golf, a caddie (or caddy) is the person who carries a player's bag and gives insightful advice and moral support.*

Anyone wishing to caddy for a member of the FOUNDATION TOUR must.

- Be a family member, **18** years of age or older or a non-family member adult, 18 years of age or older approved by the players Parents.
- Confirm they have read this policy and will conform to its contents.
- Acknowledge that they have a good understanding of golf and the basic rules of golf.
- Approved caddies must always wear an NFJG Caddie Bib while on duty. (Picked up at registration and returned to scoreboard)

### POLICIES

- Caddies are permitted to use motorized vehicles (approved by the ED) but are encouraged to walk. Fees will vary from club to club and are not included in the players' entry fees.
- Caddies are allowed to carry/transport players clubs and equipment.
- Players **are not** permitted to ride at any time. EXCEPTION: WHERE ALL THE PLAYERS ARE BEING SHUTTLED DURING THE EVEN or directed to do so by the NFJGTOUR Staff. Penalty: 1<sup>st</sup> offence: 2 shots to competitor. 2<sup>nd</sup> offence: 2 shots to competitor and caddie will be asked to leave the course and/or lose privileges for remainder of season.
- Caddies **are not** permitted to consume alcoholic beverages or smoke while caddying.
- Caddies will be allowed to search for players' balls along with any other players in the group.
- Caddies will be allowed to clean player's golf ball and offer advice. (**Pace of play** strictly enforced)
- An NFJGTOUR staff/rules official will be assigned to the Foundation Rising/Elite Division at each event. This Staff person will oversee all caddie decisions during play.
- Caddies are **NOT ALLOWED** to give golf instruction (showing player how to perform swing/shot) at any time during the round.

**THE INTENT OF THIS PROGRAM IS TO ASSIST AND MENTOR OUR YOUNGER PLAYERS DURING THEIR ROUND OF GOLF. ANY CADDIE BERRATING A PLAYER OR CREATING CONFRONTATIONS WITH SPECTATORS WILL LOSE THEIR CADDIE PRIVILEGES. THIS DECISION WILL BE THE DETERMINATION OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR. CADDIES IN GROUPS ARE EXPECTED TO ASSIST OTHER PLAYERS. THE INTENT IS FOR THE CADDIE TO HELP EVERYONE, NOT JUST FORMING A "PLAYER/CADDIE TEAM" AGAINST EVERYONE ELSE.**

Note: The Executive Director reserves the right to utilize the caddie program during any scheduled event for any or all tour divisions.

# NFJG Scholarship Program

The purpose of the **NFJGF** Scholarship Program is to encourage and promote the attainment of continued education goals for members who have demonstrated a high level of academic achievement during school or college. Applicants for the **NFJGF** Scholarship Program must be members (or past members currently in college) of the **NFJGF**. The involvement or achievement in **NFJGF** tournament programs is not part of the selection criteria.

Applicants must have completed (or plan to complete) high school and must be enrolled (or planning to enroll) as a full-time student. A full-time student is defined as one who is taking 12 or more hours in a course of study leading to a traditional associate (2 year) or baccalaureate (4 year) degree at an accredited college or university located within the United States or considered a full-time student by his/her respective institution.

Please go to the Scholarship portion of the website for details [www.nfjg.org](http://www.nfjg.org).

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