



Greetings Parents and NFJG TOUR Players,

I touched base in September with a similar season opener letter, but my reports indicate that not too many folks opened it, so I thought I would send it out again in a different form of communication.

As you know, our season is fast underway and I hope you're enjoying some great junior golf! My Staff and I are happy to be back on the tournament trail and we're eager to watch our junior players grow throughout the year!

Our season openers are awesome courses and we're blessed to have such great support. I know we have a ton of great golf courses in North Florida, but it's hard to beat the Omni Amelia Island Plantation-Oak Marsh Course, followed by the World Golf Village – King & Bear and Slammer & Squire as our openers. The list goes on and as it does I would like to request one small favor and that is to ask you to do your part (players and parents) by sending notes of thanks and shaking the Pros hand when you can in thanks for their support. It will go a long way and it may be the difference in us returning for future golf.

The Tournament Series schedules are complete. This season we have added **TPC Pete Dye's Valley Course, St. Johns Golf and Country Club, Ponte Vedra Inn and Club and Windzor Parke Golf Club** to the already impressive schedule and hopefully we can add a couple more new courses before the season is over as we do have some open dates in which we could fill.

This season our NFJG TOUR Players will again compete in seven different age divisions based on age, gender and skill level. Our boys and girls will compete individually for the championship in each of the 22 single day and 12 multiple day events called the **Web.com Junior Players TOUR**. Our players will again play on some of the finest golf courses in North Florida and together we'll travel on three road trips, including Daytona, Gainesville and Lake City. We will once again host a PRO-JUNIOR event (this time in March) and two Adult-Junior Championships and hopefully rebuild the North Florida Junior Cup Matches as the year goes on to enjoy a day of competition against central and south Florida. More to follow on that event. Right now I am working with a junior group coming over from Scotland who would like a little competition while they are here. If we get it organized, I'm sure we'll give them a run for their money. I'll keep you informed on that as well.

Our players will compete for the Fall, Spring and Summer Tournament Series Winner Awards, (TSW), Player of the Year Award (POY), earn the Vardon Award for low scoring, and receive the "Birdie Leader" and "Eagle Award". Our members this year will also vote to select the "Sportsperson of the Year" Award now called the Jack Nicklaus Award.

Last season we ended our membership with 316 active members and so far this year we are already up to 170 members before the season even gets heated up. I'm PROUD of the fact that we were able to once again offer a discount on this year's membership fees and I am doubly PROUD that we have not had to raise our tournament entry fees for the past four years. This is all due to our OUTSTANDING PGA Professionals, our wonderful Foundation Partners, special private donors and our supportive event sponsors. Also last year, thanks to the supporting funds we received, we were able to provide many of our players fully paid entry fees to various events totaling more than \$5000.00. We presented tournament trophies and prizes valued at over \$25,000.00 and provided food for our players and our parents at most of our Web.com Junior Tour events valued at nearly \$14,000.00. If funds are available, I would like to do more of the same this year. It's all about the sponsorships and the support!



This season, In addition to all that is going on our players will play for individual medals and trophies. We have instituted an overall winner regardless of division for each Web.com Junior Tour event. Our players will qualify for the Florida Junior

Team Championship (boys and girls team), North Florida Section PGA Junior Championship and the PGA Junior Championship. Our members will earn American Junior Golf Association (AJGA) and Florida Junior Tour exemptions (FJT), plus qualify for this year's Tournament of Champions and TOUR Championship. Our players will once again qualify to be one of the lucky ones to play in the **2017 Web.com Tour Championship-NFJGF Shootout**. This news was just past down to me, so I am thrilled about that.



Special programs you may wish to get involved with is the **NFJG HOLE IN ONE PROGRAM** and the PREMIUM PLAYERS CLUB. Please visit the website at www.nfjg.org and click on the CLUBS menu to learn more. We already had one hole-in-one by Kaitlyn Schroeder at The Slammer and The Squire. It's a magical moment for sure, but for \$10 it could even be more magical as we celebrate together to honor the great accomplishment. Then it's time to go shopping, if you know what I mean. Hey, many people play 15, 20, 40 or more years of golf and never even sniff a hole-in-one, so it's something to be proud of. You got to get in it to win it.

OK that is about it for now. Let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thanks and we'll see you on the links!

Sincerely,

Jack Aschenbach, PGA
Executive Director
North Florida Junior Golf Foundation
(904) 868-9535

