



PGA

Western New York Section

2012 First Niagara/WNYPGA Junior Golf Tour

PURPOSE:

The First Niagara/WNYPGA Junior Golf Tour provides an opportunity and atmosphere for juniors to enjoy the camaraderie, friendship, and sportsmanship of competitive golf at a series of premier venues throughout the Western New York Section of the PGA of America. Players in all divisions will compete in a season long points race to qualify for the season ending First Niagara /WNYPGA Junior Golf Tour Championship. Qualifiers in each age division will play for the First Niagara/WNYPGA Championship Cup, which will bear the winners name.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION:

All registered players may register for up to 10 events. Please note: Entry into each event is on a first come basis. A \$25.00 administrative fee has been added to each membership.

- ❖ Membership for Full Time 2010 WNYPGA Junior Tour– Max of 10 events
18 Hole: \$350.00
- ❖ Membership for Part Time 2010 WNYPGA Junior Tour- Max 5 events
18 Hole: \$250.00
- ❖ Membership for Full Time 2010 WNYPGA Junior Tour- Max 10 events
9 Hole: \$250.00
- ❖ Membership for Part Time 2010 WNYPGA Junior Tour– Max of 5 events
9 Hole: \$200.00

THE COMMITTEE RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

STARTING TIMES, RESULTS, and POINT STANDINGS:

Will be posted on the Junior Golf Page of the WNYPGA website: www.westernnewyork.pga.com
Along with Facebook fan page – *WnypgaJuniorTour*

ELIGIBILITY:

The First Niagara/WNYPGA Junior Tour is open to juniors residing within the boundaries of the WNYPGA Section who have attained an age of 10 years but not to have reached their 19th birthday by August 20, 2012.

EVENT STRUCTURE:

- All play will be stroke play
- Players will be divided into divisions:
Girls 9 Hole, Girls 18 Hole, Boys 9 Hole (12 & under), Boys Ages 13-15 and Boys Ages 16-18

PLAYER CONDUCT:

Any conduct that may be detrimental to the WNYPGA Junior Tour will not be tolerated, including swearing, club abuse, and damage to the golf course or another player's belongings. The first such instance of any of these actions may result in a warning, two stroke penalty, or disqualification. Possession of alcohol, drugs or tobacco products, gambling, or display of vulgar or abusive behavior will result in immediate disqualification. Multiple violations will result in dismissal from the First Niagara WNYPGA Junior Golf Tour without refund.

CADDIE GUIDELINES:

Players may not use caddies or motorized carts. All players *must* carry their own clubs or use a pull-cart (if permitted by the facility).

RULES VIOLATIONS AND CHEATING:

The USGA Rules of Golf and the local rules of each facility shall be observed. If you are suspected of cheating, measures will be taken to monitor your score during future junior events. If a player suspects another of cheating or of violating a rule of golf, the player should seek a rules official as soon as possible to handle the situation. Cheating will result in immediate disqualification from the Junior Golf Program with no refund. Note #1: The WNYPGA Junior Golf Program trusts that its members will act on the ethical responsibility of notifying a rules official of any problems before spreading rumors of alleged violations. Questions are more easily handled on site when all players are present than after the event has concluded and players have gone home.

CARE FOR THE GOLF COURSE:

All players are expected to maintain the golf course by replacing divots, repairing ball marks, raking bunkers, etc. Any abuse to the course or other club facilities will result in immediate disqualification. All players and parents are also encouraged to thank the host club, staff, and volunteers for their support of junior golf.

A serious breach of Etiquette will result in disqualification from the event (Rule 33-7). This includes abusive or foul language, throwing clubs, pace of play, dress code and all points covered in the USGA Rules of Golf-Section 1-Etiquette; Behavior on the Course. Players are responsible for the actions of their spectators as well.

DRESS CODE:

Proper dress is required at all times at the host facility, this includes driving range, practice green or the clubhouse. Questionable attire will be reviewed by the WNY PGA Staff. Should a host facility have a stricter dress code, its policy will take precedence. Players in violation will not be allowed to tee off. Cargo shorts or pants are NOT allowed on the Tour. Pants, capri pants and Bermuda length shorts are acceptable.

The following is the approved dress code for First Niagara/WNYPGA Junior tournaments:

- Hats/visors must be worn brim forward
- Men's collared golf shirts and mock-top golf shirts with sleeves are approved.
- Women's golf shirts without a collar must have sleeves.
- Women's golf shirts without sleeves must have a collar.
- Women's fashion shirts must not rise above the belt line at anytime during the golf swing.
- ALL players must keep shirts tucked in regardless of shirt style.
- Women's shorts must have a minimum 6" inseam.
- Men's shorts cannot extend past the knee.
- All players must wear spikeless golf shoes or sneakers.

Prohibited Dress:

- Tank tops, t-shirts and men's sleeveless shirts
- Denim shorts and jeans, short shorts, cut-off shorts, tennis shorts, cargo shorts and gym shorts.
- Sandals, heels, flip flops or beach shoes.

NO CARDS/ON COURSE WITHDRAWALS:

If a player must leave a tournament site because of illness, injury, or a family emergency, a tournament official must be notified. A player failing to turn in a scorecard for any other reason will not be eligible to participate in their next scheduled event, with no refund.

SCORE LIMITS:

We would like to remind both parents and juniors that although the tour is meant to be an enjoyable learning experience for those involved, there is a high level of competitiveness. For that reason, and to help maintain a reasonable pace of play, the WNYPGA Junior Golf Program has found it necessary to implement the following policy. This policy is not in effect to discourage junior golfers, but rather to provide a competitive program in the WNYPGA Section.

Note: Any player who shoots a score over the posted limit for his/her age at TWO different events will be subject to review and could be eliminated from the remainder of the schedule.

Weather and course conditions will be taken into consideration in determining the score limits. If the scoring limits cannot be met, the WNYPGA Junior Golf Program will be pleased to assist you in finding a local golf program or PGA Professional for instruction.

18 HOLE GIRLS

110 or below

9 HOLE GIRLS

70 or below

18 HOLE BOYS

100 or below

9 HOLE BOYS

60 or below

PACE OF PLAY POLICY:

Our tour will strictly enforce pace of play guidelines as posted on the rules sheet at each event. We expect that our players are capable of playing an 18 hole round of golf in under 4 hours. When a group is out of position and behind their allotted pace of play (as defined on our rules sheet), the individuals in the group will be timed until the group is back in position and on schedule.

ENTRY INFORMATION:

- ❖ Capacity at event varies. Should the maximum number of entrants for an event be reached, any further entries will be processed as alternates. (See alternate policies.)
- ❖ Registration for each event is available on a first-come first-served basis once on-line registration begins.
- ❖ The entry deadline for each event shall be 7 days prior to the event. Telephone entries are not accepted. The membership fee and the entry fee must be received by the event deadline. If the event is not full, you will be entered in the event. If the event is full at the time your entry is received, you will be placed on an alternate list.
- ❖ Upon receipt of your entry fee and preferred schedule of events, you will be contacted via email to confirm the events for which you wish to be registered. Should any event for which you registered already be filled, a list of sites with availability will be included from which you may select a different event.
- ❖ Requests for pairings will generally not be granted. However, we will be happy to attempt to make arrangements for juniors traveling together to be paired in groups near each other.

ALTERNATE POLICIES:

- ❖ If an event is full when you register online, you will be notified that you are on the alternate list.
- ❖ If you choose to remain on the alternate list for an event, up until two days prior to an event, as an alternate you may be notified by phone between the hours of 9am-4pm or email, if your name is pulled from the alternate list to fill a cancellation.
- ❖ If an alternate is unable to be reached by phone or email, the next name on the alternate list will be called.
- ❖ If there are cancellations and you do not play as an alternate you will lose one of your playing opportunities.

WITHDRAWAL, NO-SHOW, & REFUND POLICY

- 1. A player must give notice to the WNYPGA Section Office no later than 72 hours prior to an event in order to reschedule to play in another event in its place.**
- 2. Withdrawal inside the 72 hour limit: The player may schedule for another event (if space is available) with a \$25 penalty fee being assessed.**
- 3. If a player gives no notice and fails to show the player will automatically forfeit the next event for which they are registered, and may not reschedule the event. Refunds will not be granted in this instance.**

TOUR CONDUCTED BY:

The Western New York PGA Section
P.O. Box 1728
Williamsville, NY 14231
Phone: (716) 626-7095
Fax: (716) 626-5308

WNYPGA Contact: Steve Bartkowski sbartkowski@pgahq.com



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PLAYER OF THE YEAR POINT SYSTEM

For each division, points will be awarded at each event at follows:

PLACE	POINTS
1st	50
2nd	40
3rd	35
4th	30
5th	25
6th	20
7th	15

Each place following will receive points descending by 1 point down to 1 point awarded. Ties for all places will split all Player of the Year points, ties for weekly awards will be broken by a USGA Match of Cards (last nine, last six, last three, last hole, coin flip if necessary).

After the regular season events have been completed, the top Point leaders in each division will be invited to the First Niagara/WNYPGA Junior Tour Championship, to be held on Friday August 6th (Brookfield CC) and Tuesday August 10th (Transit Valley CC). Should any of the top players in any division be unable to attend, the next player in the standings shall be invited, etc., until the field is complete.



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Keys to enjoying the First Niagara/WNYPGA Junior Tour

We strive to make every effort to help you enjoy your participation on our tour, but there are steps that you can take as well that will ensure that you get the most out of your membership.

1. BE ON TIME! Be aware of your starting time. Starting Times will be posted 72 hours ahead of any scheduled event, and are available on the Junior Golf Page at www.westernnewyork.pga.com, or you may call the WNYPGA Section Office at (716) 626-0603 Monday through Friday between 8:30am and 4:30pm. Rule 6-3a. states that “The player must start at the time established by the Committee”. You are expected to be on the tee and absolutely ready to play at the exact time of starting. Please arrive at the tee in time to review any special local rules for the day. As a condition of our competitions, if the player arrives at his starting point ready to play within five minutes after his or her starting time, the penalty for failure to start on time shall be two strokes at the first hole instead of disqualification.

A link and contacts at each site will be provided on our website’s Junior Golf page. Please make sure that you allow ample travel time and that your directions are accurate. You should plan on arriving at least 45 minutes before your scheduled starting time to allow for any delays, wrong turns, etc.

2. BE PREPARED! Golf is a sport played outdoors and in Western New York, that can mean just about anything as far as the weather goes. Check the weather forecast for the day of your event and pack whatever you may find necessary that day (rain suit/ wind shirt/ sunblock, etc). Our events will go on as scheduled unless a course is closed or there is dangerous weather present or approaching. Spectators are permitted to carry food, drinks, umbrella, and other gear. Please don’t omit something from your checklist that could cost you in performance that day!

3. BE READY! Nothing is more frustrating than having what could have been the round of a lifetime shattered by a poor start that was caused by not being ready. When you make your travel plans, keep in mind what you intend to do before your starting time (eat lunch, hit balls, practice putting, etc.) and figure that time into your planned arrival time. Few golfers can perform their best when they are forced to rush straight from the parking lot to the first tee in an effort to avoid penalties or worse, disqualification.

4. BE INFORMED! Please note that the player is responsible for knowing the Rules of Golf. A Rules sheet will be presented at the first tee along with your official scorecards. Any local rules of the venue that day will also be listed in this sheet. You can greatly improve your own knowledge of the Rules of Golf by visiting USGA.org. In addition to a wealth of other information, all of the Rules and Decisions can be found there, and you can take a variety of Rules quizzes to see just how well you know them. Often times, knowing how to proceed can prevent you from incurring penalties that otherwise could have been avoided. The WNYPGA will have staff at each site to help with rulings, but the responsibility for proper procedures will still lie with the players themselves.

Although no one Rule is more important than any other, as all of our events are stroke play, players should be most familiar Rule 3 Stroke Play, and in particular 3-3a & 3-3b, which cover what to do when you don’t know what to do!