

Central Florida Junior Golf Tour- Rules and Regulations 2019

Section 1

About Us:

1. Our Mission

To provide youth with a unique experience that allows youth between the ages of 8-18 to develop their competitive playing skills, expand their rules knowledge and practice golf etiquette.

2. What do we do?

The CFJGT is a program of the YMCA of West Central Florida and facilitates golf tournaments for juniors age 8-18 years of age through the YMCA Par 3, Home of The First Tee of Lakeland.

3. What does it cost?

CFJGT Membership fee is \$40.00 per child, per year and must be paid prior to playing their first event. This is a Tour Membership.

Tournament Fees:

9 hole divisions \$25.00 for YMCA of West Central Florida Members/ \$40.00 non-members
18 hole divisions \$35.00 for YMCA of West Central Florida members/ \$50.00 non-members

**(Two day events will be double the above costs.*

Sibling discount (\$5.00 off) will apply to the second child, on tournament fees only).

*** All entry deadlines are on the Wednesday at 8:00pm, prior to the scheduled event. Late entries will be at the discretion of the Tour and a \$20 late fee will apply*.** ** *The member is responsible for any insufficient funds.*

Amount owed must be paid in full prior to the next event.

Scholarships: If payment of membership dues and/or tournament entry fees will result in a financial hardship, please see the YMCA Par 3, as Scholarships are available.

4. What are the age groups?

Boys: 8-10, 9 Holes

11-13, 18 Holes

13-15, 18 Holes

16-18, 18 Holes

Girls: 8-10, 9 Holes

11-13, 9 Holes

13-15, 18 Holes

16-18, 18 Holes

What are the yardages?

Boys: 8-10: 9 Hole advanced tees (Par 5's=300 yards/Par 4's=200 yards/Par 3's= 100 yards maximum),
11-13: 4700-5500 yards, 13-15: 6400-6600 yards, 16-18: 6600-7000 yards.

Girls: 8-10: 9 Hole advanced tees (Par 5's=300 yards/Par 4's=200 yards/Par 3's= 100 yards maximum),
11-13 (9 Holes): 2300-2700 yards, 13-15: 5600-5999 yards, 16-18: 5600-5999 yards.

Where are tournaments played?

Tournament sites will vary from year to year. All tournaments will be held within the Central Florida Region.

How do I get more information or join the Tour?

Information is available on the website at <http://www.ymcawcf.org/programs/central-florida-junior-golf-tour/>. Call YMCA Par 3 at 863-577-0236 to pay the participant Tour Membership fee (\$40.00) and register for each event, as you wish.

Contact Information

YMCA Par 3, 1740 George Jenkins Blvd., Lakeland, Florida 33815/PHONE: (863)577-0236/
 FAX: (863)577-0239
 EMAIL TO: Gerald.richardson@ymcawcf.org

Central Florida Junior Golf Tour Committee Tour Staff and Volunteers

Gerald Richardson
 Suzanne Walker
 TJ Wright
 Wayne Kline
 Barbara Seagraves
 Gary Ross

Section 2

In lieu of a Mandatory Player & Parent meeting, each new tour participant will be contacted individually by a CFJGT Official to discuss any concerns, policies and procedures.

Rules & Policies:

CFJGT abides by the USGA Rules of Golf and local Club rules to provide a consistent and professional approach to the game. All 18 hole tournament participants are required to play by these rules. The only exceptions to some of these rules are provided for the 8-10 year old participants in the 9 hole divisions (see Section 5).

- **Format of Play**
- **General Rules & Policies**
- **Pace of Play**
- **Spectator Guidelines**
- **Caddies in special events**
- **Rules for Players Ages 8- 10**

PLAYING BRACKETS

Players start in the age bracket based on their birth date. A player who elects to move up to a higher age bracket may not move down in age division for the remainder of the year, including the Tournament of Champions. Players wishing to elect this option must state their intentions when joining the tour. A junior in the older age of the age bracket who won his division in the previous year's Tournament of Champions may elect to move up.

If a player wins twice, he/she has the option to move up to the next age bracket. Once a participant has moved up, if he fails to place 1st through 3rd in two consecutive tournaments, he/she may return to his previous bracket at the player's request. Options to move back down in monthly tournaments must be clearly noted during tournament registration. No changes will be allowed on the day of a tournament. For the Tournament of Champions, the player must compete in his current age division unless he chooses to move up again to a higher age bracket for which he has qualified at any time during the year.

A player who wins twice in the higher age bracket can choose between moving up one more bracket, or remaining in the current bracket.

All rules apply to the division being played not the age of the participant.

Players who fall in the age bracket for two divisions, i.e. Boys 10-13 & 13-15 now have an option to play in either division which suits their playing level. These age divisions are in place to allow the more advanced players move up and compete at the next level.

2-day (36 holes minimum) Junior Golf Scoreboard Events: Any player completing a 2-day event in age groups 13-18 will qualify for and receive a Junior Golf Scoreboard national ranking points, in events which have at least 5 participants in a division. CFJGT sends the results to the Jr. Golf Scoreboard in a timely manner.

Florida Junior Tour Exemptions: The CFJGT is a step program for the Florida Junior Tour (FJT), any player in age groups 13-18 who wins their division in a regulation 18 hole event (excluding any at the YMCA Par 3 course) will be granted an FJT exemption. The CFJGT player will still need to pay for their FJT membership and any subsequent tournament entry fees for FJT events. CFJGT sends the results to the Jr. FJT in a timely manner.

Player of the Year Point Breakdown for Tournaments:

The following point system shall determine Player of the Year Honors in each age division.

1st-30 Points	4th-12 Points	7th-6 Points	10th-1 Point
2nd-20 Points	5th-10 Points	8th-4 Points	
3rd-15 Points	6th-8 Points	9th-2 Points	

In all age groups, placing 1st and 2nd in any tournament automatically qualifies the player for the Tournament of Champions.

2-Day events will count as double points.

General Rules & Policies

1. Junior membership to the tour shall be open to boys and girls who are at least 8 years of age at the time of the first tournament played by the junior and eighteen (18) years of age or younger on or before August 10 of this tournament year. Players must be enrolled and in good standing in a public or private school or registered in a home education program in the twelfth grade or lower, or shall have completed the school year as such a student if a tournament is held after the school year is completed.

2. Membership dues are as follows: Junior Player \$40.00 annual membership. Membership is paid to YMCA Par 3, Home of The First Tee of Lakeland.

3. An entry fee ranging from \$25.00-\$100.00 per player, \$5.00 Sibling discount for the second family player and \$5.00 discount for each additional family player will be discounted for each tournament; all entries and fees must be received by the specified deadline.

Cancellations within 24 hours of any event will result in a \$20.00 processing fee.

No Refunds if a participant withdraws after play.

4. If a player finds he/she cannot compete in an event for which he/she has registered, he/she must withdraw 24 hours prior to the event by contacting the YMCA Par 3 at (863-577-0236). PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE GOLF COURSE. If you cannot compete and do not withdraw and is therefore a "no show", the following action will be taken:

- You will not be accepted to participate in the next event.
- In the event of a second offense, either a no-card or no-show you will not be allowed to participate in any CFJGT event for the remainder of the year.

5. Cancellation of Event: The Tour reserves the right to cancel an event based on Weather, Host Course issue/conditions, Lack of participation and/or any criteria that the Tour deems warrants a cancellation. Participants who have paid an entry will be given the option of a credit or a refund and be notified as soon as possible.

6. USGA rules will govern all play except where it is necessary to apply local rules, see "Notice to Competitors". Decisions of the members of the rules committee will be final in all matters concerning the

interpretation and enforcement of the Rules of Golf and the tournament rules of the Central Florida Junior Golf Tour.

7. All participants are guests at the host Golf Club. Participants are required to wear appropriate golf attire at all times while at the facility. Cut-offs, blue jeans, tank tops, leggings, and short shorts/skirts (more than 5" above the knee or less than 5" inseam) are not considered proper golf attire. Please use discretion. Boys must wear collared shirts tucked in at all times. Hats are to be worn forward. Proper attire is required in order to appropriately represent CFJGT. Improper attire may result in a player not being allowed to compete. Tournament officials will enforce this rule. The tournament committee will review unusual hair or clothing styles.

8. Spectators are expected to adhere to the same dress code as players. (See Spectator Guidelines for more information).

9. Time of Starting: 1st and 10th tee start tournaments—Note under Rule 5.3A and Optional Condition prescribed in Appendix 1 shall be in effect. Shotgun start tournaments— players must check-in at the registration table a minimum of 15 minutes prior to the announced tournament starting time. Any player who has not completed registration at the tournament site by the announced starting time, will be issued a 2 stroke penalty. If play has already started and a player is 5 minutes past the start time, they are disqualified and counted as a with-drawl.

10. Scoring/Registration: All players must register at each tournament at the registration table prior to arriving at their starting hole.

Official Scorecards will be distributed to participants at the starting tee in tee timed events, scorecards will be at the registration table during Shotgun days.

Scorecards must be exchanged among players within playing groups. : Players are responsible for the hole-by-hole scores; see USGA Rule 3.3B for the penalties associated with an incorrect scorecard.

Scorecards must be signed and attested when turned in at the scoring area, as appropriate. All players must remain seated at the scorer's area until released by a scoring official. Once a player has left the scoring area, their score stands as recorded on the scorecard, any rules questions/issues must be resolved prior to the players leaving the scoring area.

Players only in the scoring area. Please be respectful of the scoring area and keep noise down.

11. The use of caddies by tournament participant is prohibited. Exceptions to this rule is the 8-10, 9 Hole age groups and special events where all age groups will be allowed an adult caddy.

12. The use of golf vehicles for riding by tournament contestants is prohibited. Penalty: disqualification. Exceptions, 8-10 age groups may ride between holes and the rare exception a Tour Official allows riding between holes in all age groups to speed up play.

13. Pull carts are permitted unless prohibited by host facility.

14. Cell phones and beepers are prohibited on the course; this includes cell phones with GPS capabilities. **Exception;** Medical or personal safety emergency.

Use of tobacco, drugs, alcoholic beverages, or betting by participants or spectators during any tournament is strictly prohibited. **Violators will be disqualified.**

15. Unsportsmanlike Conduct: A two-stroke penalty may be assessed against any contestant for use of profanity, throwing golf equipment or displaying any inappropriate behavior during any tournament. These actions may also be grounds for disqualification from the tournament by the Rules Committee.

In the event of damage to any part of the golf course, the player shall be disqualified from the event and, at the discretion of the Committee, may forfeit CFJGT membership.

Actions which may take place against the player, in an egregious offense, the Tournament Committee may

invoke the highest penalty before any warnings: Player will receive a verbal warning, player may receive a 2-stroke penalty, player may be disqualified from the event, player's CFJGT membership will be denied for all remaining events.

16. The Maximum Allowable Stroke limit per hole is 5 above course Par. Once the player has hit the shot that puts them at 5 above par, he/she must pick up their ball. When this procedure is used circle the score on the scorecard.

(If a player must take a maximum score in a 2-day event, their score will not be submitted for Jr. Golf Scoreboard rankings).

17. For "no scorecards", (i.e., no card turned in) players will be disciplined in the same manner as no shows (see #4).

18. The number of winners eligible for awards within each age group will be determined by the Tournament Committee.

19. Rain-Out Policy: Tournament results within each age group will be based on only those holes completed by all players within each age group, with the following minimum hole requirements for awards:

Age brackets playing 9 holes must complete at least 6 holes.

Age brackets playing 18 holes must complete at least 9 holes.

20. DETERMINATION OF WINNERS AND PLACES IN CFJGT EVENTS In the event of ties: The first place winner within each age group will be determined by a sudden death playoff. When a playoff is not possible for first place, or for determining second and third places, the following method will be used to determine the placing of players. For 18 hole events, ties will be broken on the basis of the best score for the last 9 holes. If the tying players have the same score for the last 9 holes, determine the place based upon the last 6 holes, last 3 holes and finally the 18th hole. If a tie still exists, the tie will be broken by lot. For 9 hole events, ties will be broken on the basis of the best score for the last 6 holes. If the tying players have the same score for the last 6 holes, determine the place based upon the last 3 holes, and finally the last hole. If a tie still exists, the tie will be broken by lot.

WEATHER RELATED TERMINATION OF AN EVENT IN PROGRESS: If the termination of an event is necessary due to weather the following procedure is implemented to determine a winner;

Tee times, one tee, 18 hole event: If all competitors have completed the first 9 holes in the same age group, the winner shall be determined on the basis of the first 9 holes completed by all players. When all players in an age group have not completed the same nine holes, there will not be a tournament winner in that age group.

Tee times or multiple tee start for 18 hole event: the scores will be determined on the basis of the first 9 holes completed by all players within an age group. When all players in an age group have not completed the same 9 holes, there will not be a tournament winner in that age group.

21. No metal or traditionally designed spikes are permitted. Penalty--disqualification.

22. **Distance Measuring Devices:** The CFJGT committee will have a Local Rule allowing players to use devices that measure or gauge distance only, said device may not be on a cell phone or tablet. Permitted measuring devices will be allowed in all CFJGT events in 2019.

23. **Lightning policy:** In the event that play is suspended due to threat of weather by the Committee, you will hear 2 blasts of an air horn siren and ALL PLAY SHALL IMMEDIATELY STOP, you do not have the option of completing the hole.

Practice on facility grounds during a weather delay is grounds for DISQUALIFICATION.

All players are responsible for determining danger from lightning; at any point if you feel threatened by lightning/weather, you should immediately mark your ball and head for safety and notify an official. You are not required to wait for play to be suspended by the Committee.

24. Decisions of the Committee will be final in all matters concerning the tournament rules and policies of the Central Florida Junior Golf Tour.

Section 3

Pace of Play Policies:

1. Rule 5.6A states in part, "the players shall play without undue delay and in accordance with any pace of play guidelines which may be laid down by the Committee" and thereafter prescribes penalties for slow play (*See Rule 5.6B*). In order to prevent any such penalty we suggest that you carefully review the following guidelines.

2. Definition of "Out of Position"

The first group to start will be considered to be out of position if, at any time during the round, the group is behind the prescribed schedule.

Any following group will be considered to be out of position if it: a) is taking more than the allotted time to play ***and*** b) reaches a par 3 and the hole is clear, fails to clear the tee of a par 4 hole before the preceding group clears the putting green, or arrives at the teeing ground of a par 5 hole when the preceding group is on the putting green.

Note: Both a) and b) must apply for a group to be out of position.

When Group Is Out of Position;

If a group is out of position, they group will be spoken to by a Tournament Official. If the gap is not closed and a Tournament Official must speak to the group a second time it will signify an automatic 1 stroke penalty; however, each player will have the right to challenge at the completion of play. They will then be observed on subsequent holes until they are back in position. Individual players may be timed separately from their group and assessed individual penalties based on the monitoring below.

3. Monitoring;

Any player in the group out of position and who takes more than 40 seconds to play a stroke has a bad time and will be subject to penalty.

Timing;

The timing of a player's stroke will begin when he has had reasonable opportunity to reach his ball, it is his turn to play and he can play without interference or distraction.

Except on the putting green, if a player has reached his ball, it is his turn to play and there are no distractions, timing will begin after he has had reasonable time to select his club. Any time spent walking for determining yardage will count as time taken for the next stroke.

On the putting green, timing will begin after the player has been allowed a reasonable amount of time to lift, clean and replace his ball, repair ball marks on his line of putt and remove loose impediments on his line of putt. Time spent looking at the line from beyond the hole and/or behind the ball will count as part of the time taken for the next stroke.

Rulings and Other Incidents causing undue delays;

If a ruling or some other legitimate delay occurs which causes the group in question to lose its position, that group is expected to regain its position within a reasonable time.

Section 4

Spectator Guidelines:

Parents and other interested persons are encouraged to be spectators and to appropriately cheer on the participants. A smile, clapping, "Good shot" are all appropriate and encouraged accolades for good performance.

The Central Florida Junior Golf Tour (CFJGT) will **enforce spectator rules**. These spectator rules are consistent with those of the American Junior Golf Association (AJGA) and other national junior tours and national junior tournaments. Because the CFJGT is a training ground for this arena, enforcement is with these national organizations.

A violation of the spectator rules will result in penalty strokes or disqualification for the junior participant involved and/or removal of the spectator from the facility grounds. It is the junior golfer's responsibility to make sure spectators do not cause a violation.

Upon the written request of the Rules Committee, or any member thereof, the CFJGT Committee shall have the right to indefinitely suspend any parent or other spectator for any violation of the Tour's Spectator Rules or for any unsportsmanlike behavior or other conduct which, in the opinion of the Committee, is inconsistent with the Tour's purposes or is intended to interfere with the operation of the CFJGT and its' committees.

Rules which must be followed:

1. The junior participant is not to receive **any** advice during the round or playoff situations from another player or a spectator (parents, relatives, and friends). Some examples of advice are:

- Verbal communication with the participant.
- Hand signals to the participant, including gestures to influence player decisions.
- Providing participants with written material, notes, etc.
- Positioning yourself as a spectator to assist the junior participant with aim or alignment.

2. Penalties can and will be assessed based on the appearance of communication, even if no actual advice may have been given. **Spectators who need to talk with participants (i.e. for health reasons, sunscreen, water etc.) should do so at a time in front of other spectators, other participants or a Tour Official so there is never a one-on-one situation between the spectator and the participant.** *We are encouraging the participants to be responsible and independent for themselves during tournament play, this includes having all they will need in their bag.*

3. Where ever possible, **spectators are to stay 25 yards from the participants** to the side of fairways, tees, greens and in between holes. Please do not follow directly behind the participants, as this often prevents the next group from being able to hit their approaching shots. Stay ahead and to the side of the hole/fairway of the group you are watching (in the rough).

Exceptions: Players in 8-10 year old, 9 holes division must have caddies and the Tour may host special events that give any player an option to have an adult caddy.

Section 5

Rules for Players Ages 8-10:

Format of Play

Ages 8-10, 9 Hole divisions must have an adult (caddy) to assist in carrying his or her clubs, help in the instructional phases of the game, and help keep the player's score.

- *The Maximum Allowable Stroke limit per hole is 5 strokes over any hole par. Once the player has hit the shot that takes them to 5 over par on a hole, he/she must pick up the ball. When this procedure is used, circle the score on the scorecard.*
- No riding in carts during play. Players may ride from green to tee to speed play.
- **Ball in bunker**-2 strokes out of sand maximum. If ball is still in sand after two strokes, move outside of bunker, no closer to the hole. Do not add a third stroke for moving ball out of sand. No penalty for grounding club in sand, but instruct the player in the proper method of play. **When this CFJGT procedure is used, the final score on the hole must be circled.**
- Caddie may stand behind player's line and stay there during shot.
- Caddie must keep score for player and check scores with other parents after each hole.

- When crossing a water hazard the player may drop on the other side after hitting two shots in the water, *where a drop area on the far side is not present*. For example, a first shot is hit in the water. A ball is dropped on the near side with penalty. The third shot goes into the water. The ball is then dropped on the far side with a penalty stroke. The golfer is now hitting his fifth shot. Lateral water and out of bounds played by official rules. **When this CFJGT procedure is used, the final score on the hole must be circled.**
- Whiffs count, but accidental touching or moving of ball does not.
- For the youngest age group, the emphasis is on enjoying the game and learning the rules and etiquette of golf. Parents or caddies should work together to show good sportsmanship and show their players how to accept winning and losing.

Section 6

Special Events Allowing Caddies For all age groups:

1. Caddies are allowed for all age groups during special events and that caddy **must be** 19 years or older. Caddies are allowed to use a push/pull cart, carry the participant's golf bag or drive a golf cart from the host club and have the clubs on the cart. The cart must be driven within posted rules of each course. The player may NOT ride in or drive the cart at any time (ages 8-10 may ride between holes). Caddies must adhere to the Pace of Play policies for the CFJGT. Caddies must adhere to the same dress code, etiquette and player rules as the participant (no tobacco, alcohol, etc.). The player is still responsible for the scorecard and hole by hole scores and will be the only one allowed in the scoring area.

Updated 1/16/2019