



2024 Bluegrass Golf Tour Program

Junior Series

A Handbook to Help Navigate the 2024 Season

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Using the Handbook

This handbook provides information for tournaments conducted by the Bluegrass Golf Foundation. In the following pages you will find important information regarding the policies and guidelines of our program. This packet is set up to be an easy resource for your use in obtaining information and registering for our golf events.

Enclosed in this handbook you will find information regarding:

- Bluegrass Golf Tour Junior Series (including 9-Hole Divisions)
- Bluegrass Golf Tour College Division (HS Class of 2018-2023)
- Bluegrass Golf Tour Major Championships

The best way to register is by visiting our website, *bluegrassgolftour.com*, as this has proved to be an easy and effective way to register for events. Specific directions on how to become a member and apply for a tournament are located later in the handbook.

The website will be updated each week to provide you with the latest information available, including tournament pairings and results as well as the Tour Player of the Year point standings.

Eligible Participants

Participation guidelines for Bluegrass Golf Tour events are based on high school graduation years. Juniors from the Class of 2024 or younger are eligible to participate in the Junior Series, and Class of 2018-2023 may compete in events with a College Division.

Any Junior event that is not an Invitational will have 18-hole and 9-hole Divisions. Divisions with at least 5 participants in 36-hole events will be submitted for Junior Golf Scoreboard and Global Junior Golf Rankings.

Age Divisions for Competition

Participants will select their Division based on their age as of June 1, 2024, during the Tour Membership registration process. Juniors may choose to “play up” into the next Age Division if they wish to compete against older juniors from a longer yardage. Once the Age Division is selected, the junior will remain in that Division through the Tour Championship while earning Junior Series Player of the Year Points only in the selected Division.

Boys Divisions: Boys 15-18; Boys 12-14; Boys 13-18 (9-Hole); Boys 11-12 (9-Hole), Boys 10 & Under (9-Hole)

Girls Divisions: Girls 15-18; Girls 14 & Under; Girls 13-18 (9-Hole); Girls 12 & Under (9-Hole)

College Division: High School Class of 2018-2023 (Men & Women)

The College Division will only be available at the Cullan Brown Invitational.

Junior Series Program

Bluegrass Golf Tour

Membership Fee: 18-Hole and 9-Hole - \$40

Dual Membership w/ Hurricane Tour

Membership Fee: 18-Hole and 9-Hole - \$199

All Divisions may compete in the Tour Championship at Weissinger Hills GC on July 13-14. Dual Members may earn Players of the Year points in up to 3 Hurricane Tour events in Kentucky.

AGES: Events are for junior golfers born after June 1, 2005, and all Class of 2024 graduates. Divisions are formed based on the age of the junior golfer as of June 1, 2024.

OF HOLES: All golfers will play eighteen holes *except* 9-Hole Divisions including Boys 13-18, Boys 11-12, Boys 10 & Under, Girls 13-18 and Girls 12 & Under. Yardage information and holes played by 9-Hole Divisions will be listed on the Tournament Information Page.

MAX EVENTS: Players may play in as many events as they want but count a maximum of **6** finishes (including Tour Championship) in Tour Player of the Year Points System. (**6** events for 9-Hole Division also)

EVENT COSTS: Tournament registration fee covers golf, prizes, and range balls (when available).

Event costs for select events may vary slightly at host facilities needing additional golf and range fees. Late registrations are subject to available spots and additional fees. **Registrations completed at least 14 days prior to the event receive a \$10 discount.** Early bird member price range for individual events is as follows:



Single Day Events (Early Bird Pricing):

\$70-\$75 – 18-Hole Divisions

\$50-\$53 – 9-Hole Divisions

2-Day Championships (Early Bird Pricing)

\$140-\$169 – 18-Hole Divisions

\$100-\$139 – 9-Hole Divisions



NON-MEMBER REGISTRATIONS

Non-Members will be charged an additional \$30 per event. A membership may be added if a Non-Member pays the additional fee in two events.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Special events connect unique formats or fundraisers for charity partners scheduled during the Season. Additional information about these events will be outlined on the Tournament Information page and Junior Series Handbook. Special events include:

Bluegrass College Showcase

Open event for participants from any state on June 4-5 at University Club of KY (Wildcat Course on Day 1, Big Blue Course on Day 2). Age group participation will be available for 18-Hole and 9-Hole Divisions. College golf education seminar provided following play on Day 1.

Cullan Brown Invitational – Proceeds benefit Cullan's Memorial Fund

Open event for participants from any state on June 28-29 at Paxton Park GC. Age groups for 18-Hole and 9-Hole Divisions are available. Event includes a college Division.

Kentucky Central Championship

Open event on October 26-27 at Campbellsville CC. Age group participation will be available for 18-Hole and 9-Hole Divisions. Each participant will complete an 18-Hole Stroke Play qualifying round to advance to Team Match Play on Day 1. Team Match Play participants will play three 9-Hole matches on Day 2 while any player not qualifying for Team format will play 18 holes of stroke play.

Bluegrass Cup – Proceeds benefit Playing for Mason Foundation

Invitation only event with Player of the Year points on November 2-3 at Crosswinds GC. Additional details on invitations on Tournament Info page.

Registration

HOW TO ENTER: Entries for tournaments will be accepted starting on **Friday, March 1st, 2024**. Web registration will be available beginning at 9:00 a.m. EST.

Divisions are based on the age of the junior as of June 1, 2024, and they will compete in that Division for the duration of the Bluegrass Golf Tour season.

HOW TO REGISTER ONLINE:

- Go to BluegrassGolfTour.com and select the “Membership” section.
- Enter User ID and Password to renew your membership or select “I am not a member” to add a new membership.

HOW TO SIGN UP FOR TOURNAMENTS:

- Once your membership has been approved, the username will be the “Junior Email” field.
- Visit BluegrassGolfTour.com and use your credentials to login to your account and begin tournament registration.
- You may sign up for multiple events at once or return as often as you like to sign up for additional events.

NOTES ABOUT REGISTRATION:

- Entries for Tournaments/Championships will be confirmed by email only. *Please provide a correct email address during the Tour Membership registration process.*
- Membership entries for the Bluegrass Golf Tour will be confirmed via **an acceptance email via BlueGolf**. Membership Gift will be distributed at first series events.
- If you wish to make changes after registration, you may log in to your BlueGolf account and make the changes online. Change requests may also be sent to CRedle@BluegrassGolfTour.com for staff assistance.
- A service fee of \$3 is added to each tournament registration.
- *Non-Member registrations may be completed through the Tournament Information page for each event.*
- An additional fee of \$30 per event will be charged to non-member registrations.

DEADLINES: Bluegrass Golf Tour membership ends on December 31. *Early Bird registration deadlines will be at 11:59 p.m. EST, FOURTEEN (14) days prior to the event, and final registration deadlines are at 11:59pm EST FOUR (4) days prior to the event.*

Deadlines may be extended beyond the initial deadline. Late registrations may be processed based on available space with an additional late registration fee. Registration deadlines are listed on the Tournament Information page.

LATE ADDITIONS: Between the time when the tournament pairings have been published and the event date, additional spots may be filled on a case-by-case basis. Pace of play expectations and division assignments will be considered with any such request. If a player has not signed up for the tournament prior to the deadline and notices an open spot in his/her division, they may contact the BGT and we will make every effort to ensure the player has a chance to compete. *Additional fees for late registrations are required.*

WAITING LIST: If a tournament reaches its maximum capacity before the tournament deadline, a waiting list will be established. If a spot becomes available, the first player off the waiting list will be added to the event. However, if starting times have already been established, the spots will be filled on a division basis. For example, if a player in the Boys 15-18 Division withdraws from the event, *the first player in that same division on the waiting list will be added to the event. If there are no more registrations in that division on the waiting list, the open spot will not be filled.*

REFUNDS: Refunds will only be granted to participants whose requests are received via e-mail or online at least **SEVENTY-TWO (72)** hours prior to the scheduled start time of the event. If you have registered for membership, the fee is non-refundable. *Refunds for invitation-only and special events will not be given after the deadline date.*

- All refunds are subject to a \$10 cancellation fee.

WITHDRAWALS / CHANGES: Participants MUST notify the Bluegrass Golf Tour at least **SEVENTY-TWO (72)** hours prior to the start time of the tournament if they wish to withdraw or make a change to a tournament that is not full. A player failing to properly withdraw from a tournament and/or not showing up will forfeit the entry fee and will be considered a “no show” and may be suspended from the next tournament. Any subsequent violation of this policy may result in suspension from future events.

- **An additional fee could be charged if you wish to move from one tournament to a different tournament based on the timing of the request or the cost of the different tournament. Any difference in favor of the player will be issued in credits on the account toward future event registrations.**

In the event of an extreme circumstance for which the participant cannot compete in the tournament within **SEVENTY-TWO (72)** hours prior to the start of the tournament, contact the Bluegrass Golf Tour immediately. Each situation will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

Weather

In anticipation of inclement weather, the Bluegrass Golf Tour staff reserves the right to reduce the number of holes in a stipulated round.

If an event is a total rainout, an attempt will be made to:

1. Reschedule the event
2. Place all players in another event
3. Give refunds to registered participants

The junior **MUST** check the schedule for another event that is not filled and call to enter that event at no additional charge. Credits will not be given if a 9-Hole event completes **5 holes** of play, or an 18-Hole event completes **9 holes** of play. Prizes will be awarded if the minimum number of holes has been completed.

On Course Hospitality

Participants need to remember they are playing golf when the heat index is often very high. They need to be sure to have enough liquid in their bag to last for at least nine holes. Refreshment coolers on the course are provided by staff members rotating through play with every effort made to have refreshments on hand. ***To ensure players have enough fluids, refreshments on the course are intended for participants only.***

Care for the Course

All players are expected to maintain the condition of the golf course by repairing ball marks, raking bunkers, replacing divots, picking up and properly disposing of trash, etc. ***Any abuse of the course or other club facilities will result in disqualification and suspension for one event.*** All players and parents are encouraged to thank the host club, staff, and volunteers for their generous support of the junior golf program. Thank you notes written to the host facilities are encouraged and greatly appreciated.

Rules of Play

The Rules of Golf shall govern all play. Supplemental rules (“Terms of Competition”) will be posted on the Tournament Information page accessible through the live scoring app. The Bluegrass Golf Tour “Hard Card” will also be posted on the Tournament Information page with copies available at player registration for each event.

Cheating

Rule violations will be administered by the on-site tournament officials and as prescribed by the Rules of Golf. Cheating will ***not*** be tolerated and will result in immediate disqualification from any Bluegrass Golf Tour event.

Scoring Limit (not for JGS ranked events)

To assist with pace of play, the Tour will implement a scoring limit on each hole primarily for the 9-Hole divisions. The maximum score a player can take is ***four over Par (+4)*** on any hole. The maximum score is 7 on a Par 3, 8 on a Par 4, and 9 on a Par 5. Competitors are not disqualified from winning prizes in their age group when taking a maximum score on any hole. The scoring limit will never apply to 18-Hole Divisions when Junior Golf Scoreboard rankings or AJGA Performance Stars are involved.

Spectators

Spectators are encouraged to attend all events. However, they must be courteous to all competitors and abide by all rules set in place by the Bluegrass Golf Tour and the host facility. It is the player's responsibility to keep spectators away. Please come to the course and enjoy watching the juniors compete as individuals. Spectator carts and fees are at the discretion of the host facility. Rules for spectators are as follows:

1. Spectator carts will be allowed, when available, from the host facility. **All carts are to remain on the provided paths – no exceptions.** In the event there are no paths provided, carts must be at least 5 feet from the fairway cut of the hole being played. Spectators will respect the entire field of participants and stop all cart movement while a player is preparing to, or in the process of making a stroke.

**** In certain circumstances spectator carts may be extremely limited or not available at all at some host facilities. Personal motorized golf cars are only allowed at the discretion of the Host Professional Staff. Spectators should not arrive at an event with a personal cart without advance permission from the Host Professional Staff.**

VIOLATION OF THIS POLICY:

- (i) First offense – Warning
 - (ii) Second offense – **Forfeit of the use of the cart for the remainder of the round, without refund.**
2. Only designated officials or staff from the Bluegrass Golf Tour will give rulings to the participants at the request of the participant. The staff will assist in any way possible when they are asked to do so by the players. Players are encouraged to ask, ***“What are my options?”*** when requesting assistance from staff.
 3. Only participants in the event will be allowed to walk in the fairways. Spectators should remain off all teeing areas, fairways and putting greens. Spectators must remain at least 30 yards from the players. ***Exception: If the player requests food, drink, or anything for personal safety, then a spectator may approach a participant to deliver what was requested. The spectator should then leave the area immediately and allow the player to continue his/her play. A spectator designated to assist with live scoring may ask players their score at the end of each hole.***

VIOLATION OF THIS POLICY:

- (i) First offense – Warning
 - (ii) Second offense – Spectator will be asked to go into the clubhouse for the remainder of the round.
4. Spectators are required to turn their cellular device to silent or off for the entire round. When making calls please be courteous to our golfers.
 5. Spectators are welcome to spot shots by moving ahead of the grouping to view incoming shots from a safe distance. Assisting with the search for a ball is allowed and encouraged.

Spectators are reminded that they should not inject themselves into the competition. That includes making rulings, reporting penalties, asking for scores (unless appointed as scoring assistant), or giving advice of any kind. The competitors are expected to go to the scoring area immediately upon the completion of their round without consulting spectators. While spectators may share their thoughts with Bluegrass Golf Tour Officials and staff, the players are responsible for the scoring review in the scoring area. Our staff is dedicated to conducting events under the Rules of Golf, and educating players is part of that process.

Pace of Play Guidelines

Rule 5.6 states in part, players must not unreasonably delay play, and a round of golf is meant to be played at a prompt pace. The Bluegrass Golf Tour pace of play guidelines and any associated penalties for competitions are outlined below.

TIME PAR

A time par is set for each course – See official scorecard for each individual hole-by-hole time par.

GROUP OUT OF POSITION

First Group: The first group is out of position if at any time during the round the group is behind the prescribed schedule as detailed on the Notice to Players and/or official scorecard.

Following Groups: A following group is **out of position** if it is

- A. taking more than the allotted time to play; **and**
- B. preceding group has cleared the next hole to be played.

Resumption of Play: A group out of position when play is discontinued is out of position when play is resumed.

NOTIFICATION OF TIMING

When a group becomes out of position **and** more than 5 minutes behind the time par, all players in the group may be notified by a designated tournament official as being out of position and subject to timing.

Teeing Ground/Through the Green. 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. Time spent determining yardage counts as time taken for the stroke.

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

A player is permitted 40 seconds to play a stroke. An extra 10 seconds for a total of 50 seconds will be allowed for the **first player** to play a stroke from the teeing ground, a second shot on a par-4 or par-5, a third stroke on a par-5, a stroke around the putting green or a stroke on the putting green.

A player who exceeds the applicable time to play a stroke will be informed by the Rules Rover as soon as practicable.

PACE OF PLAY PENALTIES

The following are the penalties, in sequence, for any player in a group being timed who takes more than the allotted time to play a stroke after timing of the player's stroke begins:

- 1st bad timing | **Warning**
- 2nd bad timing | **1 stroke penalty**
- 3rd bad timing | **Additional 1 stroke penalty**
- 4th bad timing | **Disqualification**

Note: If a group being timed regains its proper position, any previous "bad timings" will be carried over for the remainder of that round if that group requires additional monitoring.

Any appeal of a pace of play penalty must be referred to the designated Tournament Director of this event immediately upon completion of the round and their decision is final.

RULINGS OR OTHER INCIDENTS

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. Time spent waiting for a ruling or searching for a ball (3 minute maximum) is included in the total round time expectation.

Dress Code & Code of Conduct Guidelines

Teaching sportsmanship, etiquette, and the Rules of Golf supports the purpose of the Bluegrass Golf Tour. To promote these ideals and to maintain the integrity of the program, the following guidelines for dress and conduct will apply. Tournament officials will enforce these guidelines at all golf events.

DRESS CODE: Proper dress is required at all junior events. Boys collared shirts or mock turtlenecks should be worn. Girl's shirts without a collar must have sleeves and fashion shirts worn untucked must NOT rise above the belt line during the golf swing. Leggings, unless under a skirt or shorts, are not allowed. Girl's shorts, skirts, or skorts MUST be of fingertip length. All hats or visors must be worn with the brim forward. No denim pants/shorts or cut-offs are permitted.

If a player breaks any part of the dress code policy, a Tour staff member may ask them to comply with the dress code policy. Players will not be allowed to compete in the tournament if they do not adhere to the dress code policy.

CODE OF CONDUCT GUIDELINES: Any conduct which may be detrimental to the Bluegrass Golf Tour will not be tolerated. Such behavior includes posting accurate scores for live scoring, swearing, club throwing, or damaging the golf course or other player's belongings. Any of these actions may result in a warning, stroke penalty, or immediate disqualification under Rule 1.3c(2).

Possessing alcohol or tobacco products, gambling, or displaying vulgar or abusive behavior will result in immediate disqualification. Multiple violations may result in dismissal from the Bluegrass Golf Tour.

Caddies are expected to adhere to the dress code and conduct guidelines.

Keeping Score

Players must report to the scoring area immediately following the completion of their round to certify their scores without the assistance of spectators. Each player should be prepared to enter live scores through the "BlueGolf Junior Golf App". After the completion of each hole, the marker should confirm with the player the number of strokes taken and record that score.

Players will be expected to use their personal mobile devices to enter hole-by-hole scores for another player in their group and themselves following each hole. **Personal mobile devices MAY NOT be used for social media or communication with spectators or other players during the round.** Any score entered during play is considered unofficial, and official scores will be certified by the player and marker in the scoring area. GPS views of the hole are available on the BlueGolf Junior Golf app and may be used to measure distance during play. Hole locations for select events will only be viewable through the app. Players entering live scores will be allowed to sign and certify their scores through the scoring app without submitting paper scorecards.

Players and markers are solely responsible for certifying scores following play in the scoring area.

PLAYERS MUST CONFIRM THEIR HOLE-BY-HOLE SCORES ARE CORRECT! Tour staff will provide step-by-step instructions in the scoring area as players and markers certify their scores. The Committee is responsible for adding the scores for the players. Caddies may stand behind the player as scores are certified in the scoring area.

Electronic Devices

DISTANCE MEASURING DEVICES: For all Bluegrass Golf Tour competitions, a player may obtain distance information by using a device measuring distance only. If, during a stipulated round, a player uses any other function such as to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect his play (e.g., gradient, wind-speed, temperature, etc.), regardless of whether any such additional functions are used, the player is in breach of *Rule 4.3*.

Penalty for Breach of Condition: First Offense - Two Stroke Penalty; Subsequent Offense - Disqualification

COMMUNICATION DEVICES: A mobile phone should be used by each player to connect to the BlueGolf Junior Golf app to enter unofficial scores after each hole with an available GPS view and Division scoreboards. Phones may be used by players at any time to call the “Rules Hotline”. Any other voice or text communication devices should be turned off and not used by a player, his side or caddie during any round or match.

The penalty for breach: 1st Offense, Warning; 2nd Offense, Disqualification for serious breach of Code of Conduct – Rule 1.3c(2)

UNCERTAIN ABOUT THE RIGHT PROCEDURE: In most situations, players are expected to use Rule 20.1c(3) (Playing Two Balls When Uncertain What to Do) to complete the hole with two balls when they are uncertain about the correct procedure. The competitor should choose which ball will count if the Rules allow, and the situation must be reported at the scoring area when the scorecard is certified even if the same score occurs with both balls.

Tour Championship

The Tour Championship for all Divisions will be held on Saturday-Sunday, July 13-14 at Weissinger Hills GC in Shelbyville, KY. Registration for this event is on a first-come, first-served basis, and every effort will be made to include all players completing registration prior to the registration deadline. The Championship will be open to Member and Non-Member participation.

Guaranteed spots will be available based on Player of the Year standings through July 5 for these positions:

18-Holes	Boys 15-18 Division	Top 9 on Player of the Year Points List
	Boys 12-14 Division	Top 9 on Player of the Year Points List
	Girls 15-18 Division	Top 9 on Player of the Year Points List
	Girls 14 & Under Division	Top 6 on Player of the Year Points List
9-Holes	Boys 13-18 Division	Top 3 on Player of the Year Points List
	Girls 13-18 Division	Top 3 on Player of the Year Points List
	Boys 11-12 Division	Top 6 on Player of the Year Points List
	Boys 10 & Under Division	Top 6 on Player of the Year Points List
	Girls 12 & Under Division	Top 3 on Player of the Year Points List

If a Division is full prior to July 5, and a player is in a position to earn a guaranteed spot in their Division, they may be added to the field with an email to Chris Redle at CRedle@BluegrassGolfTour.com prior to the registration deadline.

Player of the Year races will be concluded after the Tour Championship.

Approximate Yardages & Tees Used

In advance of each event, hole-by-hole yardages are set to age-appropriate tees. The hole-by-hole yardage for each Division may be viewed from the Tournament Information page. Tee sets used for play will be preceded by “BGT” and the yardage. BGT color coded flags will be placed next to course tee markers to designate starting tee on each hole for each Division. Typically, yardages will match the yardage for a set of tees on the course scorecard. Total yardage for a Par 72 course (Par 36 for 9-Hole Divisions) will be as follows:

- **BLUE FLAG 6400-6800 yards:** Boys 15-18, College Men
- **WHITE FLAG 5800-6200 or 2900-3100 yards 9-Holes:** Boys 12-14, Boys 13-18 (9-H), College Women
- **YELLOW FLAG 5400-5800 yards:** Girls 15-18
- **RED FLAG 4600-5000 or 2300-2500 yards 9-Holes:** Girls 14 & Under, Boys 11-12 (9-H), Girls 13-18 (9-H)
- **LIGHT BLUE BGT TEES 2000-2200 yards:** Boys 10 & Under (9-H), Girls 12 & Under (9-H)

Tour Player of the Year Points System

Points will be awarded based on the player’s gross score placement within their own Division. Any player involved in a tie for 1st Place will receive 1st Place points. In the event of a tie for any other place, points will be split. While there is no limit on the number of events that each participant may enter, Player of the Year Points will be based solely on the 6 best totals including the Tour Championship. Base points will be awarded for each event, and a total of 5 bonus points per player will be distributed to the top 30% of the field based on the number of participants in each Division.

Single Day Events (Top 10 Places)

100, 85, 70, 60, 50, 40, 30, 20, 10, 5

NOTE: 11th Place and beyond receive 5 points each

HJGT Events in Kentucky (Top 10 Places) – Dual Members ONLY based on HJGT Division finish

125, 100, 75, 65, 55, 45, 35, 30, 20, 10

NOTE: 11th Place and beyond receive 5 points each

Combo Regional Events (Top 10 Places)

130, 100, 85, 70, 60, 50, 40, 30, 20, 10

NOTE: 11th Place and beyond receive 5 points each

2-Day Championship Events (Top 15 Places)

200, 170, 150, 135, 120, 105, 90, 80, 70, 60, 50, 40, 30, 20, 10

NOTE: 16th Place and beyond receive 5 points each

Tour Championship (Top 15 Places)

250, 210, 175, 150, 130, 115, 100, 85, 75, 65, 55, 45, 35, 25, 15

NOTE: 16th Place and beyond receive 10 points each

NOTE: Players participating in a Combo Regional will receive points for each single day event as well as the Combo Regional. A maximum of 3 HJGT Kentucky events may contribute toward final POY ranking.

Playoff Procedure

Most ties will be decided by a scorecard play-off using the USGA recommended method of matching scorecards. The order in determining scorecard play-offs will proceed as follows:

1. Best score for the last nine holes
2. Best score for the last six holes
3. Best score for the last three holes
4. Hole-by-Hole scores starting on the final hole and working backwards

Select events may designate a hole-by-hole sudden death playoff for trophy positions. All Tour members involved in a scorecard playoff or a hole-by-hole sudden death playoff for 1st Place will receive 1st Place Player of the Year points.

Caddies

All players must walk and carry their own clubs or use a pull cart.

CADDIES ARE ALLOWED FOR 9-HOLE DIVISIONS IN ALL EVENTS.

EXCEPTIONS: *Juniors who have demonstrated the ability to play the game competitively and in a timely fashion, but who have been diagnosed with a cognitive disability that prevents them from making proper decisions as to safety, scoring, etc., may qualify to have a caddie to assist them with their play. **Boys or girls that have yet to break 100 in an 18-Hole tournament (school or Tour events) may apply for a caddie exemption.** Each request for a caddie will be viewed on a case-by-case basis and the caddie's participation will be limited to the specific needs of that player. It is not the intent of the Bluegrass Golf Tour to grant a wide range of caddie activity; rather it is our intent to allow a caddie to assist the competitive development of the player.*

Juniors with caddies will be expected to maintain Pace of Play expectations. Caddies (when allowed) may purchase and use a spectator cart, but the cart must always remain on the cart path. Caddie carts are subject to rental fees and availability from the host facility and may not transport players unless a transportation exception between holes is allowed (viewable under "Local Rules" on Tournament Information page). Players and caddies must report to the starting tee approximately 10 minutes before the scheduled start time. Caddies may be required to wear a visible wrist band signifying their role.

PULL / PULL CARTS: Manual push/pull carts are acceptable (as permitted by the host facility).

Caddies are reminded they are there to assist the player by teaching them how to make decisions and keep score on the course. The time needed to take each shot includes any consultation with the caddie. It is important for caddies to assist the player without taking complete control of every action. Caddies may assist the players with any scoring discrepancies in the scoring area as they certify their scores. The experience of having a caddie should be viewed as an educational opportunity while promoting the independence needed for each player. Encouraging all players in the group teaches good sportsmanship to the competitors.

Caddies are expected to maintain the same dress code and conduct guidelines as the players. Caddies that are observed creating potential penalty situations for the players will be educated on correct procedures whenever possible. If a caddie creates a negative behavior situation within a group during a stipulated round, they may be cautioned or removed by a tournament official. To maintain as much of a positive experience as possible for all golfers, caddies are expected to serve as a positive role model for the players.

Caddies and players are responsible for reviewing Rule 10.2 (Advice and Other Help) and Rule 10.3 (Caddies). **Actions always allowed by caddies** outlined in Rule 10.3b(1) includes carrying clubs, searching for ball, giving information or advice, acting to care for the course, removing or attending flagstick, marking, and lifting ball on the putting green, cleaning the ball (when allowed), and removing loose impediments and movable obstructions. **Actions allowed only with Player's authorization** outlined in Rule 10.3b(2). **Actions NOT allowed** outlined in Rule 10.3b(3) includes deliberately standing on or close to an extension of the line of play behind the player's ball when the player begins taking a stance for the stroke until the stroke is made (further explanation available under Rule 10.2b(4)), replacing a ball not lifted by the caddie, dropping a ball in a relief area, or deciding to take relief under a Rule. **Remember, under the Rules, caddies are not allowed to check or assist with player alignment as they prepare to make a stroke.**

Combo Regionals

Combo Regionals are unique events consisting of back-to-back single day events located within relative proximity. Players may compete in just one of the two single day events associated with each Combo Regional. Players that compete in both single day events will have their scores added together for a combined score 2-day event eligible for Junior Golf Scoreboard rankings. Players that enter the Combo Regional will be added to each single day event at no additional charge, and players that enter each single day event will be added to the Combo Regional at no additional charge.

Players that compete on both days will be eligible for awards and Player of the Year points for the Day 1 event, Day 2 event, and the combined score event. Any 18-Hole Division with at least 5 players competing on both days will be eligible for Junior Golf Scoreboard rankings. Tee times for players competing both days may be based on day 1 scores the second day.

Bluegrass College Showcase

Juniors will have the chance to compete in the Bluegrass College Showcase on Tuesday-Wednesday, June 4-5 at the University Club of Kentucky. Players will compete on the Wildcat Course on June 4 with 18-Hole Divisions starting with a 1:30pm Shotgun start. June 5 competition will take place on the Big Blue Course with tee times based on scores from Day 1 starting at 10am. This event includes players in 6 age groups: 15-18 Boys, 15-18 Girls, 14 & Under Boys, 14 & Under Girls, 12 & Under Boys (9-Hole), and 12 & Under Girls (9-Holes). Caddies are allowed in all Divisions subject to Caddie Guidelines on page 12.

Following the 1st Round on Tuesday afternoon, players and families are encouraged to attend an education seminar in the pavilion near the scoring area with additional information provided about players wishing to play college golf. College coaches from around the area will be invited to attend and provide additional information about their programs to participants and families. BGT Members that are not participating in the Bluegrass College Showcase are welcome to attend the education seminar which should begin around 6pm.

Cullan Brown Invitational

The Cullan Brown Invitational will take place on Friday-Saturday, June 28-29 at Paxton Park GC. The event is open for registration on a first-come, first-served basis. Any net proceeds will benefit the Cullan Brown Memorial West Kentucky Junior Golf Development Fund.

The event will include 18-Hole Divisions as well as Divisions for 9-Hole Boys and Girls (12 & Under). There will be a College Division (HS Class of 2018-2023). Boys in the Class of 2024 will compete in the Boys Overall and Men's College Division, and Girls in the Class of 2024 will have the option to compete in the Girls Overall or Women's College Division. The field will include six (6) Divisions: College Men, College Women, HS Boys, HS Girls, 12 & Under Boys (9-Hole), and 12 & Under Girls (9-Hole).

9-Hole Divisions will play the Front 9 on Saturday and the Back 9 on Sunday.

Cullan Brown Award

The Cullan Brown Award is presented to a Boys and Girls BGT member at the Cullan Brown Invitational. The award recognizes sportsmanship, integrity, playing ability, friendship, and love of the game through participation on the Bluegrass Golf Tour. The recipients are chosen by the BGT staff, and nominations may be made with an email to Executive Director, Chris Redle, at CRedle@BluegrassGolfTour.com prior to June 15.

	<u>Boys Recipients</u>	<u>Girls Recipients</u>
2020	Jay Nimmo	Cathryn Brown
2021	Gage Gregory	Macey Brown
2022	Rafe Blankenship	Ainslee Cruce
2023	Hayden Engler	Anna Simpson
2024		
2025		
2026		
2027		
2028		

Kentucky Central Championship

Junior Series participants may compete in the Kentucky Central Championship at Campbellsville CC in Campbellsville, KY on Saturday-Sunday, October 26-27. All participants will begin with an 18-Hole Stroke Play Qualifier on Saturday. Open qualifying will allow any participant in 18-Hole Divisions to advance to the Team Match Play competition on Sunday based on qualifying scores. Players also may earn an exempt spot into the Team Match Play format through participation with the BGT or connected allied Tours. Players that do not qualify for the Team Match Play format will still compete in another 18-Hole Stroke Play competition on Sunday.

Teams will be determined based on scores from Saturday's qualifying round. Team members will compete in three 9-Hole Matches on Sunday. Fourball matches will take place on the Front 9, and Selective Drive Alternate Shot matches will take place on the Back 9. Singles Matches will start off both sides as the final 9-Hole match. Players will be allowed to have caddies for the Team Match Play format.

Players will earn one point for their team for each match win, and ties will award each team ½ point. The team that earns the most points will be declared the Champions. Exemptions will be provided to:

- Boys 15-18, Boys 12-14, Girls 15-18, and Girls 14 & Under Players of the Year
- Boys & Girls 15-18 Champion at Old Bridge GC (May 19) and Campbellsville CC (May 28)
- Boys & Girls Overall Champion at Bluegrass College Showcase (June 4-5)
- Boys & Girls Overall Champion at Cullan Brown Invitational (June 28-29)
- Boys & Girls 18-Hole Division Champions at Tour Championship (July 13-14)
- 18-Hole Division Players of the Year from allied Tours

Additional spots for the Team Match Play format will be filled based on Saturday scores.

Bluegrass Cup

Two teams consisting of invited players based on Player of the Year rankings will participate in the Bluegrass Cup at Crosswinds GC in Bowling Green on November 2-3. The Boys 15-18 and Girls 15-18 Players of the Year will serve as the captains of each team. Invites are sent to the Top 8 players in the Boys 15-18, Boys 12-14, Girls 15-18 and Girls 14 & Under Divisions, and the Top 4 players in the Boys 11-12 (9-Hole), Boys 10 & Under (9-Hole), and Girls 12 & Under (9-Hole) Divisions. Teams will compete in two different team formats on the first day and singles matches on the second day.

Proceeds from the event will benefit the Playing for Mason Foundation, and each invited participant will be asked to complete a fundraising minimum. Team uniforms will be provided to all participants with a banquet dinner on Saturday evening. Guests are welcome to raise additional funds to add tickets to the banquet where the Players of the Year and Stewart Gregory Award winners will be recognized.

Champion Credits

Players will earn Champion Credits by finishing in 1st Place (and ties) in their Division at any Bluegrass Golf Tour event. Players will earn one Champion Credit for every 9 holes completed in an event. For example, winning an 18-Hole Division single day event will return 2 Champion Credits. Credits may be used to enter a future tournament with the following redemption formula:

9-Hole Tournament Entry: 3 Champion Credits

18-Hole Tournament Entry: 6 Champion Credits

36-Hole Tournament Entry: 12 Champion Credits

Free entries from Champion Credits will not be eligible to receive additional Champion Credits from that event. The lowest score among paid entries will receive Champion Credits. Champion Credit entries are subject to available space and registration deadlines. Champion Credits do carry over from year to year. To redeem Champion Credits, send an e-mail to Executive Director, Chris Redle, at CRedle@BluegrassGolfTour.com.

Non-Member Participation

Non-members of the Bluegrass Golf Tour may participate in most events by paying an additional \$30 entry fee. To complete registration, non-members must register through the Tournament Information page. ***If the additional entry fees for non-members exceed the membership fee (\$40), membership will be added at no additional cost.*** In other words, players competing in two events as a non-member may request a BGT membership at no additional cost.

Stewart Gregory Award

The Stewart Gregory Award is presented annually during the Bluegrass Cup Banquet to a Boys and Girls golf coach that dedicates their time teaching, inspiring, encouraging, challenging, and building teams as a community and family leader.

Bluegrass Golf Tour

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the easiest way to get in touch with tour staff during the tournament season?

Communication via e-mail is the easiest and preferred way to get in touch with our staff. Chris Redle may be reached at CRedle@BluegrassGolfTour.com.

2. Do I still have to fill out and send in the Medical Authorization Form if I am only playing in one tournament?

Yes. All participants accept the Medical Authorization Form and Accident Waiver and Release Liability Form during registration.

3. I am not receiving correspondence, information, and confirmation about tournaments I have registered for, what do I need to do.

As noted above, most communication is done via e-mail during the tournament season, so please contact Chris via e-mail or call (502) 338-4388 to verify that we have a current and correct e-mail address on file for you.

4. How do I schedule a practice round prior to an event?

Practice rounds are at the discretion of the host facility. We will do our best to provide information and junior rates for practice rounds at host courses. Refer to the tournament information page for additional details. To schedule a time, contact the host golf course/facility. Practice round availability, restrictions, and limitations are at the sole discretion of the host golf course/facility.

5. May I use distance measuring/electronic devices (cell/smart phones, laser range finders, SkyCaddies, Bushnells, etc.) in junior golf events?

Please refer to the "Electronic Devices" section on page 10. Distance measuring devices that measure distance only and not slope or wind are allowed during competition. Personal cell phones should be used by participants to enter scores following each hole. GPS hole views, rules of play, and any hole locations will only be available through the BlueGolf Junior Golf App. Personal phones or watches that allow for direct communication (i.e., texts) are not allowed to be used to monitor social media or communicate with spectators or other players.

6. Do all players need to keep scores on their phone?

The Bluegrass Golf Tour has moved to a system that expects each player (or caddie) to keep their own score and the score for another player in their group on personal mobile phones. Players that maintain scores on the BlueGolf Junior Golf App will be able to review and certify their scores by signing on the screen of their mobile device. Check-in codes will be sent within 24 hours of the start of each event, and printed scorecards will be available with check-in codes at all events. Players that plan to compete in collegiate golf will be expected to maintain live score entry, and that technology is a central part of the Bluegrass Golf Tour program. Players should charge their cell phones prior to arriving at events.

7. Do I have to pay a membership fee to play in all junior golf events?

The Bluegrass Golf Tour Membership fee is \$40 which allows players to compete in all tournament offerings for the calendar year. Most events are open to non-members at an additional fee of \$30 per event. Players competing in two events with non-member fees will be added as Tour Members for the remainder of the season.

8. If I am a member of the Bluegrass Golf Tour Junior Series and begin the season as a 14-year-old and turn 15 by June 1, 2024. What age division will I play in for the season?

Whatever age you will be on June 1, 2024, is the age group that you will play in for the duration of the season. This is the same for the 9-Hole Divisions. Players may “play up” into the next Age Division if they wish to compete against older juniors from a longer yardage.

Note: *The June 1, 2024, age date is only in place for the Bluegrass Golf Tour Age Divisions.*

9. Can I communicate with my son/daughter during the tournament?

Yes, but only to provide them with a beverage and/or food item at their request (exception: emergency situations). Otherwise, please stay at least 30 yards from all competitors, out of fairways, clear of putting greens, keeping spectator carts (if applicable) on designated paths (or ample distance from fairways in absence of paths), always.

EXCEPTION: *If none of the players in the group has access to a personal phone for score entry, a phone provided by the BGT may be available. Otherwise, a spectator following the group may be allowed to record unofficial scores following each hole. Scoring assistants will be allowed to ask the players to confirm their score after each hole.*

10. If I want to rent a spectator cart, how do I go about doing so? How much does it cost?

The fees are at the sole discretion of the host golf course/facility and may vary from site to site. You can inquire about rental in the golf shop/clubhouse. Generally, spectator carts may not be reserved and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Personal carts may not be brought to BGT events without advance approval from the host staff.

11. If I find it necessary to withdraw from a tournament during the stipulated round, how should I go about doing so?

Please find a junior tour staff member, rules official, or host site official with radio communication to immediately inform them of your decision. They will assist you through radio communication with the tournament director to withdraw while maintaining scoring expectations within your pairing prior to leaving the golf course. You must certify the scores you have recorded as a marker until that point and confirm your live scores for previously completed holes. Each player in the group must have another player recording their scores, and at no time should any competitor be the only one keeping their own score.

12. What is the purpose for developing the Bluegrass Golf Tour?

The Bluegrass Golf Tour is committed to providing quality tournament opportunities and educational programs for participants and parents about the college recruiting process. Seminars may be available at select events allowing participants and parents the opportunity to learn more about the college process. The goal of the Bluegrass Golf Tour is to conduct events as close to home for as many players as possible throughout the region while potentially extending events into surrounding states. The primary purpose of the events is to allow for participants to exhibit life skills such as maturity, patience, acceptance, perspective, and integrity.

If you have any other questions not answered above or in the 2023 Bluegrass Golf Tour Handbook, please contact Executive Director, Chris Redle, at CRedle@BluegrassGolfTour.com or 502-338-4388.