



2026 GPJGA SUMMER TOUR



RULES FOR FUTURE MASTERS

ALL 6-HOLE & 9-HOLE PLAYERS

Rules of Play & Procedures:

The following Local Rules provide beginning/intermediate level golfers with an introductory level competitive experience while maintaining appropriate pace of play. Unless noted here (or announced at starting tee box), all other USGA Rules apply. Players and caddies are responsible for knowing and applying rules. If there are uncertainties on course, flag a Tournament Official or complete hole with two balls without penalty, until ruling can be made; do not delay play. The USGA Rules of Golf are available at USGA.org. If/when a player advances to the Junior Masters Division, these rule modifications will cease and all USGA Rules will apply.

Format: Individual Stroke Play. Maximum score for each hole is Double Par.

Each swing and/or stroke (even a miss) counts as a stroke. No further strokes are allowed after double par has been reached: The player must pick up their ball, record the maximum score of double par, and prepare for the next hole.

Typical Tee Assignments (*subject to change per course)

AGE	TEES	APPROX. YARDAGES	AGE	TEES	APPROX. YARDAGES
BOYS 5-6	TFT Green	6 Holes (1,000-1,200)	GIRLS 5-6	TFT Green	6 Holes (1,000-1,200)
BOYS 7-9	TFT Yellow	9 holes (1,800-2,000)	GIRLS 7-9	TFT Green	9 Holes (1,000-1,200)
BOYS 10-11	"Red"	9 holes (2,300-2,700)	GIRLS 10-11	TFT Yellow	9 holes (1,800-2,000)
BOYS 12-18	"Gold"	9 holes (2,800-3,200)	GIRLS 12-18	"Red"	9 holes (2,300-2,700)

After the Round: Proceed immediately to scoring table, verify scores hole by hole, sign card.

Medals for first through third place will be distributed after all players in each division have completed their round. Overall Summer Tour Champions are recognized at the Awards Banquet on July 17, 2025. Must compete in at least three tournaments to be eligible for end-of-season awards.

Scoring:



Players should verify the score of each hole with partners prior to teeing off on the next hole. Please move forward to the next tee box as you confirm scores to clear the way for players behind you.

Ages 5-9 Divisions: An adult with golf knowledge will be assigned to each group to keep score.

Ages 10 & Up Divisions: Players are responsible for keeping their score & their partner's score. Trade scorecards.

Maximum Score: Double par is the maximum score for each hole. All strokes count; even misses.

Ties: 1st place ties will be broken by the USGA scorecard playoff rules (last 6 hole total; last 3 hole total; hole by hole score beginning with the last hole played, working backwards; if a tie still exists, then it will stand). 2nd and 3rd place ties will stand with following place being eliminated (if a week has a 1st place winner and 2 players tied for 2nd, no 3rd place medal will be given as the next place would be 4th)

Bags and Push/Pull Carts:



Players must walk while playing the hole (tee to green).

Ages 5-11 Divisions: Player may use a push cart, carry their bag, have their bag carried by a caddie, or place their bag on an accompanying golf cart. Golf carts MUST remain on cart path or in rough, not in fairways or near greens, at ALL TIMES. Players may safely ride green to tee; however, if a golf cart is used between holes to shuttle a player with a push cart, **THE PUSH CART MAY NOT BE TOWED!** To prevent injuries, the wheels of the push cart may not touch the ground. Attach the cart to the back or break it down.

Ages 12-18 Divisions: Player must carry bag or use push cart at all times from 1st tee through 9th green. If push cart is used, player must push own cart without assistance. No riding between holes. One stroke penalty per hole of violation. EXCEPTION: If Committee announces that a shuttle cart is permitted between any two holes to transport players. If this occurs, **TOWING A PUSH CART BEHIND A GOLF CART IS NOT ALLOWED. SERIOUS INJURY COULD OCCUR.** When shuttling, the wheels of push cart may not touch ground (attach cart to the back or break it down).

Pace-of-Play and Order-of-Play Policy:



Players should arrive at their assigned first tee at least 10 minutes before their tee time and play without delay. A round of golf is meant to be played at a prompt pace.

Pace of Play Each group should maintain pace within one hole of the group in front of them. Being "out of position" may result in stroke penalties depending on number of breaches. If a group is more than one hole behind, a warning will be issued. If they do not pick up the pace, the Committee may require them to skip a hole and take maximum score for that hole. **Three minutes** is the maximum time to search for a ball. If a ball is found after the three minutes, that ball is considered "lost." **40 seconds** is the allotted maximum time to make a stroke once the ball is reached. **No more than two practice swings allowed.** If late for tee time, stroke penalties or DQ may occur.

Rangefinders:



Distance measuring devices are permitted under USGA Rules—please show courtesy and share distances with other players when possible. Devices that measure wind or slope are not allowed.

Caddie Policy:



Caddies are optional. The player may have one caddie who can help with advice and maintaining pace of play.

Caddies can: search for their player's ball, fill divots, rake bunkers, give information, attend flagstick, prepare player for next shot. **Caddies cannot:** stand behind, in front of, or near the player's line when they are taking their stance and stroke; or excessively coach a player and/or hinder pace of play.

NOTICE: This is a *developmental* division; therefore, the player should attempt to make decisions such as selecting clubs, marking own ball and reading own putts as much as possible. **Coaching is for practice areas not the course!** Penalties may be assessed for delay of play caused by caddies or breach of rules by caddies (applied by Committee).

The Course:



It is important to know the area of the course where the ball lies and the status of interfering objects and conditions, because they often affect the player's options for playing the ball or taking relief.

Out-of-Bounds Relief (NOTE: This relief option does not exist for a ball in or presumed in a penalty area, or a ball in a bunker, or an unplayable ball in the general area. See below for those relief options)

A ball is out of bounds when all of the ball is outside the boundary edge of a course (determined by white stakes, white lines, boundary fences, roadways, e.g.). A player is at no time permitted to play a ball that is out of bounds. The player has two options for a ball out of bounds or lost: 1. The player can play under stroke-and-distance relief from where the original ball was last played and **add one penalty stroke**; or 2. The player can take lateral relief by dropping their ball within two club lengths of the edge of the fairway (no closer to the hole) from where the original ball was last seen crossing out of bounds or the approximate area where it was lost in the general area, **add two penalty strokes**, used in Future Masters Division Only.

Penalty Areas: These areas are defined by yellow or red stakes/lines. The player can 1. Play the ball from the hazard, **no penalty**; 2. If red stakes, take two-club length relief no closer to the hole, **add one penalty stroke**; 3. Play under stroke-and-distance, **add one penalty stroke**; 4. Take back-on-the-line relief, **add one penalty stroke**. If a **Drop Zone Relief Area** has been adopted by the Committee and has been put into use, the player has the option of utilizing the drop zone. When taking relief in a drop zone, the player must drop the ball in the zone and have it come to rest in the zone and play on from that point, **add one penalty stroke**.

Bunkers: (Note: This rule is specific to the GPJGA Future Masters only and is not a USGA Rule.) If player's ball lands in a bunker, **the player must attempt one shot to get out (and count this stroke)**, playing the ball as it lies and not touching sand with club prior to taking shot. If the ball does not exit the bunker on that shot attempt, the player may pick up the ball and place it outside of the bunker within two club lengths of the bunker's edge at the nearest side point no closer to the hole—**no penalty stroke added** (first stroke was counted).

Weather Policy:



One long siren or horn blast signals suspension of play. Immediately stop play and seek shelter.

Safety is our primary concern. If play is suspended due to weather or any other issue, the player must immediately stop play and seek shelter. If you are near your ball, quickly mark its position with a tee. When play is suspended, practice areas are also closed. Penalties will be assessed for violation. A player may stop play if they reasonably believe there is danger from lightning but must report to the Committee as soon as possible. Rain itself is not a reason to discontinue play. The Committee will determine length of delay or cancellation.

Spectator Policy:



Spectators may watch players by walking or renting carts, but all spectators must remain on the cart path or in the rough, slightly behind the players. Cart fees are set by the golf course and availability of carts is not guaranteed. A valid driver's license is required to rent/drive a cart. Spectators should positively encourage/support all players but may not give players advice during the round.

Other Important Policies:

The following policies are enforced in this order: Warning; +2 penalty strokes; DQ; Removal from Summer Tour

Dress Code: Players, caddies & spectators should wear accepted golf attire (no metal spikes, tank tops, denim)

Electronic Devices: Cell phone use during tournament play is prohibited except for emergency. Headphones, AirPods, etc., are not allowed during play and are discouraged in practice areas and the clubhouse.

Tobacco and Alcohol Use: Not permitted by players or caddies and discouraged of spectators.

Code of Conduct: Players, caddies & spectators should all display the highest manner of courtesy, sportsmanship and etiquette at all times. GPJGA reserves the right to remove any player, caddie or spectator at any time for any reason during an event.

