

Recommendations to gain more golf experience for your Junior Golfer

1. Peoria Park District : 2017 Junior Open Tournament Series

Registration forms can be found on the website: www.ppdgolf.org

Amateur Boys and Girls ages 12-17 (must reach 12th birthday by June 12, 2017)

Junior Open #1

6/12/17 at Kellogg

Junior Open #2

6/14/17 at Newman

Lil' Guys and Gals

6/17/17 – 6/18/17 at Detweiller

Junior Open #3

6/21/16 at Newman

Junior Open #4/Match Play Qualifying

6/26/17 at Madison

PPD Junior Match Play

6/27/16 – 6/30/16 at Madison

Junior Open Championship

7/12/17 at Kellogg

This is a great way to introduce your son or daughter to tournament golf. Kids of all skill levels participate in these events.

2. Junior River Cup

Website: www.Rivercup.com

Click on Competitions and Qualifying to learn more about how to accumulate points to make the team.

One of the best junior golf competitions in our area: It's the area's best junior golfers from Tazewell/Woodford County vs. Peoria County.

Teams consist of: **Ages 12-13 top 2 qualify, ages 14-15 top 3 qualify with 1 captain's pick, and 16-18 top 4 qualify with 2 captain's picks. Ties will be decided by the Captain!**

Mission of Junior River Cup:

Our objective is to have the area's best golfers compete in their respective divisions and qualify for the competitions in an open, objective manner consistent with golf's long held traditions.

3. Prep Tour

Tournament schedule and registration can be found on the website: www.preptour.com

Divisions for Jr. High Boys and Girls, High School Boys and Girls, Collegiate Men and Women

\$85-\$100 for 2 day tournaments, you must register at least 6 days before the event to be eligible.

This tour is very well organized and is better suited for more experienced youth golfers. A beginner golfer would do much better starting with the Peoria Park District junior open series.

The Prep Tour Mission Statement:

To provide Central Illinois junior golfers and their families an affordable, competitive tour where junior golfers can sharpen their skills for the approaching Summer and Fall seasons.

4. Illinois Junior Golf Association (IJGA)

Tournament schedule and registration can be found on the website: www.ijga.com

Membership costs: \$75/\$100/\$250 (different levels)

Cost of event depends on location: Approximately \$57-\$77 for 18-hole tournament
 Approximately \$175 for 2 day tournament

In 2016, the IJGA provided and managed over 145 separate events throughout the state of Illinois. These include one day 9-hole and 18-hole tournaments, 36-hole and 54-hole major championships, and a match play championship.

Boys and Girls Divisions banded in age groups from 8-18 years old.

This is a great way to test your skills outside the local area. Many of these events are held in the Chicagoland area. Fields are very strong and age banding helps each junior see the level of competition and skill in their age group.

5. Mid-American Junior Golf Tour (MAJGT) (run by the IJGA)

Tournament schedule and registration can be found on the website: www.majgt.com

Cost to join MAJGT: \$175

The biggest difference between the IJGA and MAJGT is how the fields are set up. The IJGA is age banded, where the MAJGT is a 12-18 open field. You will find some of these events in our local area. (Bloomington/Urbana)

The Mid-American Junior Golf Tour (MAJGT) is designed for exceptionally talented junior golfers throughout the Midwest ages 12-18. The MAJGT is nationally recognized by the Golfweek Sagarin Rankings, Junior Golf Scoreboard, and American Junior Golf Association with all of its events providing national exposure.

6. American Junior Golf Association (AJGA)

Website: www.ajga.com

Entry into fields is based on Performance Based Scoring System. (Stars) Performance Based Entry was introduced in 2003 as the means to determine AJGA tournament fields. This enables members to earn their way into AJGA tournaments based on performances at the national, regional, and state levels.

Players can earn Performance Stars based on their finishes in state, regional, and national level junior tournaments, as well as, AJGA qualifiers and tournaments. Earning Performance Stars will assist players to gain entry into AJGA Open and Junior All-Star Series tournaments.

Players with the highest number of Performance Stars will have priority over players with fewer Performance Stars.

Costs: \$215-\$290, includes 1 practice round and 2-3 competitive rounds. Player also receives 1 dozen Taylor Made balls, shirt, and hat.

This is where you need to play if you want to attain a college golf scholarship. Courses are more difficult and play on average around 7000 yards. A lot of college golf coaches are in attendance at these events. This is the top Junior Golf program in the country.

Need to start early to gain traction and earn Performance Stars. Website is good at explaining Performance system, but would recommend calling the AJGA.

Requires a lot of travel, tournaments are 3 days plus a practice round.

Mission of the AJGA:

The AJGA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to the overall growth and development of young men and women who aspire to earn college golf scholarships through competitive junior golf.

7. The Youth Classic/Bloomington-Normal Sponsored by Country Financial

Tournament schedule can be found on the website: www.theyouthclassic.com

Ages 3-22 are welcome to compete in this 2 day tournament. They also offer a Parent/Child Event. This is a very fun event and good for all levels of golfers. (5 hole, 9 hole, and 18 hole options)

Costs vary: \$55 to \$125

8. Pepsi Titan Little People's Golf-Junior Golf Tournament

Registration and information can be found on the website: www.littlepeoplesgolf.com

The Annual Pepsi Little People's Golf Championship is for boys and girls ages 3 through 18 (and not yet in college) on two golf courses in Quincy, Illinois. Pepsi Little People's Golf Week includes several optional events. Trophies are given for 1st through 3rd in all Divisions, with medals through 6th in Divisions 4, 5, 6, and 7 (ages 10-18) and participant awards to all non-trophy winners in Divisions 1, 2, and 3 (ages 3-9).

9. Hurricane Junior Golf Tour (they took over Plantation Junior tour)

Membership information can be found on the website: www.hjgt.org

Juniors will compete in 1 of 6 divisions which are: Boys 16-18, Boys 14-15, Boys 11-13, Boys under 10, Girls 14-18, and Girls under 13.

Tournament fees range from \$189 - \$249 for 36 hole events.

The Hurricane Junior Golf Tour (HJGT) was founded in 2007 with the intention of providing junior golfers between the ages of 8-18 an opportunity to play exceptional courses in a competitive environment. The tour's vision is to provide superb hospitality and make every event a memorable one. With play open to both males and females, nearly every junior golfer is eligible to participate on the Hurricane Junior Golf Tour. Currently the HJGT is the largest junior golf tour in the United States hosting more 2-day nationally ranked events than any other tour.