

## PGA JUNIOR LEAGUE GOLF NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

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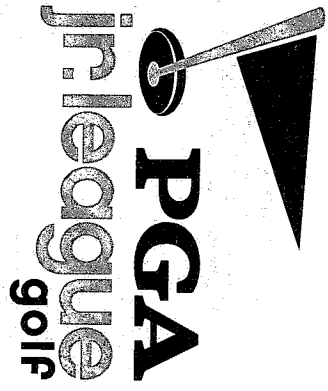
### MISSION STATEMENT

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PGA Junior League Golf (PGA JLG) is designed to better socialize the game for juniors, 13-and-under, by creating a "little league" approach to golf... with a scramble format, allowing youngsters to be part of a team, in a structured league setting... but without the pressure of individual medal-play competition.

As Captain, you become the key to creating an inviting atmosphere for kids... always remembering that this program is RECREATIONAL at its core... designed to minimize the rules, while maximizing the FUN!

Help to "Grow the Game" by bringing more kids each year onto a PGA Junior League Golf team!



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## TEAM CAPTAIN ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

**REMEMBER:** AS IN LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL... PARENTS ACCEPT KEY ROLES AS COACHES AND "TEAM MOMS". YOU MAY CHOOSE TO COACH... BUT DO NOT HAVE TO. IF YOU HAVE PARENTS EAGER TO BE INVOLVED, YOUR PRIMARY ROLE IS THAT OF THE TEAM'S "MANAGER".

1. The Team Captain has full authority, supported by the PGA JLG Headquarters, to make all decisions regarding his/her team.
2. The Team Captain must be a PGA Professional in good standing, but may assign any/all team duties to Coaches, who may be other golf professionals, parents, or volunteers. All adults should be background checked, by the club and/or Team Captain, prior to assuming official duties for the team.
3. The Team Captain supervises the recruitment of team players, scheduling of range practices, and communication to players and parents regarding the team's competition schedule. The Team Captain does not handle transportation of players to competitions. Parents of players must transport their youngsters to practices and competitions.
4. The Team Captain will be responsible for handling or assigning the administration of the Team's homepage on the PGA JLG website. The information your players will be able to access will be much more comprehensive if your homepage is updated regularly.

## HOW YOUR LEAGUE AND SCHEDULE WORKS

PGA Junior League Golf is the "little league" approach to recreational golf leagues. Your local league will be comprised of 4-7 teams from clubs in your geographic area.

1. Your team will compete against each of the other teams in your league in a 5-6 week regular season.
2. Competitions are team-vs-team, and are held on a weekly basis. Your team will either be hosting a Competition, or be the visitor at the opposing team's facility. (Your players are always transported to your home and away Competitions by their parents).
3. PGA JLG National HQ will be developing your league, and assigning your home or away weeks on your schedule, and the team you will face each week.
4. You have indicated the preferred days/times for your home Competitions. The other Captains in your league have also indicated their preferred hosting days/times. You should contact the Captain of the team you are facing each week, to confirm your scheduled Competition.
5. If a competition needs to be re-scheduled because a team is unable to appear at the scheduled time and day with a minimum of 4 players, notification must be made at least 48 hours prior to the Competition. Both Captains must work on finding an acceptable make-up date prior to the official end of the regular season. If an alternate date cannot be agreed upon, PGA JLG HQ must be made aware immediately and will make a final determination if the competition should be a forfeit or a draw (6-6).
6. Notification of less than 48 hours will be deemed a 1-2-0 forfeit if the Competition is not re-scheduled.

## (how your league and schedule works cont.)

7. If a Captain cannot attend an away Competition a parent or other volunteer must be appointed as the Coach responsible for players on the tee, substitutions, team & parent behavior and the conformation of results.
8. A Captain from the home course must be present during the Competition to act as the Rules Official.
9. **REMEMBER:** PGA JLG follows the successful model of recreational youth baseball. Involve new players with experienced players and watch your program grow!

## 2013 PGA JLG SEASON TIMELINE

**Regular Season:** May 1 – July 31, 2014

**Postseason Qualifiers & Section Championships (where applicable):** August 2014

**Regional Championships:** September 2014

**PGA JLG Championship:** October 24-26, 2014 TPC Sugarloaf, Atlanta, GA

## PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

Any boy or girl who will not reach their 14th birthday prior to Aug. 1, 2014 is eligible for this season's PGA JLG. If a question arises regarding a player's age, it is the Team Captain's responsibility to produce that player's birth certificate.

While a minimum age of 9 is suggested, younger players may participate if the Team Captain and the player's parents agree that the player's skill level is suitable for "playing up."

It is suggested that members' children be given first opportunity to play on a private club's PGA JLG team, however, it is allowable to include youngsters from outside club membership, providing they are not members of another club with a PGA JLG team whose roster is not full. (No "stealing" other team's players).

Upon making a league's All-Star team, all players will have to produce birth certificates for post-season participation.

## TEAM-VS-TEAM COMPETITION FORMAT

### Home Competition Course Set-Up:

You, as Captain, are responsible for the set-up of the nine-holes to be used on your Competition day.

**REMEMBER:** This is RECREATIONAL golf, and the idea is to create as many birdies, and even eagles, as we can for PGA JLG Teams! The shorter the course... the more FUN the players will have. This is match-play... let them battle the other Team, not the course. At no time should the total distance of your course set-up exceed 2,800 yds.

- No par-5 should exceed 450 yds., no par-4 should exceed 350 yds., and no par-3 should exceed 150 yds.
- No carry to the fairway from a tee should exceed 125 yds.
- In a 2-player scramble, you are encouraged to allow players to occasionally try to reach a par-4 green on a drive, especially once their partners are safely in the fairway... put an emphasis on the FUN... your players will love it!
- You are not required to adhere to the traditional par-36 nine hole set-up. If you find that all par-4's and par-3's make for a faster, friendlier set-up... by all means, go for it!

Games between two teams in PGA JLG are referred to as "Competitions". The four 2-player-vs-2-player segments of each PGA JLG Competition are referred to as "Matches". Matches are all 9-holes in length, broken into three 3-hole segments referred to as "Flags". PGA JLG "Flags" are a key component of your Competitions... allowing you to substitute players at the beginning of each new "Flag" at holes #4 and #7.

7 out of 12 "Flags" must be completed for the Competition to be deemed official. If the regular season standings culminate in a tie, the following tie-breakers will decide the order of finish

1. Head-to-head result
2. Total # of points won during the season
3. Total score vs. common opponents (margin of victory)

**(team-vs-team Competition format cont.)**

1. Each of your regular-season Competitions will feature four match-play Matches
2. You will assign 2 starting players to each Match, and will determine where your remaining players will be assigned as Alternates. (Remember: all players in attendance must play a minimum of one 3-hole "Flag")
3. Once assigned to a Match, a player must remain with that Match for the entire Competition. (The only exception to this rule would be in the case of an injury to a player in a Match that has no alternates assigned. In this case you may use an alternate from another Match)
4. All Four Matches will be 2-player scramble format (see Match Format page)
5. Each Match is worth 3 points to the Team (one point per "Flag")
6. There are 12 points awarded in a Competition... the Team with the most points is determined the Competition winner, but each team retains the points it won... toward a season total.
7. Scorecards will be provided by PGA JLG HQ and should be used during Competitions. The scorecards should be saved by Team Captains, and sent to PGA JLG HQ at the end of the regular season.
8. If a team appears at a Competition and cannot compete in at least 2 matches (4 players) than that Competition will be deemed a forfeit and a score of 12-0 will be the result.
9. The score for each Match will be kept by the official scorekeepers. Each Team is responsible for providing 2 adults as scorekeepers. They may be Coaches of the Teams.
10. Results of each Competition should be sent by the Home Team Captain to PGA JLG HQ by the end of each Competition week. Results may be emailed or faxed, and should include Match-by-Match results with player names.

**MATCH FORMAT**

Each Captain will present a starting lineup... featuring 8 starting players... 2 each in each of the 4 Matches. Alternates will also be assigned to specific Matches before the Competition begins. While it is preferred to have substitution holes specified prior to the Match beginning, PGA JLG rules do not prohibit changing originally planned substitution holes, as long as every player plays the minimum 3-hole "Flag"

**MATCH SCORING:** As in traditional match play, each hole is won by the team with the lowest score on the hole. If a team wins more holes within a "Flag" than the opposing team... the "Flag", and one point is awarded in the Match. Each Match is worth a total of 3 points. If a "Flag" ends in a tie then each team will be awarded a half-point. If a team "Captures a Flag", and wins a full point, those players should be given a "Flag" sticker after the Match to display on their bag tag.

1. Each Match has 3 Team points at stake (1 point per "Flag")
2. 4 Matches X 3 points = 12 points at stake in a Competition
3. The team that wins most points is winner of the Competition. It is possible to tie a regular season PGA JLG Competition... which in RECREATIONAL golf is great for all involved.
4. Capturing "Flags" are accomplishments, and should be highlighted with the presentation of PGA JLG "Flag" stickers for application to player bag-tags immediately at the conclusion of a Match.

**MATCH SCORECARD**

Match # 0234 Date 5/19/14

Visiting Team: TIGER SQUIRREL Home Team: HAMILTON MALL

Team	Flag #1			Flag #2			Flag #3		
	Player	Score	Par	Player	Score	Par	Player	Score	Par
Visiting	Scott	5	4	1	4	5	6	0	5
Home	Griffin	3	4	5	0	4	4	5	1

Starter: Kiah  
 Starter: Matt  
 Alternate 1: Ben  
 Alternate 2: [blank]  
 Alternate 3: [blank]

Starter: Matt  
 Starter: Griffin  
 Alternate 1: [blank]  
 Alternate 2: [blank]

Visiting Team Captain: [blank]  
 Home Team Captain: [blank]

Visiting Team Points: 15  
 Home Team Points: 15

**SUBSTITUTION:**

PGA JLG allows for substitution of players within each of a Competition's four Matches. The alternates you assign to specific Matches are an integral part of that Match's team! While an alternate may only be playing one or two of the Match's "Flags", he/she is involved in the "social" aspect of the entire Match, and provides valuable assistance to the team, even when not playing, by helping to read putts, tending the flagstick, helping rake bunkers, and speeding up the pace of play by retrieving the ball not chosen for play by the team.

At no time should an alternate ever feel "left out" of the team's efforts! The opportunity for your "lesser" skilled players to become Match teammates with older, more skilled peers allows for the "socialization" of the game in this age group!

**MATCH RULES:** Players only may call rules infractions on the course. Any infraction must be declared and ruled upon prior to the start of the following hole:

1. Shot progression: Both players on each team will hit from each tee, with best shot selected, and played... continuing in this format through the hole.
  - 1a. Upon reaching the green, the ball selected for play, shall always be lifted and placed at the selected ball's mark. No player shall roll or putt his/her ball to the marked location.
  - 1b. During the regular season, a player will be warned for improper movement of a ball on a green... subsequent violations by the team in that Match will result in a 1-stroke penalty.
  - 1c. Any intentional improper movement of a ball on a green to gain advantage, will result in a 1-stroke penalty with no warning.

2. Preferred lies: players shall have the right to lift, clean and place their ball before each shot. There is never a penalty for inadvertently moving a ball in PGA JLG, with the exception of rule 1a.

- 2a. Upon selecting the shot to be played, players shall mark the ball, and then place the ball within one club-length of the mark, no closer to the hole, to play their next shots. A ball may be moved from the rough to the fairway, if it is within the one-club distance. A ball, however, may never be moved out of a sand-bunker, or onto a green.

- 2b. No play from marked hazards: No ball within a marked hazard can be played from within the hazard. Relief must be taken, with a 1-stroke penalty, if that ball is chosen to be played. Out-of-bounds is played as a lateral hazard during PGA JLG regular season competitions. Sand-bunkers are not marked hazards.

3. Stroke maximum: Triple-Bogey. No hole in PGA JLG can be won with a triple-bogey. Any team failing to finish a hole after reaching 2 strokes over par on that hole will pick-up. If both teams are forced to pick-up, the hole is halved.

4. Coaches may only help players with match strategy after a hole is completed, and before the tee shots on the following hole. No technical advice may be given to players at any time during play.

5. Players shall walk during Matches, and may either carry their bags, or use pull-carts where allowed. (In cases of long distances between greens and tees, it is permissible for Coaches and/or scorekeeper(s) to shuttle players to the next tee. An alternate player's bag may be carried on the Scorekeeper's cart, until that player enters the Match.)

6. The maximum penalty for any rules infraction in PGA JLG is one stroke.

## PACE OF PLAY TIPS

One of the key lessons to pass along to juniors, especially on the "recreational" end of the golf spectrum, is the importance of their pace of play.

PGA JLG is recreational match-play in a scramble format, so searching for lost balls, continuing play on a hole that should be conceded, or even spending considerable time deciding which shot to select, are "time consuming" factors that need to be discouraged by you and your coaches.

Not all matches will have an alternate player, but those that do should move even more quickly! The Alternate is an important teammate, even when he/she is not hitting shots. The ball not chosen needs to be retrieved, the flag needs tending, the bunker needs to be raked... all important activities, and all easily accomplished by any Alternate. An Alternate, however, should be coached not to retrieve an opposing team's ball unless asked to do so by that team.

Abiding by the triple bogey maximum is another way to help with pace of play. No hole in PGA JLG can be won with a triple bogey, so encourage your players to pick up if they have not holed out after their double bogey putts or shots.

We have all seen 3-ft. putts conceded in Ryder Cup play, and we've also seen a player have to make a 1-ft. putt to win a hole. PGA JLG is scramble format, and is supposed to be recreational and FUN! Please encourage your teams to concede short putts... it may not be the best competitive strategy... but it teaches a more important quality... sportsmanship. It will also increase your pace of play by 5-10 minutes per match!

We realize our players are young (please allow pull-carts) and have to walk the nine holes, but a PGA JLG match should not take more than 2.5 hours if your players follow these tips.

## POSTSEASON PLAY

While PGA JLG is designed to be more recreational than competitive, it is important to keep "role model" players involved in the program so that we are able to provide positive peer mentoring for those younger players being introduced to golf competition.

With the more advanced players in mind, and with the desire to brand this program nationally, PGA JLG has developed post-season advancement for league All-Star teams.

Your league All-Star team, depending on the number of leagues in your geographic area, may have postseason qualifiers, Section Championships and Regional Championships to advance through to become one of the 8 teams that make it to the PGA JLG CHAMPIONSHIP, being hosted in 2014 by TPC Sugarloaf in Atlanta, GA, October 24-26, 2014.

**All-Star Team selection:** At the end of your regular-season play, a league champion team will be crowned. The league champion Captain will be the Captain of your league's All-Star team. PGA JLG HQ mandates that every team in a league will have a representative on your league's All-Star team.

A league must have a minimum of 4 teams in order to qualify for the postseason. Special exceptions can be made by PGA JLG HQ due to geographic challenges. If a team forfeits more than 1 Competition it will forfeit its right to place a player(s) on their league's All-Star team unless the majority of Captains within the league allow them to do so.

There will be 10 "active" players and 2 alternates available on the All-Star roster. To be eligible for an All-Star team roster, a player must have participated in at least 75% of their regular-season competitions. Our recommendation for awarding the spots is as follows:

- 1. 7-team league:
  - Championship team gets 3 All-Star spots
  - Runner-up gets 2 All-Star spots
  - Each of the remaining 5 teams gets 1 All-Star spot

**(postseason play cont.)**

2. 6-team league:
  - Championship team gets 4 All-Star spots
  - Runner-up gets 2 All-Star spots
  - Each of the remaining 4 teams gets 1 All-Star spot
3. 5-team league:
  - Championship team gets 4 All-Star spots
  - Runner-up gets 2 All-Star spots
  - Each of the remaining 3 teams gets 1 All-Star spot
  - One at-large spot awarded by majority vote of league Captains
4. 4-team league:
  - Championship team gets 4 All-Star spots
  - Runner-up gets 2 All-Star spots
  - Each of the remaining 2 teams gets 1 All-Star spot
  - Two at-large spot awarded by majority vote of league Captains with All-Star Team Captain selecting in case of tie vote.

A team may surrender an All-Star spot only upon email confirmation of the voluntary surrender by the surrendering Captain. Once an All-Star spot is awarded to a player, that spot may only be surrendered by that player upon email confirmation of the surrender from that player's parents.

At no time, without expressed permission from PGA JLG HQ, will an All-Star team be permitted to have more than 5 players on its roster from any one team in the league. If at-large spots are available, the league's championship team, having already been granted 4 spots, may not use more than one at-large spot.

If a postseason qualifier (head-to-head competition) results in a tie, the winner will be decided in the following order:

1. # Of holes won (out of 36)
2. Chip off – 2 players selected from each team will chip from a designated location. Each player chips and the ball farthest from the hole is eliminated. Remaining 3 players chip a second time and this is repeated until one team has no balls left in play.

Reminder, 7 out of 12 "Flags" must be completed to deem any Competition official.

ALL REGULAR SEASON PLAY MUST CONCLUDE, AND YOUR ALL-STAR TEAM RE-SELECTED BY JULY 31, 2014

**PARENT / VOLUNTEER INVOLVEMENT**

PGA JLG, as in most other recreational youth sports programs, was designed to have parents and other volunteers assisting in the administration of Team Competitions.

1. Parents would love to serve as your Coaches and/or Scorekeepers (The quickest way to fill your player roster is to have a dad or two as coaches... they will also become your chief recruiters!)
2. A Team Mom is a valuable asset to your PGA JLG Team. From posting scores, to arranging for post-Competition snacks... most youth sports teams have this very key parent!
3. Parents/Spectators are permitted to encourage, cheer and be supportive of your PGA JLG Team; however, unless they are officially involved in the Competition, they must stay on the cart path and:
  - a. They are not permitted to coach or give advice to players
  - b. They are never allowed on the greens
  - c. They may enter the fairway if it is to assist in raking bunkers, filling divots.
  - d. Violations of these rules should incur a warning, and then a loss of point for that parent's team. His/Her Team Captain has full authority over visitors to his facility.

## CODE OF CONDUCT

**PLAYERS:** The code of conduct requires that players exhibit exemplary behavior during PGA JLG activities. While having FUN is encouraged, and celebrating good shots and victories with teammates is part of the FUN experience, players must remember to respect their opponents, parents, coaches, the golf course, and golf course employees. . . while always demonstrating good sportsmanship. Club throwing, damage to the course, and displays of anger should never be tolerated in PGA JLG!

Any report of profanity should result in a warning to a PGA Junior League Golfer, and a second occurrence should result in either loss of hole, or disqualification of the player from a match. The Captains and/or coaches will determine conduct penalties.

**PARENTS:** The code charges parents with the responsibility to demonstrate exemplary behavior at all times during PGA JLG activities. Parents should remember the volunteer status of club members, coaches, and scorekeepers, and should show these officials the highest degree of respect. The League asks that parents in attendance at a PGA JLG Competition help to keep the golf course in the same condition they find it. . . by assisting, when necessary, in the raking of bunkers; the replacement and/or sanding of divots, and the removal of any trash. Parents are to refrain from using tobacco and alcohol when present at a PGA JLG Competition.

**UNLESS OFFICIALLY APPOINTED, PARENTS ARE TO REFRAIN FROM COACHING PLAYERS IN ANY MANNER DURING PGA JLG COMPETITIONS!**

**COACHES/SCOREKEEPERS:** The code requires coaches to consistently present themselves in a mature and respectful fashion. PGA JLG exists for the FUN the players will experience. Harsh criticism of players and/or profanity at any time from adult officials will result in a report to PGA JLG HQ, and either suspension or expulsion of the official from further involvement in the League. If we are to "Grow the Game", then we must at all times be inviting and encouraging to these "recreational players".

## LOCAL SPONSORSHIP GUIDE

1. A PGA JLG Team Captain has the right (restricted) to procure local sponsorship for his/her team. Sponsorship can add to the enhancement of benefits (additional clinics, snacks, post-season travel) offered to your players, or can simply add to the bottom-line profitability of the program as one of your business units.
2. A local sponsor can receive tee-marker recognition at your home matches and can have their logo on the right sleeve of your team's jerseys. Only sponsors deemed appropriate for involvement in youth sports activities will be considered for approval by PGA JLG headquarters.
3. The only involvement-identity the sponsor can receive at their place of business is a team photo indicating appreciation for their sponsorship.
4. Prior to adopting local team sponsorship, a Captain must receive written approval of the sponsor from PGA JLG headquarters.
5. PGA JLG headquarters operate under the strict sponsorship guidelines of the PGA of America, and at no time will a sponsor, deemed in conflict with PGA national partners, or with primary Section sponsors, be approved.
6. Categories such as alcohol, tobacco, and firearms are deemed inappropriate for youth sponsorship. In all cases, the PGA of America maintains ultimate rights of approval or denial of local sponsor.