

# JUNIOR GOLF IN GEORGIA

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**GEORGIA IS WIDELY CONSIDERED** one of the greatest golf states in the country. Part of that greatness is due to the strong presence of junior golf throughout the state.

The Georgia State Golf Association, along with the Georgia Section of the PGA, is proud to provide junior competitions for all junior golfers in the state, from beginner to elite level.

Over the next few pages we outline many junior golf opportunities available throughout the state. Whether you are a beginner, an average player or an advanced competitor, there is something for you.

Use this as a resource to help you navigate through all that is junior golf.

The GSGA Junior Tour is a statewide program managed by the Georgia State Golf Association. Membership is open to juniors of all skill levels between 5 and 18 who have not yet started college. The GSGA Junior Tour offers a variety of membership levels to meet the junior's needs. Included in a GSGA Junior Tour membership is access to the Youth on Course Georgia program, allowing juniors ages 6–18 an incredible opportunity to play affordable golf for \$5 per round at participating courses.

In addition to the Junior Tour, the GSGA also conducts the Georgia Junior and Girls' Championships. Separate concurrent championships are held for boys and girls in June. The Junior Championship is for boys under the age of 19 (and must not have turned 19 before the first day of competition) and features a 36-hole cut. The Girls' Championship is for girls between the ages of 9 and 18. Entrants must be at least 9 years old on or before the first day of competition and must not have turned 19 before the last day of competition.

The Georgia PGA Junior Tour is a statewide competitive series managed by the Georgia PGA Section and Foundation. The Georgia PGA Junior Tour is open to all males and females between the ages of 11–18 (age is determined upon the first round of a tournament). The Georgia PGA Junior Tour is designed to teach the values of sportsmanship, honesty, self-discipline, integrity and competitive spirit through the game of golf. This will be accomplished by conducting a series of competitions on some of the state's finest courses and with the highest level of professionalism. The 2021 membership fee is \$90 per member, effective January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021. The membership fee must be received prior to the first event in which the junior wishes to play in order to earn Player of the Year points and a Membership Kit.





## Junior Golf Skill Placement Chart

JUNIOR GOLF OPPORTUNITIES	DISCOVER	LEARN	PLAY	9-HOLES	18-HOLES	ENGAGED
GSGA JUNIOR TOUR BEGINNER SERIES (5-18 YEARS)	Yellow	Orange	Red	White	White	White
GSGA JUNIOR TOUR SKILLS CHALLENGE SERIES (5-13 YEARS)	Yellow	Orange	Red	Blue	Teal	Light Gray
THE FIRST TEE (5-18 YEARS)	Yellow	Orange	Red	Blue	Teal	Green
LPGA*USGA GIRLS GOLF (6-17 YEARS)	Yellow	Orange	Red	Blue	Teal	Light Gray
DRIVE, CHIP & PUTT (7-15 YEARS)	Yellow	Orange	Red	Blue	Teal	Green
YOUTH ON COURSE GEORGIA (6-18 YEARS)	Yellow	Orange	Red	Blue	Teal	Green
PGA JUNIOR LEAGUE (6-17 YEARS)	White	Orange	Red	Blue	White	White
GSGA JUNIOR TOUR SPRING/SUMMER/FALL SERIES (8-18 YEARS)	Light Gray	Light Gray	Red	Blue	Teal	Light Gray
GSGA JUNIOR TOUR TEAM SERIES	White	White	Red	Blue	Teal	White
GSGA JUNIOR TOUR PREMIER PLAYER SERIES DRIVEN BY MAADA	White	White	White	White	Teal	Green
GEORGIA PGA JUNIOR TOUR COMPETITIONS (11-18 YEARS)	White	White	White	White	Teal	Green
GEORGIA PGA JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP	White	White	White	White	Teal	Green
GSGA JUNIOR BOYS' & GIRLS' MATCH PLAY CHAMPIONSHIPS	White	White	White	White	Teal	Green
GSGA GIRLS' & JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS	White	White	White	White	Teal	Green
AMERICAN JUNIOR GOLF ASSOCIATION	White	White	White	White	Teal	Green

**DISCOVER:** Beginning golfer with no prior experience.

**LEARN:** Limited experience with a desire to improve.

**PLAY:** Able to play the game with a caddie (adult) assisting.

**9-HOLES:** Able to walk 9 holes with an understanding of golf rules and etiquette.

**18-HOLES:** Able to walk 18 holes by themselves with a better understanding of golf rules and etiquette.

**ENGAGED:** Frequently competes in local, regional and national competitions and has aspirations to play golf in college and beyond.

# Junior Golf Opportunities

(mentioned in chart on previous page)

## GSGA JUNIOR TOUR SKILLS CHALLENGE SERIES (5-13 YEARS)

The Skills Challenge Series are single-day skills competitions based on chipping, pitching and putting. Membership is not required for this Series. The Series consists of eight qualifiers across the state starting in March and ending in August. The GSGA Junior Skills Challenge Championship will be held on the final-round day of the TOUR Championship at East Lake Golf Club in Atlanta.

Each qualifier will feature three skills that will consist of a 45-foot chip shot from fairway length, a 30-foot pitch shot from rough and a 15-foot putt.

## GSGA JUNIOR TOUR BEGINNER SERIES (5-18 YEARS)

The Beginner Division is for juniors who are fairly new to the game and are looking to have fun while learning more about tournament golf. This division is non-competitive and no points or prizes are awarded. Beginner Division tournaments are played on par-3 and executive golf courses. Players are limited to 10 strokes per hole and caddies are permitted.

- Boys' Beginner (Yardages played: 800–1,600)
- Girls' Beginner (Yardages played: 800–1,600)

## THE FIRST TEE (5-18 YEARS)

The First Tee enables kids to build the strength of character that empowers them through a lifetime of new challenges. By integrating golf with a life skills curriculum, learning experiences are created to build inner strength, self-confidence and resilience that kids carry to everything they do.

## LPGA\*USGA GIRLS GOLF (6-17 YEARS)

LPGA\*USGA Girls Golf is a community of more than 90,000 girls across the globe learning and loving the game of golf with more than 500 communities across the country. Girls Golf sites provide

girls with quality golf instruction led by LPGA and PGA teaching professionals or certified coaches from The First Tee.

## PGA JUNIOR LEAGUE (6-17 YEARS)

PGA Junior League exists to bring communities together through fun, team golf experiences. PGA Junior League is the flagship youth pillar program of the PGA of America's 501(c)(3) foundation, PGA REACH. The aim is to make PGA Junior League accessible to all children everywhere, regardless of circumstance.

## YOUTH ON COURSE GEORGIA (6-18 YEARS)

A \$10 GSGA/Youth on Course membership allows juniors ages 6–18 an incredible opportunity to play affordable golf. Members can play for \$5 per round at participating courses. (Note: if you're already a member of the GSGA Junior Tour, you are automatically enrolled in Youth on Course.)

## DRIVE, CHIP & PUTT (7-15 YEARS)

Drive, Chip and Putt is a free nationwide junior golf development competition aimed at growing the game by focusing on the three fundamental skills employed in golf. It provides aspiring junior golfers an opportunity to play with their peers in qualifiers around the country. Participants who advance through local, sub-regional and regional qualifying in each age/gender category earn a place in the National Finals, which is conducted at Augusta National Golf Club the Sunday before the Masters Tournament and broadcast live by Golf Channel. Local qualifying is typically available in all 50 states.

## GSGA JUNIOR TOUR SPRING/SUMMER/FALL SERIES (8-18 YEARS)

The Spring Series consists of single-day tournaments held on weekends from March through early May. Membership is not required for spring tournaments. Players are placed in flights based solely on their age/gender. Any GSGA Junior Tour member is eligible to compete in the Spring Finale and tournament registrations are accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis. Players will be ranked





## 2021 GSGA & GEORGIA PGA JUNIOR GOLF COMPETITIONS

### Georgia PGA Junior Championship (Georgia PGA)

The Legends at Chateau Elan, Braselton • June 7-9

### Georgia Girls' Championship (GSGA)

Valdosta Country Club • June 21-23

### Georgia Junior Championship (GSGA)

Kinderlou Forest Golf Club, Valdosta • June 21-23

### Haskins Junior Invitational / ANNIKA Award Junior Invitational (Georgia PGA)

Country Club of Columbus • July 12-14

### GSGA Junior Boys' & Girls' Match Play Championships (GSGA)

Jekyll Island Golf Club • July 13-15

### Junior Tour Championship (Georgia PGA)

Georgia Southern University Golf Course, Statesboro • November 6-7

throughout the Spring Series based on their performance in order to gain entry into the Season-Ending Championships and be eligible for postseason honors.

The Summer Series consists of single-day tournaments held on Mondays–Thursdays from late May through mid-July. Players will compete in the division selected during membership registration and will be monitored by the GSGA staff to uphold the correct division. Non-members may compete in a maximum of two Summer Series events. Players will be ranked throughout the Summer Series based on their performance in order to gain entry into the Season-Ending Championships and be eligible for postseason honors.

The Fall Series consists of single-day tournaments held on weekends from September through November. Non-members may compete in a maximum of one Fall Series event. A Fall Membership is available for juniors only interested in competing in the Fall Series or wanting to compete in more than one Fall Series event for a discounted membership rate. Players are placed in flights based solely on their age/gender. Any GSGA Junior Tour member is eligible to compete in the Fall Preview and tournament registrations are accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis. Players will be ranked throughout the Fall Series based on their performance in order to gain entry into the Fall Invitational and be eligible for postseason honors.

## GSGA JUNIOR TOUR TEAM SERIES

The Team Series offers players a fun environment for team competition. The tournaments are single-day competitions contested in a fun, unique format. Membership is not required for this Series. Players are not required to play with the same partner for each Team Series event in which they play.

- Junior/Junior Events: Players are eligible to select any junior golfer of the same gender as their partner. Teams are placed in flights based on solely on the gender of their juniors.
- Parent/Junior Events: Players are able to select any adult (19 years of age and older) as their partner. Teams are placed in flights based solely on the age/gender of their junior.

## GSGA JUNIOR TOUR PREMIER PLAYER SERIES DRIVEN BY MAADA

The Premier Player Series (PPS) driven by the Metro Atlanta Automobile Dealers Association is a two-day tournament series designed for players of advanced skill. This Series provides players the opportunity to receive national ranking recognition through

Junior Golf Scoreboard and the Global Junior Golf Rankings. Additionally, status can be earned with the American Junior Golf Association. Membership is not required for this Series.

## GEORGIA PGA JUNIOR TOUR COMPETITIONS (11-18 YEARS)

Established in 2002, the Georgia PGA Junior Tour has been a staple of competitive junior golf in Georgia for the last 20 years. These are elite 36-hole and 54-hole tournaments for juniors that are looking to gain national recognition through Junior Golf Scoreboard, Global Junior Golf Rankings, and Junior Golf Hub. Most tournaments also receive AJGA Performance Based Entry Stars. Some stops on the Tour in 2021 include Glen Arven Country Club, Country Club of Columbus, UGA Golf Course, Sea Island Golf Club and Coosa Country Club. Membership is not required for this Tour and is open to Boys and Girls, ages 11–18.

## GEORGIA PGA JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

Since 1969, the Georgia PGA Junior Championship has been held annually and is open to both male and female amateur golfers, 11–18 years of age. The top two boys and top two girls will be given the opportunity to represent the Georgia PGA Section in the National Junior PGA Championship. Only residents within Georgia are eligible to compete. This year's event will be held June 7–9 at The Legends at Château Élan in Braselton, GA.

## GSGA JUNIOR BOYS' & GIRLS' MATCH PLAY CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Georgia Junior Boys' Match Play Championship, which began in 2019, is open to male amateur golfers under the age of 19. A competitor must not be 19 as of the first day of the competition.



## OTHER JUNIOR GOLF OPPORTUNITIES

American Junior Golf Association – [ajga.org](http://ajga.org)  
Global Junior Golf Rankings – [juniorgolfranking.com](http://juniorgolfranking.com)  
Junior Golf Scoreboard – [juniorgolfscoreboard.com](http://juniorgolfscoreboard.com)  
LPGA\*USGA Girls Golf – [girlsgolf.org](http://girlsgolf.org)  
Peggy Kirk Bell Girls Golf Tour – [pkbgt.org](http://pkbgt.org)  
PGA Junior Golf League – [pgajrleaguegolf.com](http://pgajrleaguegolf.com)  
Southeastern Junior Golf Tour – [sjgt.com](http://sjgt.com)



The Georgia Junior Girls' Match Play Championship, which began in 2019, is open to female amateur golfers under the age of 19. A competitor must not be 19 as of the first day of the competition.

## GSGA GIRLS' & JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Georgia Girls' Championship, held annually since 1980, is open to female amateur golfers who are members of GSGA Member Clubs, are residents of Georgia, and have not reached their 19th birthday before the end of the Championship.

The Georgia Junior Championship, held annually since 1966, is open to male amateur golfers who are members of GSGA Member Clubs, are residents of Georgia, and have not reached their 19th birthday before the end of the Championship. The format is 54 holes of stroke play. ©

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For more information on the GSGA, visit [gsga.org](http://gsga.org)  
For more information on the Georgia PGA, visit [georgiapga.com](http://georgiapga.com)