

Junior Golf
SCOREBOARD

Bringing the Junior Golf World Together

www.juniorgolfscoreboard.com

Navigating & Succeeding in Junior Golf

- What are the three keys to success in this process ?
 - Pay attention to school work
 - Being informed
 - Building a plan

Key # 1

Pay attention to school work

Key # 2

*All about
information and being informed*

Need to Know

- Information about junior golf
- Information about training and a process to getting better
- How to build a tournament schedule, finding tournaments, picking the right tournament
- Information college recruiting
- How to be visible in this sport

Being Informed –Where do you start?

- *Junior Golf Scoreboard*
(www.juniorgolfscoreboard.com)
- *AJGA* (www.ajga.org)
- *Ping Guide* (www.collegegolf.com)

Navigating & Succeeding in Junior Golf

- What are the keys to success in junior golf ?
 - ✓ Pay attention to school
 - ✓ Being informed
 - Build and work a plan – how do you do that?

Key # 3

Building a Plan

Getting better

- Identify an instructor
 - experienced with juniors –takes notes
 - Check-ins & follow ups- the “instructor” is the “coach”
 - Specific help with practice routines
- Work a focused practice plan
 - Deliberate and tracked – personal best system – goals!
 - Regular schedule
 - Tied to scoring stats – must be kept Instruction

Navigating & Succeeding in Junior Golf

- What are the keys to success in junior golf ?
 - ✓ Pay attention to school
 - ✓ Being informed
 - Build and work a plan – how do you do that?
 - ❖ Getting better
 - ❖ Competitive schedule

Competitive Schedule

- Picking the right tournament – experience and visibility
 - Understand how tournaments pick fields
 - Understand the AJGA PBES
- Win at your level but play better players
- Pace your schedule – 2 on, 1 off
- Managed by year – 8th grade, 9th grade, etc
- Focus on the “critical 18 months” – spring sophomore year to fall senior year – two competitive summers

Choosing The Right Tournament

- Understanding the types of events
- Research last year's tournament – “What makes a good tournament?” – again Junior Golf Scoreboard
- Good regional events matter – JGS to locate
- Always play your state junior championship

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 - Build and work a plan – how do you do that?
 - ❖ Getting better
 - ❖ Competitive schedule
 - ❖ Visibility

Visibility

(don't be invisible)

- Lower scores... but
- Playing the right tournaments
- Don't make it hard for coaches to see or find you
 - Resumes on JGS and AJGA – they can work
 - Contact information – make it easy
 - Show them other tournaments, other information
- Do research & identify - “best fit” – use Ping Guide
- Let them know, be proactive – online resumes, letters, visits,

Getting To College

(and playing golf)

What are we going to cover?

- Makeup of college golf
- Importance of academics
- Overview of recruiting
- Becoming a prospect

How Big Is College Golf ?

2009-2010

(Schools sponsoring golf teams)

	DIV I	DIV II	DIV III	NAIA	NJCAA	Total
Men	302	203	274	157	215	1151
Women	245	112	111	91	90	649

Available Golf Scholarships

Based on conservative estimates,
over
\$6,000,000 in golf scholarships are
available for each graduating class

Scholarships & Roster Positions

- Roster size & walk-ons
 - Men's average squad size is 10+/- with 8-9 scholarship players & 1-2 walk-ons
 - Women's average squad size is less than 10 with more scholarship players & fewer walk-ons
- Average Division I scholarship
 - Men = 25 - 50%
 - Women = closer to full, 75 - 100%
- Division II, NAIA, JuCo – typically award smaller percentages

Scholarships & Roster Positions

- Full scholarship – what is included?
 - Tuition, fees, books, room and board for one academic year
- NCAA scholarship limitations
 - Division I – 4.5 Men 6.0 Women
 - Division II – 3.6 Men 5.4 Women
 - Division III – no athletic scholarships
 - NAIA & Junior Colleges – varies by school

Importance of Academics

Pay attention to school work

Grades matter – must fit the college
academically

Grades – about doing your best

Coaches want students who do their work

*“Persistence, diligence, and pride in the
classroom relate directly to attitude on the
golf course”*

Academics & Athletics

- Grade point average & SAT/ACT
- Strong students eligible for academic scholarships = ++
- Graduation rates for golfers rank extremely high among NCAA athletic teams

The College Recruiting Process

How Does it Work ?

NCAA Initial-Eligibility Requirements

- During junior year, register at www.ncaaclearinghouse.net and notify high school guidance counselor
- To be a “qualifier” – must pass 16 “core” courses
- Sliding scale - higher GPA allows for lower SAT/ACT scores and visa versa

Recruiting Process Overview

- When do you become a prospective student-athlete?
 - When you start classes for 9th grade.
- When can coaches write and e-mail?
 - September 1st at the beginning of the prospect's junior year in high school.

Recruiting Process Overview

- When can coaches call or contact players and/or parents?
 - Beginning July 1st, following the prospect's junior year in high school, one phone call per week and up to a total of three face-to-face contacts are permissible
- What can prospects do?
 - Unlimited phone calls, letters, e-mails, and unofficial visits.

Recruiting Process Overview

- What's the difference between an official visit and an unofficial visit?
 - Official = once player begins classes for 12th grade, paid for by the school, prospect limited to five (one visit per school)
 - Unofficial = anytime, paid for by the prospect/family, no restrictions
- National Letter of Intent – What is it and when can you sign?
 - Binding document that accompanies an athletic scholarship
 - Early signing – one week – mid November
 - Regular signing – mid April thru August 1st

Coaches Methodology For Discovering Talent

- Attending junior tournaments
 - Major Div I programs – AJGA, US Junior, Junior World, Western Junior, and other national events
 - Other programs – smaller recruiting budgets – regional and state events, high school events, “backyard” AJGA’s

Coaches Methodology For Discovering Talent

- Using available junior golf info on internet-
Scoreboard, AJGA, rankings, profiles
 - Access to junior golf databases containing contact information, bios, results and swing videos
- Reviewing letters, resumes, videos received in the mail
- Third party referrals – alumni, former players, etc.

Why do coaches attend tournaments?

- Show support of and interest in top recruits
- Discover unknown players
- Evaluate players as they practice and as they play
- Watch for technique, course management and discipline
- Observe dress, conduct, interaction with parents and overall professionalism/maturity

Becoming a Prospect

- Be visible
 - Determine your “best fit”
- Understand the commitment for success

Being Visible

- Improve and play the best you can – no substitute for low scores
- Promote that you want to play college golf
 - At least be sure you are in the College Recruit Registry
 - Resume on Scoreboard
 - Contact “best fit” schools
- Play the right events that coaches will see your results (more later)

College Selection – “Best Fit”

- The School:
 - Target and research 8-10 “best fit” schools (sophomore year)
 - Where is the school located? – distance to home, weather, rural/city campus, etc.
 - # of students – small, medium, large
 - Academic offerings
 - Costs after a normal golf scholarship
 - Campus life (visit campuses near junior events)

College Selection – “Best Fit”

- The Golf team:
 - School serious about their golf program?
 - Team size and opportunity to play – look at the team website
 - Facilities, schedule, and opportunity to improve
 - Coach’s style and personality
- During a visit – make your time productive

Researching College Golf

Finding That “Best Fit”

- Junior Golf Scoreboard
 - “Going to College” articles
 - Signees list
 - Use Rankings – know where you stand in your class
- Ping College Golf Guide
 - Comprehensive information & articles
 - Searchable database of every program
 - Compare your scores now
- Golf Team web page

Commitment Level for Success

- Time management skills essential
 - 20 hours per week team commitment (in season)
 - Academic load – missed class time
- Sacrifices – student, athlete, friend/social – tough to do all three well
- Process for improvement (fitness/nutrition, mental training, golf instruction –swing and short game, competition, and equipment evaluation)

Seniors

Too Late ?

- No – remember 1,200 men’s programs, 750 women’s
- Read articles on Scoreboard – “Going to College” and Ping Guide Online – “ If you are not recruited”
- Keep your grades up
- Keep playing events
- Do your “best fit” analysis
 - Contact schools – use Golfweek College Rankings
 - Use Scoreboard signees list to see openings
- Call us – 888-549-4653

Summary

- Do your best in school – show you can do the work
- Get better - improve
- Find your “best fit” – do the research
- Let them know you are interested – be proactive
- Be someone a coach can be proud to have represent their school

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Final Notes

- ❖ Comments about rankings
- ❖ Experience counts so play – “Nobody wins or learns sitting on a couch”
- ❖ Success = **S**chool + **I**nformation + **P**lan



RED NUMBERS GOLF

“Going to College”

Just how big is college golf?

What questions should you ask on a visit?

How do coaches discover talent?

What is the parents' role in the recruiting process?

Where should I attend college?

What is a full scholarship?

How do coaches scout tournaments?

What should you say when coaches call?