



New NCGA Junior Tour

In 2008, the NCGA is instituting a Junior Tour for boys and girls, ages 12-18. The tour will consist of six to eight 36-hole events on weekends in the spring and fall. Field sizes will be from 100-120 and be segmented by age groups. Entry fees will be \$60 per event and will include golf and lunch each day. Membership in the tour will be required in order to enter. Membership in the tour will make you a member of the NCGA if you are not already a member. The following events are currently scheduled:

Dates	NCGA Junior Tour Event	Site
March 8-9	Monterey	Poppy Hills GC - Pebble Beach
March 15-16	Central Valley	Stevinson Ranch GC - Stevenson
April 5-6	Peninsula	Poplar Creek GC - San Mateo
Sept 27-28	North Bay	Foxtail GC - Rohnert Park
Oct 11-12	East Bay	Poppy Ridge GC - Livermore
Oct 25-26	Central Coast	Hunter Ranch GC - Paso Robles

Field sizes will range from 100-120 players and will be segmented by age groups. Entry fees will be \$60 per event and will include golf and lunch each day. Membership applications and tournament entry procedures will be available shortly. More information about this exciting new series will be added soon.

Additional Facts:

If you are 18 and have not started college you will be able to play in the NCGA Junior Tour events and the NCGA Junior Championship. The Junior Players Championship that is held in conjunction with the JGANC will not be open to 18 year olds.

The NCGA wants to provide players with as many opportunities to play as possible and it was felt that there are players who turn 18 early in the year who are not being given the opportunity to compete after that. Also, the NCGA is working to gain recognition from the national rankings and tours such as the Golfweek and the AJGA that allow 18 year olds to compete. Among other things these organizations look at the strength of field in events before deciding if they should recognize them. In order to guarantee the strongest possible fields, allowing 18 year olds to play makes sense. The cutoff is when a player starts college, therefore there is no conflict with college programs.

There will be separate boys and girls divisions at each event.

While there is an overlap between the NCGA Junior Tour and the JGANC, there is a need for more opportunities for juniors to play, especially in the spring and fall. The JGANC does have some events during that period, but they are primarily a summer series. The NCGA will continue to work closely with the JGANC and hope to expand its interactions with them.

The NCGA is dedicated to providing opportunities for all juniors to learn more about the game of golf, improve their skills and provide competitive outlets. As such, it is continuing to expand its outreach to the juniors in Northern California.