

## JOIN LA'S FIRST EVER JUNIOR GOLFERS CLUB - THE LA COUNTY/TFTLA JUNIOR GOLF CLUB

### MEMBERSHIP IS FREE (18 and under)!

- **Junior golfers of all skill levels will have very affordably priced opportunities for both recreational play and club tournament play throughout the year on LA County golf sytem courses.**
- **Competition will be by age/gross as well as net (with handicap) so all kids have a fair chance to win prizes.**
- **Juniors will play multiple formats, make new friendships and experience how a traditional golf club operates.**
- **Juniors will participate in actually running and governing the club.**

Dear Junior Golf families:

To join this first of its kind new junior golf club, simply send an email to [lgrimm@lajcc.org](mailto:lgrimm@lajcc.org) and also copy [ivan@lajcc.org](mailto:ivan@lajcc.org) as described at the very bottom of this announcement.

We are going to take open enrollment for a period of time before the club actually starts offering events. We expect sometime in the Fall, we will have a kick off/open house type of event for the new club at Whittier Narrows. Shortly thereafter, a schedule will be put together and the club will actually start playing golf!

Below is a basic outline of how the club plans to operate. This club is a joint initiative between LA County Junior Golf and The First Tee of Los Angeles. The kids will have a major voice in how the club operates and evolves.

#### **Communications:**

Our club communications will all be via email so please be sure if you want to to receive multiple notices for both parents and juniors that you supply all email addresses with your reply. We will probably set up a website in the future as well.

#### **Club Concept:**

The concept of this club is to give junior golfers of all ages and abilities more affordable opportunities to play, practice and form friendships with others juniors that have similar interests. This club is not a junior tour or another series of large tournaments - it will be quite the opposite and will be more of a support group to help your kids advance in golf and make new friends and just have fun! It is intended to be an augmentation to existing traditional junior golf tournaments and development programs, but certainly in no way to replace or compete with these important institutions of local junior golf. The club will operate somewhat like a regular men's or woman's golf club, and will establish a schedule of published playing dates, both for competitive tournaments and for just fun recreational play. The club will have a group of adult advisers, but ultimately the juniors will learn how to run many aspects of the club and to have significant input in decisions about events and governance using the democratic process. After an initial period to

gain membership and establish momentum, the club will elect several junior officers for annual terms, who will help manage the club under adult guidance. Events will be played on LA County golf courses with an emphasis on Summer weekdays and weekday afternoons after school (9 holes) during daylight savings time, and also with some weekend play as well during non-peak times. We will also plan some events where juniors can come out and play with their parents. Depending on interest, the club may also schedule some non golfing events. The club will be a non profit initiative and fees will only be charged per event to cover the actual costs of golf and prizes for each such tournament or play date.

#### **Eligibility:**

Juniors 18 and under may join. We hope to soon announce a program expansion for alumni (over 18) to remain in the club for free (and receive free handicapping) and to help mentor the younger juniors. Juniors of any ability may join, but to participate in club events they will need to demonstrate a basic playing proficiency, ability to keep up and knowledge of the rules of golf.

**This is not an instructional program - it is a playing program.** Juniors not yet ready to play on the course can join but we will refer them to instructional programs to prepare for eventually being ready to play in our club events. Adult advisers will not be providing any golf instruction. Juniors will typically be paired with other kids of similar ages and playing abilities to promote forming new friendships. Play dates will be offered both on short/par 3 courses for the younger or less experienced players and on regulation courses for the older or more experienced juniors. Many events will be at Whittier Narrows where TFTLA has its primary location, but all the county golf courses will be used.

#### **Parent Involvement:**

We will be recruiting a number of adults to help oversee the club and to staff events. If you are interested in helping, please indicate as such with your return email. While a golf background is helpful, it is not essential.

#### **Handicapping:**

All junior members will be expected to establish handicaps and post ALL their scores. Handicaps will be used (in addition to gross play) in most if not all club events. Free handicaps and training on how to post scores will be provided to juniors that currently do not already have their 7 digit numbers established through the SCGA.

#### **How to get started:**

If interested, please just send a return email to both [lgrimm@lajcc.org](mailto:lgrimm@lajcc.org) and to [ivan@lajcc.org](mailto:ivan@lajcc.org) with the following information, and then we will update you soon. **Please put "LA County/TFTLA Junior Club" in the subject line of your email.** If you have junior golf friends, please pass this information along to them.

1. Names and ages of all junior golfers interested.
2. All email address to which you want future notices.
3. The best phone contact number(s) for you.
3. If you are a parent who wants to volunteer, please so note and we will contact you shortly.

