PGA Junior League Overview

PGA Junior League Golf (PGA JLG) is designed to better socialize the game for boys and girls, ages 13 and under. PGA JLG features team vs. team competitions in structured leagues that provide a popular, less stressful scramble format as opposed to stroke-play competition. This is a great way to get kids involved in the game!

History

Junior League Golf launched as a pilot program in 2011, with teams competing in four select markets: Atlanta, Tampa, Dallas, and San Diego. The Atlanta team won the inaugural JLG World Series held in September 2011 at TPC Sugarloaf in Duluth, GA. In 2012, PGA Jr. League Golf saw close to 2000 participants on over 120 teams in more than 20 select markets. The 2012 season culminated with 5 Regional Champions (teams from Georgia, Texas, New Jersey, California, and Florida) joining the host team from Illinois in the PGA JLG Championship held in September 2012 at Cog Hill Golf and Country Club in Lemont, IL. Team California emerged victorious from the competition to bring the 2012 season to a close. In 2013, PGA Jr. League Golf saw nearly 9,000 participants on over 740 teams across North America. The 2013 season culminated with 6 Regional Champions (teams from Georgia, California, Texas, Massachusetts, Virginia, and Indiana) competing for the National Championship at TPC Sugarloaf in Atlanta. Team Georgia emerged victorious to bring the 2013 season to a close. We look forward to seeing even more teams competing in 2014!

The PGA of America

Since its founding in 1916, The PGA of America has maintained a twofold mission: to establish and elevate the standards of the profession and to grow interest and participation in the game of golf. By establishing and elevating the standards of the golf profession through world-class education, career services, marketing and research programs, The PGA enables its professionals to maximize their performance in their respective career paths and showcases them as experts in the game and in the multi-billion dollar golf industry. By creating and delivering world-class championships and innovative programs, The PGA of America elevates the public's interest in the game, the desire to play more golf, and ensures accessibility to the game for everyone, everywhere. As The PGA nears its centennial, the PGA brand represents the very best in golf.

League Golf, LLC  League Golf, LLC is the operating company of PGA JLG. The company was created in 2011 with a mission to create and operate grassroots, recreational team and league programs for golfers of all ages. The objective is to deliver a portfolio of offerings that grow the game of golf through regularly scheduled participation with teams
Overview for PGA/LPGA Professionals

PGA Junior League Golf (PGA JLG) is designed to generate multiple benefits for PGA/LPGA professionals and facilities. The program was created with an understanding of the need to find efficient and innovative ways to boost revenue without increasing demand on time and resources. PGA JLG generates profits for golf courses, creates new and incremental revenue streams and provides participants and families an unmatched golf experience.

New Revenue

PGA/LPGA Professionals and facilities that participate in PGA JLG see a direct correlation between the program and the following benefits:

- Increases in private lesson revenue
- Increases in participation with pre-existing junior programs
- Incremental F & B sales and cart rentals during home competitions
- Families spend more time together at the facility resulting in greater member retention
- Attracts new members/golfers

Time Commitment

PGA JLG is supported by LEJ Sports Group, an Atlanta based sports agency with an expertise in the operation and administration of national grassroots youth sports programs. This infrastructure provides the necessary support to make PGA JLG a turn-key program that requires minimal time for the Team Captain. Each Team Captain has four (4) primary functions:

1. Recruit a roster of 10-12 players to play on the PGA JLG team
2. Communicate practice and competition times to team members
3. Coach the team during competitions (or arrange for volunteer parent coaches)
4. Arrange and update Team Homepage on the PGA JLG website

(Many teams have had success delegating 2-4 to volunteer parents)

The facility will host a total of 2-3 home competitions during the regular season. Each competition is one (1) team-vs-team, not a tournament, and includes the following:

- 4 tee times for 9-hole matches
- 2 adult match-monitors (visiting team also provides 2)
- Most competitions are held on late afternoons/early evenings, or weekend evenings (approx. 5:30 starting time)

Getting Started

Officially become part of PGA JLG by completing the registration application below to "Host a Team." Once the registration form is completed and received by PGA JLG Headquarters marketing and recruiting materials are supplied to your facility. A team home page is established on our website www.pgajrleaguegolf.com. We look forward to working with you during the 2014 season!
Parents
PGA Junior League Golf (PGA JLG) is designed to better socialize the game of golf for your participants 13 and under. The program features a team-vs-team format in a structured league providing a popular, less stressful, scramble format. PGA JLG is a great way to get the entire family involved in golf, with parents as spectators, team-mothers, and even coaches.

Fun Not Stressful
In PGA JLG the focus is to have fun playing golf with your friends. PGA JLG teams want to win, but the stress often associated with individual medal play tournaments is eliminated by the low-pressure format and the camaraderie of playing on a team with your friends. Our goal is to foster an enjoyment of the game that will last a lifetime.

Team Not Individual
There is no individual scoring in PGA JLG. The two-player scramble format allows for all participants to feel connected with the team. Strong play is rewarded, while a poor shot does not lose the hole. Players of all skill levels are welcome and will contribute to the team’s success. Every player gets to play...in every competition!

“Flags”
Each team-vs-team competition in PGA JLG consists of four 9-hole matches. Each 9-hole match is broken down into three 3-hole segments that we call “Flags”. Actual “Flag” stickers are awarded to participants upon capturing a 3-hole point for their team. The stickers are collected by the players throughout the season, and proudly displayed on their PGA JLG bag-tags as a sign of accomplishment.

Alternates
In PGA JLG matches, coaches have the opportunity to alternate players at the beginning of each new “Flag”. Each player is guaranteed to play at least one “Flag” in each competition. Alternates allow coaches to create pairs that maximize the team’s chance for success, while still preserving the most enjoyable overall experience for each player.

Uniforms with Numbers
One of PGA JLG's most popular innovations is our numbered team jerseys. Introduced as part of the uniform for the inaugural JLG World Series in 2011, numbered jerseys will be supplied to all players and teams in 2014. Kids are accustomed to wearing numbered uniforms in other youth sports, so why not golf?!? This helps build a sense of identity for each participant on their PGA JLG team.

Advancement
After the regular-season City Champions are crowned, All-Star Teams are formed to compete in the advancement phase of PGA JLG. Advancement will take place through Regional competitions which will produce Regional Champions. These Regional Champions will compete in the PGA JLG Championship.
Parental Commitments
Registration Fee
Participant fees to play on a PGA JLG team are determined by each individual Team Captain and may vary from team-to-team. The Captain has an annual team-fee he/she is responsible for recouping, and additional cost variables may include lessons, clinics or additional merchandise and equipment that individual facilities may provide in conjunction with PGA JLG. Although this variation in cost may exist, the recommended fee for a participant is under $200, and will always remain at or below the other recreational youth sports team fees in the market.

What PGA JLG Players Receive:

- Team Jerseys
- Golf Balls
- PGA JLG Bag Tags
- 5-6 regular-season league competitions
- Instruction from a PGA Professional
- Team practices
- Awards
- Opportunity for All-Star Advancement
- Access to the PGA JLG Website

Time Commitment-Season Length
The PGA JLG regular season is approximately five weeks long in the late spring/early summer depending on your league’s location. Regular season play concludes no later than mid-July.

One 9-hole competition is held per week, most typically in the late afternoon on a Saturday or Sunday. Each competition is approximately three hours long. Many coaches will hold an evening practice during the week.

All-Star teams will play Regional events on weekends during July and August. These may involve some travel and overnight stay.

Locations
Each team will host 2-3 competitions at their home course and play 2-3 away competitions at other courses in the league.

Skill Level
PGA JLG is an inclusive program that encourages all skill levels. We suggest that players achieve a minimum basic level of competence in at least one discipline; driving, chipping or putting, before joining a team. Our scramble format provides a comfort zone for the developing player. For the accomplished Junior who may already be competing in individual tournaments, PGA JLG offers the opportunity to develop leadership skills in a team setting and most importantly, play on a team with friends.
Parent Involvement
Similar to other youth recreational sports, PGA JLG encourages and relies on parental involvement. In addition to making sure participants get to matches and practices, parents can play an important role in the success of their team:

- Team captain/assistant
- Coach
- Team-mother
- Match monitor/scorer
- Player recruitment

Where do I start? How do I (the PGA Professional) sign up for PGA Junior League Golf (PGA JLG)?

Step 1: from where you are click the giant blue PGA JR. League Golf banner on the top left corner.

Step 2: Click the “host a team” button on the top right hand corner of the screen (right next to the facebook and twitter symbols and right above the “video” tab).

Step 3: Fill out the information asked for. After filling out you will want to log in to your team page to create your team (note your username will always be your email address).

Step 4: Congratulations! You have officially registered for PGA Junior League Golf. Now it is time to begin putting your team together. To begin signing up families go to your team page and click where it says "send registration" to send off your registration for families to sign up for your team.

If you are having any issues after viewing these steps and would like any assistance registering please call 770-817-9429.

What are the responsibilities of my facility?

First a Team Captain from your facility must be appointed to serve as the point of contact with a PGA JLG National Headquarters Representative. Next your facility must field an active roster of boys and girls ages 13 and under. It is recommended each "team" have a minimum of 10 players and a maximum of 14 players. During a 5 to 6 week regular season (based on the size of the league you are a part of), your facility will host a minimum of 2 matches and a maximum of 3 home matches (This may vary as well depending on certain circumstances within each league).

It is recommended that each Team Captain have a parent in the role as a "coach" to actively run the competitions throughout the summer (though this is not required). The coach can take the active role a rec league youth sports coach would take when coaching a youth team. Finally, it is required to have 4 parent scorekeepers as part of each match. Parents may be a scorekeeper in the same group their junior is playing in allowing parents to be actively involved with keeping
the scores for their son or daughter's match. The Team Captain/Coach has a lot of flexibility in deciding who the scorekeepers are each week (some facilities rotate each week while others keep everything the same week in and week out).

**What are the benefits of my facility participating in PGA JLG?**

Benefits include, but are not limited to:

- Unique club membership retention and recruitment tool (Family value)
- Increase family involvement at your club (parent volunteers)
- Incremental revenue opportunities (lessons, tee times, food & beverage, membership)
- Continue the “Grow the Game” initiative
- Create a unique point of distinction from area facilities
- Seed a future generation of club members with a less stressful, more inclusive form of golf

**Our facility already has a Junior Golf program.**

- PGA JLG is designed to enhance and compliment existing junior golf programs as it provides the “Little League” approach to the great game of golf, where every participant gets the chance to play. PGA JLG features a team-vs-team format in a structured league setting that provides for a more popular, less stressful format. PGA JLG places the emphasis on the fun, recreation, and sportsmanship of the game for participants of any skill level. PGA JLG is a “feeder program” for your existing junior golf programs.

**I may not have enough juniors at my facility to fill a team roster. What can I do?**

- PGA JLG presents a unique opportunity to expand your club’s golfing population by offering a roster spot to participants who do not currently play organized golf but may have individual skills in driving, putting or chipping. PGA JLG offers a fun, low pressure way for kids to experience the game for the first time or continue to play if they are already at a more advanced level. We encourage you to look beyond your current junior golfers and invite any kids from your club’s neighborhood to participate. This can include a member’s grandchildren or a member’s friends and neighbors. You might be surprised to see what great recruiters the juniors you currently have can be!

  Additionally, your club could partner with a neighboring club and create a dual-team franchise. This would allow for one PGA JLG team to be formed with juniors from both clubs.

**How Much Does the Program Cost?**

- Each facility will determine the cost per junior golfer. The first 75 dollars per junior golfer comes back to PGA JLG Headquarters to cover administrative costs and team kits
that come prior to the start of the regular season (this includes jerseys, golf balls, bag tags, and flag stickers). After that each PGA Professional may charge what they want beyond 75 dollars. The average is usually around 150 per junior golfer, but factors that can affect the price for the PGA Professional are practices, if private lessons are billed in, hot dogs and chips after matches, or other items the golf course includes which are not included by PGA JLG such as golf bags. As an example if a PGA Professional charged 150 per junior golfer and the PGA Professional had 10 players on the team than the golf course will make 750 dollars in revenue, and PGA JLG Headquarters will receive 750 dollars.

**How does the facility receive payment from families? How does that work with PGA JLG?**

- Families will pay the golf facility directly and form of payment is worked out amongst Team Captains and families. PGA JLG will then send an invoice of 75 dollars to the golf course per junior golfer prior to the start of the regular season once leagues are set and rosters are finalized. Example: X Country Club/Team Captain will charge members their fee for participation with the program. Once leagues set and rosters are finalized PGA JLG will send an invoice of 75 dollars per junior golfer to X Country Club to pay PGA JLG directly.

**When will I receive my administrative kit?**

- Administrative Kits will be shipped to each Team Captains prior to the start of the leagues regular season start date.

**Junior tournaments take up many tee times and last a full day. How much time do I need to provide on my course for PGA JLG?**

- PGA JLG Competitions consist of only four 9-hole matches. Four (4) tee times is all that is necessary for 1 match.

**How Does Postseason Play Work?**

- 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 City, Sub-Regional, and Regional tournaments to advance through if you are to become one of the 6 teams that make it to the PGA-JLG National Championship.
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. JLG National HQ mandated that every team in a league have a representative on your league’s all-star team. There will be 10 spots available on the all-star team roster. Most leagues award the spots as follows:

1. 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
2. 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
3. 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 spots 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 JLG National 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.

I do not have time for another junior program.

PGA JLG National Headquarters will provide your facility with all the administrative support to make this a simple, turn-key program for your facility. It is also recommended that each Team Captain appoints a parent/parents to "Coach" the team during matches. The "coach" will take a similar role of coaches in other youth wreck league sports for a PGA Junior League Golf Match. We do ask that any form of private lesson or instruction/practice be completed under a PGA/LPGA Professional.

Our Local League match was cancelled due to weather. How is the match rescheduled?

Team Captains for each team will work together to reschedule the match prior to the end of regular season. If the home team is unable to host the rescheduled match within the next week, the away team has the opportunity to host the competition. The Team Captain of the home team must notify PGA JLG National Headquarters of any schedule changes.

Our families and players are very busy in the summer.
Summer is a busy time for most families, which is why we allow each PGA JLG team franchise to field a roster of 10-14 players with only 8 starters per match. A larger roster provides flexibility in family schedules; with competition alternates. It is always guaranteed that every junior will play a minimum of 3 holes depending on the roster size and the skill level of each individual player.

**When is my team roster due?**

- Official team rosters can be added up to your first competition.

**Do boys and girls of all ages compete separately?**

- Boys and girls, ages 13 and under compete together. All participants tee-off using the same tee boxes, regardless of age or gender. These designated tees will be “younger” friendly, and history shows that girls in this age group compete quite favorably against the boys.

**Can I use the PGA JLG logo on facility promotional materials?**

- Yes

**Can PGA JLG teams secure local sponsorship?**

Yes, providing permission is granted by PGA JLG National Headquarters. At no time can local sponsorship conflict with national program sponsors.

**How can I register my son/daughter to participate in PGA JLG?**

Registration for individual Golf Courses can be done a few ways.

1. If the pro at your facility sends you your registration simply follow the steps in order to register for the team.

2. If you would like to try and join a team first click the "find a team" tab on the top. Then select "find facility," next click the state which you are located in. If their is a facility near you then click "view teams" next to that facility. After that if you see a red button which says "join this team" then you can select that and see if their is room to join that PGA JLG team. A string of emails will ensue between yourself and that facility.

**A team franchise is in my area, but I am not a member of the country club. Can I still participate on their PGA JLG team?**

Possibly. Please contact the Team Captain of the club near you to inquire about the possibility of joining their team as a non-member.
How much does a season of PGA JLG cost?

Contact your Team Captain to discuss the registration fee for participating in the PGA JLG program. Recommended fee is less than $200 for a season.

What does my child receive for participating in the PGA JLG program?

Each player will receive a PGA JLG team golf jersey, golf balls, flag stickers (after winning a 3 hole segment), and a PGA JLG bag tag. Players will participate in 5-6 regular season competitions, with 2 or 3 away matches being held at other golf clubs in your league.

What is the age cut off date?

The PGA JLG program is designed for boys and girls 13 and under. Team Captains have the discretion to allow skilled younger players to play up on the team (the recommended age range is 9-13 though some 7 and 8 year olds play up if able). A player cannot be 14 years of age prior to August 1, 2014.

How does my child get to his/her matches?

Just as in any recreational sports league, it is the responsibility of each participant's parent/guardian to get them to and from home and away matches during the regular season, and postseason matches.

Will my son and daughter be using the same tee boxes?

Yes. All participants tee-off using the same tee boxes, regardless of age or gender. These designated tees will be “youngster” friendly, and history shows that girls in this age group compete quite favorably against the boys.

What does a competition consist of?

Each competition is team vs. team format consisting of four 9-hole matches. The format for each match is a two-player scramble, divided into three 3-hole segments called “Flags”. Each “Flag” is worth one point, and alternates are allowed to sub in at the beginning of each new “Flag” (Holes 4 and 7). Players are assigned to a specific match at the beginning of the competition, and may play only within that match. It is also required that every junior play at least one "Flag."

What are the rules and regulations of each competition?

For a complete overview of the program structure, course layout, rules and regulations pertaining to each competition, please download the Official PGA JLG Captains Handbook under the "FAQ" tab of the website.
Will I be able to watch my son/daughter participate?

It is highly encouraged for parents, family and friends join the team as they walk and play a 9-hole match. It is the responsibility of the Team Captain to have no less than 4 parents/adults per match as a "scorekeeper".

How can I get involved with my son/daughter PGA JLG Team?

Volunteers are appreciated in several areas of PGA JLG, please contact the Team Captain for Volunteer opportunities. (Match Monitors/Scorekeepers, Team-Mothers, Coaches)

My child has only played in medal/stroke competitions. How does the scoring work with the PGA JLG team concept?

- Each three-hole segment of a match is called a “Flag”
- Matches consist of 9-holes, or 3 “Flags”
- 1 point is awarded per “Flag”, 3 points available per match
- 4 total matches per competition
- 12 total points awarded per competition
- If a “Flag” is tied, a half point is awarded to each team

Will my child get to play in each match?

Every player attending a PGA JLG competition will play in a match. Teams must have a minimum of 8 players to start a match. Each player in attendance must play at least one “Flag” (3-hole segment). Alternates will be allowed at the beginning of each new “Flag” (Holes 4 and 7). Players must stay with the original match they are assigned to.

How long will each match take?

Each match will consist of 9-holes of scramble play, and will last approximately 2.25 hours.

What is the format for 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 City, Sub-Regional, and Regional tournaments to advance through if you are to become one of the 6 teams that make it to the PGA-JLG National Championship.
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