



PLAYER HANDBOOK

Tour Policy

HAPPY TO HELP

Please contact: mark@vcjga.org or call 805-207-4653 If you have any questions or need any assistance.

Mark Wipf



Director of Tour Operations

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We believe that you have expectations that the VCJGA will operate in a manner that is consistent and reliable. We also believe that kids need consistent and reliable structure. The following policies are to help all of us meet those expectations.

Membership

Membership is open to all junior golfers from age 8 until the day they begin college.

If you reside in Ventura, Los Angeles, Kern, San Luis Obispo or Santa Barbara county, you **MUST*** become a VCJGA member to play. The non-member guest fee is reserved for those players that visit from outside these counties.

**= Players outside of Ventura County will be given one tournament trial to play as a guest. After that, they must join to continue competing with the VCJGA.*

Membership is subject to approval.

Membership fees are for a Season and are **NON-REFUNDABLE**. A Season coincides with a school year from September to August.

The VCJGA is a web-based program and all business is conducted online.

Tournament Overview

All tournaments are played at scratch (no handicaps); and **NO Caddies or motorized carts**.

All tournament play is conducted in accordance with the **United States Golf Association Rules of Golf**. Other important policies that require your attention are:

- VCJGA Code of Conduct & Character
- Spectator Code of Conduct
- Pace of Play Policy

If you have any questions about the **USGA** Rules of Golf, we encourage you to ask because ignorance of any rule will not change the penalty.



When players arrive to the golf facility, they should have a routine:

1. Arrive at the golf facility 1-hour early and Check-In
2. Warm up: Use the range, chipping area and putting green
3. Arrive on your starting hole 5-minutes early for final instructions
4. Play, keep pace with the group ahead and record scores
5. Immediately report to the Scoring Area and handle due diligence

Junior Golfer Playing Ability

A VCJGA Tour Member is expected to have the basic knowledge and ability and to play a round of golf under the following guidelines:

- Play and navigate the course without any assistance
- Maintain a proper Pace of Play
- Have a basic understanding of the USGA Rules and etiquette of the game
- Uphold the VCJGA Code of Conduct & Character

Boys and Girls should be able within 30-strokes of the course rating. The VCJGA is a great place to play your first tournament round. With that said...

The VCJGA is not the place for a Junior Golfer to play their first round of golf. Working with a reputable swing coach will help you to better prepare to play tournament golf.

To be prepared for tournament play, it is highly advisable that a minimum of ten (10) 18-hole rounds have been played on a regulation course prior to registering for tournament play. This will greatly assist your first tournament golf success and enjoyment.

Tournament golf is challenging, but the experience gained in the VCJGA will make you a better player and over-prepare you for your High School Golf Team.



Assumption of Risk and Release from Liability

When you register to join the VCJGA, you agree to the following with the VCJGA:

The undersigned hereby agrees to defend, indemnify and hold harmless the Ventura County Junior Golf Association and its officers, employees and agents against any and all loss, liability charges and expenses (including attorney fees) and costs whatsoever character which may arise by reason of participation in any program. (The Association does not provide accident, medical, liability, workers' compensation insurance or any other insurance for program participants.)

As a parent/guardian, I hereby consent to EMERGENCY TREATMENT of my minor child as a result of accident or injury. I further agree to pay any and all cost incurred as a result of said treatment.

I agree to carefully inspect and satisfy for myself that the facilities provided are reasonably safe for their intended use.

Once having conducted the inspection, I agree to expressly assume the risk of participation at the premises. I understand the Association retains the right to use photos taken during activities, for publicity purposes.

I ALSO AGREE TO ABIDE BY VCJGA:

1. Tour Policy
2. Code of Conduct & Character
3. Spectator Code of Conduct
4. USGA Rules of Golf; including Pace of Play Policy.

It is up to each member and their parent/guardian to both review and UPHOLD the VCJGA policies and agreements with the AJGA & SCPGA and to understand these agreements can change each January.

Breach of any rule may cause adjustment of division, disqualification from a tournament; up to and including suspension or expulsion from the VCJGA.

Membership is for the current SEASON (September to August).

The above release is part of the Membership Registration process and is agreed upon prior to completing and paying for Membership online.



Tournament Registration

Because playing in a VCJGA tournament is not guaranteed, it is vitally important that each VCJGA member registers as early as possible to secure a spot in a given tournament. Registration is handled on our vcjga.org website (see Tournament Registration below for instructions).

- Tournament entry deadlines range from 8 to 10 days in advance of each tournament.
- Most tournaments may be entered up to 90-days in advance. Many times, the maximum number of players for a particular event is met in advance of the posted registration deadline.

Make a plan in advance and don't delay, register today.

Tours and Age Divisions

We have three divisions and several types of tournaments listed under each age appropriate division.

Tournament golf is a process. Your first concern is to build confidence by advancing through the process of playing tournaments. This is the best way to know what skills you need to improve. Playing-Up should ONLY be done when a player has accomplished everything possible within a division. Winning tournaments and year end awards should be a high priority as not everyone wins; and you have a limited window of opportunity to do so. Take advantage of this opportunity and try not to rush the process. Tiger Woods never Played-Up! He learned to win in each age group playing with his peers.

Because of the vitally importance of building confidence, please do not play-up in an older division without advance approval. The process begins by requesting the Director of Tour Operations in writing via e-mail to get Board approval.

It is rare for players to be permitted to play up and the following points will be carefully considered:

- Tournament track record and playing ability
- Maturity, attitude, etiquette and basic rules knowledge.

When a player has changed divisions, they will lose all points earned in the prior division and cannot return back to a division once they play in the new division.



MiniTour:

- Girls 8-11
- Boys 8-11

The MiniTour plays one Sunday afternoon tournament each month September to June; and one Sunday 18-hole tournament in both July and August to complete the season. Courses play approximately 2,000-2,500 yards (9-holes). The MiniTour is an early start to the tournament process with our goal being to build confidence.

JuniorTour:

- Girls 11-14
- Boys 11-14

One 36-hole weekend tournament each month except July (Match Play); and up to ten (10), 1-Day Series (18-hole) tournaments annually. Two of our 36-hole TaylorMade Championships (County Championship and Tour Championship) are listed on the schedule with “JuniorTour” in the title (IE. JuniorTour Tour Championship) are specifically for the Boys & Girls 11-14 divisions. Courses play approximately 4,800 to 5,500 yards for Girls; and 5,800 to 6,200 yards for Boys.

VCJGA Tour:

- Championship Girls
- Championship Boys

One 36-hole weekend tournament each month except July (Match Play); and up to ten (10), 1-Day Series (18-hole) tournaments annually. Two of our TaylorMade Championships (County Championship 54-holes; and Tour Championship 36-holes) are specifically for the Championship divisions and listed on the schedule in all CAPITOL letters (i.e. TaylorMade TOUR CHAMPIONSHIP). Courses play approximately 5,500 to 5,900 yards for Girls; and 6,500 to 6,950 yards for Boys.

The age cutoff Date is May 1st. If the junior golfer’s birthdate is before this date, the parent/guardian is responsible to make the appropriate change to the next age group. Players with birthdates on or after May 1st are eligible to complete the season in their current division.

Registration Instructions

Please plan ahead making certain that you register well in advance of the entry deadline with the following procedure:

1. Sign-In to your Player’s Club account using your ID and PWD.
2. Select the tournament from the schedule that your division is offered to participate; and click. This will take you to the **TIP** (Tournament Information Page). Please review the TIP as each tournament will vary in details.
3. Located to the bottom right of the TIP, click on the registration icon. The system will walk you through registration step by step. Each entry is individually reviewed by the Tournament Director within 48-hours.
4. It is the registrant’s responsibility to verify that your entry has been accepted.
5. Once your entry fee has been processed, you are now an official competitor.

Waiting List

If you register for the Waiting List, you are making a commitment to the VCJGA that if/when a spot opens up, you will be available to play:

1. Players on the list are taken, first come, first served based upon the division that has an opening.
2. Notice may be short! You will be contacted when a spot opens and given no more than one-hour to confirm that you are available to take the spot.
3. You will be charged once entry has been processed; starting time will be communicated immediately; and then you are officially in the tournament field.

Starting Times and Pairings

Starting Times/Pairings are posted on-line (see the TIP) 4-7 days in advance of the first round for preliminary purposes. Times and pairings become OFFICIAL once they are e-mailed to the field (limited circumstances could be cause for a revision of starting times). 36-hole & 54-hole tournaments will require re-pairing for the final round, players will need to check the web site for times prior to the next round.

NO REQUESTS WILL BE ACCEPTED TO PLAY WITH SPECIFIC COMPETITORS.

We can only make special tee time consideration based on summer school obligations or for car pool purposes, however, you **MUST** communicate this need in advance of times being e-mailed.

Send Communication to: mark@vcjga.org

First round pairings are made in a variety of ways including, random draw, stroke average, Player of the Year points, national ranking, graduation year, pace of play track record, etc.

Just like other sports, the players (teams) have no say regarding who they will compete against. Sometimes they will play with those they may or may not know, those with more or less skill, etc. One thing is for certain, they will gain the experience needed to advance as a player.

Final round pairings are made based upon first round scores. The higher scores will go out first and the leaders will follow.

Before each round, players are required to Check-In one-hour prior to their scheduled Starting Time; and report to their starting hole 5-minutes prior to their Starting Time.

Cancellation Policy

The **Cancellation deadline is eight (8) days in advance** of the first round (i.e. by 12 noon on Friday, June 1st to Cancel for a tournament being held on Saturday & Sunday, June 9 & 10).

- If you cancel before the posted deadline, you are entitled to a refund of the entire entry fee, minus a **\$20 administration/e-commerce fee**.
- Be certain to e-mail the Director of Tour Operations before the deadline in order to receive the above refund.
- If you cancel after the posted deadline, you are not entitled to a refund or transfer for any reason. See Refund Policy below.
- Cancellation processed before the cancellation deadline will not have any notation associated with it and will not be reported to any ranking clearinghouse.

Refund Policy

TOURNAMENT ENTRY FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE or TRANSFERABLE FOR ANY REASON, ONE-WEEK PRIOR TO THE FIRST ROUND TOURNAMENT DATE.

This policy is due to contractual obligations that the VCJGA has made on behalf of the membership up to a year in advance of the scheduled event. Here's how it works:

- Each golf course is in business to sell tee times; and they are limited in the number that they can sell. The VCJGA plays during prime time to accommodate the normal size of our fields.
- We sign a contract and make a deposit to hold our times at the golf course. Eight (8) days prior to the tournament we confirm the number of players and make the final payment for the number of players we have registered to play.
- The VCJGA forecasts how many start times we will need based upon prior year history of registration, how popular the course is, etc. Courses require that attrition is no more than 10% of our original booking. i.e. if we book for 100 players; then we can only cut back to 90 players.
- We determine the number of players for each division based on our membership breakdown. For instance, most years our membership has approximately 80% boys and 20% girls. If we book a tournament for 80 players, approximately 64 spots will be available for boys' divisions; and 16 for girls' divisions. Once we are about a week out, adjustments may be made if the course still has space available.

Withdrawal Policy

Once the first round of a tournament is inside of eight (8) days prior, the cancellation period has ended and a player that cannot play for a legitimate reason may Withdraw from the field. It cannot be emphasized enough, how important it is that players, parents/guardians understand how important it is to Withdraw in a reputable manner.

Being that Withdrawing from a tournament can diminish the quality and integrity of a tournament, our partners, the American Junior Golf Association (AJGA) and Junior Golf Scoreboard (JGS) have instituted the following withdrawal policy for players who withdraw from an event after they have started their first round.

Once Tournament play has begun, all players needing to withdraw must report to the Director of Tour Operations before leaving the facility.

The Director will then scrutinize the withdrawal and may ask the player and fellow competitors questions about the illness or injury. Based on the information gathered, the Director will categorize the player's withdrawal in one of three categories listed below and the corresponding action will take place:

- **Justified Withdrawal** - The player is obviously ill, injured, ill or a family tragedy has occurred. **JWD** will be noted and no further action will be taken. A JWD happens once a player hits his first shot.
- **Questionable Withdrawal** - The player is obviously withdrawing due to poor play or lack of ambition to play. This includes players leaving the golf course before returning in a scorecard (No Card) to the Tournament Committee in which the event is conducted or failing to show up at all (No Show) for any subsequent rounds of an event, without talking to the Director of Tour Operations in person. **QWD** will be noted. This is a serious breach

of the VCJGA Withdrawal Policy and the Director will withdraw the player from their next tournament. If a second **QWD** offense occurs, the player's membership will be suspended and the player will not be eligible for year-end awards.

- **Did Not Start** - The player registered for the tournament and is therefore, an official competitor in the competition. If the player that does not report to Check-In or the First Tee (No Show); and has not communicated any information to the Tournament Director will be noted as a **DNS** they may be suspended from future VCJGA tournaments. Technically this should never happen as it effects the entire tournament field and players. Can you imagine the Dodger's not showing up for a game!
- **No Card** - The player played a tournament round, however; did not return a scorecard to the Tournament Committee. **NC** will be noted and Playing and not returning a card may cause suspension from future VCJGA tournaments.

Please note the following letter...



Dear Junior Golfers and Junior Golf Supporters:

The **Golf Coaches Association of America** (GCAA-Men) and the **Women's Golf Coaches Association** (WGCA-Women) have recently been made aware of a growing concern in junior golf regarding tournament withdrawals. Obviously, as there is in any type of golf competition, withdrawal for legitimate illness, injury or personal emergency is understood. However, it has come to our attention that the practice of withdrawing from events in order to protect scoring average and/or national ranking is occurring.

One of the hallmarks of the game of golf is that it is a sport of honesty, integrity and discipline. In no other sport are the participants asked to enforce the rules of the game themselves and behave in a manner beyond reproach. **College coaches throughout the country evaluate prospective student-athletes based not only on their success in the classroom and on the course, but also on their integrity. The ability to perform despite adversity is a characteristic that all coaches place a very high premium on during the evaluation and recruiting process. Especially noticeable are those players who "press on" during challenging times in competition and especially those who shoot better scores after a poor round.**

Equally noticeable to college coaches are those players who choose not to finish a competition. Final decisions on who coaches believe will best measure up to the challenges of college golf are made based on subtle differences. Through the cooperation and assistance of junior golf tournament organizers and the Junior Golf Scoreboard our members are able to see the results of all those who participate throughout the country and around the world. On behalf of all college coaches, please accept our best wishes as you continue to play the game!

Sincerely, GCAA and WGCA



Player Responsibility

- **Check-In:** Each player must Check-In one-hour prior to each round. Check-In is open one-hour prior to the first Starting Time each day.



- **USGA Rule 6-1:** The player is responsible for knowing the Rules. During a stipulated round, for any breach of a Rule the player incurs the applicable penalty.
- **Conduct Unbecoming:** USGA Rules and the Rules and Code of Conduct & Character of the VCJGA will govern play. We require that all participants to adhere to the **VCJGA Code of Conduct & Character** while participating in any VCJGA tournament; and the player and their parent/guardian will need to review, print, sign and return to the VCJGA Director of Tour Operations.

When you arrive at the golf course you are expected not only to act like a golfer, but to look like one as well (see Code of Conduct & Character).

CHEATING WILL NOT BE TOLERATED! Any knowledge of cheating must be reported to the Tournament Director as soon as possible. Knowing that someone is not adhering to the rules of golf also makes you guilty of the same offence. If a player is found to be cheating, they will be Disqualified under USGA Rule 33-7 and Suspended from future play at the discretion of the Board of Directors. **It is the explicit duty of each competitor to protect the field.**

- **Protect the Field:** Golf is a game of honor. Players are expected to call penalties on themselves. Competitors in a tournament "protect the field" by monitoring each other in a group and, at the end, place an attesting signature on a scorecard. This peer review is the method by which players monitor play and attesting scores before they are posted.

The game's code of honor means that even a hint of cheating or dishonesty can tarnish an individual's reputation. Every player has experienced the uncomfortable moment of asking, or being asked, whether a ruling was administered properly or the right score was reported for a hole. Marking scores on your Official Scorecard as the round progresses is a big part of this.

Playing a course for four-plus hours and walking over 100 plus acres can produce a number of situations and emotions that may require special attention when a group arrives at the scoring table. The Official there will ask the group if there is anything that happened on course that may need to be questioned and reviewed. This is the time and place to settle these questions or doubts. In stroke play it is each players duty in a group to protect all the players that are not there to protect their rights – Don't leave the Scoring Table without bringing these questions to light. This is the proper time and place.

When you arrive to the scoring table, it is imperative that you follow the instructions of the Scoring Official and respectfully complete the due diligence process to ensure true and accurate scores have been recorded, signed and attested.

- **Scoring:** Because most disqualifications actually happen at the scoring table, it is vital that each player pays attention to take this responsibility seriously by taking care to handle due diligence. It does not matter if you had a good day or a bad day, others are counting on you to do the right thing. Review [USGA Rule 6-6](#).

Failure to follow this policy will be cause for disqualification from a tournament and disciplinary action, up to and including suspension.



- **Pace of Play:** [USGA Rule 6-7](#) states, in part: *“The player shall play without undue delay and in accordance with the pace of play guidelines which may be laid down by the committee, and thereafter prescribes penalties for slow play”*.

Each player in each group SHALL maintain proper pace as a GROUP – WORK TOGETHER!

Players that have difficulty keeping pace within the VCJGA standards may be suspended from tournament play until such time that they improve their ability to keep up the pace.

IT IS UP TO ALL THE PLAYERS TO PLAY WITHOUT UNDUCE DELAY AT ALL TIMES AND TO KEEP UP WITH THE GROUP AHEAD. ANY COMMON DELAYS, SUCH AS LOOKING FOR A LOST BALL, OR GETTING A RULING WILL REQUIRE THE ENTIRE GROUP TO MAKE THAT TIME UP OVER THE NEXT COUPLE OF HOLES.

[VCJGA Pace of Play Policy](#) is posted on the first tee at each tournament.



- **Use of Distance Measuring Devices:** A Competitor may use a device that measures or gauges distance. The device cannot be used to measure conditions that might affect a player’s play such as gradient, wind speed, temperature, etc. [USGA Rules](#) - The use of a distance-measuring device would constitute a breach of the Rules if:
 - You are using the device to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect play (e.g., wind speed, gradient, temperature, etc.), or;
 - The device has some other non-conforming feature, including but not limited to, recommendations that might assist the player in making a stroke or in his play, such as club selection, type of shot to be played (e.g., punch shot, pitch and run, etc.), or green reading (i.e., a recommended line of put), or other advice-related matters.
 - The device has the capability to assist in calculating the effective distance between two points (i.e., distance after considering gradient, wind speed and/or direction, temperature or other environmental factors).
 - **Penalty for Breach is Disqualification**

- **Cell/Smart Phones and other Electronic Devices:** Gaming devices; i-pod and the like are not permitted in VCJGA Tournament play.
A cell phone may be used by competitors ONLY in case of an Emergency (911) or to contact a VCJGA Rules Official by calling 805-207-4653.

Players that use an Electronic Device that is not approved will be disqualified.

Awards and Point Distribution

Tournament scores are posted immediately onto the website and the recap and points are normally posted within 48-hours of event completion. Player of the Year Points for each event are posted in the entry detail.

Player of the Year Points are available for each tournament no matter the number of rounds or days that it takes to complete.

The VCJGA believes that the reward for playing in tournaments include, experience, courage, perseverance, etc. Only top finishers are Awarded a trophy or medal based upon division entry size:

- **1st Place** - Must have at minimum of 2 competitors
- **2nd Place** - Division must have a minimum of 6 players
- **3rd Place** - Division must have a minimum of 9 players
- **4th Place** - Division must have a minimum of 20 players
- **5th Place** - Division must have a minimum of 30 players

Ties for first place only are decided by a Playoff. If a playoff cannot be reasonably accomplished, a chip-off or card-off will decide the winner.

For the MiniTour, the above minimum number of players is cut in half. Ties for first place only on the MiniTour are decided by a chip-off.

To ensure accuracy, we need all scores posted and approved prior to handing out awards. If you leave the tournament site before knowing the complete results and/or fail to communicate with the Tournament Staff that you need to leave and can't wait for the presentation, you will FORFEIT THE AWARD. Not communicating your inability to stay for the presentation will be viewed as a breach of sportsmanship and may be subject to suspension. You will retain your finish place and points.

Player of the Year Points are earned in every tournament played separately for each division. To view the points, see the TIP for each specific tournament.

Ranking and Affiliations



- **JGS and AJGA** policy must be met and adhered to with regard to Ranked Tournaments. All 36-Hole tournaments (except Match Play) are ranked by **JGS** with minimum field size.

Tournaments with the following minimum number of competitors that start the first round may be offered **American Junior Golf Association PBE STARS:**

- Championship Boys must have 48 player minimum field size, playing at least 6,600 yards.

- Championship Girls must have 18 player minimum field size, playing at least 5,600 yards.
- Boys 11-14 must have 20 player minimum field size, playing at least 5,700 yards.
- Girls 11-14 must have 12 player minimum field size, playing at least 5,000 yards.

Additionally, the tournament operations must meet approved AJGA operating standards, including: Registration and Tee Time practices; Pace of Play; Code of Conduct; Withdrawal policies utilized and enforced.



SCPGA Toyota Tour Cup: Have similar standards and the following additional requirement:

- The Top-5 Championship Boys & Girls (Minus those players that graduated high school) will be extended Exempt Status on the **2019 SCPGA Toyota Tour Cup**
- Additional eligibility requirement for **SCPGA Toyota Tour Cup** exemption: Top-5 Boys must have a season Stroke Average of **78.0 or less**; and Top-5 Girls must have a season Stroke Average of **80.0 or less**
- All exemptions are subject to **SCPGA** approval

These organizations reserve the right to modify the above requirements as it deems necessary.

Tournament Types

The VCJGA conducts several different levels of tournaments for each division.

The MiniTour plays ten (10) 9-hole tournaments and two (2) 18-hole, Major Tournaments each season

The VCJGA Tour (Championship Boys & Girls) and JuniorTour (Boys & Girls 11-14) have very similar Schedules. Once per month they play a 36-hole, two-day tournament.



We also run five Major Championships each season. Four stroke-play, the TaylorMade Series and one match-play. These Championships are played on challenging courses that have a longer set-up with more difficult hole locations. Three of them are 36-holes and the VCJGA Tour plays the longest running stroke-play event, the TaylorMade Ventura County Championship at 54-holes (no cut) over three-days at different courses separately from the JuniorTour. The JuniorTour plays all of them 36-holes over two-days. These championships are worth double points.



Match Play is the purest form of golf! Each season since 1967 we the VCJGA has conducted our oldest running tournament, The Match Play Championship presented by Titleist. This is annually our most popular event that requires players to qualify in an 18-hole stroke-play format the first day. Once the number of competitors is established, players are ranked based upon the qualifying round and the tournament brackets (like March Madness) are announced. It takes several days for players to compete by winning head-to-head matches until the champion is the only one standing. This championship awards the players our single largest points to the top finishers.

Our 1-Day Series are currently played throughout the season and also offer points for our VCJGA Tour and JuniorTour divisions.

The VCJGA reserves the right to maintain the strength of the field by giving players with top ranking and POY Points first priority to enter.

The VCJGA reserves the right to hold fewer tournaments or cancel based upon weather and other justified reasons.



Inclement Weather Policy

Inclement weather in and of itself is not a reason to cancel a round of golf or an entire golf tournament. Cold or rain are simply course conditions like heat and wind.

We ask that you do not contact the course directly, but rather pay close attention to e-mail for up-to-date information.

In the case of a weather delay, players are asked to remain at the course until announcements have been made. Several factors will be taken into consideration when determining whether to suspend a round, postpone, shorten or cancel golf:

Unsafe Course Conditions:

- Fast flowing creeks, overflowing lakes, bridge(s) out, trees falling over, etc.
- Golf traffic causes unnecessary damage to golf course

Unsafe Weather Conditions:

- Thunder storms (lightening)
- Rain so heavy that it would be unreasonably difficult to require players to continue
- Winds moving a ball on the putting surface, trees/limbs falling

Standing Water on Fairways, Greens & Bunkers:

- Too much or large amounts of casual water, especially on greens and fairways making the course impossible to play.

Please understand that in many cases, the weather forecast shows a system that may end within a reasonable length of time or holes to be played. If in doubt, players should plan to play.

Suspending Play

USGA Rule 6-8b governs when play is suspended by the Committee. It states: When play is suspended by the Committee, if the players in a match or group are between the play of two holes, they shall not resume play until the Committee has ordered a resumption of play. If they are in the process of playing a hole, they may continue provided they do so without delay. If they choose to continue, they shall discontinue either before or immediately after completing the hole, and shall not thereafter resume play until the Committee has ordered a resumption of play.

However, a Note under **USGA** Rule 6-8b states: The Committee may provide in the conditions of a competition (Rule 33-1) that, in potentially dangerous situations, play shall be discontinued immediately following a suspension of play by the Committee. If a player fails to discontinue

play immediately, he shall be disqualified unless circumstances warrant waiving such a penalty as provided in **USGA** Rule 33-7.

This condition is in effect for all VCJGA Tournaments:

- **Discontinue Play Immediately = One prolonged note of horn/siren.**
- **Discontinue Play = Three consecutive notes of horn/siren, repeated.**
- **Resume Play = Two short notes of horn/siren, repeated.**

North/South Cup

The North/South Cup is a Ryder Cup style event played on a weekend each January.

The VCJGA VS. FCG (Future Champions Golf) of San Diego. The VCJGA hosts in even numbered years and FCG hosts in odd numbered years. This is a great opportunity to represent the VCJGA in a competitive team atmosphere.

TEAM SELECTION:

Each twelve (12) person team will be comprised of eight (8) Championship Boys; and four (4) Championship Girls.

Eligibility:

1. Be a current VCJGA member in good standing.
2. Play in Championship Boys or Girls divisions and be in grades 8-12.
3. Competed in a minimum number of VCJGA tournaments (TBD).

Earned Spots:

- The current Championship Boy and Girl Player of the Year. If that person has graduated high school, the current POY points leader from September through December will earn a spot on the team.
- The next Top five (5) Boys and top two (2) Girls earn spots based upon Scoring Average from January through December.
- Two (2) boys and one (1) girl that are current members may selected via Captain's pick with no limitations beyond VCJGA Membership.

Volunteers

The VCJGA is a VOLUNTEER based organization. In order to produce organized, high quality tournaments, we need the help of adults.

Volunteering reflects and supports a complete picture of you, and gives real examples of your commitment, dedication and interests.

Volunteering contributes to a successful event. We have a few types of Volunteers:

- **Tournament Volunteers** is what we need for a given shift during tournament play. We need help with: Check-In, Starter, Pace of Play Monitors, Shuttle Drivers, Scoring, etc. You don't need any golf knowledge to help and we will show you what to do. About ONE WEEK PRIOR to the tournament you will receive an e-mail requesting VOLUNTEERS, simply reply to this request.
- **Board of Directors and/or Board Committee Volunteers** are invited to get more involved by either staff or Board members to assist with a specific function of the Board or event.
- **Tournament Committee Volunteers** or Rules Officials are invited to get involved by the Director of Tour Operation. These Volunteers need to have a strong desire to learn the

USGA Rules of Golf by attending multi-day training workshops; and be willing and available to Volunteer many hours during tournament play.

Spectator Code of Conduct Policy

Spectating is a privilege on the VCJGA Tour, not a right. We require that all spectators (including parent/guardian) adhere to the **Spectator Code of Conduct Policy**. This policy is vitally important to the players, volunteers, staff and our partners, such as the AJGA and SCPGA.

The bottom line about spectator behavior is that it could determine the outcome of the tournament. Spectator conduct not only has rules of golf implications, it can also tarnish the credibility of the competition. Here is the Policy:

PLAYERS PLAY - SPECTATORS SPECTATE - RULES OFFICIAL OFFICIATE

Parents and spectators are extremely important to the VCJGA; however, it is up to the hosting golf facility as to whether parents and spectators are permitted on the golf course and whether or not to charge a spectator fee. Spectating in golf may appear different than other sports such as little league, however; we expect spectators to give all players as much space as possible so that they may go about their business without distractions.

PLEASE DO NOT GET INVOLVED WITH THE COMPETITION.

Spectators **MUST** always register in the Golf Shop prior to going on the course. *Golf Carts are only available for rent to those with verified Handicap credentials that have followed the procedure on page 15.*

1. Spectators **MUST** WALK the course and should stay one shot ahead of the group they are following. This allows spectators to follow errant shots and help identify where the ball comes to rest. Spectators are allowed to aid in the search for lost golf balls using care not to improve the lie of the ball. Spectators must keep off tees, fairways and greens - Stay on cart paths. In the absence of cart paths, we ask that spectators stay in the rough away from players.

- **Please stay off tees, fairways and greens.** Remember to keep proper distance/space from all players (75 yards or more is recommended).
- **Spectators cannot walk with players** during tournament play and should make every effort to not disturb ANY of the players.
- Keep in mind that in many situations on certain parts of the course, a spectator may not be able to see the shot played nor are they entitled to see every shot played.

2. Spectators as a rule should NOT speak to players. A parent may speak with their child regarding #4 below.

3. Spectators **MUST RESPECT** all RULES SITUATIONS and NOT to give rulings on the Rules of Golf. You will be brought into a situation only if the Rules Official asks you. If you have a question or information, it should be done away from competitors and in a calm manner.

USGA Rule 6-1: The Player is responsible for knowing the Rules. If the Rules Officials need to change their focus from the players to the spectators, you may be asked to leave the golf course immediately.

4. Spectators are allowed to carry medicine, drinks/snacks for players (not equipment - Do not caddy, handle or go through a player's equipment/bag/hand cart).

5. Absolutely no alcohol or smoking when spectating.

The VCJGA may assess a penalty to the player based on the severity of the spectator violation. Continuous conversations with player(s) are not appropriate. If a serious breach has occurred, the spectator, without warning, may be asked to leave the golf course, the facility, or the spectator may not be permitted to attend other VCJGA tournaments.

Please note that parents/guardians and spectators agree to let participants compete without giving any advice or counsel to them during the stipulated round (review USGA Rule 8-1) knowing that a violation may cause a two-stroke penalty against their participant without warning.

For your personal safety, we ask you exercise caution at all times. Golf balls can come from any direction at any time and hit you.

When inclement weather moves into the area, the VCJGA will suspend play by sounding air-horns. Accordingly, you should seek shelter immediately. The VCJGA and Volunteers will assist evacuating players from the course.

Spectators must be aware and move to safety on their own.

SPORTSMANSHIP – PURSUING VICTORY WITH HONOR



Disabled Spectator Cart Policy

Spectator Carts will be allowed for disabled spectators who hold a current state/federal disability issued credential by following the Procedure below.



PROCEDURE to Request a Cart:

1. 2-7 days in advance of the tournament you will need to request the use of the cart by sending an e-mail to: mark@vcjga.org
2. Upon arrival you must Check-In with the VCJGA and show your credentials
3. Lastly, you Check-In with the Golf Shop and pay the cart fee.

- The Spectator shall operate the cart in a safe manner, in observance of golf etiquette, following course operation policy and without any unnecessary interference with tournament play.
- The Spectator shall keep the cart on the path and be aware that the players in the group behind may be waiting for them to clear the landing area.
- The Spectator may not shuttle competitors at any time.
- The Spectator needs to keep open space for Rules Officials to move around the course.

This privilege may only be used at courses that allow spectators on the course and the Spectator is responsible for the course's cart fee.

Injured Spectators can also benefit from this policy by providing a Doctors Note describing the injury and limitations of it. It is important to note that this will not be a permanent solution and may only provide you temporary (limited to 3-months) help getting you through the healing process. Any long-term injury that requires longer than 3-months to heal will require you to secure and provide a Disabled Person credential as outlined above and follow the Procedure to Request a Cart.

The VCJGA is not responsible for a course with a policy that does not to permit any spectator carts

-Revised 2018