

Linda's Monthly Friendly Tip

July 2017

Hi, Everyone! I'm sure you are all happy that summer is now officially in full swing. No pun intended, OK, maybe just a little. At any rate, I'd just like to update you on what some of my competitive Junior Students are doing with the extra time on their hands.

I have quite a few Junior students that are:

1) Competing in the **U.S. Kids Local Junior Golf Tour** for ages of 6 and under through 18. The top point winners will have their chance to compete all the way to the U.S. Kids World Championship to be held in Pinehurst. This is awesome, because there are children from all over the world who convene at Pinehurst for the Final Competition. They start off with a Welcome Ceremony and parade, followed by 3 days of tournament play for the championship. I've had students advance to this wonderful experience. Golf at its best – these kids are the future of golf.

2) Competing in the **PGA's Drive, Chip & Putt** contest. The top 3 kids in their age and gender categories will advance to the Sub-regional competition, then Regionals and finally: win their place to compete at next year's Master's Venue: Augusta National. Pretty Cool, Huh?

You might be asking yourself, what exactly is this Drive, Chip & Putt competition all about? The Junior's (ages 7 thru 15) are divided up by age/gender and category. They have 3 shots at each skill. 3 Drives must be within the 40 Yard wide grid, and measured for final distance. 3 Chips from distances of 10 and 15 yards with clearly marked scoring rings. Those closest to the hole garner the most points.

Finally, Putts from distances of 6, 15 and 30 feet, with clearly marked scoring rings. Once again, closest to the hole wins the most points. When points from all categories are tallied up, the highest amount of total points will advance to the next section. How well do you think YOU would fare under these conditions? Really makes you respect these young competitors.

3) Some of my more competitive Junior Girls are playing events in the Peggy Kirk Bell Tour. This is the largest competitive Girls Tour in the nation. This has 4 categories: The Discovery Series (for girls who want to learn more about competitive golf); The Futures Series (for younger girls who are just beginning to hone their competitive skills); The Prep Series (for the girls who are definitely committed to playing collegiate golf); and the Bell Series (For those girls to gain National Ranking). These events are played on collegiate like fields and course set-ups in order to help them excel on the national stage for rankings and recruiting.

So, what are YOU doing with your extra time this summer? Let's get those competitive juices flowing! Give it a go whether it's a local amateur tournament, your local club championship or just a fun event... get out there and try your best! What have you got to lose? You might just discover a lot about Yourself and Your Game.

If you need some help getting prepared to compete, mentally or swing-wise, we're here for YOU!

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