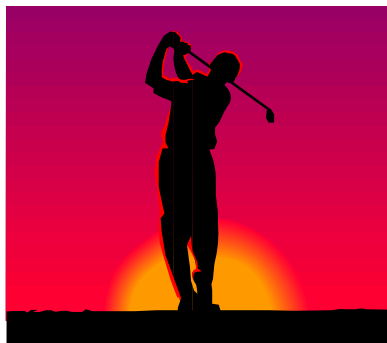


WIDE BAY

JUNIOR GOLF



2026

HANDBOOK

2026 Coordinators / Club Contact details

Golf Wide Bay Junior Co-ordinator :

TBA - wbjuniorgolf@outlook.com

Bundaberg: bundyjunior golf@gmail.com

Bargara : juniors@bargaragolfclub.com.au

Maryborough: mary.juniorgolf@gmail.com

Hervey Bay Kristin Stowers
kristin_stowers@hotmail.com

Gin Gin: Geoff Brandon
Brando60@dodo.com.au

Burrum burrumdistrictgolfclub@gmail.com

Isis: isisgolfclubinc@bigpond.com

WIDE BAY JUNIOR GOLF CALENDAR 2026

Bargara Junior Open 1st March – District Points
Challenge Round 1
(Greg Norman Qualifier- Open)

Hervey bay Junior Open 29th March - District Points
Challenge Round 2
(Greg Norman Qualifier- Open)

Burrum Junior Carnival 24th May

Bundaberg Junior Open 7th June – District Points
Challenge Round 3

Gin Gin Junior Carnival 2nd Aug - District Points
Challenge Round 4

GWB Junior Open and Closed Championship –
Bundaberg Golf Club 16th August
(Greg Norman Qualifier- Open)

Maryborough Junior Open 30th August – District Points
Challenge Round 5 – **Final (Winners announced)**

Pennants

TBA

A message for Junior Co-ordinators and Parents

You may not realise you are about to begin an adventure of fun and frustration when your child becomes a part of the wonderful sport of golf. Once you have experienced seeing children's delight as they nail a long drive, lob a well-placed shot onto the green or sink a long putt, you will share in their thrill and excitement of the game of golf. You will also feel with every fibre their share of disappointment and frustration. This is all part of being a Parent of a golfing child.

As nominated Junior Co-ordinator for your area you have taken on what can be a very rewarding position. Parents and Children's delight as the children succeed and be there to boost them up when they feel they have not quite achieved what they had hoped!

A major part of golf is good etiquette.

It is our responsibility to teach these skills to our juniors and Parents to ensure golf continues to be played in the manner it is meant to be played. Golf is a game of honesty and integrity. Golf teaches our children patience and tolerance.

As co-ordinator your role is to make players and Parents aware of all of this and more.

This booklet has been put together to pass on information that all of us should be aware of.

CO-ORDINATORS RESPONSIBILITIES:

- * To oversee the clubs Junior Programme
- * Assist the development of junior golf in a positive environment
- * Provide a communication link between Parents/Committee/WB Co-ordinator
- * Be aware of WB Handbook and its contents
- * Make Parents and Players aware of their responsibilities
- * Educate Parents and Players on etiquette and the rules of golf
- * To ensure the WB Junior golf rules/policies and procedures are adhered to. E.g handicapping/age limits.

PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

- To enforce and help your child learn the rules and etiquette of golf.
- To encourage and offer assistance and be patient!
- To ensure play keeps moving.
- To confirm the correct stroke counting for all players.
- To help keep track of where the balls are.
- To keep smiling!

ETIQUETTE

Golf's code of behavior is known as etiquette. It ensures safety is maintained, the course is looked after and that golf is played in a fun friendly environment.

Safety –	check that you and others are safe before swinging your club.
Consideration-	play without delay and within the rules, consider others.
Priority-	if you are holding up the group behind, call them through.
Bunkers-	enter and leave the bunker from the lowest point. always smooth out the bunker after playing from it or walking through it.
Divots-	always replace divots and repair any damage you may make.
Practice Swings-	no more than two practice swings.
Quiet-	be quiet during other people's shots.
Shake hands-	at the end of play shake hands with the other players.

WB OPENS

During the year clubs host a Junior Open. Juniors have the opportunity to travel the Wide Bay to participate in these stroke events. Clubs that make up the Wide Bay are: Bargara, Bundaberg, Gin Gin, Burrum, Hervey Bay and Maryborough. **In addition to this a Wide Bay Open and Closed Tournament is held this is overseen by WB Golf and a different host club is considered each year.**

All members are welcome to attend these events. Opens are not compulsory however they offer broader experience of competitive golf as well as a great opportunity to play on other courses. Opens are also a good way to meet other players from different clubs.

We also receive invitations to play in Opens outside our area. Details of these are sent to individual clubs.

Co-ordinators should display these on their noticeboard.

Nomination forms are usually distributed by the junior coordinators of each club weeks prior to an Open. Completed nomination forms are generally sent to the hosting club at least one week prior. Late nominations may not be accepted.

WB Fees

Fees for club membership are dependant on each club and their circumstances. It is a recommendation from the Wide Bay Junior Committee that the Junior Open fees fall within the following structure

	MAX
18 holers and 13 holers	\$35
9 holers, 6 Holes Red Tees and 6 holers	\$25

This fee should include the round of golf in addition to a free lunch. Please note these are only recommendations from the committee if clubs wish to go outside these parameters for any reason than that is their decision.

WIDE BAY ZONE JUNIOR GOLF ASSOCIATION

CONDITIONS FOR HOLDING JUNIOR GOLF CARNIVALS

The Wide Bay Junior Golf Association is made up of all Junior Golf Clubs affiliated in the Zone. Any junior golf player is eligible to play in the Junior Golf Carnivals providing they have a current officially recognised junior handicap (GA or Club for 18 holes, 13holes, 9holes and 6 holes). All players must be financial with their home club to be allowed to participate in a Junior Golf Carnival.

All Clubs must offer the following Divisions with the Handicap Categories as determined by the Wide Bay Junior Golf Association

GA: Boys must have Golfink number and be a member of Golf Australia. Maximum Handicap - 36

GA: Girls must have Golfink number and be a member of Golf Australia. Maximum handicap - 45

GIRLS & BOYS 13 HOLES: Players must play 13 holes once their 9 hole handicap has reached 23. **There is *no minimum handicap for 13 holer's as the junior needs to be capable and comfortable playing 18 holes before moving up to that division***

CLUB BOYS 9 HOLES: Handicap 24-36

CLUB GIRLS 9 HOLES: Handicap 24-45

6 HOLE – RED TEES

BOYS & GIRLS: Handicap 20 - 36

6 HOLE BOYS & GIRLS: Play 6 holes off 150 metre markers.
Handicap Boys 14 – 36, Girls 14 - 45

All Clubs must run their Junior Golf Carnival according to the following:

- The host club is solely responsible for nominations, players draw, trophies, collating winners and presentation of trophies.
- There is to be a Gross, Gross R/Up and Nett and Nett R/Up winners and trophies for all Divisions. If Numbers are less than four in each division prize allocation is left up to the discretion of the hosting Club
- It is the host clubs discretion to determine Grades within each division – as a general rule, Grades are determined by nominations in each Division and handicaps are split evenly into the Grades being offered. If numbers are low in both boys and girls, the divisions are to be combined.
- There is to be Pin Shot/approaches winners and prizes for all Divisions
- It is at the host club's discretion to offer any other events and prizes
- Lunch for players must be provided and included in nomination fees
- In the event of a tie for the Championship, it is at the host clubs discretion to hold a playoff or to determine the winner by countback of the last 9 holes played
- The host club must nominate a Match Official/Committee member to work in conjunction with the Golf Wide Bay Junior Coordinator, to settle any disputes. All players/junior coordinators are to be advised of the nominated person/s before commencement of play

PLAYERS CODE OF CONDUCT

- Any player, who disrupts play, abuses the course, is malicious to other players their caddie, spectators or officials or behaves in a manner not becoming to the etiquette of golf may be penalised or suspended from the competition
- Players must abide by the R&A rules of golf, observe the etiquette of golf and adhere to the dress standard of the club at all times

- Any player/caddie caught cheating will automatically be disqualified and name recorded. Second Offence will be at the discretion of the Match Official/Committee and name recorded. Third Offence will be dealt with by the Association.

DRESS CODE

When playing the game of golf the host clubs dress code must be adhered to. A general guide for all players is as follows:

Boys:

Boys should be dressed of a neat and tidy appearance (Collared shirts and no football shorts).

Girls:

Girls should be dressed of a neat and tidy appearance. No exposed midriffs.

All players must wear closed in shoes and wear a hat or cap.

PROTESTS

Protests must be lodged no longer than 10 minutes after completing the round. Protests may verbally lodge their protest to the Golf Wide Bay Junior Coordinator / Club official or by way of written protest to the Golf Wide Bay Committee.

PLAYING RULES

The rules of golf as adopted by the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews will apply together with such Local Rules as are approved by the host club.

DIVISIONS

Hosting clubs have the right to decide what division will be applicable on the day.

6, 6 red tees, 9, 13 and 18 Hole Boys and Girls

It is up to the hosting club's discretion to have divisions within each group depending on nominations received. For 18 hole boys, Clubs are

advised to state on their flyers that it could be Divisions 1 and 2 or A B C Grade depending on numbers.

(The recommended split for divisions would be Division 1 – 0-15, Division 2 16-36. A Grade 0-9, B Grade 10-19 and C Grade 20-27, D Grade 28 – 36. These are recommendations only; Clubs may choose to alter these handicap ranges but advised to specify what the splits are on their flyer.)

WALKERS

Parents/Grandparents and other supporters are encouraged to walk with their son/daughter and assist with the behaviour of the group. They are not to interfere, hinder or verbally abuse any other player during the round

NO SMOKING AT JUNIOR SPORTING EVENTS

This is state Government Legislation, No Smoking at Under 18 Events. Smoking in designated smoking areas only. Parents should be aware of the influence of smoking may have on children's health.

MOBILE PHONES

Mobile phones are to be turned off or on silence mode while walking with players in all divisions.

COACHING/CADDIES

Caddies will be allowed for the 18 GA district competitions. Please note R&A Rules don't allow for caddies to deliberately stand in a location on or close to an extension of the line of play behind the ball for any reason, when the player begins taking a stance for the stroke and until the stroke is made

For all other divisions Parents/Caddies are encouraged to support their child during their game of golf. You may recommend club selection however you may only advise the player for whom you are caddying for. Advice on type of stroke, e.g. soft, hard, full, half may be given. No demonstrations should be given. Children should only be encouraged to take two practice swings. Parents should not continue to argue with their child on a course of play chosen. This delays play and can be off putting for all players.

Caddies must not interfere with any other competitor during a round of the event. Should such a person have a concern about another competitor, that person should bring that concern to the marker of the competitor and report the incident to the match Official/Committee.

USE OF MOTORISED VEHICLES: During any round of the tournament, competitors may not travel in or on any motorised vehicles unless authorised by the Tournament Committee. Exceptions to this condition may be granted where a player suffers from a disability, (a disability is defined by the 10 eligible disability impairments recognised by the Golf Federation) and which would preclude him/her from competing in the event without the use of a motorised vehicle.

6 HOLES:

Aim: To learn the rules and etiquette of golf and to develop a skill level that will progress players from 6 holes to the 9 hole competition.

Age Restriction

Home Clubs

Nil

Course specifications

Both boys and girls hit from 150 meters for each hole

Handicaps

Boys

- Maximum handicap 36,
- It is generally recommended that boys go to 6 holes red tees when their handicap reaches - 14

Girls

- Maximum handicap 45,
- It is generally recommended that Girls go up to 6 holes red tees when their handicap reaches - 14

Any player that progresses to the next division due their handicap will automatically be awarded an adjusted handicap when they enter the new division. This handicap will be altered accordingly after their first round in the new division.

6 Hole Conditions of Play

- **All air swings must be counted**
- **Bunkers- one attempt must be made to play out of each bunker the ball comes to rest in. If the player is unsuccessful in hitting out of the bunker they can take a drop without penalty to the side of the bunker no nearer the hole, the first attempted stroke MUST be counted**

6 HOLES RED TEES:

Aim: To learn the rules and etiquette of golf and to develop a skill level that will progress players from 6 holes red tees to the 9 hole competition.

Age Restriction

Home Clubs

Nil

Course specifications

Both boys and girls hit from the Ladies Tees (Red tees) for each hole

Handicaps

Boys

- 20 - 36,

Girls

- 20 - 36,

6 Hole Red Tees Conditions of Play

- **All air swings must be counted**
- **Bunkers- one attempt must be made to play out of each bunker the ball comes to rest in. If the player is unsuccessful in hitting out of the bunker they can take a drop without penalty to the side of the bunker no nearer the hole, the first attempted stroke MUST be counted**

Any player that progresses to the next division due their handicap will automatically be awarded an adjusted handicap when they enter the new division. This handicap will be altered accordingly after their first round in the new division.

9 HOLES:

Aim: To continue to learn the rules and etiquette of golf and to develop a skill level that will progress players from 9 holes to the 18 hole competition.

Age Restriction

Nil

Course specifications

Girls tee off from the Ladies markers
Boys tee off from Mens markers

Handicaps

Boys

- Maximum handicap 36, Minimum handicap 24
- Boys must go up to 13 holes when their handicap has reached 23

Girls

- Maximum handicap 45, Minimum handicap 24
- Girls go up to 13 holes when their handicap has reached 24
- Once players have played in a 13 Hole WIDE Bay event they cannot go back to 9 holes. This does not exclude them from playing 9 holes at their own club.

Note: - All shots **MUST** be counted including all bunker shots. Note: player may take 2 penalty strokes and drop ball outside bunker in line with the pin as per R&A rules.

13 HOLES:

Aim: To continue to learn the rules and etiquette of golf and to develop a skill level that will progress players from 13 holes to the 18 hole competition.

Age Restriction

Nil

Course specifications

Girls tee off from the Ladies markers
Boys tee off from Mens markers

Handicaps

Boys

- Maximum handicap 33, Minimum handicap - Nil
- Boys to progress to 18 holes once they are comfortable and capable of playing 18 holes.

Girls

- Maximum handicap 33, Minimum handicap – Nil
- Girls to progress to 18 holes once they are comfortable and capable of playing 18 holes
- Once players have played in a 13 Hole WIDE Bay event they cannot go back to 9 holes. This does not exclude them from playing 9 holes at their own club.

Note: - All shots **MUST** be counted including all bunker shots. **Note:** player may take 2 penalty strokes and drop ball outside bunker in line with the pin as per R&A rules.

18 HOLES:

SPECIAL NOTE FOR PLAYERS TURNING 18 YEARS OF AGE: In 2026 players turning 18 within 2026 can continue to play out the rest of the year after they have turned 18. Thus they will still be eligible to play in all junior carnivals. They will however be excluded of winning any prizes in the Wide Bay Junior Open and Closed Carnival, if they have already turned 18 at the time of the Carnival. They will also be ineligible to play representative pennants if they have turned 18 at the time of the fixture.

Aim: To continue to learn the rules and etiquette of golf and to develop a skill level that will enable players to confidently take part in Adult competitions.

Requirements: Players must demonstrate a sound knowledge and understanding of the rules and scoring of golf and a level of maturity that is required to participate in 18 hole competitions. A Golf Link handicap and current membership. Wide Bay Junior Golf does not set the policy of the juniors playing in the senior competition but recommends that any junior participating in senior competitions must have the capacity and maturity to meet standards of a general member playing in their club.

Handicaps:

Boys moving up from 13 holes can start on 36 and Girls 45. The senior club handicapper is responsible for these players' handicaps and will determine their starting handicap as an 18 holer.

Changes to Course Conditions:

In the event the match committee alter the course conditions, e.g. moving tee positions, player's cards cannot be used for handicapping purposes.

Greg Norman Junior Masters (GNJM)

Each year Queensland Junior Golf hosts The Greg Norman Junior Masters tournament in December. Players can only play by invitation. The Wide Bay has two avenues to qualify for this event.

1 - To be chosen as the Wide Bay Male or Female Representative as chosen by finishing first in the GA Qld District Points Challenge event, run in conjunction with 5 of the local district events.

Or

2 - Qualify at one of the 3 Open events held in the District (as per Golf Australia – QLD qualifying rules). To qualify, players must be financial members of the Golf Australia – QLD / TeeMates Member and win the gross event for their age group at the qualifying tournament. Players receive invitation by email if they are successful.

Junior Golf QLD District Points Challenge

Each year a male and female representative is selected to represent our region as part of the GNJM. These players qualify by being the boy or girl winners in the Jnr Golf QLD District points challenge 18 hole event, run in conjunction within 5 of the local district events (as per events list).

District Points Challenge Participation rules:

- Must be financial members of TeeMates.
- Must have played in a minimum of 3 of the local District points challenge events
- Points are award as per nett scores per each of the 5 events. 10 points for winner down to 1 point. Tied scores receive the same points.
- The best 3 rounds from each Junior boy or girl counts towards the end total score
- A bonus point for each District Point Challenge event played will also be award to the junior
- In the event of a tie, all points from the year are to be counted to award the winner.

Junior Golf QLD is to be advised scores after each event.