



The Prep Tour begins our 7th year of competition March 17th and 18th at Piper Glen GC in Springfield. The Prep Tour Mission Statement remains unchanged: To provide junior golfers and their families an **affordable, competitive** tour where junior golfers can sharpen their skills for the approaching Summer and Fall seasons.

The costs of competitive junior golf continue to rise. \$250 Tour membership fees and \$200 Tournament event fees easily turn into \$1000 weekends once you add the associated costs of meals, lodging, and other travel costs. The Prep Tour is committed to helping families reduce these costs without sacrificing the competitive experience of Tournament golf. There will be **NO Tour Membership Fee** to play in Prep Tour events in 2018. 2 Day, 36 hole events will still have modest and reasonable entry fees from \$80 - \$95. Our aim is to be a **valuable choice** for competitive golfers and their families.

Players and Parents should carefully review the updated Prep Tour website. Each Tournament Information Page has the updated start times, yardages, age groups, and field size. The Home page on The Prep Tour website has all of the updated policies (The Refund Policy has changed) and a [link to the Rained Out](#) text messaging service The Prep Tour will use for event alerts this year. Registration buttons are located on the corresponding Tournament Information Pages. These buttons will be “active” beginning January 10th.

2017 was a fantastic year for The Prep Tour players:

- 53 Prep Tour players signed to play Collegiate Golf
- Prep Tour players won IHSA & IESA State Championships
- Numerous HS Player of the Year, All-Conference, All-Area and Medalist awards
- Inaugural HS Boys Showcase was a smashing success featuring all three 2017 IHSA State Championship teams.

New for 2018:

- 1. AJGA “Points” Race-** Pekin Country Club will be hosting the inaugural American Junior Golf Association’s (AJGA) D.A. Points Junior Championship sponsored by Pekin Insurance & UnityPoint Health July 9th- July 12th. That Tournament Committee has awarded The Prep Tour both a Boys and a Girls exemption into the tournament field. The Prep Tour will conduct a 7 event “Points” Race to determine the winners of the Boys and Girls exemptions. Additional details are published on The Prep Tour website AJGA page <http://www.preptour.com/ajga-race.html>
- 2. Callaway Cup-** The Prep Tour will challenge The Southern Illinois Golf Association (SIGA) in the inaugural “Callaway Cup” sponsored by Kevin Hefner @ Callaway/Ogio Golf. This **team event** will take place June 30th and July 1st in the St. Louis area. The Prep Tour will conduct an 11 event points race to provide players the opportunity to qualify for this exciting event. Additional details are published on The Callaway Cup webpage: <http://www.preptour.com/callaway-cup.html>
- 3. Girls Elite Events-** The Prep Tour will conduct 5 Girls Elite events testing young ladies at a minimum distance of at least 5700 yds. These 5 tournaments give talented girls a chance to test their mettle at distances closer to what Collegiate Women play. The Girl’s winner of this series earns a Callaway Cup 2019 invite.
<http://www.preptour.com/summer-slam.html>
- 4. Match Play Championship-** Qualifying rounds will be at Stone Creek GC in Urbana. Matches will be played @ Ironhorse in Tuscola. The numerous lakes and hazards at Ironhorse make it an ideal venue to host a Match Play Championship. The 18th hole at Ironhorse will provide plenty of excitement for all competitors! Many thanks to Doug Bauer @ Ironhorse for the scheduling flexibility to host this event.
<http://www.preptour.com/18-match-play.html>
- 5. New Venues for 2018-** Annbriar GC, Bloomington CC, Crestwicke CC, Charleston CC, Macomb CC, Oakwood CC, and Sunset Hills CC.
- 6. HS Girls Showcase 2018-** A season opening **High School Team Event** complimenting the Boys HS Showcase. Proceeds from these 2 events help subsidize the annual Prep Tour - IJGA Challenge Cup <http://www.preptour.com/18-girls-hs-showcse.html>
- 7. Online Registration-** 2018 Registrations will be submitted electronically. Players and parents should **carefully review** [The Prep Tour 2018 Refund Policy](#) (it has changed). 2018 Spring Registration opens January 10th. ISU, Prairie Vista, Mother’s Day,

Ironwood, and Memorial Day events all sold out last year and had Waiting Lists. Event Registration for 2018 will be located on each event's corresponding Tournament Information Page on The Prep Tour website.

Challenge Cup- The 4th annual Prep Tour - IJGA Challenge Cup will be held Saturday July 14th and Sunday July 15th at Weaver Ridge Golf Club in Peoria. The 2018 Spring points race begins April 7th and 8th @ Charleston and Mattoon Country Clubs. Players may represent The Prep Tour at The Callaway Cup in St. Louis or The Challenge Cup at Weaver Ridge, **but not both**. Detailed information on how players can qualify to represent The Prep Tour at The Challenge Cup in 2017 can be found at <http://www.preptour.com/challenge-cup.html>.

Thanks to everyone for their continued support of The Prep Tour as we look forward to another fantastic and competitive 2018 season! We are very proud of all of our competitors and look forward to meeting even more!