



The Prep Tour begins our **14th year** of competition March 15th, 2025 at Effingham Country Club. 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 \$250+ Tournament event fees easily turn into \$1500 - \$2000 weekends once you add the associated costs of practice rounds, 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. 2 Day, 36 hole events will still have modest and reasonable entry fees from \$109 - \$119. Our aim is to be a **valuable choice** for **competitive** golfers and their families. As a reminder, The Prep Tour is a **COMPETITION, NOT** a recreational event.

Players and Parents should carefully review the updated Prep Tour website. The Prep Tour Tournament Information Pages have the updated start times, yardages, entry fee amounts, registration cut off dates and when the tee times will be released.

Changes for 2025:

- **Divisions & Age Groups:**
 - a. The Junior High Boys division will not be contested in 2025.
 - b. There will not be any events that allow caddies in 2025.
 - c. HS Boys playing divisions will play different yardages in 2025. Playing divisions **will not** be combined into a single Junior Golf Scoreboard report.

- **Playing Divisions for 2025**

- Varsity Boys:** 6500-6800 yards. High School graduating years of 2025 (Sr.), 2026 (Jr.), and 2027 (Soph.) will be eligible. High School graduating **2028 (Freshmen) must be a Prep Tour trophy winner to play up in the Varsity.**
- Fresh Soph Boys:** 6100-6450 yards. High School graduating years of 2027 (Soph.) 2028 (Fr.) and 2029 (8th graders). 8th grade boys must have knowledge of tournament rules, play independently without spectator input, and be able to walk 18 holes efficiently to meet Prep Tour Pace of Play standards. Players need to have demonstrated scoring averages less than 110 to play in this division. High School graduating years of 2030 (7th graders) that wish to play distances of 6100 yards + may petition The Prep Tour Director to play an introductory event on a “trial basis”.
- HS Girls:** 5000-5600 yards. High School Graduating years of 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, and 2029 are eligible. 8th grade girls must have knowledge of tournament rules, play independently without spectator input, and be able to walk 18 holes efficiently to meet Prep Tour Pace of Play standards. Players need to have demonstrated scoring averages less than 110 to play in this division.

- **Continuous Putting:** Golf Courses are busy. The Prep Tour values our junior friendly relationships with our fantastic venue partners. The Prep Tour’s firm commitment to maintaining an efficient Pace of Play will not waver in 2025.
 - Playing groups maintaining or exceeding a 4 hour 20 minute pace of play will have the option of Continuously Putting.
 - Playing groups that are not maintaining the minimum 4 hour 20 minute Pace of Play standard will be required to Continuously Putt until the Pace of Play standard has been regained.
 - ALL playing groups will be required to “clear the green” and proceed to the next teeing ground.**

- **Schedule Changes:**

- There will be 4 Notah Begay qualifiers in 2024: March 15th @ Effingham, April 19th in Pontiac, May 10th @ Lincoln Greens, May 30th @ Quail Meadows.
- The Prep Tour will host an AJGA Qualifier June 16th and 17th @ Lick Creek. The Boys Varsity Medalist and the HS Girls Medalist will win unpaid exemptions into the AJGA 2025 Renewal by Andersen D.A. Points Championship in July @ Pekin Country Club.
- The Fall “Recruiting Showcase” returns October 18th and 19th @ Ironwood GC.
- Mother’s Day @ The Rail and Memorial Day in Decatur will not be contested.

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