

Dear Reader,

9-Hole Series (formerly 'Rookie Series') competitions provide a great challenge for regular junior players and a stepping stone for those looking to transition into some of their first competitive experiences.

TeeMates 9-Hole events are suited to players from aged 6 to 15 years old. The course is adjusted in length to suit all playing abilities and there are also modified rules to suit the profile of the players competing.

Handicaps will be allocated to players competing in the 9-hole Series events. Players need to return one score in a TeeMates 9-Hole Series event to be eligible to have a handicap and win net prizes.

Change in Conditions of Play - TeeMates 9 Hole Series 2024

Please note The conditions outlined below have been altered for the 2024 9-Hole Series season. These changes will commence from the 4th of April 2024 at the first 9-Hole Event of the year at Ballarat Golf Club.

Key Changes

- Divisions will now be based on 9-Hole Series handicaps rather than age groups. For events where there are 40 or less players at the close of entries, there will be two (2) divisions. A third division will be created where entries exceed 40. Handicap ranges for each division will be determined and announced to players at the close of entries.
- Previously, competitors have played off tee markers based on age. Tee markers will now be allocated for each handicap division regardless of age. (e.g. Division A plays from blue tees and Division B plays from green tees.)
- Points allocation
Points will now be allocated at each event based on the **Gross** and **Nett** scores for each division (boys and girls) in separate tables as per below:

Placing	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th	8 th	9 th	10 th onwards
Points	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1

*There will be Gross and Nett overall winners (for both Boys & Girls) at the end of the year based on the above points allocation.

- Players must have played a **minimum of 2 events** (the final event will not count towards the overall series points) to be eligible for the overall yearly prizes.

- If there is a tie for a place, the same number of points will be awarded to each participant.
- All participants will be awarded 1 bonus point for every event they participate in.

- Presentation Day/Final Event

The final 9-Hole event of the year will not count towards the above points allocation. The final event will be open to anyone between 6-15 years to participate regardless of whether they have played an event previously or not.

As part of this event, the yearly prizes will be announced. These will include:

- *Player of the Year (Male & Female)* - determined by a total of the players Gross points and their nett points.
- *Gross Winner (Male & Female)* – determined by a total of the players gross points.
- *Nett Winner (Male & Female)* – determined by a total of the players nett points.

- Daily Prizes

Daily prizes will be awarded at each event based on the **Gross & Nett** scores (a player is only eligible to win one prize) as follows:

- Boys Best Gross Winner & Runner Up in each Division
- Boys Best Nett Winner & Runner Up in each Division
- Girls Best Gross Winner & Runner Up in each Division
- Girls Best Nett Winner & Runner Up in each Division
- Nearest to the Pin for Boys and Girls

Daily prizes are subject to change.

Notes:

- If there is a tie for any places for the daily prizes, the winner will be determined by the GA countback system – last 6 holes, last 3 holes, last hole.
- The Event Committee appointed by TeeMates shall have sole control of the event with the power to alter or vary any of the conditions at any time, including scheduling another day or venue should it be deemed necessary. The event committee decision on all matters affecting the event shall be final.

All other general terms and conditions of play will remain unchanged. This includes Player/Parent or Guardian Code of Conduct and the Modified Rules for 9-Hole series events:

The Rules of Engagement: Code of Conduct

All players, caddies, parents/guardians, and spectators must adhere to the below code of conduct in conjunction with Golf Australia's Member Protection Policy.

- Comply with commonly accepted standards of golfing etiquette

- Focus on the children's efforts and performance rather than winning or losing
- Never ridicule or raise your voice at your child, or other parents and children for making a mistake, miscounting, or not winning a competition
- Show appreciation for good performance and skillful plays by all players competing
- Respect Official's decisions

Caddies:

Golf Australia acknowledges at different stages of a junior golfer's development that caddies can play an important role, in providing comfort and value to their participant/player. However, as a player progresses towards more competitive play, we believe independent decision making becomes an important part of their development.

Yes, we do allow caddies at certain events, i.e., 9 hole and some 18 hole events, but the following will apply when caddies are permitted at these junior events.

Caddies are encouraged to ensure that:

1. Each golfer is having fun and enjoying themselves while on course
2. The pace of play is acceptable and that participants are encouraged to play 'Ready golf'
3. There is not excessive coaching while on course – little tips here and there are fine and encouraged
4. Each group has one person who ensures that the juniors are ready to play and when it is their turn to hit
5. They are encouraging fast play by getting participants to walk quickly to their ball, watching where all balls go, raking bunkers and leaving the golf buggy in an appropriate spot so not to hold up play when moving onto the next hole.
6. Participants verify their scores at the end of each hole where possible
7. Players hand their completed and verified score cards to the TeeMates official
8. Scoring disputes are never loudly verbalized, but addressed with an official TeeMates staff member

Parent/Guardian:

As a parent/guardian of a participant/player in any activity delivered by or under the auspices of Golf Australia, you must meet the following requirements regarding your conduct during any such activity or event:

1. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of others, regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background, or religion
2. Remember that your child/ren participates in sport for their own enjoyment, not yours. Do not put pressure on them, just let them play
3. Focus on your child's efforts and performance rather than on winning or losing
4. Never ridicule or yell at your child and other kids for making a mistake or losing a competition
5. Show appreciation for good performance and skillful play by all players, including those they play against

6. Demonstrate a high degree of individual responsibility especially when dealing with or in the vicinity of persons under 18 years of age, as your words and actions are an example
7. Respect officials' decisions and teach children to do likewise
8. Do not physically or verbally abuse or harass anyone associated with the sport (player, coach, etc.)
9. Be a positive role model
10. Understand the repercussions if you breach, or are aware of any breaches of, this code of behavior.

Junior/Participant:

All participants/players must adhere to the below code of conduct and in conjunction with Golf Australia's Member Protection Policy.

As a participant/player, you agree to:

1. Try your best within the rules set, remember everyone has good and bad shots
2. Play ready golf and keep up with the group in front, no one likes a slow round
3. Respect the course, repair divots, pitch marks and rake bunkers, everyone will love it
4. Respect your playing partners, parents and spectators, golf is about showing respect and demonstrating sportsmanship
5. Enjoy yourself, yes golf can be challenging, but it can still be a nice walk with your playing partners and friends.
6. Never knowingly cheat, swear, throw equipment or behave in a way that distracts and/or upsets your playing partners.

Please read the [2024 9-Hole Series Terms of Competition](#) for further information.

Please [click here](#) to enter the upcoming 9-Hole Series events for 2024

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Jacquie Chester on 0413089039 or email jacqueline.chester@golf.org.au

Regards,

JChester

Jacquie Chester
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