JUNIOR MATCHPLAY SERIES 2026
CONDITIONS AND RULES OF PLAY

All play in this Junior Matchplay Series will be under the official R & A/USGA Rules of Golf (Effective January 2024) and the Local Rules of the host club which shall be in accordance and consistent with the compendium set forth in Section 8 of "Official Guide to the Rules of Golf – Effective January 2024".

1) 2026 Junior Matchplay Series will consist of 2 competitions.

1.A **Junior Matchplay Scratch Series;**

- Consists of 6 players, plus reserves.
- Scratch teams, 6 x single matchplay competitions
- Players must play in handicap order from lowest position 1 to highest position 6.
- After 4 rounds the leading 2 teams will progress into the final round
- Only players who have played 1 or more rounds in the scratch competition can be eligible for the final, round 5.

1.B **Junior Matchplay Handicap Series;**

- Consists of 6 players, plus reserves.
- Players may only represent 1 team throughout the competition.
- In the handicap teams, 6 x single matchplay competitions
- These will be given on holes according to Golf Australia's Balanced Distribution Index Table handicap calculated.
- Players must play in handicap order from lowest position 1 to highest position 6.
- All teams will be divided into 2 sections by random ballet, red and blue.
  After 4 rounds the leading team in red and blue will progress into the final round, round 5.
- Only players who have played 1 or more rounds in the handicap competition can be eligible for the final, round 5.

2) Players will receive 1 point for a match win. All matches are not to proceed beyond the 18th hole. Matches completed all square on the 18th green will be halved and the players will receive a half point each.

3) Should a player be late for tee off, his / her match will be forfeited (10/8). In the event of a walk over the match will be won by the competitor present on the tee.

4) Washouts no points allocated.

5) In the event of a tie in the final round 5, the 2 number 1 players from each team will go to a sudden death playoff (single matchplay).
In the Handicap series the finalists GA handicaps must be applied to the slope of the course they are playing to arrive at their playing handicap.

6) Each **Junior Matchplay Scratch Series** team may consist of boys and girls who are under 21 years of age from the date of the first round.

7) Each **Junior Matchplay Handicap Series** team may consist of boys and girls who are under 18 years of age from the date of the first round.

8) Each team must have an adult manager (male or female manger). Managers must be members of their club, with delegated responsibility, whose juniors they are supporting.

9) GA handicaps for all players are frozen **FIVE** days prior to the commencement of the Junior Matchplay Series.

10) All male players in the Scratch competition will play from the blue tees.

All male players in the Handicap competition will play from the white tees.
All female players in both the Scratch and Handicap competition will play from the red tees.

11) The team sheet MUST be completed at least 10 minutes before the first match tees off. At the conclusion of all matches it is to be completed and signed off by the team's managers. A picture of the results must be sent to 0407 147 944 or emailed to secretary@gcdga.com.au.

12) The maximum GA handicap for any player is set at 28.0. Players who possess a higher GA handicap may play but their GA handicap on the day will be set to 28.0 prior to slope adjustment for the course being played.

13) Handicap series, In mixed matches (boy v girl) all scores are determined against par. For instance, where the girl's par on a hole is par 5 and the boy's par on the same hole is 4: Should the boy score 5 (1 over par) and the girl score 5 (par), the girl will record a win on that hole.

14) In the Junior Matchplay Handicap competition, handicap calculation is required. Please refer to the (Daily Handicap Look-up Chart. In the instance where a male golfer is to play a female golfer the following calculation is to be used:

Girl –GA handicap (adjusted to the RED tees slope of the course being played
Boy – GA handicap (adjusted to White tees slope of the course being played)

The difference between the 2 competitors' handicaps becomes the number of strokes to be awarded. These will be given on holes according to Golf Australia's Balanced Distribution Index Table.

15) **No caddies permitted.**

Only team managers, players, reserves and GCDGA representatives who have finished competing on the day may caddy / walk beside teammates for remaining matches

16) Parents and spectators are welcome and encouraged but in the interests of the players please walk the course as spectators and remain in the rough areas, on designated cart paths or walk along the tree line to watch players.

17) Parents and spectators are not allowed to walk onto any teeing ground, down the middle of the fairway or onto the green. Only team managers, players, reserves and GCDGA representatives are permitted to walk and talk with players on tees, fairways, and greens.

18) This year we welcome Sanctury Cove Golf and Country Club to junior pennants.

Managers, parents and guardians please note; Sanctury Cove has recently implemented a junior golf policy stipulating that all 14 years and under golfers must always be accompanied whilst on course, on the practice facilities and in the club house. We ask while remaining present with your golfer maintaining distance according to the GCDGA guidelines. For more information, please contact the GCDGA Junior Coordinator David Thomas 0435 552 628.

19) It is expected that the host club will make available to each manager the Local Rules for the day. The host club is required to provide free of charge a motorized cart for one manager from each club so that they can become responsible for the pace of play.

20) A player may use a motorized cart, but it must be driven by an adult. The hire/cost of this cart is the player's club's responsibility or the player. A medical certificate must be presented to the GCDGA for review at least 3 days prior to the round. Other players are not to sit, lean or ride on this cart or the manager's cart during their match. The penalty for breach of this rule is loss of hole where the infringement occurred.

21) All managers are required to have in their possession a BLUE CARD (Positive Exemption Card).

22) Practice on match day shall be limited to:

    Putting / chipping greens and practice fairway.

23) Players and team officials must conform to the dress regulations and behavior standards of the host club. Managers need to be clearly identifiable (club shirt) and understand the important role they need to play.

24) Players are advised that devices (distance finders) that measure distance must have the slope reading switched off at all times.

25) Players are advised that the use of mobile phones is restricted to the car park and club house only at each club/venue unless a medical emergency arises. [All phones must be turned off or placed on silent mode during any competition round]. Penalty: loss of hole where infringement occurred – however any further offences during the same individual match could result in the player being disqualified.

26) The GCDGA recognises the benefits of social media for sharing stories and photos.
However, the GCDGA does not tolerate abusive (bullying), discriminatory, intimidatory or offensive statements being made online or the inappropriate use of photos or videos.
The GCDGA encourages parents, guardians and spectators to be aware of such risks and to take steps, where possible, to minimise them.
Anybody who negatively uses photos, videos, commits cyberbullying or encourages cyberbullying will be given a lifetime ban and possible legal action.
Everyone who participates in and contributes to golf and/or a club has some responsibility for ensuring and maintaining safe environments for children and young people.

27) Spectators can act as additional spotters for errant shots.

28) Parents and spectators are not allowed to offer any advice or coaching throughout the round or get involved with any rulings or scoring disputes. There will be on-course team managers, GCDGA members and a designated rules official available to assist and deal with any problems arising on the golf course.

29) Parents and spectators who are found to be crossing these clearly defined guidelines above will be given an official warning, if behavior continues, they may be asked to leave the course.

30) Player/team support is encouraged but not at the expense of others. Please refrain from boisterous behavior and/or poor sportsmanship.

Please be aware of your surroundings when supporting your player/team and have a wonderful day.

Kind regards,

DAVID THOMAS
GCDGA EXECUTIVE
JUNIOR GOLF CONVENOR
043 555 2628

GOLD COAST DISTRICT GOLF ASSOCIATION

RACE TO THE PINES
THE GOLD COAST TALENT SERIES
SUPPORTED BY TITLEIST

Contact Details

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Burleigh GC	Tom Ovcaric	0433 589 141	tom.o@ngurealestate.com.au
Surfers Paradise	Riaan Swanepoel	0415 477 628	swanpoolservicing@gmail.com
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Cool/Tweed	Matt Moore	0429 889 835	matt.moore@batteryworld.com.au
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Sanctuary Cove Golf & Country Club	Nick Mullings	0418 957 704	nick.mullings1@gmail.com

2026 JUNIOR MATCHPLAY SERIES DRAW

Scratch Series.
Burleigh GC
Surfers Paradise GC
Southport GC
Emerald Lakes GC
Links Golf & Wellbeing GC
Coolangatta GC

Round 1 Coolangatta & Tweed GC – Sunday 2nd August 2026
(rolling start from 1st tee)

Burleigh GC	vs	Coolangatta & Tweed GC
Surfers Paradise GC	vs	Links Golf & Wellbeing GC
Southport GC	vs	Emerald Lakes GC

Round 2 Links Golf & Wellbeing GC – Sunday 9th August 2026
(shotgun start from 7am holes 10 through 18 and the 1st)

Coolangatta & Tweed GC	vs	Surfers Paradise GC
Burleigh GC	vs	Emerald Lakes GC
Links Hope Island GC	vs	Southport GC

Round 3 Emerald Lakes GC - Sunday 16th August 2026
(rolling start from 1st tee time 10.30am)

Burleigh GC	vs	Southport GC
Surfers Paradise GC	vs	Coolangatta GC
Emerald Lakes GC	vs	Links Hope Island GC

Round 4 Burleigh GC – Sunday 23rd August 2026
(Tee time 7am shotgun)

Burleigh GC	vs	Links Hope Island GC
Surfers Paradise GC	vs	Southport GC
Emerald Lakes GC	vs	Coolangatta GC

Semi-Final Southport GC - Sunday 30th August 2026
(Refer to leaderboard)

Position 1	vs	Position 4
Position 2	vs	Position 3

Final Sanctuary Cove Golf & Country Club
Sunday 6th September 2026

Winners of each semi-final

2026 JUNIOR MATCHPLAY HANDICAP SERIES DRAW

RED POOL	BLUE POOL
Emerald Lakes	Burleigh
Coolangatta & Tweed	Links Golf & Wellbeing
Sanctuary Cove	Surfers Paradise
Southport 2	Southport 1

RD 1 Coolangatta & Tweed GC – Sunday 2nd August 2026
(rolling start from 1st tee)

RED POOL			BLUE POOL		
Emerald Lakes	vs	Coolangatta	Burleigh	vs	Links Golf & Wellbeing
Sanctuary Cove	vs	Southport 2	Surfers Paradise	vs	Southport 1

RD 2 Links Golf & Wellbeing GC – Sunday 9th August 2026
(shotgun start from 7am holes 10 through 18 and the 1st)

RED POOL			BLUE POOL		
Sanctuary Cove	vs	Emerald Lakes	Burleigh	vs	Surfers Paradise
Coolangatta	vs	Southport 2	Links Golf & Wellbeing	vs	Southport 1

RD 3 Emerald Lakes GC - Sunday 16th August 2026
(rolling start from 1st tee time 10.30am)

RED POOL			BLUE POOL		
Emerald Lakes	vs	Southport 2	Burleigh	V's	Southport 1
Coolangatta	vs	Sanctuary Cove	Links Golf & Wellbeing	V's	Surfers Paradise

RD 4 Burleigh GC – Sunday 23rd August 2026
(Tee time 7am shotgun)

RED POOL			BLUE POOL		
Emerald Lakes	vs	Links Golf & Wellbeing	Burleigh	vs	Coolangatta
Southport 1	vs	Sanctuary Cove	Southport 2	vs	Surfers Paradise

Semi-Final Southport GC - Sunday 30th August 2026
(Refer to leaderboard)

RP 1	vs	**BP 2**	**BP 1**	vs	**RP 2**

Final Sanctuary Cove Golf & Country Club
Sunday 6th September 2026

Winners of each semi-final

Winner of RP 1 & BP2	vs	**Winner of BP 1 & RP2**