

GolfWA Junior Events Caddie Policy

Approval History

Version	Date	Approved By	Date Effective	Responsible
Final	01.12.2013	Chief Executive/Board	01.12.2013	Golf Management Committee
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Updated	30.06.2021	Golf Operations Manager	30.06.2021	Golf Events Officer
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Distribution

Audience	Access
Public	GolfWA Intranet, GolfWA Policy & Procedures Manual, GolfWA Website Events Page.

Required Reading

- GolfWA Chief Executive
- GolfWA Golf Operations Manager
- GolfWA Golf Events Coordinator

Revision Schedule

Date of Next Review: 1/1/2025 or as required

Reviewer/s: Golf Operations Manager & Golf Events Coordinator

Document History

Version	Date	Author	Description of Changes
Final	December 2013	Russell O'Callaghan (P&AA)	Original
Draft 1	April 2017	Neil Goddard	Update
Updated	01.01.2018	Danielle Crane	Update
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Introduction and Purpose

GolfWA is a major stakeholder in junior golf in Western Australia.

We aim to assist clubs in the development of young players through a variety of programs and events, ensuring that children can develop their golf in a safe and enjoyable environment, no matter their skill or competition level.

Research and observations around Australia and the world indicate that Junior Golfers need to be encouraged to develop independent thought processes and knowledge of the game. Competing without a caddie can be advantageous at certain stages of their golfing journey and assist with pace of play.

Keeping in alignment with Golf Australia and other State bodies, GolfWA has introduced a policy which does not permit a player in certain events to have a caddie. It is recommended that clubs consider adopting a similar position with their Junior Open events at a minimum.

Scope

This policy applies to Junior events managed by GolfWA unless specified otherwise.

This policy should be read in conjunction with GolfWA's Junior and Parent/Guardian Conduct Guide which can be found through the following link: [Junior & Parent/Guardian Code of Conduct](#)

Responsibility

The GolfWA Golf Operations Manager is responsible for overseeing the application of this policy and due process.

The GolfWA Golf Events Officer is responsible for ensuring compliance with the policy.

Definitions

Caddie – As defined by the Rules of Golf is someone who helps a player during a round, including in these ways (for some junior events this is relevant for caddies for juniors under the age of 12 only):

- Carrying, Transporting or Handling Clubs: A person who carries, transports (such as by cart or trolley) or handles a player's clubs during play is the player's **caddie** even if not named as a **caddie** by the player, **except** when done to move the player's clubs, bag or cart out of the way or as a courtesy (such as getting a club the player left behind).
- Giving Advice: A player's **caddie** is the only person (other than a partner or partner's **caddie**) a player may ask for advice.

A **caddie** may also help the player in other ways allowed by the Rules (see [Rule 10.3b](#)).

Note 1: A person that carries or provides food and refreshment for a player, or assists in the search for golf balls, is not considered a caddie.

Note 2: Parents, guardians and interested persons are required to stay 30m in front of playing groups and to the side of the fairway.

GolfWA acknowledges that at different stages of a Junior Golfers development, caddies can be of comfort and value, however as juniors progress towards competitive play we believe independent decision-making is an important part of their development. The decision to not permit the use of caddies in the following categories of events reflects this belief and has been in force since 1 Jan 2018.

GolfWA Junior Open Events - Caddies Not Permitted

Caddies will not be permitted in the following junior open events conducted by GolfWA with an exception for juniors **under the age of 12 at the date of the first day of the event.**

- Secondary School Teams Championship
- Primary School Teams Championship
- Cobra-Puma Junior Championships
- Drummond Golf 54 Hole Junior Classic
- Drummond Golf Junior Amateur Championship of WA
- Junior Presentation Day

It is a condition of entry in the above events that players are not permitted to use a caddie during a stipulated round.

GolfWA Junior Open Events - Caddies Permitted

- Boys and Girls Pennant Competitions

Caddies are permitted for Boys and Girls Pennants **HOWEVER** the role of the caddie is restricted to the below:

- Transporting the players bag, and
- Assisting in caring for the course (e.g. raking bunkers, filling divots)

GolfWA endeavours to encourage players to become independent in their golf game and will allow caddies in these instances for the purpose of increasing speed of play and caring for the course.

Listed below are tasks/cues **CADDIES MAY NOT** assist with:

- i) Teeing the ball on the teeing ground.
- ii) Verbal cues while player is taking their shot.
- iii) Technique coaching on course.
- iv) Club selection
- v) Caddies are not permitted on the green and may not assist with shot alignment.

Crunch&Sip GolfWA Junior Tour Events

As these events feed into the 18-hole events held by GolfWA it was felt that players should slowly be introduced to playing without a caddie.

(i) Stableford – Caddies Permitted, but Restricted.

(ii) Modified Stroke – Caddies Permitted

(iii) Tiger Tees – Caddies Permitted

After considering the age, skill, physical and emotional development of participants in these categories, it was decided to continue to allow players to have a caddie. However, use of caddies will be restricted to certain duties as the young golfer develops and becomes independent in their game. Please refer to the Crunch & Sip Junior Tour Manual for the breakdown of these duties.

Disclaimer

It is a condition of this policy that in unforeseen circumstances a committee in charge of a competition can alter this policy to allow a player to have a caddie in any of the above events.