

The Optimist International Junior Golf Championship is one of the largest and best-known junior golf tournaments in the world. Each year, more than 600 golfers participate in THE OPTIMIST.

**July 15-20, 2026** Boys 10-11, 12-13 and Girls 10-12  
**July 20-25, 2026** Boys 14-15 and Girls 13-14  
**July 25-30, 2026** Boys 16-18 and Girls 15-18

### Age Divisions

#### **Boys 10-11**

Ages 10 & 11 as of July 19, 2026

#### **Boys 12-13**

Ages 12 & 13 as of July 19, 2026

#### **Boys 14-15**

Ages 14 & 15 as of July 24, 2026

#### **Boys 16-18**

Ages 16 -18 as of July 29, 2026

#### **Girls 10-12**

Ages 10, 11 & 12 as of July 19, 2026

#### **Girls 13-14**

Ages 13 & 14 as of July 24, 2026

#### **Girls 15-18**

Ages 15 - 18 as of July 29, 2026

### Player Eligibility and Age Verification

To be eligible, golfers may not have already attended college. Golfers who qualify **will be required** to submit a copy of their birth certificate, drivers license, baptismal record or passport.

### How to Qualify

In order to play in the Optimist International Junior Golf Championship, golfers must meet one of the following qualifying methods:

- *District Qualifying Tournaments: Optimist Districts conduct official qualifying tournaments. These events are organized by Optimist volunteers and are overseen by a District Chairperson. A limited number of golfers in each division qualify for the Championship. To view a list of qualifying tournaments and more details, go to [www.optimist.org/golf](http://www.optimist.org/golf). Contact the District Chairperson listed for qualifying tournament details, application information and questions.*
- *Exemptions: Optimist International offers a limited number of exemptions into the Optimist International Junior Golf Championship.*
- *International Golfers: Optimist International has relationships with several national governing bodies. Visit website for a list of national governing bodies.*

For a complete list of exemptions and International Organizations visit: [www.optimist.org/golf](http://www.optimist.org/golf).

### Tournament Format

Boy 10-11, 12-13, 14-15, 16-18 and Girls 10-12, 13-14, 15-18: Competition is a 54-hole stroke play tournament.

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

For a detailed schedule of events, go to [www.optimist.org/golf](http://www.optimist.org/golf)

### **Boys 10-11, 12-13 & Girls 10-12**

Wednesday, July 15	Arrivals and tournament registration
Thursday, July 16	Practice Round and Orientation
Friday, July 17	Tournament Play - Round 1
Saturday, July 18	Tournament Play - Round 2
Sunday, July 19	Tournament Play - Round 3
	Awards Ceremony
Monday, July 20	Departures / Parent Child Tournament

### **Boys 14-15 & Girls 13-14**

Monday, July 20	Arrivals and tournament registration
Tuesday, July 21	Practice Round and Orientation
Wednesday, July 22	Tournament Play - Round 1
Thursday, July 23	Tournament Play - Round 2
Friday, July 24	Tournament Play - Round 3
	Awards Ceremony
Saturday, July 25	Departures / Parent Child Tournament

### **Boys 16-18; Girls 15-18**

Saturday, July 25	Arrivals and tournament registration
Sunday, July 26	Practice rounds and Orientation
Monday, July 27	Tournament Play - Round 1
Tuesday, July 28	Tournament Play - Round 2
Wednesday, July 29	Tournament Play - Round 3
	Awards Ceremony
Thursday, July 30	Departures

### Rules and Regulations

The championship will be played in accordance with all USGA and local course rules. Local rules will be covered at player orientation (**the orientation is mandatory**). All participants are responsible for following the Optimist Golf Code of Conduct, which is available at [www.optimist.org/golf](http://www.optimist.org/golf) and will be sent to all accepted golfers. A spectator code of conduct will also be in effect for all non-participants.

### Rankings

The Optimist International Junior Golf Championship is included in the *Junior Golf Scoreboard*, *Golfweek* and *World Amateur* junior rankings (16-18 divisions only for *Golfweek* and *World Amateur* rankings).

The OPTIMIST is also included in the AJGA's "Performance Based Entry system". Top finishers in certain age divisions are eligible for AJGA exemptions or earn Junior All-Star exempt status. For more information, go to [www.ajga.org](http://www.ajga.org).

## Courses and Yardages

Golfers will play on the courses at Trump National Doral Resort and Spa as follows. Yardages are posted on website. Course assignments are **subject to change**.

Boys 10-11.....Gold Palm course

Boys 12-13.....Blue Monster course

Girls 10-12.....Red Tiger course

Boys 14-15.....Blue Monster and Gold Palm courses

Clash of the challengers—Gold Palm course

Girls 13-14.....Red Tiger Course

Boys 16-18.....Blue Monster, Gold Palm

Clash of the Challengers — Red Tiger course

Girls 15-18.....Red Tiger and Gold Palm course

*Courses may change depending on number of participants.*

## Carts, Pull Carts and Caddies

Electric/battery operated pull carts and caddies are prohibited in all divisions.

**Spectator carts** — Spectator carts are allowed on the courses during tournament days. (There is limited availability of these carts per course—which are first come first served). Guests must follow the guidelines as noted on website especially during weather evacuations.

## Distance Measuring Devices

Distance measuring devices are permitted. You may use these devices to measure distance only.

## Financial Assistance

District may sponsor the winners. Sponsorship includes the all-inclusive registration fee. If a junior golfer qualifies outside of his/her home District, we cannot guarantee the golfer's registration fees will be paid should they win the event. Restrictions apply. Check with your District Chairperson for details. The Tournament of Champions does not qualify for financial assistance.

## Championship Awards

For the international championship, trophies will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in each division. In case of ties, there will be a sudden-death playoff for 1st place only. 2nd and 3rd place ties will be determined by a scorecard playoff.

## Optimist Parent-Child Classic

Parent-Child Tournaments will be offered on July 20 and 25. It's open to two-player teams consisting of a junior golfer playing in the Championship. Competition is an 18-hole stroke play event played on the Blue Monster (no handicaps). The entry fee is \$250 US per team includes round (green/cart), Optimist gift package. Awards immediately following play. **These tournaments do sell out. Space is limited.**

## **Questions:**

All questions should be directed to the Optimist Junior Golf office. Please e-mail [golf@optimist.org](mailto:golf@optimist.org) or call (314) 881-1307 or toll free (800) 500-8130, ext. 207. Or, visit [www.optimist.org/golf](http://www.optimist.org/golf).

## Accommodations and Registration

Trump National Doral Resort and Spa Miami, FL, USA is the location of the championship. All hotel registrations are handled through Optimist International. **DO NOT call Doral Resort and Spa directly to book reservations.**

### **REGISTRATION FEES NOTED BELOW INCLUDE**

- Golf for the golfer (includes tournament rounds only)
- practice rounds must be booked and paid for by the individual player
- five (5) nights lodging for the golfer and all guests (see applicable prices),
- Five (5) breakfasts and four (4) dinners for the golfer and guests, (lunch on your own)
- access to all Optimist functions and special events for the golfer and guests.

Due to the exclusive nature of the event, **golfers are required to stay at Trump National Doral Resort and Spa Miami and pay the inclusive registration fee.** Guests are not required to stay at Trump National Doral Resort, but are encouraged to do so. A parent or guardian must stay with golfers ages 13 and under. No golfer age 13 and under will be permitted to stay in a room by themselves.

### Family One-Room Options

*Housed in appropriately sized rooms*

Golfer & 1 Guest - \$2,030 US

Golfer & 2 Guests - \$2,430 US

Golfer & 3 Guests - \$2,830 US

### Family Two-Room Options

*Housed in 2 appropriately sized rooms*

Golfer & 3 Guests - \$3,687 US

Golfer & 4 Guests - \$4,087 US

Golfer & 5 Guests - \$4,487 US

Golfer & 6 Guests - \$4,887 US

**Golfers coming alone** - \$750 US will be housed with roommate(s)

- If a family is requiring a third room, please contact Optimist Junior Golf
- **Rollaway beds will be utilized as necessary.**
- All golfers who register for the championship via an International application or at-large application must pay an additional surcharge.

### Additional Room Nights

Additional nights may be available. Cost is \$235 (standard room) per night meals not included in extra nights. Contact Optimist Junior Golf for details and reservations prior to making your travel arrangements. Availability is limited.

### Meals

**All registered golfers and guests** will receive a meal badge valid for 5 breakfasts and 4 dinners. These meals will be served daily, buffet-style, at Trump National Doral. **Lunch is NOT included in the registration package.** Participants and guests are on their own for lunch.

### Commuters

Optimist Junior Golf offers commuter status only to players who **reside and attend school in the Florida counties of Broward and Miami-Dade.** The registration fee is \$475. The commuter fee includes tournament rounds and access to all Optimist functions and special events.