



**EAST MISSOURI DISTRICT QUALIFIER
TOURNAMENT INFORMATION SHEET
JUNE 2, 2013**

The East Missouri qualifier is held in cooperation with the [Gateway PGA](#)

HOST SITE

Forest Park Highlands Golf & Tennis Center, 5163 Clayton Road, St. Louis, MO 63110, 314-531-7773

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

For golfers needing hotel accommodations, there are several area hotel properties within a few miles of Forest Park. For a list of nearby hotels, go to golf.optimist.org/emo.

PAIRINGS AND TEE TIMES

Pairings and tee times will be posted on the East Missouri District page at golf.optimist.org/emo by approximately **2:00 p.m.** on **Friday, May 31**. They will also be sent by e-mail to all registered participants. Tee times will begin at approximately **1:00 p.m.**

PRACTICE ROUNDS

If you wish to play a practice round, you must make your own arrangements by calling the Forest Park Highlands Pro Shop at the number listed above. Standard rates apply and tee times are based on course availability.

REGISTRATION

Player registration will take place in front of the Pro Shop on **Sunday, June 2** beginning at **12:00 p.m.** until the last tee time. All participants must check-in at the registration table before reporting for their tee time. Players who fail to show up for their assigned tee time will result in a NO SHOW. No refunds will be made for such NO SHOWS.

PRACTICE FACILITIES

The driving range & practice facilities will be open for all contestants. Range balls are complimentary prior to play.

FORMAT AND RULES OF PLAY

The qualifier will be an 18-hole individual stroke-play event played in accordance with USGA Rules of Golf and local course rules. Participants will play the 9-hole course at The Highlands twice. See the attached "Hard Card" for details. The organizing committee will provide an additional Local Rules at the qualifying site.

AGE DIVISIONS, TEE BOXES AND YARDAGES

Exact hole yardages are subject to change based on course conditions on day of event.

FOREST PARK HIGHLANDS GOLF COURSE (St. Louis, MO) – FRONT AND BACK NINE

Hole	Tee	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	TOTAL
Division	Par	4	3	4	5	3	4	4	4	3	34
Girls 10-12	Silver	317	108	228	423	126	182	333	251	125	2093
Boys 10-11 / Girls 13-14	Blue	353	121	321	462	158	262	356	301	125	2459
Boys 12-13	Yellow	360	125	337	472	164	272	363	312	141	2546

CADDIES, CARTS AND PULL CARTS

Caddies and electric carts are **PROHIBITED** for all players. Pull/push carts are **ALLOWED** for all divisions for this qualifier.

DISTANCE MEASURING DEVICES

Distance Measuring Devices are **ALLOWED** for this qualifier. Players may obtain distance information by using a device that measures distance only. If, during a stipulated round, a player uses a distance-measuring device that is designed to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect his play (e.g., gradient, wind speed, temperature, etc.), the player is in breach of Rule 14-3 for which the penalty is disqualification, regardless of whether any such additional function is actually used.

PLAYOFFS

Ties for the last qualifying spot and first-alternate spot will be broken using a hole-by-hole playoff (weather permitting). The hole(s) used for the playoff shall be determined onsite by the District Chair in conjunction with golf course staff. Contestants who are tied for a qualifying spot or first-alternate position should not leave the golf course after play. If a golfer who is tied for the last qualifying spot or first-alternate position leaves the golf course, he/she will forfeit his/her spot to the golfer(s) who remain for the playoff.

QUALIFYING SPOTS

A limited number of golfers will qualify for the Optimist International Junior Golf Championships in each age division as follows:

Boys 10-11: Top 1 finisher who shoots 92 or less
Boys 12-13: Top 1 finisher who shoots 86 or less

Girls 10-12: Top 1 finisher who shoots 92 or less
Girls 13-14: Top 1 finisher who shoots 88 or less

Should a golfer from outside of the EMO District qualify, the next-highest golfer who lives in the EMO District will also qualify. Golfers who qualify will be required to confirm their participation in the international championships to the District Chair by June 12. Qualified golfers will be required to register for the international championships by June 30 (no exceptions). A list of alternates will be established based on results. Should a qualified golfer decline his/her spot, alternates will be contacted individually.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The East Missouri Optimist District will provide financial assistance for the registration expenses for the international championships to the winners of each division provided they live within the East Missouri District boundaries. Winners will be notified of the exact amounts and will receive more instructions individually.

SPECTATOR RULES

In golf, customs of etiquette and decorum are just as important as rules governing play. It is appropriate for parents and spectators to applaud successful shots, but in order to secure the spirit of the game, we ask parents and spectators to please adhere to the following guidelines. Please note that if any of the following guidelines are perceived as broken by a Rules Official, the player may be subject to penalty.

1. Advice (Rule 8) is any counsel or suggestion which could influence a player in determining his play, the choice of a club or the method of making a stroke. In addition, any conversation between player/spectator may be construed as advice. This includes any conversation between player/spectator in their native language. In either instance, penalty for breach of this rule is two strokes. Players are responsible for the actions of their relatives and spectators in regards to this rule.
2. Keeping the above in mind, keep your conversation with player to words of encouragement as long as advice is not given.
3. Please turn off all cell phones or turn your ringer to silent or vibrate mode while on the course.
4. Spectators should stay on the cart paths or in the rough. Please stay off fairways, tees and greens. Spectators should remain a minimum of 30 feet from players at all times.
5. Spectators should stay one shot ahead of the group they are following. This allows spectators to follow errant shots and help identify where the ball comes to rest. Spectators are allowed to aid in the search for lost golf balls.
6. Spectators should not give rulings. Please seek a marshal or rules official if the need arises.
7. Spectators are allowed to carry medicine, drinks, food, umbrellas, etc.
8. The Rules Official may assess a penalty to the player based on the severity of the spectator violation. If a serious breach has occurred, the spectator may be asked to leave the facility.
9. For your personal safety, we ask you exercise caution at all times. When inclement weather moves into the area, play will be suspended and you should seek shelter immediately. Players will be evacuated from the course first and then spectators.
10. Spectators are not permitted to consume alcoholic beverages while on the golf course.

SPECTATOR CARTS

Spectators may rent golf carts from the Pro Shop for use in following play (based on availability). Golf carts MUST be kept on cart paths at all times and at least 30 yards from players. Spectators must NEVER transport players during the event. Transporting a player can result in the player being disqualified. Please be aware of your surroundings at all times and be respectful of players hitting shots in your vicinity.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact East Missouri District Chair, Andy Hudson, at andy.hudson@optimist.org, 314-881-1309 (work) or 314-803-3141 (cell).

EAST MISSOURI OPTIMIST QUALIFIER RULES OF PLAY

This "Hard Card" states the Rules of Play that are in effect for the 2013 East Missouri Optimist District qualifiers.

All play is governed by the USGA Rules of Golf & Decisions, and where applicable, by Local Rules as stated on the Notice to Competitors.

GOLF BALLS: The ball the player uses must be on the approved USGA conforming ball list for competition. The ONE BALL RULE does not apply. Penalty for breach of rule: *Disqualification*.

EQUIPMENT: Player's clubs shall conform to Rule 4 and to the provisions, specification, and interpretation set forth in Appendix II of the Rules of Golf. Penalty for breach of rule: *Disqualification*.

STARTING TIME: All players in the assigned tee time must be on the teeing ground at the assigned time. See USGA Rules of Golf Appendix I (2) for penalty for not being on the teeing ground at the announced time.

PACE OF PLAY: The player must play without undue delay and in accordance with any pace of play guidelines which may be laid down by the Committee, Rule 6-7. See Pace of Play information sheet for details.

SUSPENSION OF PLAY: When play is suspended for a dangerous reason, if the players in a match or group are between play of two holes, they shall not resume play until the Committee has ordered a resumption of play. If they are in the process of playing a hole, they shall discontinue play immediately and shall not thereafter resume play until the Committee has ordered a resumption of play. Note: a suspension for a dangerous situation shall be signaled by one prolonged siren or horn blast. All other types of suspension shall be signaled by several short intermittent siren or horn blasts. Penalty for breach of rule: *Disqualification*.

COURSE EVACUATION: The Tournament Director will determine if circumstances require a course evacuation. Directors, Volunteers and Spectators with carts may assist with a full course evacuation.

RESUMPTION OF PLAY: TWO SHORT HORN BLASTS will indicate players to resume play.

EMBEDDED BALL: The embedded ball rule is in effect at all times and applies to a ball "through the green."

GROUND UNDER REPAIR: Ground that is defined by closed white lines or unmarked areas such as French Drains, Fire Ant Mounds, Unusual damage to the course caused by wet conditions, vehicular traffic and debris piled for removal.

OUT OF BOUNDS: Defined by white stakes, lines, fences, posts, railings.

WATER HAZARDS AND LATERAL WATER HAZARDS: All water hazards will be considered "lateral water hazards." A ball on land on the opposite side of a hazard that borders the course is considered to be in the hazard. See Rule 26-1 and Decision 33-2a/ii.

ROADS AND CART PATHS: Roads and cart paths that are artificially surfaced are considered an obstruction except for perimeter roads.

GOLF CARTS: Competitors are not allowed to sit or ride in a golf cart once they begin play unless authorized by an Official. Exception: Officials, volunteers and staff may transport players between designated holes as necessary. See the Notice to Competitors for details. Penalty for breach of rule: *Disqualification*.

PULL CARTS: Pull carts are allowed for all age divisions. Competitors must provide their own equipment or rent a pull cart.

SCORECARDS: An official scorecard will be issued to each player. Players are to exchange scorecards so that they do not keep their own official card.

SUBMITTING SCORECARD: Players are to go directly to the scoring area near the scoreboard upon completing play on their last hole of play. Players are to review their scorecard, obtain any necessary rulings, resolve any disputes, sign their card and submit it to the Committee.

DRESS CODE: Acceptable dress is required. In general, acceptable dress for men will be shirts with sleeves, slacks, golf or walking shorts. Tank tops, cut offs, sweat pants, tennis shorts or athletic shorts are not permitted. Acceptable dress for ladies shall include dresses, skirts, slacks, golf shorts, shirts with collars or collarless with sleeves. Halter tops, sweat pants, tennis or athletic shorts are not acceptable. Jeans and denim of any kind are not permitted.

CONDUCT: Each player is to conduct him or herself with dignity and abide by all rules. Conduct in general will be that as prescribed by the Optimist Junior Golf Code of Conduct. The following actions will be grounds for immediate removal from the Optimist qualifier: abuse to the host course facilities and properties, damage to course or equipment, littering, hitting of golf balls in any area not designated for play or the use of alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs or any type of tobacco products.

SPECTATORS: Spectators must stay at least 30 yards from the players and may not communicate with a player, except to offer words of encouragement. Spectators are not to ask players their score on a hole or total score until the player has departed the scoring area after submitting their scorecard. NOTE: Spectators and Players violating this rule will be considered to have violated the USGA Rules of Golf relating to advice. Penalty for violating this rule on advice is TWO STROKES. Flagrant violation is *Disqualification*.

RANGE FINDERS: The use of artificial measuring devices (such as Skycaddies, Bushnells, etc.) is **ALLOWED** during tournament play.

CELL PHONES/HEAD PHONES: Cell phone and/or headphone usage is not permitted during the qualifier. Any use of a cell phone and/or headphones will result in *disqualification*. Spectators must have their cell phone turned off or on the silent/vibrate mode while on the golf course. No warning will be issued before *disqualification* or dismissal.

DECORATIVE FLOWER AREAS: These areas will be played through the green (as it lies).

NATIVE GRASSES: "Native grasses" are the areas of deep rough bordering holes of the course. The native grasses are not a hazard. They are to be played through the green, as the ball lies. If a ball is lost in these areas, it is to be played as a lost ball.

PROVISIONAL BALL: It is imperative for pace of play purposes that players suspecting their ball may be out-of-bounds or in the native grasses declare and play a provisional ball. Rule 27-2.

3-3 DOUBT AS TO PROCEDURE: In stroke play, if a competitor is doubtful of his or her rights or the correct procedure during the play of a hole he may, without penalty, complete the hole with two balls. After the doubtful situation has arisen and before taking further action, the competitor must announce to his marker or a fellow competitor that he/she intends to play two balls and which ball he/she wishes to count if the rules permit. If he fails to do so, the provisions of Rule 3-3b (ii) apply. The competitor must report the facts of the situation to the Committee before returning his/her scorecard. If he/she fails to do so, he/she is *disqualified*.

CADDIES are not allowed.

SPECTATOR CARTS are allowed.

GOOD LUCK AND PLAY WELL!