



Whakatane Golf Club - Junior Coaching Programme



Introduction

The Whakatane Junior Golf Programme is to be relaunched to offer golf coaching to local Whakatane Juniors from the age of 5 through to 18, with the long term aim of developing and producing some talented youngsters who learn to love the game, obtain an official handicap and can compete in Club and regional golf competitions as Whakatane Golf Club Junior members.

The Coaching will be designed to deliver a programme which;

1. Above all will be a **fun** coaching programme which the juniors will want to participate in and promote to their friends
2. **Incentivising** for the juniors to develop their golfing skills
3. Have a **competitive** element to the programme which will fast track the natural talent.
4. Develop a basic understanding of the theory, **rules and etiquette** of golf and behaviour on the golf course
5. Designed to talent spot those with natural skills to develop these youngsters into low handicap golfers to grow the talent within WGC.
6. Grow our Junior Club Membership and encourage parents into the game with the objective of increasing club membership numbers.
7. The programme will adopt the guidelines and get the support of the NZ Golf Futures model and will also be supported by BOP Golf.

The long-term continuity of the club is to grow and develop participation in the game of Golf.

What does the Junior Coaching programme look like?

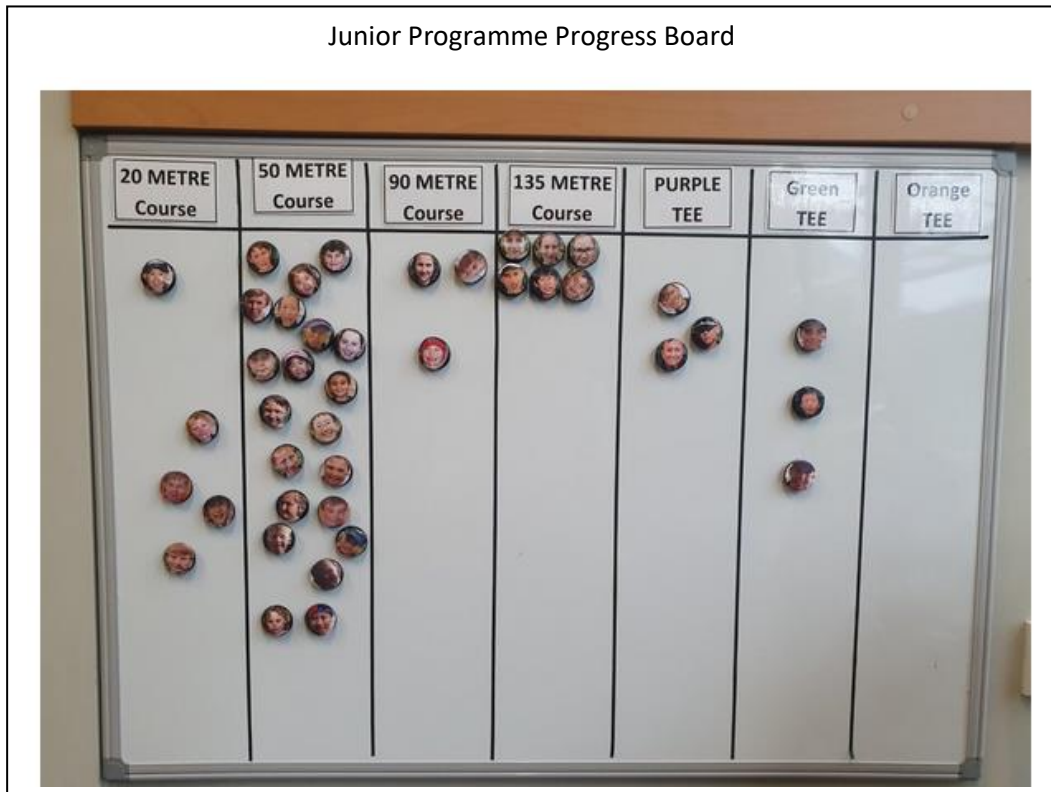
- The coaching will be run throughout the school year, during term time only.
- The coaching will be held every Wednesday afternoon between 3:30pm and 4:30pm.
- Those attending will be graded into manageable groups, based on age and ability, and the grading will be determined and set by juniors demonstrating and “passing” each grade criteria.
- There will be structured coaching periods which will target skill development of different aspects of the game (chipping for example), and there will also be playing coaching by grade group, for the juniors to demonstrate their ability.



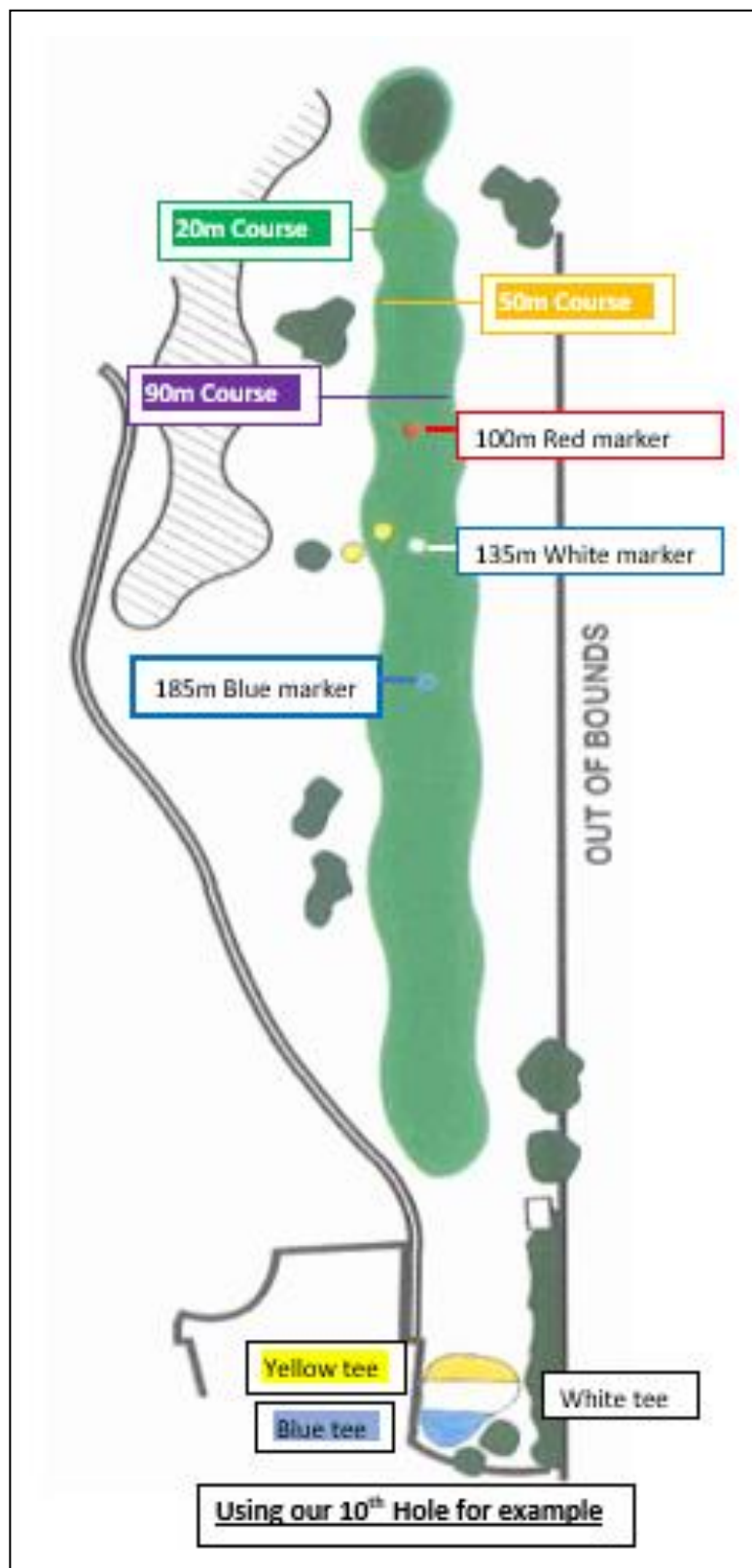
- Every junior participating in the coaching programme will receive their own 'Progress Booklet.' The Progress Booklet will allow juniors and parents to track their progress through the grade groups and on the golf course.
- A Junior Coaching Progress board will also track each junior's progress and display which grade they have achieved. As the junior advances from one grade

to the next their magnet (with the face of each junior) will be moved to show which group they are currently in – providing motivation and incentive to improve, for all the junior players.

Junior Programme Progress Board



How will the playing side of the Programme work?



Learning to play golf for some juniors can be hard, others have a natural talent and quickly pick up the basic skills. The most challenging part for any youngster starting out is the length of the golf courses.

The goal of the playing coaching programme is for young golfers to start by developing their skills on a short 3 hole course. 3 holes will be set up into 3 different grade groups starting with a 20m course, then progressing to a 50m course and finally moving to 90m 3 hole course. The coaching programme will identify which 3 holes will be used for the 3 hole course.

All juniors will start on the 20m, 3 hole course. The juniors will start 20m out from the green and be expected to achieve par or better (12 shots or less) over the 20m, 3 hole course for them to progress to the next grade – the 50m course.

Once the Junior has demonstrated the skills to be able to score par or below on the 50m course they will then be advanced to the 90m skill group, where they can then work to the skill level to be able to demonstrate that they can score par or better (12 shots or less) across the 90m 3 hole course.

As each skill group is achieved this will be shown on the Progress Board and

also in their individual Progress Booklets. The coaches will mark up every week in which part of the game the junior is doing, and which area the coaching needs to be focused on, for them to advance to the next level.

Once the Juniors have demonstrated that they can reach par or better on the 90 m 3 hole course this will make them eligible to advance to the 135m 9 Hole group. Juniors will then play 9 holes from the 135m white distance markers, over 9 holes. 9-hole players must shoot par or better (36 shots over 9 holes or better) to advance to play from the Yellow tees. Once a player completes the 9 holes off the Yellow tees in par or better, they are now eligible to play 18 holes off the Yellow tees!

This same process will continue until the Junior reaches the Blue tee blocks—our Championship tee.



Who will do the coaching?

Kris Gunderson will oversee the Coaching programme. We currently have a group of enthusiastic young golfing parents who will form part of the Coaching support team.

The Coaching Team comprises of:

- Kris Gundersen
- Troy Doherty
- Stu Stevens
- Simon Wren
- Brent Jones
- Cameron Fletcher
- Fran Cacace
- Peter McLaverty

We may want to include a picture of the Coaching "Team" Or of Kris?

We welcome any keen golfers (men or women) to join this team to help out and support this programme. A roster will be developed to ensure that there are at least two other coaching team support people available to assist Kris every Wednesday.

How much does the Coaching Programme cost?

- Non-members - \$70 per term
- Junior WGC Members - \$50 per term
- Weekly Coaching sessions will cost \$10 per session per junior attending, for those who are not yet ready to commit to a full term.

Timing – When does the Junior Coaching programme kick off?

A pilot programme will commence in the final two weeks of June 2021 to make sure that we have the structure right and that we can efficiently manage the coaching of the different skill groups.

Coaching will be open to anyone interested and the Coaching Programme will start officially, on the 1st Wednesday of the 3rd term (Wednesday 28th July) at 3:30pm.

How do you enrol for Junior Coaching?

Sign up: Fill out the information on the following page and email this to Teresa at whakatanegolfclub@gmail.com or you can enquire by contacting Kris Gundersen at Whakatane Golf Centre (Pro Shop at the Club). Ph: 07 3080247





Application to join the Junior Golf Coaching Programme at Whakatane Golf Club

Name

Male Female (Please ✓)

D.O.B

Email

Name of Parent/Carer

Parent/Carer Contact Phone No

Additional Contact Name

Phone No

Please email to Teresa at whakatanegolfclub@gmail.com or drop off to the Office or Pro shop