



# 81<sup>st</sup> Alabama Boys State Junior Championship

June 30 – July 2, 2026

Valley Hill Country Club, Huntsville, AL

Entries Open: May 4

Entries Close: June 11

Entry Fee: \$250



## ELIGIBILITY

Entries are open to any male amateur golfer who is a legal resident of Alabama, has an active GHIN® USGA Handicap Index® at an AGA member club that does not exceed **8.9**. Players must have reached their 12th birthday, but not 19th birthday, on or before June 30, 2026.

**Note:** Entrant *cannot* be a member of a college golf team or have participated in any supervised team activities.

Entries are subject to rejection or withdraw at any time, including during the event, by the AGA or the host club. The reason for rejection may include unbecoming conduct. All players must conform to the “USGA Rules of Amateur Status” as specified in “The Rules of Golf”. For complete residency and eligibility requirements, refer to the [AGA Tournament Manual](#).

## ENTRIES AND ONLINE REGISTRATION

All players, including those exempt (see “Exemptions”), must register online at <https://www.golfgenius.com/pages/5649386>. Fax, mail-in, or telephone applications are not accepted. Championship field is 156 players. Exempt players are accepted at the time of registration. Non-exempt players will be accepted after close of entries to fill the championship field. If the championship field is oversubscribed, the field will be determined by player ranking, past performance, and Handicap Index as of June 11, 2026. Players not gaining entry will be placed on the alternate wait list. Wait list alternates are ranked in the same way as the field.

- To submit an entry, go to and click on register <https://www.golfgenius.com/pages/5649386>
- **All entries must be RECEIVED in the AGA office no later than 11:59pm, Thursday, June 11, 2026. No entries will be accepted after that time.**
- An entry fee in the amount of \$250.00, payable by **credit card**, must accompany the entry application, \$5.00 of which will be donated to the Alabama Turfgrass Research Foundation.
- Upon successfully completing the entry procedure, an email confirmation will be automatically generated and sent to you at the email address you designate.

The AGA is not responsible for errors or delays by any internet service provider. Entries are only accepted between the open and close dates as stated above. Confirmation of acceptance is sent to players when their status is determined. Status may be checked at <https://www.golfgenius.com/pages/5649386>. The appropriate entry fee must be paid by each player at time of registration.

Please be advised that all online entry applications for players who are minors, upon date of submission, in the state in which they reside (e.g. Alabama, under the age of 18) must be submitted by a parent/guardian, must list the parent/guardian’s name, phone number, and e-mail address. The parent/guardian agrees to be bound by all the terms and conditions on their own behalf and on behalf of the minor player. The AGA reserves the right to require submission of an original signature of the parent/guardian in a confirmation copy of the application upon notification by the AGA to the parent/guardian.

## REFUND POLICY

**Withdrawal:** If an accepted player withdraws for any reason before the close of registration at **11:59pm on Thursday, June 11, 2026**, the entry fee will be refunded, subject to a \$30.00 service fee. If an accepted player withdraws for any reason after the close of registration and before **11:59pm on Sunday, June 28, 2026**, 75% of the entry fee will be refunded. No refunds will be made for withdrawals after that time.

**No Shows:** Players that fail to notify the AGA of their withdrawal and “No Show” their starting time will not receive a refund for any reason. “No Show” players may be subject to suspension from future AGA events.

**Alternates:** Full refund if player does not gain entry into the championship. All dates and time refer to **date and time of receipt** at the AGA office.

## AJGA ACE GRANT PROGRAM

ACE Grant Reimbursements for Boys State Junior Championship (\$250 max)

1. Junior must be/become an AJGA member
  - a. \$215 cost but the ACE Grant will automatically reimburse \$165, so out-of-pocket is \$50
  - b. Once an ACE Grant recipient the junior will be upgraded to a Junior Plus membership for no additional cost
  - c. See benefits here: [JUNIOR PLUS BENEFITS](#)
2. Must apply for and receive the ACE Grant (any applicant that is denied will receive a full refund, if the junior has not applied to any event before they were denied)
3. Reimbursement can be received for the following according to the AJGA Maximum allowances found [here](#) under reimbursement levels, as long as itemized receipts are presented:
  - a. Tournament Entry Fee
  - b. Travel
  - c. Housing
  - d. Food and beverage
4. All reimbursements are retroactive, meaning even if the event has already happened you can still apply, receive the grant and reimbursement. As long as you still have the appropriate receipts.
5. Interested families can get an idea if they would qualify by completing the ACE Grant [CALCULATOR](#)
6. Additional information on the ACE Grant can be found at [ACE GRANT INFO](#)

## CHAMPIONSHIP FORMAT

- 54 holes of gross individual stroke play
- The field will be cut to the low 54 players and ties after 36 holes.
- The lowest score for 54 holes will be the Champion.
- In the event of a tie for the overall Championship only, a hole-by-hole play-off will be held immediately following play. The play-off holes and their order of play will be determined by the Committee.
- Initial groupings will be for two days; the field will be cut and re-paired by score after the second round.

## CHAMPIONSHIP SCHEDULE

### Monday, June 29

Tee times available for practice.

### Tuesday, June 30

First round of individual stroke play.

### Wednesday, July 1

Second round of individual stroke play.

\*Field cut to low 54 players and ties.

### Thursday, July 2

Final round of individual stroke play.

## RANGE FEES; PUSH CARTS

- *Practice Rounds:* Practice round fees are not included in the entry fee.
- *Championship Site:* All range fees during the championship rounds are paid by the AGA and are included in the entry fee. Competitors must walk during championship rounds. Push carts are allowed.

## CADDIES

- *Caddies:* Caddies are allowed, **provided the caddie is 18 years old or under** and will be denoted by wearing an AGA-issued caddie bib. Caddies will be held to the same dress and code of conduct policies as the player.
- *Caddies Cart Policy:* Caddies must walk during the Championship rounds.

## **SPECTATORS**

- *Spectator Cart Policy:* AGA defers to host club policy in regard to allowing spectator carts at junior championships. If spectator carts are allowed, they will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis.
- *Disability Golf Cart Policy:* Consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), AGA will grant an individual with a *bona fide* disability a golf cart if the following conditions are met:
  - Requesting individual completes and submits a [Disabled Golf Cart Request Form](#) by the close of entries date;
  - Host club has a golf cart available.
  - Requesting individual pays host club, the appropriate fee.
  - Requesting individual presents to the AGA staff or AGA representative a disability card issued by a government agency.
- Non-club owned spectator carts are not allowed except as provided in the [AGA Tournament Manual](#).

## **PRIZES & AWARDS**

- Awards will be presented to the Top 5 finishers.
- The champion will have his name engraved on the permanent trophy.

## **EXEMPTIONS EARNED**

- Champion receives exemption into Alabama State Junior for remainder of eligibility.
- Champion receives an exemption into the 2026 U.S. Junior Championship (USGA)
- Champion receives an exemption into the 2027 Alabama State Amateur
- Champion receives a 3-year exemption into the Alabama State Match Play Championship (2026-2028)
- Champion receives automatic spot on 2026 Southern Junior Cup Team
- Champion receives AJGA exemptions (see AJGA.org website)

## **RULES OF GOLF; CLOSE OF COMPETITION; SPECIAL REQUESTS**

USGA Rules of Golf govern play. Questions will be decided by the on-site Rules Committee whose decision will be final. Notice to Players and local rules are distributed at the starting tee(s). The AGA reserves the right to alter the conditions or schedules as stated, including alteration of the stipulated round(s) at any time during the championship. The competition is closed when the championship trophy has been presented. Special requests for starting times or pairings may not be granted.

## **CONDITIONS AGREEMENT**

- I am a bona fide resident of the State of Alabama.
- I agree that the Alabama Golf Association has the right to reject, or withdraw, any entry at any time.
- I am an amateur golfer and I understand the "Rules of Amateur Status" as established by the United States Golf Association.
- I hereby grant permission to the Alabama Golf Association rights to use my name, image, likeness and sound of my voice as recorded on audio or video devices without payment or any other consideration. I understand that my image may be edited, copied, exhibited, published or distributed and waive the right to inspect or approve the finished product wherein my likeness appears. Additionally, I waive any right to royalties or other compensation arising or related to the use of my image or recording.
- I assume full responsibility for all my acts, whether they are negligent or otherwise, and hold harmless the Alabama Golf Association, its committee members, officers, board of directors, staff, and host club from any and all liability for any event or consequence relating to entry or participation in this event.
- I have read and agree to abide by the [Alabama Golf Association Code of Conduct](#).



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## EXEMPTIONS INTO CHAMPIONSHIP

Players in the following categories will be eligible for exemption in the 2026 Championship. The AGA reserves the right to revise any of the exemption categories. Exempt players who wish to participate in the Championship must file an entry by 11:59 p.m. on 06/11/2026. Exempt players must meet all the eligibility requirements set forth in the Eligibility Section. *If spots remain in the field, non-exempt players are selected by the Alabama Golf Association Competition Committee after the close of entries. Non-exempt applicants will be ranked based on Junior Golf Scoreboard Ranking, State Junior Rankings, and Handicap Index, respectively. The AGA will notify non-exempt players of their entry status following the close of entries.*

1. Winners of the AGA Boys State Junior Championship:  
2025 - Rawlin Sutter
2. Previous winners of the AGA State Amateur Championship:  
2024 – Tyler Watts
3. Previous winners of the AGA State 13 & Under Junior Championship:  
2025- Mac Steltonpohl 2024 -Mac Steltonpohl 2023 – Henry Brown 2022 – Samuel Wolf
4. Any player advancing to match play at the 2025 State Match Play Championships  
JP Groat
5. Any player advancing to match play at the 2026 AGA State Four-Ball:
6. Any player who qualified for the 2024 USGA Amateur or Junior Championships:  
Tyler Watts      JP Groat      Rawlin Sutter
7. The 2025 Alabama Junior Boys Player of the Year: Tyler Watts
8. Any player who ranks within the top 50-point leaders and anyone tying for 50<sup>th</sup> place of the Alabama Junior Rankings as of April 1.
9. 2025 Members of Team Alabama at the Southern Junior Cup:  
JP Groat      Witt Cayce      Jay Wilson      Murray Walker      S.J. Thomas
10. 2025 members of the AGA Alabama All-State Teams:

Tyler Watts	Rawlin Sutter	JP Groat	Jack Lowery	SJ Thomas
Buddy Fleming	Denton Brooks	Michael Heaton		

11. Players ranked within the Top 6500 of Junior Golf Scoreboard as of date of entry.
12. Players ranked within the Top 2000 of the AJGA Junior Rankings as of date of entry.
13. Players ranked in the World Amateur Golf Rankings (WAGR) as of date of entry.
14. From the 2025 AGA Boys State Junior Championship, any player that placed in the top-54 and ties.

Rawlin Sutter	Denton Brooks	Michael Heaton	Cameron Rockett	JP Groat	Buddy Fleming
Henry Brown	John Lunsford	Gus Darnall	Samuel Wolfe	Graham Patton	Keegan Richardson
Alex Seahorn	Jack Lowery	Murray Walker	Witt Cayce	Will Abernathy	Parker Trawick

Walker Graham	Cooper Pratt	Fletcher Finch	Alex Wahl	Andrew Davis	Brody Bradford
Cash Conner	Ryan Pugh	Ty Hester	Adam Russell	Langston Barker	Hayden Smith
Luke Philley	Mac Steltonpohl	Alex Foster	Peyton Preston	Jireh Gilbert	SJ Thomas
SJ Thomas	Seve Winebrenner	Waylon White	Ford Birchall	Caden Wood	

**15.** From the 2026 AGA State Amateur Championship, any junior player that posted a 36-hole score.

**16.** One exemption for Championship Host Club.

**17.** Special exemptions bestowed by the AGA.