



## **Team Arizona Selection Criteria**

### **Purpose**

Team Arizona aims to identify and support the most promising junior golfers in the state. Selected athletes will represent Arizona in regional and national competitions and participate in development programming aligned with the U.S. National Development Program (USNDP).

The USNDP is designed to ensure that American golf remains the global leader in the game by focusing on six key pillars: talent identification, access to competition, national teams, athlete resources, player development and relations, and athlete financial support. Team Arizona establishes a developmentally appropriate, aspirational pathway for athletes in the State to compete at higher levels of the game.

### **Who is on Team Arizona?**

In late 2026, the Arizona State Team Committee will select 12 boys and 12 girls to represent the state. Athletes earn their place on the team through exceptional competitive performance during the 2026 season.

Out of the 12 boys and 12 girls selected, 4 boys and 4 girls will be chosen at the discretion of the Arizona State Team Committee. These selections may be adjusted throughout the year. The remaining 8 boys and 8 girls will be named based on their point rankings.

### **Team Selection Committee**

The Arizona State Team Committee will evaluate and select athletes for Team Arizona. The Committee is composed of members from several organizations, including:

- Arizona Golf Association
- Junior Golf Association of Arizona
- Southwest PGA Section
- Tucson Junior Golf

The Committee will invite athletes to join Team Arizona based on eligibility criteria, and the evaluation process outlined below. Selections will be made at the Committee's sole discretion.

## Eligibility Criteria

In order to be eligible for selection to Team Arizona, an athlete must satisfy the following requirements:

- Complete the **2026 Player Application by 3/31/2026**.
- Be a **U.S. Citizen**.
- Be a **resident of Arizona**, defined as having a parent/guardian who files state taxes in Arizona.
- Be **at least 13 years old on January 1, 2027**, and **not older than 19 on July 19, 2027**.
- **Not be enrolled in college** during the 2026–2027 academic year.
- Hold a **USGA Handicap Index®** and consistently post eligible scores.
- Compete in a **minimum of two (2)** events from the approved Points List.

## Points List and Counting Events

- The **Points Cycle** runs from January 1, 2026, to November 15, 2026.
- Events should be ranked by **Junior Golf Scoreboard** and include a significant representation of Arizona juniors.
- Results from out-of-state events must be submitted to [teamarizona@azgolf.org](mailto:teamarizona@azgolf.org) for consideration.

## Selection Process

- **Points List Selections:**
  - Eight (8) highest-ranked Boys and eight (8) highest-ranked Girls on the Points List are selected.
- **Committee Picks:**
  - Up to four (4) Boys and four (4) Girls may be selected at the discretion of the Committee.
  - If discretionary picks are not used, the next highest-ranked players will be selected.

## Evaluation Criteria for Discretionary Picks

The Arizona State Team Committee will evaluate eligible athletes who it may consider for the 4 selection spots on Team Arizona for each gender based on the following factors:

- **Points Distribution List** - The Committee will use the Team Arizona Points Distribution List as a guide in the decision making of the final four spots.
- **Rankings** – The Committee will consider the current and previous rankings (within the last 12-24 months) of athletes from various publicly available rankings, which may include, but is not limited to, Junior Golf Scoreboard, Rolex American Junior Golf Association (AJGA) Rankings, World Amateur Golf Rankings (WAGR), The Universal Golf Rankings (TUGR) and applicable state rankings and/or head-to-head rankings.
- **Scoring** – The Committee will consider factors related to the athlete’s scoring ability and scoring history, which may include, but is not limited to, scoring average, scoring consistency, ability to post low scores, and hole-by-hole patterns.
- **Results** – The Committee will review the athlete’s competitive play results, including, but not limited to, finish positions, difficulty of schedule, golf course length, and head-to-head results in any high-level competitions or events.
- **Sportsmanship** – The Committee will consider factors related to the athlete’s sportsmanship, including, but not limited to, attitude, coachability, ability to work as part of a team, and representation of Arizona.
- **Commitment** – The Committee will evaluate the athlete’s demonstrated intent to pursue higher levels of competitive golf, including participation in elite events and long-term development goals.

## Amendments

The Team Arizona Committee reserves the right to amend these criteria at any time.

## Contact Information

For questions or to submit results:

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