



## **Team Washington Selection Criteria**

### **Purpose**

Team Washington aims to identify and support the most promising junior golfers in the state. Selected athletes will represent Washington 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 Washington establishes a developmentally appropriate, aspirational pathway for athletes in the State to compete at higher levels of the game.

### **Who is on Team Washington?**

In late 2026, the Washington 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.

The 12 boys and 12 girls will be named at the discretion of the Washington State Team Committee with selection based primarily on their point standing as awarded from the Team Washington Point Distribution list. Other factors, as outlined below, will be used to supplement the points list standings and aid Committee evaluation.

### **Team Selection Committee**

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

- Washington Golf
- Washington Junior Golf Association
- Pacific Northwest PGA Section
- Oregon Golf Association

The Committee will invite athletes to join Team Washington 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 Washington, 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 Washington**, defined as having a parent/guardian who files state taxes in Washington.
- 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®** issued by a WA Golf member club with a minimum of 10 scores posted within the previous twelve (12) months.
- Compete in a **minimum of two (2)** events from the Team Washington Points Distribution list.

## Points List and Counting Events

- The **Points Cycle** runs from January 1, 2026, to September 15, 2026.
- WA Golf will monitor results of the counting events and will update points standings weekly throughout the 2026 season.
- Players may submit one finish in an out-of-state AJGA event (Open or Invitationals ONLY) between January 1, 2026 and August 31, 2026 to the Committee to receive points. Results from out-of-state events must be submitted no later than September 1, 2026 to be considered.

## Selection Process and Timeline

- Following the conclusion of the points cycle on September 15, 2026, the Washington State Team Committee will meet to review the point standings and select the twelve (12) boys and twelve (12) girls for the inaugural team.
- The Washington State Team Committee will contact team members after selections have been made to confirm their commitment to the team for the 2027 calendar year.
- Players selected will be members of Team Washington from January 1, 2027 to December 31, 2027 and will not automatically remain on the team the following year. Players must earn their way onto the team each year.

## **Evaluation Criteria Team Selection**

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

- **Points Distribution List** - The Committee will use the Team Washington Points Distribution List as the primary guide in decision making. The top twelve (12) points earners for each gender will be given first consideration.
- **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 Washington.
- **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 Washington Committee reserves the right to amend these criteria at any time.

## **Contact Information**

For questions or to submit results:

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