

GPA Junior Academy

2026 Junior Golf Programs



EST. 2019

The Golf Path Academy

Message from Jon Guntrum, PGA Director of Instruction

Thank you for your interest in the junior programs at The Golf Path Academy. As Director of Instruction at Richmond Golf Club, my goal is to provide a clear, structured, and long-term pathway for juniors at every stage of their development. Whether your child is holding a golf club for the first time or preparing for competitive golf and college opportunities, this packet outlines the full framework we use to support their growth.

Our programs are not seasonal or short-term. They are intentionally designed as a multi-year development system that grows with each athlete physically, technically, and mentally. The foundation of everything we do is TPI's Long-Term Athletic Development (LTAD) model—a science-based approach used by Olympic committees, national sports organizations, and modern high-performance golf academies worldwide. LTAD recognizes that athletic skills develop in phases as children grow, and that building coordination, strength, mobility, and movement quality leads to better performance across all sports. We believe athletes make better golfers, and we coach with that principle at the core of every session.

Player placement is based on developmental age, not birthdate or grade level. Juniors grow at different speeds, and our coaching reflects that reality. We progress each player according to movement quality, skill readiness, and performance habits—not how old they are on paper.

We track progress carefully, measure improvement, make adjustments, and design every session with intention. We develop athletes, strengthen fundamentals, and give juniors the skills and confidence they need to succeed in the game for years to come.

Our mission is clear: build the best junior golf program in Northern California using proven, research-driven methods that help juniors improve, stay active, and love the game as they grow.

– Jon Guntrum, PGA
Director of Instruction
The Golf Path Academy at Richmond Golf Club

What are TPI and LTAD?

WHY THEY MATTER FOR YOUR JUNIOR

If you're reading this packet, we want to make sure you understand how our junior program is different. Two concepts shape everything we do: TPI and LTAD. These are the foundations of our coaching, our structure, and the way your child progresses through the program.

TPI (Titleist Performance Institute) is the world leader in golf performance research. Their junior pathway is built on understanding how young athletes grow, move, develop coordination, and build strength. TPI training allows us to identify physical limitations, match skills to phases of development, and build long-term athletic competence that leads to better performance in sport.

LTAD (Long-Term Athletic Development) is the youth training model used by Olympic organizations and high-performance academies worldwide. LTAD exists because children don't develop strength, coordination, speed, or mobility at the same pace. Their growth spurts and "windows of trainability" open at different times. LTAD ensures that juniors train the right skills at the right time, based on developmental age, not birthday or grade level.

Why TPI Matters

- Athletes make better golfers
- Better movers create more consistent ball striking
- Technical skills hold up longer when supported by strength, mobility, and coordination
- Early athletic foundations lead to better long-term outcomes in golf

TPI allows us to test movement, measure progress, identify limitations, and match training directly to each child's stage of growth. This removes guesswork and keeps development on the right track.

Why LTAD Helps Your Child

- Matches training to individual growth patterns
- Develops coordinated, balanced, athletic movers
- Improves rotational power, speed, agility, and stability

- Reduces overuse injuries
- Increases long-term skill retention and confidence

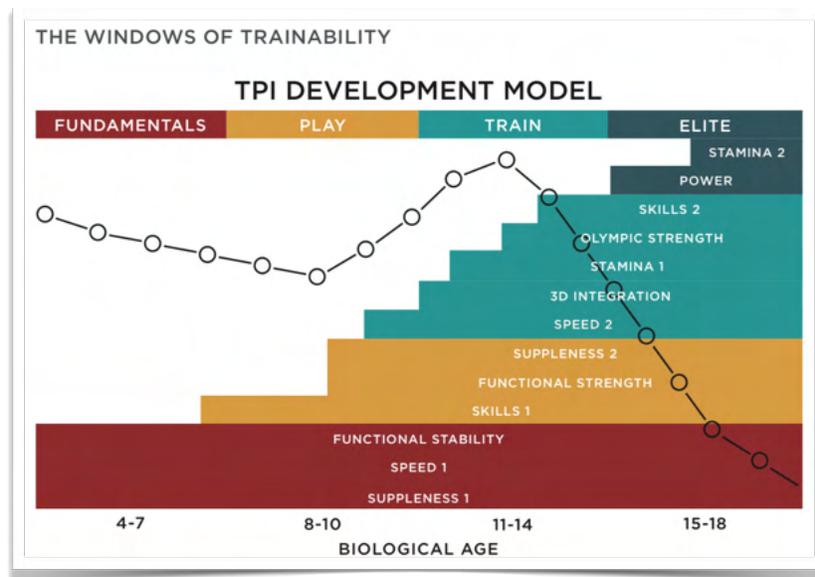
LTAD protects young athletes from poor habits, rushed expectations, or inappropriate training loads—issues that commonly derail early-specialization sports.

How TPI + LTAD Appear in Our Clinics

Every Saturday clinic integrates TPI and LTAD principles through station-based training that develops:

- Coordination, balance, jumping, sprinting, and agility
- Rotational movement patterns that transfer to speed and ball striking
- Grip, posture, aim, impact, and start-line fundamentals
- Short game and putting skills appropriate for each development stage
- Decision-making, routines, and performance habits
- Athletic literacy—throwing, sequencing, ground-up power

Juniors are grouped by developmental age, not grade or birthday. We track growth velocity through Growmetry, monitor skill benchmarks, and adjust training as athletes move through different phases of development. Our program evolves with the athlete—this is why long-term progress happens here.





2026 Summer Camps

**WE ARE PLEASED TO CONTINUE OUR PARTNERSHIP
WITH PGA JUNIOR GOLF CAMPS**

Half Day Camps

Half Day Camps run Tuesday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to noon, for boys and girls ages 6-14. All ability levels are welcome, and juniors are grouped by experience to create the best learning environment. Each day includes three hours of fun, fundamentals-based instruction supported by golf teaching technologies, skill games, and activities that reinforce sportsmanship and integrity.

Full Day Camps

Full Day Camps run Tuesday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., for boys and girls ages 9-17. Juniors are grouped by age and ability and receive three hours of morning instruction followed by lunch and on-course play. Full Day Camps are ideal for intermediate and advanced juniors who want to further develop their skills and course-management abilities.

To register, visit www.pgajuniorgolfcamps.com, select Camp Locations, then choose Richmond.



Dates and pricing TBA

Single Day Clinic Participant

All juniors are welcome to attend individual clinics, with or without a full Golf Path Academy membership. Students may join any clinic with available space at a rate of \$45 (\$55 for non-Richmond Golf Club members). For new families, the first visit is always free, provided it is arranged directly through Jon at jguntrum@pgagolfcenter.com.

Single-day participation includes that clinic's coaching, movement and golf stations, and skill-development activities. It is an excellent way to experience the program before enrolling.

Single-day attendance is not available for Play Days or Fitness Testing Days, and single-day students are not included in GPA Hat System testing, color-level advancement, or year-long developmental tracking.



Saturday Clinic Program

GOLF CLINICS, FITNESS DAYS AND PLAY DAYS

The Saturday Clinic Membership is the foundation of The Golf Path Academy Junior Program, hosted at Richmond Golf Club. The program runs January through December. It is offered by The Golf Path Academy as an instructional program and has no connection to Richmond Golf Club membership.

Players participate in a schedule of 30 Saturday Clinics, 10 Play Days (on-course skill testing), and 3 Fitness Testing Days. All sessions are structured around TPI's Long-Term Athletic Development (LTAD) model, focusing on training the right skills at the right stages of growth.

Program Schedule

Each four-week cycle consists of three Saturday Clinic sessions followed by one Play Day. Three additional Sunday Fitness Testing Days are held throughout the year.

Clinic Days: Saturdays, 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Play Days: Every fourth Saturday, 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Some groups may finish closer to 5:00 p.m.)

Fitness Testing Days: Three designated Sundays per year (approximately two hours)

Program Overview

Every Saturday session integrates TPI LTAD principles and is delivered through a station-based structure. Juniors rotate through 4-5 golf and athletic stations designed to develop:

- Coordination, balance, agility, and speed



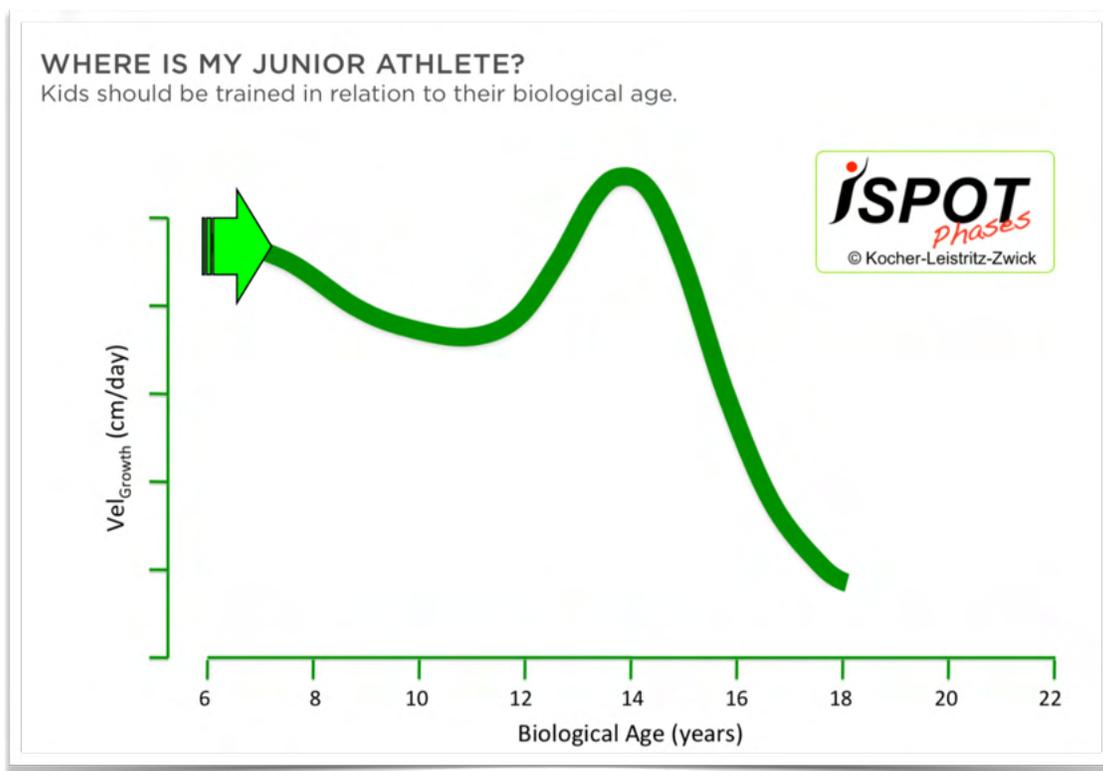
- Throwing, striking, jumping, and rotational movement patterns
- Golf essentials: grip, posture, aim, impact fundamentals
- Short game and putting skills
- Decision-making, routine building, and performance habits

Players are grouped by developmental age, not chronological age. Growth velocity influences athletic periods where certain skills develop best, ensuring each player trains according to their current stage of physical development.

Growth Tracking and Physical Development

Throughout the year, each junior's height, weight, and growth velocity are tracked using Growmetry. Measurements are taken during Fitness Testing Days to ensure accurate developmental-age placement and long-term monitoring. Fitness Testing Days evaluate essential athletic qualities such as speed, jump performance, rotational power, balance, and stability. These are delivered in a simple, junior-friendly environment and provide objective baselines for improvement over time.

After every Play Day and Fitness Testing Day, families receive a progress report summarizing performance, growth, and recommended areas of attention for the next training cycle.



Play Days and On-Course Skill Testing

Play Days are where practice transfers to performance. Players go onto the golf course in small groups to play nine holes with a developmentally appropriate target score. These sessions evaluate:

- Course strategy
- Pre-shot routine
- Shot selection
- Scoring ability
- Emotional control and pace of play

Program Highlights

- Approximately 80 hours of structured clinics and guided on-course development
- TPI-aligned athletic and golf training
- Developmental-age grouping using Growmetry measurements
- Three annual Fitness Testing Days
- Progress reports after every Play Day and Fitness Testing Day
- Skill advancement through the GPA Hat System
- A long-term development pathway designed to build complete junior athletes and golfers

The Saturday Clinic Membership develops athletic, confident, fundamentally sound young golfers ready for long-term success in golf—and in sport as a whole.

Clinic Membership Pricing

RGC Member - \$1100/member*

Non-Member - \$1200/non-member

GPA Junior Academy Elite Program

FULL PROGRAM ACCESS, PRIVATE LESSONS AND CUSTOM GIFT

Built for students who want to make significant improvement and prepare for junior tournament golf, the Elite Program Membership is designed for juniors ready to take the next step beyond weekly clinics. This program builds on the foundation of the Saturday Clinic Membership but adds private instruction, advanced player development, and a year-round structure tailored to each athlete's goals.

This program is offered by The Golf Path Academy and hosted on-site at Richmond Golf Club. It is an instructional membership and separate from Richmond Golf Club's golf membership.

Elite members participate in the entire annual schedule of Saturday Clinics, Play Days and Fitness Testing Days—43 total sessions—and receive twenty private one-hour lessons with Jon Guntrum, PGA Director of Instruction. The combination of group learning and individualized coaching creates an ideal environment for technical development, deeper understanding of the game, and sustained long-term progress.

Each student's development plan is customized to match their developmental age, physical readiness, and performance goals. Private lessons are scheduled throughout the year at convenient times and may focus on full swing, short game, putting, on-course decision-making, or tournament preparation. Players receive detailed feedback, measurable skill assessments, and individualized performance goals throughout the year.

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Elite members progress through the same GPA developmental model used across all programs—including skill testing during Play Days and growth monitoring through Growmetry—but benefit from significantly more direct coaching time, structure, accountability, and individualized mentorship.

Enrollment in the Elite Program includes:

- Full Saturday Clinic Membership
- TPI-based athletic and golf development
- More than 100 total hours of instruction, coaching, and guided play
- 43 total clinic, play, and fitness sessions
- 20 private 60-minute lessons with Jon Guntrum, PGA Director of Instruction
- Three annual Fitness Testing Days
- Progress reports after every Play Day and Fitness Testing Day
- Skill progression through the GPA Hat System
- Comprehensive skill and growth tracking via Growmetry and internal GPA benchmarks
- Customized Elite Package: personalized Callaway golf balls or a custom Golf Path Academy golf bag
- Carryover of any unused lessons into 2027 for returning Elite members; unused lessons expire January 1, 2027 unless the student is re-enrolled



Because of the personal attention, lesson time, and commitment required, the Elite Program is limited to 15 juniors per year. Skill level is not a prerequisite—commitment, consistency, and attitude are.

Elite Program Pricing

RGC Member - \$3295/student

Non-Member - \$3495/student

*Member is considered a child, legal dependent or grandchild of a current Richmond Golf Club Member.

GPA Junior Classifications

JUNIORS ADVANCE ON PLAY/TEST DAYS ONLY



White Hat

- Can demonstrate a proper grip, stance, and finishing position
- Must make 2 out of 5 putts from 2 feet, and two-putt 2 out of 5 attempts from 8 feet
- Understands basic golf club and course terminology
- Can identify safe places to stand and walk in the practice areas



Yellow Hat

- Can three-putt from 30 feet 3 out of 5 attempts
- Can pitch the ball onto the green successfully from 10 yards away 3 out of 5 attempts
- Can illustrate what causes a ball to curve left or right



Orange Hat

- Can score 36 for 9 holes from 25 yards out



Green Hat

- Shoots 54 or less from a 1,350-yard 9-hole course in a program tournament



Blue Hat

- Scores 54 or less from a 1,800-yard 9-hole course in a program tournament



Red Hat

- Scores 54 or less from the Green Tees on the front 9 during a program tournament



Khaki Hat

- Scores 44 or less from the Green Tees on the front 9 during a program tournament



Gray Hat

- Scores 41 or less from the White Tees on the front 9 during a program tournament



Black Hat

- Scores 37 or less from the White Tees on the front 9 during a program tournament



Gold Hat

- Scores 35 or less from the Blue Tees on the front 9 during a program tournament

2026 Clinic Calendar

CLINICS IN BLACK, PLAY DAYS IN RED

January

17th, 24th, 31st

February

7th, 14th, 21st, 28th

March

7th, 14th, 21st,

April

4th, 11th, 18th

May

9th, 16th, 30th

June

6th, 13th, 20th, 27th

July

4th, 11th, 18th, 25th

August

1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th

September

5th, 12th, 26th

October

3rd, 17th, 31st

November

7th, 14th, 21st

December

5th, 12th

GPA Train to Compete

SUPPORT SYSTEM FOR A

DIVISION I COLLEGE GOLF FUTURE

Playing college golf requires far more than a good swing. The modern junior golfer is evaluated on technical skill, physical development, competitive record, and the ability to communicate with college coaches. To succeed in today's recruiting environment, juniors need a complete support team—one that develops them as golfers, athletes, and competitors.

Program Overview

The Train-to-Compete Program is the Golf Path Academy's highest-level offering, created for juniors who want a structured, year-round roadmap toward competitive golf, tournament success, and long-term athletic development. The program has already helped place athletes into Division I and Division III college golf programs. It provides a fully integrated support team across four performance pillars: technical coaching, putting, golf-specific fitness, and college recruiting education.

This program is offered by The Golf Path Academy and hosted on-site at Richmond Golf Club. It is an instructional program and separate from Richmond Golf Club's golf membership. Train-to-Compete athletes participate from September 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026.



The Train-to-Compete Program is built around four essential pillars used by top junior academies and college-bound athletes across the country:

1. **Golf Coaching - Technical Skill, Strategy, Competitive Readiness**

Elite swings and consistent scoring don't happen by accident. Players need individualized coaching, objective measurement, and structured skill development. The golf coaching pillar focuses on swing mechanics, short game, putting fundamentals, performance habits, and on-course decision-making. Sessions are designed to produce improvements that hold up under pressure, not just on the range.

2. **Putting - The Fastest Path to Lower Scores**

Putting is the most specialized and most score-impacting part of the game. A dedicated putting coach ensures each player develops elite fundamentals in alignment, speed control, green reading, and pressure management. This pillar is essential for players entering college recruiting, where coaches evaluate a player's ability to convert opportunities and avoid big numbers.

3. **Fitness - Strength, Speed, Mobility, and Injury Prevention**

College programs expect athletes, not just golfers. Weekly golf-specific fitness builds the strength, mobility, and speed required for modern tournament golf. Training focuses on rotational power, core stability, balance, speed generation, and durability—crucial for multi-day events, travel schedules, and long competitive seasons.

4. **College Recruiting Education - Clarity, Strategy, Communication**

The recruiting landscape has become increasingly early and increasingly competitive. Juniors need structured guidance on communicating with coaches, tournament scheduling, building a strong resume, creating video, and understanding NCAA standards. The right information at the right time can be the difference between being noticed and being overlooked.

These four pillars form the foundation of a complete, year-round system built for competitive juniors preparing for regional and national tournaments, building a strong junior golf resume, or working toward a future college golf opportunity.

Train-to-Compete Includes:

- Twelve private one-hour lessons with Jon Guntrum, PGA
- Weekly 30-minute developmental check-ins

- Two 18-hole group playing lessons for tournament preparation
- Weekly group fitness workout in Oakland with TPI-certified coach Bryant Sharifi
- Quarterly two-hour private putting sessions with Scott Curry (eight total hours)
- Access to Athlos College Coaching seminar library
- Year-round competitive planning and support
- Guidance for tournament scheduling, performance tracking, and recruiting strategy

Golf Coach

The Golf Path Academy - Jon Guntrum



Jon brings over fifteen years of teaching and player-development experience and serves as Director of Instruction at Richmond Golf Club in Richmond, California. He holds advanced certifications across the full TPI pathway (Junior L3, Golf L3, Power L3, Fitness L2, and TPI L1). His coaching focuses on biomechanics, movement efficiency, measurable performance changes, and multi-context skill acquisition. Athletes train through structured progressions designed to hold up under tournament pressure.

Train-to-Compete athletes receive twelve private one-hour lessons, two 18-hole group playing lessons, and weekly 30-minute check-ins for swing evaluation, performance planning, scheduling, and recruiting guidance.

College Recruiting Coach



Athlos College Coaching - Joe Accordino & Brad Marek

Athlos provides clear, practical, and sport-specific guidance for families navigating the recruiting process. Their staff has helped place players into Division I, II, and III programs nationwide, including UC and Ivy League schools.

Train-to-Compete athletes receive full access to the Athlos seminar library, which covers introductory emails, follow-ups, video creation, scheduling, resume building, NCAA rules, and communication strategy. Families may choose additional one-on-one services directly with Athlos if desired.

Fitness Coach

TPI Certified Fitness Coaching - Bryant Sharifi

Bryant is a TPI-certified golf fitness professional with extensive experience training elite juniors, amateurs, and touring professionals including Lydia Ko. His program blends strength development, mobility, speed training, and injury-prevention principles specific to golf. Athletes complete a weekly group fitness workout every Thursday evening in Oakland.



Putting Coach

Scott Curry Putting - Scott Curry

Scott is one of California's premier putting and green-reading specialists, with more than twenty years of experience teaching golfers from beginners to high-level players. His system produces measurable and immediate improvement in alignment, stroke mechanics, speed control, and green reading. Athletes receive one private two-hour session per quarter, totaling eight hours annually.



Train to Compete Pricing

\$8000 per student

Maximum 3 students per year

September 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026

Meet the Coaches

OUR 2026 TEACHING STAFF IS READY!

Jon Guntrum, PGA Director of Instruction



Born and raised in San Leandro, CA, Jon started golfing with his grandmother at Lake Chabot Golf Course at the age of 5. His first job in golf was as a caddie at Claremont Country Club, and he played high school golf at San Leandro High and college golf at Santa Barbara City College. His love for travel began while studying abroad in Florence, Italy. Paris remains his favorite place to visit, and he also enjoys long road trips whenever he can get away.

Jon began working in the golf industry in 2003 and has been a PGA Member since 2011. He has held positions as Lead Assistant at Burlingame Country Club in Hillsborough, CA and as Head Golf Professional at Berkeley Country Club. In 2019, he opened The Golf Path Academy at

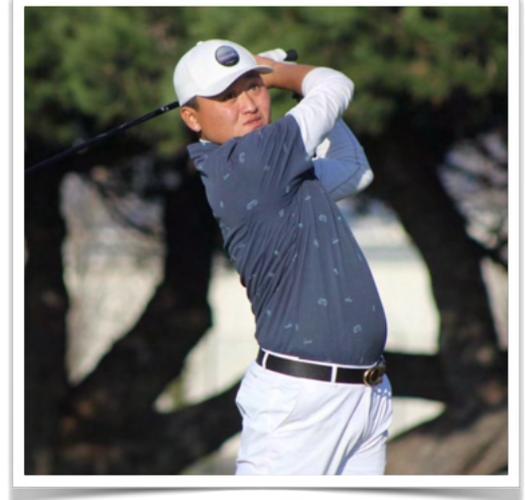
Richmond Golf Club where he now serves as Director of Instruction.

He is certified in TPI Junior Level 3, Golf Level 3, Power Level 3, and Fitness Level 2 and was awarded the 2024 NCPGA Player Development Award for his work in junior coaching. His teaching blends movement quality, technical training, structured practice, and long-term athletic development. Programs are based on developmental age rather than birthdate and players track progress in both golf and physical benchmarks throughout the year.

Junior development is the most important thing he does. The Golf Path junior program is the foundation of his teaching career and we are proud to have you be part of it.

Brendon Choe, Lead Golf Coach

Brendon is a professional golfer currently on the Asher Tour and competing in PGA tour and Korn Ferry Tour Qualifiers. Playing competitive golf since he was 8 years old and he has competed in numerous tournaments all over the world. During his time in junior golf he won over 30 tournaments and was named the 2017 JGANC player of the year as well as the 2-time scoring average champion (2016,2017). He was selected to represent Team Northern California at The Junior America's Cup for 3 straight years (2016,2017,2018) where he traveled to compete in Montana, Washington and even all the way to Mexico! He qualified for the 2017 IMG Junior World championship at Torrey Pines golf course in San Diego competing against the best junior golfers from all over the world. His lowest round is an amazing 9 under par 62 on a par 71 golf course from the pro tees. Brendon has trained with many professional golfers (PGA,KPGA,LPGA) and even been able to travel and train with them all the way to Korea and Thailand. Specializing in using TrackMan technology and improving his knowledge in every aspect of the game he is truly a fantastic addition to our team. His junior golf successes and experiences are things we look forward to him sharing with our junior golfers. His passion when sharing his knowledge of the game to juniors is easy to see and he's here to help achieve their goals and make their journey both a fun and success in this wonderful sport that we play.



THE
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ACADEMY

David Navarro

Assistant Golf Coach

Hello, my name is David Navarro and I attend El Cerrito High School. For as long as I can remember my goal has been not just to play golf in college, but to play golf professionally. I have been playing golf since the age of two and love everything about the game. I'm excited for the opportunity to teach the kids what I've learned through the years and help them achieve their goals no matter what they are.



Eli Slifer

Assistant Golf Coach

Hello everyone, my name is Eli and I am from Berkeley, CA and in the Class of 2026 at Berkeley High School. I have a 4.0 GPA and my strengths on the golf course are my swing speed, wedge play, and hitting long off the tee. I love golf because it's always a challenge and there's always room to get better. I'm hoping I can teach the kids how to bomb it! That's the best part right?

Sparrow Pierzina

Assistant Golf Coach

Hello, my name is Sparrow Pierzina. Working with Jon in the junior clinics has helped me grow, connect with the community, and support juniors as they develop their skills each week. I've been golfing for about 14 years and have competed in many tournaments with multiple wins along the way.

My goals over the next few years are to continue improving my game, pursue a golf scholarship, and work toward competing at the professional level. If that path changes, I hope to stay in the game as a coach.



THE GOLF PATH ACADEMY

Safety Policies to Prevent Abuse

**WE TAKE KEEPING YOUR CHILDREN SAFE
OUR #1 PRIORITY.**

We take your child's safety as our number one priority. Our full policies and procedures manual (26 pages) is available to all parents upon request.

Every employee age 18 and older has completed a comprehensive background check, including SSN trace, address/name/date-of-birth verification, national criminal records search, national sex offender search, global/U.S./state watchlists, education and degree verification, federal criminal search, employment verification, and county criminal record searches based on seven-year address history.

All employees complete an annual online sexual-abuse-prevention training course as a condition of employment.

The Golf Path Academy has zero tolerance for abuse and will not tolerate the mistreatment or abuse of participants in any form.

All employees sign an electronic communication and social media code-of-conduct agreement clearly defining appropriate and inappropriate communications.

Any parent or child who wishes to anonymously report suspected sexual abuse should call ChildHelp at 1-800-422-4453. Assistance is available 24/7 in 170 languages, and all calls are confidential and anonymous.

We recognize the trust you place in us when your children participate in our programs, and we take that responsibility seriously. We encourage parents to stay on property during clinics to observe, check in, or simply feel connected to the environment. Although Richmond Golf Club is a private club, our membership welcomes parents to visit the clubhouse for food or drinks while their junior participates. Parents introduce their children to golf to ultimately spend more time together as a family, and we hope you'll see throughout our programs that your family is always welcome.

THE GOLF PATH ACADEMY

DEVELOPING ATHLETES.

BUILDING SKILLS.

GROWING CONFIDENCE.

CREATING LIFELONG GOLFERS.

Ready to get started?

- Attend a free first clinic visit (email Jon to schedule)
- Enroll in a Saturday Clinic Membership or Elite Program
- Explore summer camps at pgajuniorgolfcamps.com
- Schedule an evaluation or tour of the program

Jon Guntrum, PGA

Director of Instruction

jguntrum@pgagolfcenter.com

(510) 289-8095

thegolfpath.com