

Incoming 9th graders or other Saintsmen who are interested in playing on the Saints golf team

The Saints golf program has spots available for students interested in improving their games through high school competition. Though the actual high school season begins in mid-February, our team does have events starting in the fall that you need to be aware of – please carefully read the information shown below and feel free to email me at tisaak@sahs.org if you have any follow-up questions you would like answered.

1. To be on the Developmental Team, a player must be able to post an 82 or better over 18 holes at Colina Park on the 1st day of tryouts in the spring (this can be done earlier in the school year by setting it up with Coach Isaak). To be on the JV team players must be able to post a score of 52 or better from the back tees of a regulation golf course (Riverwalk, Miramar, etc) *with the team*. Juniors and seniors cannot participate on the Developmental Team.

2. For the 2018 golf season, the varsity team played in 23 nine-hole dual matches, the San Diego Country Club Invitational, and the CIF Playoffs (the team was ranked #15 overall in San Diego County heading into CIF - San Diego). The junior varsity played in 19 nine-hole dual matches as well as in a JV tournament at the end of the season.

3. For incoming players, it is helpful to know where your game stands relative to players on the team last year. For high school matches, golfers have an 'index' based on the scores they have in matches throughout the season. The index is based on the scores recorded in a match combined with the difficulty of the course as determined by the Southern California Golf Association (SCGA). For example, one of our home golf courses is the Friars nine at Riverwalk Golf Course. The SCGA has rated it at 35.2 for 9 holes so, for example, that a player who shoots a 40 has an index for that round of 4.8. In 2018, our Varsity players ranged from a 2.4 up to a 7.5 (meaning average scores of roughly 37 up to 43 per nine holes on a variety of courses throughout San Diego). Our JV players ranged from handicaps of 7.5 up to about 13.5.

4. A great way to get to play golf courses throughout the year in all parts of San Diego is by getting your Youth-On-Course Card through the San Diego Junior Golf Association (SDJGA). Once you have the card, there are over 20 golf courses in San Diego that accept it and allow you to play the course for \$5 per round and hit range balls for \$1 a bucket, though some courses do have restricted tee times. The Stadium Practice Center and other driving ranges in San Diego also offer great discounts for those with the YOC Card. Another great option for juniors is to get a San Diego Junior Residents' Card at Balboa Golf Course, Torrey Pines, or Mission Bay GC. With this card, you pay a monthly fee of \$11 to play those courses for free with some time restrictions. If you are not a resident of the city of San Diego, you can still get your Jr. Residents' Card by using your Saints ID.

NOTE: The Youth On Course Card is required of all players on the team and it is the responsibility of each player to have their card in time for the start of the year (and to renew it prior to each season- this will be verified prior to players participating in any team related events in February)

5. To improve your game requires practice, playing rounds, and playing in tournaments. There are junior golf tournaments throughout the summer that are run by various organizations. For relative beginners to tournament golf, the North County Junior Golf Association has many events set up as novice/beginner events. SDJGA also offers some beginner level events and those can be seen on their website. If you need advice to find an instructor, contact Coach Isaak.

Earning your 'points' for players new to the team

Developmental Team players get one golf shirt, a hat and a divot tool. The cost of a Spirit Pack for those on the Developmental Team is \$250 which gets you the mentioned items plus your fees are covered at the weekly Friday practices at Sycuan (we also take the Developmental Team to Colina Park on certain Monday afternoons during the season). Developmental Team members who exhibit the necessary ability can move to the JV team during the season if their results dictate that they are ready to do so.

All players on the JV and Varsity golf team get several pieces of Saints Golf gear: a new Saints golf bag, 2 team shirts, a pullover, a hat, a divot tool, and a head cover for their driver; there are extra items for players who earn their way into varsity matches. Saints logo golf balls are also given for use during high school matches and all of your golf fees at courses for high school practices and matches are paid for by the team (except that the Youth On Course card must be purchased by the player). For new players, 400 points must be accumulated to get the above listed gear. Players can earn points in a variety of ways:

1. Put together a foursome at our team fundraiser at Mt. Woodson Golf Course on Sunday September 29th. The cost is \$125 per player and earns you 80 points per player.
2. Sell raffle tickets for the Mt. Woodson event. Over 50 great prizes, including 3 day/2 night accommodations in Mammoth Lakes as well as 49 other golf related prizes. Tickets are \$10 each and earn players 8 points per ticket.
3. Players who don't play at Mt. Woodson can work the event and earn 100 points for the day helping the coaches make the event successful
4. Players can come to the first 3 Saints home football games at Mesa College and sell raffle tickets with Coach Isaak. Over the past three years several players earned all or major parts of their points at the football games

After earning your 400 points, there are no other financial requirements to be on the golf team except for buying 4 tickets for the Farmers Insurance Open at Torrey Pines GC in January. Each player must buy 4 tickets at the discounted price and can then either use the tickets to go watch the professionals play or you can sell them to other people who want to go to the event. If you sell the tickets, it will recoup your money and also help someone out by selling them the tickets at a lower cost than is available to the general public (google 'SOS golf tickets' to find out more about this program).

Please note that the easiest way for you to earn your 400 points is to line up a foursome and play at Mt. Woodson - this earns you 320 points and then you can sell 10 raffle tickets to complete your requirement. It also is a great opportunity for those new to the team to meet their golf teammates as well as various Saints boosters.

We have sold out the Mt. Woodson event in prior years so please email me if you would like me to reserve a foursome in your name.

I look forward to having you participate in the Saints golf program.

Sincerely
Coach Isaak