

# SGA BOOST FOR JUNIOR GOLFERS

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Junior golf is alive and buzzing.

And much of the credit should go to the Singapore Golf Association for believing that the future of local golf is in their hands.

During a period when many junior events had to be postponed or cancelled for almost six months because of the impositions placed by the Covid-19 pandemic, the SGA has been keeping its young golfers active.

After encouraging the

youngsters to keep themselves busy at the driving ranges – two that are busy are both public courses, namely Marina Bay Golf and Country Club and The Executive Course at Mandai – the SGA is organising a special event for the kids.

The Junior Challenge, for boys and girls aged between seven and 12, is slated for Sept 11 at the Mandai course to be played on a stableford format.

About 50 players have entered for the event for a nine-hole afternoon competition and the respective boys' and girls' champions will be honoured with a poster basically each to be put up at the Executive Course notice boards.

The SGA hopes to increase the frequency of this event – the first was staged in the be-



Why starting young in golf is important for these kids.

ginning of the year – to alternate Fridays basically to keep the juniors engaged with the sport in practice and competition.

The leading players will compete in the three-day SGA



Junior Golf Challenge in November or December at the Sembawang Country Club.

The juniors aside, members of the National and Development squads have been busy with their high-perfor-

mance training under national coach Matt Ballard and High Performance Manager Joshua Ho at the Laguna National Golf and Country Club.

The training sessions resumed on an intensive basis following the online practice workouts during Phase Two of the Circuit Breaker.

There are 16 players in the National Squad and 14 members in the Development Squad.

Among the National Squad members James Leow, Nicklaus Chiam, Yoko Tai, Zachary Ong, Ashley Menne and Hailey Loh are in the United States while Wong Qi Wen (studying in North Carolina in the US) and Shannon Tan (studying in Queensland, Australia) are in Singapore.

photos: Singapore Golf Association, Jeremy Theseira (above)