



Dream Junior Golf Academy

~ Ins and Outs, 2022 ~



Welcome to **Canada's largest** introduction to the game of golf for junior golfer's age 4 to 14 (plus the odd 3 year old). Our program was introduced in 2009 with one class a week and we have grown from the 56 children then to over 1,000 some years.

Many have asked "**Why is this program so successful?**" and to be honest we believe it is the simplicity of the event. We want it to be fun for the kids by introducing some basic skills of the sport in a non-threatening group environment.

The program runs weekly on Mondays and Wednesdays from the end of May (May 30th, 2022) until the end of July (July 27th, 2022) with 3 time slots on each day; 5:00, 6:00 and 7:00 pm. It is ok to come at any one of the three times however we have made sure that everyone registers for one day or the other and we must be strict on that so we can accommodate the numbers. Please allow yourself a few extra minutes to get here on time as the train tracks are usually very busy and may hold you up.

There is no need to check in to the golf shop when you arrive unless you are bringing a guest as we do offer a \$10 guest drop in fee. If you have golf clubs that are correct size for your child bring them, but if not we have plenty. **Note:** Washrooms are beside the event tent and in the clubhouse.

When the children arrive (at 5:00, 6:00 or 7:00 pm) we call them all together at the back of the driving range where I will stand on the picnic table and address the crowd, welcoming them, giving announcements etc. The large group will then be divided into 3 and directed to the station, they will be starting on; either chipping, putting or full swing. Every 15 minutes we will rotate stations (full swing – chipping – putting) or (chipping – putting – full swing) or (putting – full swing – chipping), depending on where you start rotation is always the same.

As we operate with plenty of volunteer instructors and are at the mercy of their schedules. Some weeks we will have plenty, some we will be shorthanded. We are going to accommodate the children to the best of our ability and resources. There are chairs and tables set up at the back of the driving range for the parents and guest to enjoy thanks to the C.O.R.A. program.

Full Swing – There are approximately 55 stalls set up for the kids to hit drivers off the tee. Here are some pointers that we will work on and how that station operates:

- Help kids find proper length (and hand) club
- Make sure there is only one child per stall. There are 2 pyramids in every stall (one for right handed golfers and one for left). If in the event we do not have enough stalls have them rotate, 2 shots, then 2 shots.
- We do encourage parents to tee the balls up for the kids

- It is important to make sure that none of the children go in front of the rope to fetch balls or tees as we do not want anyone hit.
- We also try to make sure that they tee their ball up close to the pyramid of balls (to the right side if they are left handed and to the left side if they are left handed). This is so they can see what is in front of them and gives space behind them so they don't get hit or hit anyone with their club.
- The points we want them to understand are:
 - Ball position to be lined up just inside of front foot (for driver off tee)
 - Keep your lead arm straight
 - Look at the ball the entire time
 - Point the club in the sky (with arms parallel to the ground 90 degree bend in the wrist)
 - Follow through (swing through the ball, belly button pointing at target)
- There will of course be some more advanced students that can get into grip, stance, posture, swing plane, etc.
- Please assist us in keeping kids (and parents) from hitting balls prior to or after the sessions. We need all the balls to get through the 45 minutes and afterwards our team of Outside services will be restacking the pyramids and we don't want them hit or slowed down.
- The kids will rotate from full swing to chipping

Chipping – There are 40 + stalls set up surrounding the chipping green with a large assortment of clubs on the bench. Here are some pointers:

- We stress to the kids that it is a chip and not full swing as there are kids (and cars) across from them.
- The blocks from where they hit from are only a few feet off green so a putting stroke with their wedge (or iron) will give them their best results
- Encourage taking their wrists and hands out of the swing, having their hands lead the club head even after impact.
- We will have the kids take 3 balls each to their stall, and go simultaneously on their shots (count out loud, 1, 2, 3 – shoot). The kids will hit their 3 balls, then pick up 3 more and return to their stalls (we will have more in baskets nearby)
- Next we will have them pick a close hole for the first 3 balls and one a little farther for the next 3 balls.
- Our instructors will do that until you have about 4 minutes left, then will have the kids line up with one ball for the “Chipping Challenge to win a Ring Pop”.
- He / she will count to 3 and have them all shoot and watch to see if any are made.
- The kids will rotate from chipping to putting.

Putting – There are 10 holes on the green and there will be a picnic table set up at the north end with a variety of putters:

- Depending on instructor turn out we will divide the kids up by the amount of holes (50 kids /10 holes = 5 kids per hole)

- Our instructors will stress that it is a sweeping motion and not a “strike the ball”
 - Roll the ball into the hole
- Take wrists and hand out of swing
- Swing with pivoting of the shoulders
- We will have them set up 4 balls and depending on age and / ability 2’, 4’, 6’ and 8’ from the hole.
- With 5 minutes left of the 15 announce “Who wants in on the putting challenge?”
- If we have multiple instructors we will set up more than one
- The instructors will be the judge of how far away they should putt from to win a Ring Pop
 - Rule of thumb is their age in feet (6 year old from 6’, 10 year old from 10’)
- Try to encourage no beating up of the turf.
- The kids will rotate from putting to full swing

If your child happens to be fortunate enough to sink their putt in the putting challenge or the chipping challenge they will pick up their prize (Ring Pop) in the golf shop. We do limit to one win per week. We under no circumstances will give a child a Ring Pop if they are unsuccessful at their putt or chip, part of the game is being able to handle not winning every time.

When the kids have completed all 3 stations they will head to the northeast entrance of the clubhouse to receive their hot dog and drink. **Sorry, we are not equipped to handle special menu concerns** (due to diet, religious or lifestyle choices). Every week we will offer a “Parents Special” for the parents (or children) to enjoy (plus setting our kitchen up for success). Follow us on Facebook as we post there what the special will be and then a Food and Beverage team member will be at the welcoming to take orders so that they are ready when the kids head in. We put together this parent special as our kitchen is not large enough to accommodate ordering off the menu. If you order off the menu you may be waiting a long time.

In the event of a rain out or just plain bad weather we will send an email as close to 4 pm as we can to cancel the event. If you do not receive an email from juniorgolf@collicuttgolf.com assume it is still on. Once we have made the decision to cancel and even if the sun shines we will remain cancelled as we have already called off our volunteers plus the additional staff. We also post on our Facebook.

Please, Please, Please do not call the golf shop or email us asking if it is on or not, we cannot field that many calls or emails. We will try to accurately forecast the evening but we will usually error on the side of caution as to assure the kids enjoy their outing, we want them to enjoy it and want to do it again.

We must **ALWAYS** be aware of safety issues (ie kids swinging clubs or running by someone that is swinging) plus turf preservation. We ask that spraying bug spray happens with the children standing on the gravel. We also ask that the parents keep the kids off the flower beds and from running around in the dining room or on the deck as we do have other patrons on the golf course and in the clubhouse enjoying their evening.

We must also thank our sponsors including; ***Dream Development, the Crossfield Recreation Society (Town of Crossfield and Rocky View County) and the C.O.R.A. (Crossfield Outdoor Recreation Association)*** that donated towards the program to keep the costs down so families can introduce their children to the game of golf. Dream Development donated the first tee gifts that the children will receive. It is because of these tremendous sponsors that we are able to keep registration to \$60 for the entire season. We know that you will not be able to make all dates, the weather will cause some cancelations and other “life situations” get in the way.

The first day of the program (May 30th and June 1st) will start off with a Family BBQ, sponsored by Dream Development. We will be inviting the entire family on both opening days (May 30th and June 2nd) to enjoy hot dogs and drinks courtesy of Dream Development. We expect to have the registration gift for the children then.

The last nights will be July 25th for the Monday participants and July 27th for the Wednesday children.

We are very excited that we have opened the new 3 holes for children. We have named the 3 holes “The Optimist L’il Loop” as the Optimist clubs of Calgary and Airdrie donated substantially. This is a game development area for children only (sorry Dad). You can walk along with your children and help them out. We are charging \$5 (daily rate) or \$50 to become a member for the year!

Thank you all for coming out, this program would not be possible without you. If you get a chance to thank our volunteers, please do, many of these people leave work early to help us out.

Thanks again!

Lyndon King,

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