

The Australian Golf Foundation, in collaboration with Golf Australia is delighted to present the Australian Golf Foundation Junior Girls Scholarship program in 2026. Thanks to the vision of Bonnie Boezeman AO, a director of the Australian Golf Foundation and the generosity of private benefactors and golfing bodies, the program has experienced a 16% increase in participation from 2024 to 2025, offering girls aged 9 to 16 the chance to develop a passion for the game of golf.

The Scholarship program has grown considerably over the past five years, from 37 funded clubs and 226 girls in the inaugural pilot year (2021) to 160 clubs and 1,432 girls in 2025. Our goal for 2026 is to have over 1,500 scholarship holders spread across the country.

This document outlines the key elements of the scholarship program; you will find information regarding:

- Aim and outline of the Program
- Non-Negotiables/ Terms and Conditions
- Timelines

### **AIM OF THE PROGRAM**

Aligning to Australian Golf's strategic plan for women and girls, this program is designed to foster a deep love for golf by creating a strong bond between girls (aged 9-16) and their golf club or facility. By encouraging and supporting junior program participants to continue their golfing journey beyond the introductory phase and to obtain a handicap, this program seeks to reduce dropout rates of teenage girls in golf.

While the primary aim is to retain girls already engaged in golf, the program is also open to newcomers who demonstrate a strong commitment to learning the sport. However, based on previous experience, it is preferred that participants have some previous experience within golf (for example; participated in MyGolf clinics or played golf with family etc.).

Under the guidance of a club PGA professional and/or National Program Deliverer (formerly community instructor), along with the support of the club membership, scholarship holders will have the opportunity to:

- Advance their skills through ongoing coaching.
- Obtain a handicap.
- Play in club competitions.
- Form lifelong golfing friendships with other girls and members.

### **PROGRAM OUTLINE**

The Australian Golf Foundation will provide funding to each of the participating clubs and facilities (\$2,100 + GST) for a minimum of five and maximum of ten (if more than 10 girls in the program, the club or facility will receive double funding). This funding will assist in covering the cost of:

- Twenty-four sessions with a club professional and/or National Program Deliverer
- A shirt and cap with AGF Scholarship identification. Clubs/facilities are encouraged to add their logo and program year to these items at their own cost. A suggestion is that it looks great on one sleeve in white or on the front of the shirt in your club colour. Including the club identity, it makes the girls feel extra proud to be loyal to their own club.

Funding **requires** that each venue provides a **free** one-year junior club membership that carries playing rights, ensuring girls can participate in club competitions and obtain a handicap.

Additionally, venues will also have the option of raising extra funds to further subsidise membership fees, amount of coaching and/or number of girls involved.

## Non-Negotiables

In order for clubs and facilities to receive funding for the 2026 program, they are required to adhere to the below requirements:

- Provide a 12 month free membership to all scholars
- Provide 24 weeks of lessons to the girls across the year
- Girls **must not** pay for their lessons, this is to be supplied by the club or facility for free

## **How to Fundraise for the AGF Junior Girls Scholarship Program**

The **Australian Sports Foundation (ASF)**, with over 30 years of experience in supporting sporting clubs, and organisations in their fundraising efforts, will be joining us at our online information session (invitation to be sent) to share valuable insights on how your club can effectively raise funds for your program. Whether you need resources for new equipment, end-of-term gatherings, or other essential needs, their expertise will help your club raise funds to create the best possible experience for the girls in your program.

## TIMELINES

The 2026 Australian Golf Foundation Junior Girls Scholarship program will start at the beginning of Term 1, 2026.

Item	Date
Application for venues open	22nd August, 2025
Application for venues close	6th November, 2025
Successful venues notified	10th November, 2025
Participant interviews to take place (by the venue)	November/December, 2025
Participants informed of success	Early December, 2025
Participant details to be uploaded to MyGolf platform	December/January, 2025
Shirts/caps posted to venues	Mid January, 2026
Induction ceremonies take place	February, 2026
Program starts by	Mid-February, 2026

## VENUE TERMS & CONDITIONS

- The acceptance of \$2,100 from the Australian Golf Foundation can only be used for the payment of twenty-four sessions of group tuition (scholarship girls only) on a weekly or fortnightly basis with a registered PGA professional and/or qualified National Program Deliverer for a minimum of 1 hour per lesson.
- The scholarship funds must be used in the 2026 calendar year unless there is a clear acceptable reason to delay the program. This delay must be approved Golf Australia with reasonable notification.
- If the total cost of the program at a club/facility exceeds the contribution by the Australian Golf Foundation, the club/facility will supplement the short fall.
- Scholarship venues must report to Golf Australia (format to be forwarded) at both the commencement and end of the funding period.
- Clubs and Facilities must upload their programs and participants onto the MyGolf Platform.



- Clubs or Facilities will not receive payment of the funding until they have met all the non-negotiables that have been previously listed.
- The suggested skill level of girls is that they are ready to progress from clinics to on-course play and obtaining handicaps. We encourage you do not accept raw beginners. The program works best when the girls have had some exposure to golf already.
- The suggested ages for the program are girls from 9 to 16 years old. There are exceptions allowed for girls 7 and 8 if they have already displayed exceptional capabilities for their age.
- The intent of the program is to introduce new girls into your club each year. We understand that due to exceptional circumstances – such as flooding, etc. – that this may require decisions to be made on a case-by-case basis. If you would like to discuss this, please contact us at Golf Australia to talk through your specific circumstances.
- At the conclusion of the program, it is recommended that the club hosts a graduation ceremony, with club members and parents in attendance. This event should congratulate girls on their achievement and encourage them to continue with their membership. Additionally, this is an opportunity to introduce the girls to the Alumni Program, a digital flyer will be distributed to each club to hand out to the girls, providing them with more information on what the program entails.

### **HOW TO APPLY**

Visit <https://www.australiangolffoundation.org.au/junior-girls-scholarship-program>.

### **SELECTION CRITERIA**

The AGF Scholarship Steering Committee is seeking an equitable representation of clubs from all States/Territory and regional/metropolitan. Selection will also be based on a club's capacity to recruit at least five girls and deliver a successful program.

### **Real impact, Real Stories – Case Studies**

This program was born at Killara Golf Club and the case study provides a great overview of the successes that the program can bring to a club that implements and fully supports the program from the top down. You can find this on the Scholarship section of <https://www.australiangolffoundation.org.au/junior-girls-scholarship-program>

### **Connection that counts!**

A positive connection with local schools and the power of the Australian Golf Foundation Girls Scholarship Program are helping to reinvigorate Trafalgar Golf Club in eastern Victoria. The Gippsland club has another batch of AGF scholars engaging in the sport on Saturday afternoons this autumn, having worked wonders in the junior space last year by collaborating with two primary schools in the area.

In particular hundreds of students at Trafalgar Primary School and Yarragon Primary School have had the benefit of the expertise of qualified Community Instructors Stewart Cluning and Di Moody.

The instructor's talent-identified students from those clinics and as a result, five found their way through to the AGF scholarship program at Trafalgar. You can find more details on the article <https://www.golf.org.au/trafalgar->

## **ABOUT THE AUSTRALIAN GOLF FOUNDATION (AGF)**

Australian Golf Foundation is the national fundraising body for golf in Australia.

The Foundation's purpose is to raise funds that support targeted initiatives that benefit the community and inspire and enable more Australians to play more golf.

Visit [www.austliangolffoundation.org.au](https://www.austliangolffoundation.org.au) for further information.