



Royal Oaks Scholarship Golf Athlete Program

Summary

In 2012, Royal Oaks Country Club initiated a new scholarship and mentoring program to benefit the youth of Clark County who exemplify outstanding academic achievement, high school golf athleticism, and community citizenship. The Scholar Golf Athlete Program was developed to honor and encourage area high school golfers by rewarding courtesy membership privileges to Royal Oaks Country Club throughout their time in high school. The program enables student golfers to utilize facilities and resources at Royal Oaks, while helping them to continue to improve their golf game, and further their love of the game of golf.

Scholar golf athletes must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0 throughout their involvement in the program, and participate in High School Golf. Those recipients who go on to play college golf may be eligible to continue to receive courtesy membership privileges with the approval of the NCAA and the student's chosen University or College.

Research & Approval

Royal Oaks member, Mark Curtis, modeled the program and application from a successful program at the Multnomah Athletic Club in Portland, Oregon. Once the program was developed he actively sought out approval from the governing bodies of the game of golf. We wanted to make sure that we were not putting the golfer's amateur status in danger. The programs are supported by the Oregon Golf Association, NCAA and the United States Golf Association. Upon acceptance to a collegiate program, we recommend confirming with the college regarding the status of this type of membership.

Execution of the program

Our goal is to award six scholarships starting their sophomore year and rotating upward (three young men and women). They are allowed to continue the scholarship as long as they are playing on a collegiate golf team and maintaining their grades. The Scholarship committee consists of three members and three staff members to execute the strategy. The Membership Director distributes the application form* to the high school coaches and athletic directors and then the committee reviews the applications and interviews the candidates.

Upon acceptance of the award, the scholarship recipients attend an orientation to help them understand the *Scholarship Handbook*, which outlines the rules and boundaries of the program. Scholar Athletes are also assigned a member sponsor to provide guidance and mentorship. Our membership is excited to have these scholar golfer's as part of Royal Oaks. We have not encountered any significant problems with this program. It has been a success with our membership!

Please feel free to contact Aaren Ziegler McDonald, Membership Director at ROCC, 360-256-1250 or aaren@royaloaks.net