Futures Guide

For working with young people aged 5-18 in golf



Futures Guide November 2021



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Introduction to Futures

Futures is an approach led by Golf New Zealand and in partnership with Districts and Clubs it aims to create **quality experiences** for young people aged 5-18 in golf. Young people are the FUTURE of our game.

Futures aims to provide young people with the motivation, confidence, and skills to play and be active for life, contributing to healthier, happier futures. The approach empowers young people to learn at their own pace, meet new friends and provides opportunities for young people and families to play together.





Our Vision:

Enriching the lives of young people by creating experiences that inspire a lifelong love of golf

Our Daily Mission:

To grow the love of golf and inspire participation

Our Goals:

- Change the perception and grow the positive profile of golf as a sport for young people and families
- Create opportunities for young people to participate either recreationally or competitively in a way that meets their level of aspiration
- Empower young people to play their version of golf
- Provide a nationwide network of facilities that are welcoming and safe with a club culture that caters for young people and families
- Develop a skilled and passionate workforce of coaches, administrators and volunteers who understand the wants and needs of young people
- Lead, invest and align partnerships





How does Futures work?

Futures provides both structure and flexibility for golf clubs of any size to create **quality experiences** for young people in golf.

Golf New Zealand are working in partnership with clubs to create quality experiences for young people in the local club environment. The six key club focus areas are:

- Creating a safe, welcoming and friendly environment for young people
- Affordable membership options for young people and families
- Beginner friendly on-course experiences
- Positive coaching experiences
- Regular playing opportunities for all levels of ability
- People who are invested in the outcomes of young people

Download the <u>Futures Club Action Plan</u> template to support your club's journey towards providing quality experiences for young people.

Golf New Zealand are also working in partnership with districts to create quality experiences for young people across their region.



What does creating quality experiences look like?



Creating a safe, welcoming and friendly environment for young people

e.g.

- A safeguarding culture is in place
- Up-to-date safeguarding and child protection policies are in place
- Safer recruitment procedures are in place including safety checks for anyone working with young people i.e., police vetting
- Dress code that enables young people to wear comfortable sportswear
- Visibility within the club environment and achievements shared and celebrated
- Wider membership is supportive of young people
- Support to overcome any barriers, financial, equipment or other
- Regular communications about opportunities to get started and play in events



Affordable membership options for young people and families

- e.g.
- Parent memberships, parent-child offers, family memberships
- Memberships that are inclusive of organised playing opportunities and coaching
- Multi-course/reciprocal rights offerings
- Pay for play events



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Beginner friendly on-course experiences

e.g.

- Forward tees for young people and parents to learn and play together
- Tee times for young people and families
- Options to play fewer holes such as a 3 or 6-hole loop
- Promote the It's OKAY Rules for beginners
- Provide areas for free play and access to practice facilities
- Provide suitable equipment options to support young people to get started in the game



Positive coaching experiences

e.g.

- Promote a games-based approach to learning and playing
- Give young people time, space and permission to just play themselves
- Stage appropriate learn and play sessions / coaching
- Provide opportunities that meet young people's social and emotional needs e.g., girls only opportunities
- Growth in coaching teams to ensure the appropriate level of coaching is provided to young people at different stages
- Provide coach development opportunities to coaches and volunteers





Regular playing opportunities for all levels of ability

e.g.

- Calendar of events at your club/hub that caters to all levels of ability
- Introductory experiences for beginners such as festivals of golf or activations in local parks and spaces
- A variety of playing formats such as team golf, family team golf, 6/9/18 hole formats, or twilight
- Opportunities for aspiring youth to play with people of older ages and in adult events and competitions



People who are invested in the outcomes of young people

e.g.

- A futures coordinator (that has the full support from those with authority at the club) will have responsibility for young people within their golf club
- Volunteers supporting the Futures coordinator
- Futures is part of the strategic plan
- Young people are given the opportunity to share their voice on matters that affect them





How does our club align our coaching with Futures?

Futures has **five development stages** to inspire young people to develop a lifelong love of the game and to support them to learn at their own pace. Each stage has offerings for coaching, playing formats, events and experiences that are appropriate to the stage of development.

Learn and Play (Coaching) sessions of appropriate stage groupings can be guided by a PGA Professional, Futures Coach or Volunteer.

Stage	Who	Voice of Participant	Participant Profile	Learn	Play	Philosophy	Resources
Explore (Chippers)	Players who are new to golf Approx. age 5- 12 years	'I'm just getting started" "I love having fun"	No handicap Playing from the fairway distance markers or forward tees Playing 1-6 holes on a shortened course Parental support required on course	6-8 week term coaching programme	Team Golf Family Team Golf Futures 6 Casual Family Play	<u>Principles of play</u> <u>It's OK Rules for</u> <u>Beginners</u>	Futures Coaches Game_CardsExample Chippers 8 Week Season and TemplatesChippers Season Guide



Stage	Who	Voice of Participant	Participant Profile	Learn	Play	Philosophy	Resources
Learn (Crushers)	Players who are developing their skills and confidence Approx. age 7-12 years	"I enjoy playing with other kids" "I need help from mum or dad on course"	Working towards or has an official handicap of 54 or less Playing from the forward tees Parental support on course	6-8 week term coaching programme	Futures 6, 9 Team Golf Family Team Golf Casual family Play	<u>Games-based learning</u> <u>Be Supportive</u>	<u>Futures Coaches</u> <u>Game Cards</u> <u>Crushers Season</u> <u>Guide</u>
Participate and Develop (Young Masters)	Players who love the game and the opportunities Approx. age 12+ years	"I want to play a variety of courses" "I'm learning to understand the rules and different formats" "I'm being more independent out on course"	Handicap likely to be less than 36Ability to play unaccompaniedAble to play from multiple tee optionsLearning to score more consistentlyDeveloping knowledge with rules, etiquette and course management	6-8 week term coaching programme Futures Development Days	Futures 9, 18 Futures Twilight Secondary School Events Junior Interclub Casual Play	Games-based learning How to coach with a Balance is Better philosophy	<u>Young Masters</u> <u>Games Kit</u>



Stage	Who	Voice of Participant	Participant Profile	Learn	Play	Philosophy	Resources
Social and recreational (Youth)	Players who want to play recreationally Age 13-18 years	"I want to play without focusing too much on the score" "I enjoy playing golf with mates"	Enjoys the social interaction and personal challenge May or may not have an official handicap	Coaching support offered at events	Futures Youth Activations Futures Twilight Futures 6, 9, 18 Secondary School Events Casual Play Other facilities	Games-based learning Balance is Better: What does sport look like in a non- traditional format	
Develop and perform (Youth)	Players who are aspiring to be the best they can be Age 13-18 years	"I enjoy playing tournaments and want to improve my performance" "I like that the opponent is not the person, but the golf course" "I like variety in coaching sessions learning on the practice range and the golf course"	Consistent scoring on a variety of courses Open to learning new skills to improve performance Understands the benefits of reflecting on performance	 6-8 week term coaching programme May seek out individual coaching to support development needs Futures Development Day s District development sessions focused on skill development and effective practice 	Futures 9, 18Secondary School EventsFutures OpenInterclubDistrict Age Group ChampionshipsNational Age Group Championships	Games-based learning Why Golf NZ aligns with Balance is Better District Talent Development	<u>Young Masters</u> <u>Games Kit</u>





What are the Futures targeted initiatives?

Futures targeted initiatives were established to cater to the needs of young people that are currently underrepresented in golf. These initiatives are designed to provide experiences that are specifically tailored, by providing either a girls-only environment or an exclusive participation opportunity for disabled young people. This will enable young people to choose to engage with golf in a way that suits them.

Targeted Group	Who	Voice of Participant	Participant Profile	Learn	Play	Philosophy	Resources
Futures Girls	Girls only Approx. age 8-13 Approx. age 14-18	"It's fun when I play with friends" "I want to play without having to worry about scores"	May want girls only for social and emotional reasons No handicap/working towards or has an official handicap of 54 or less Playing from the forward tees	6-8 week term coaching programme School holiday programme	Girls only events/meet ups Futures Team Golf Futures 6, 9 Other facilities	Games-based learning Sport NZ Young Women Profile Golf NZ Women and Girls Strategy – Our Ambition	<u>Futures</u> <u>Coaches Game</u> <u>Cards</u>
Futures All Abilities	Young disabled people looking to build confidence, meet new friends and learn with others who have similar impairments	"I like how I meet other people through golf" "I love to hit off the driving range" "I need to have a playing partner when I play"	May require additional assistance (e.g., a support person, adaptive equipment, assisted devices, sighted guide, etc.) Playing from the fairway distance markers or forward tees Playing fewer holes	Exclusive 6-8 week Futures All Abilities term coaching programme Transition to Futures programme	Halberg Games Special Olympics Events All Abilities Events Futures events Casual Play Other facilities	Games-based <u>learning</u> with adaptive games STEP Approach <u>Understanding</u> <u>Disability Toolkit</u>	<u>Futures</u> <u>Coaches Game</u> <u>Cards</u>





How does our club align our playing experiences with Futures?

Futures offers a menu of playing opportunities that cater to young people of all ages and abilities and regardless of what their motivations or aspirations are in golf. Each experience aims to support young people to build their confidence and develop their skills.

Create regular playing opportunities for young people and empower them to choose the experience that best meets their needs.

Type of Experience	What is it	Equipment/Course Set Up	How it works	Resources
HAVE-A-GO				
Futures Festival of Golf (Club/Hub)	A family-friendly event run at a golf club that celebrates young people in golf	SNAG/Golphin equipment Hoops, cones, targets etc. Inflatable targets Flat space for set up of games Short course loop	2 hours A series of golf-related games and activities and off-course entertainment options	<u>Futures Festival of Golf</u> <u>Guide</u>
Futures Pop-Up Golf (Club/Hub)	A pop-up event in local parks to engage the community and encourage young people to try golf	SNAG equipment Hoops, cones, targets etc. Flat space for set up of games	2 hours A series of golf-related games and activities	<u>Futures Pop-Up Golf</u> <u>Guide</u>
Futures Have-a-go Day (Club/Hub)	A beginner friendly session for young people to give golf a go and find out next steps to get involved at the club	SNAG/Golphin equipment Hoops, cones, targets etc. Flat space for set up of games	1-2 hours A series of golf-related games and activities	
Futures Youth Activations (Club/Hub)	An activation of spaces (e.g., driving range, mini putt facilities) and/or places (e.g., pop ups in popular places) to engage youth in golf	Golphin/Junior equipment Targets	1-2 hours Challenges such as longest drive or closest to pin, chipping and putting challenges, pitch 'n' putt, mini putt circuits etc.	



Type of Experience	What is it	Equipment/Course set up	How it works	Resources			
TEAM PLAY							
Futures Family Team Golf (Club/Hub)	A beginner-friendly team format of golf that encourages families to play together	Short course <1,000m Golphin equipment/junior golf clubs	60-90mins 1-6 holes 4 ball Ambrose It's OK Rules	<u>Futures Family Team Golf</u> <u>Guide</u>			
Futures Team Golf 6 (Club/Hub/District)	A beginner-friendly team format of golf that encourages young people to play together	Short course <1,000m Golphin equipment/junior golf clubs	60-90mins 1-6 holes Ambrose/Rotate Golf Playing Formats It's OK Rules Social connection Fun prizes Parents involved as caddies	<u>Futures Team Golf Guide</u>			
Futures Team Golf 9 (Club/Hub)	A team format of golf that encourages young people to play together with on-course challenges, and played in a variety of formats	Course length 1,250-2472m	2 hours 9 holes On-course challenges Variety of formats Social connection Fun prizes				
Futures Team Golf 18 (Club/Hub)	A team format of golf that encourages young people to play together with mystery formats	Course length 2,500-5,000m	3-4 hours 18 holes Social connection Fun prizes Mystery formats				



Type of Experience	What is it	Equipment/Course set up	How it works	Resources				
INDIVIDUAL PLAY	INDIVIDUALPLAY							
Futures 6-hole (Club/Hub)	A beginner-friendly format of individual play	Short course <1,000m	60-90mins 1-6 holes It's OK Rules	It's OK Rules for Beginners				
Futures 9-hole (Club/Hub)	An individual event played over 9- holes	Course length 1,000-2,500m	2 hours 9 holes On-course challenges	<u>A Guide to Stableford</u>				
Futures 18-hole (Club/Hub)	An individual event played over 18- holes	Course length 2,742-5,200m	3-4 hours 18 holes Stableford competition allows for inclusive and equitable play					
Futures Twilight (Club/Hub/District)	Tee times for young people through an organised event after school	Appropriate tees for age and stage	1-2 hours 3-9 holes	Futures Twilight Guide				
Futures Open (Hub/District)	An event for young golfers with a handicap who wish to challenge their golf game and build their competition experience.	Course length 5,200 – 5,800m for <10 handicap Course length 5,000-5,200m for <24 handicap	4 hours 18-hole Goss, nett and stableford Can include Futures 9 & 18-hole events for larger field size.	Futures Open Guide				



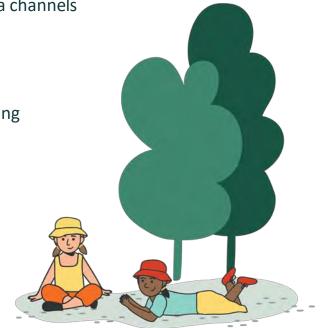
Type of Experience	What is it	Equipment/Course Set Up	How it works	Resources		
ALIGNED EVENTS						
Futures Pro Am (Club)	A team event where 18-24 young people team up to play with 6-8 golf professionals / top amateurs. Run in conjunction with Charles Tour Events and other.	Course length 1,000-2,500m	60-90 mins 5-6 holes Young people aged 16 and under with a max handicap of 40 may register to play in the Futures Pro Am.	<u>Futures Pro Am Guide</u>		
District Age Group (District)	A performance focused event for young aspiring golfers to compete and test skills against their peers; and to provide a more participation focused event for those new to competitive golf.	Course length 5,200-5,800m for U19 and U16 in Age Group Champs <5,200m course length for U13 in Age Group Champs or U19 playing Futures 18 event	Age Group Champs – either 18 holes over one day OR 36 holes over two days. Futures 18	<u>District Age Group</u> <u>Events Guide</u>		
DEVELOPMENT EXPERIEN	DEVELOPMENT EXPERIENCES					
Futures Development Day (District)	District cluster coaching to motivate, encourage, and build confidence and competency in young golfers who desire to develop their skills and challenge their golf game.		Half day of games-based coaching and skill development for junior members of a golf club	<u>Futures</u> <u>Development Day Guide</u>		





What support can Golf New Zealand provide?

- Support to create a calendar of events using Futures playing formats and event series
- Practical resources, best-practice guidance, and personalized support for administrators
- Practical resources for PGA professionals and coaches such as games cards, skill challenges, activity cards etc.
- Education modules and development opportunities for administrators, coaches, and volunteers
- Promotion through our centralized platform golf.co.nz and Golf New Zealand and LOVE Golf social media channels
- Futures branding including a suite of logos and images
- Professionally designed marketing resources such as posters, certificates, registration brochures etc.
- Communication to your local community through Golf New Zealand database and personalized messaging
- Investment and funding support
- Connection and leverage to Golf New Zealand commercial partners to unlock local funding
- Prize giveaways and access to apparel at cost
- Opportunities to receive equipment such as SNAG and Golphin gear at partner rates
- Access to community of practice for sharing and learning





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How does our club get started with Futures?

1. Facebook Group:

Join the LOVE Golf Futures Community | Facebook

2. E-Learning:

Complete the Futures Modules on <u>Golf Tutor</u>



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LOVE Golf Futures Community



3. Futures Club Action Plan:

Download the <u>Futures Club Action Plan</u>, baseline current state at your club, and outline some action steps in the six key club focus areas

4. Volunteer Coach Development:

If your club relies on volunteers for coaching, contact <u>liz.mckinnon@golfnz.org</u> to learn more about the support Golf New Zealand can provide.

Futures Coach workshops can support volunteers to have the skills, confidence and knowledge to deliver great Learn and Play sessions that have the juniors coming back each week and getting better.

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e.g. girls only opportunities.	
Promote development opportunities To be explored.	
for coaches/volunteers i.e. Futures Coach modules,	
Calendar of events at the club that June and July calendars are finalised.	
caters to all levels of ability.	_
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golf.co.nz/futures website. NA NA	
A futures coordinator (that has the full	
support from those with authority at the club) will have responsibility for	
young people within their golf club.	
are invested Volunteers supporting the Futures Ambrose tournament has 23 kids with 16 parents. As we build the revised coaching plan looking at building	35
coordinator,	- 23
Young people are engaged and given To be explored.	-
to use people are engaged and given to be a service on the service of the service	
matters that affect them.	

Example Futures Club Action Plan: TeNgutu Golf Club



5. Set up Futures at your club

Depending on the capacity and capability of your club this could include:

Regular coaching that is game-based (led by volunteers or PGA Professionals) → Use the <u>Futures Coaches Game Cards</u>

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- Regular on-course playing experiences Refer to the Futures Experiences (Pg.18-21)
- A 6-8 week Futures Term Programme Check out the <u>Season Planning Templates</u>
- Collaboration with other golf clubs to take turns hosting events for young people



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"The Mount used to have a lot of juniors in the late 2000's but then a significant drop off and a lost generation of future players occurred for various reasons. With the good work of our pro shop and a close connection with Golf New Zealand, the club has embraced the 'Futures' concept and once again has a lot of activity in the junior ranks."

> Michael Williams General Manager, Mt Maunganui Golf Club





Links to Additional Guidance, Tools and Resources

Futures Brand and Marketing Information	
Marketing	Promotion
Futures Brand Guidelines	Uploading an event/programme to golf.co.nz

Futures Event Information				
elivery				
's OK Rules for Beginners				
utures Activity Signs				
<u>utures Activity Cards</u>				
utures Double Activity Cards				
eam Golf 6 Scorecard				
utures Certificates Blank				
utures Feedback Cards				



Futures Parent	
Resources	E-Learning
Parent and Supporter Information	Golf Tutor: Futures Parent Module
Parent Information Session – Kick Start the Season	

Futures Coach		
Resources	E-Learning	
Golf Seasons Structure	Golf Tutor: Futures Coach Module	
Futures Coaches Games Cards		
Futures At Home Challenge Cards		
Futures Challenge Cards		
Chippers Putting Challenge Cards		
Crushers/Young Masters Putting Challenge Cards		



Futures Club		
Resources	E-Learning	
Futures Club Action Plan	Golf Tutor: Futures Club Module	
Futures Voices: Listening to the Voice of Young People	Golf Tutor: Safeguarding and Child Protection Modules	
Futures Player Registration Form	Golf NZ Resource Centre: Safeguarding and Child Protection Guidance and Resources	
Guidelines for setting up Junior/shorter courses		
SNAG Equipment Pricing		
Golphin Junior Equipment Price List		
Golphin My First Rental Set Agreement		
<u>Futures Apparel (password 'futures')</u>		
Additional Information and Insights		
Impact and Insights	Balance is Better	
Futures Impact Report	Balance is Better Website	
Golf for Life Insights: Children Profile	Why Golf New Zealand aligns with Balance is Better	
Golf for Life Insights: Youth Profile		

