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SUMMARY OF CHANGES FOR 2017:

The following points outline the changes to the National Orders of Merit (Junior and Amateur) that the Order of Merit Review Committee has approved following a BETA test in the summer of 2016.

Revised Tournament Listings for Junior Boys/Girls and Men/Women:

- Elite and WAGR ranked (Category A, B, C) events now have a much higher starting point value
- Adjustments were made to the weighting of counting events to more accurately match up with the quality of the event and strength & depth of field
- Corrected any disparity existing within the tournament listing and associated point values
- Addition & deletion of specific counting events

The number of counting events has been reduced:

- **Men's / Women's** - the number of counting events will be reduced from **12 to 10**
Players can still play as many events as they want but only their top 10 results will count for Amateur Order of Merit points.
- **Junior Boys / Junior Girls** – the number of counting events will be reduced from **12 to 8**
Players can still play as many events as they want but only their top 8 results will count for Junior Order of Merit points.
- The number of counting events has been reduced for the following reasons:
 - To reduce 'point chasing' behaviours and encourage a better periodization ratio that better aligns with Long-Term Player Development (LTPD). This is being done to promote a better amount of training vs. competition based on an athlete's age and stage of development.
 - To allow more players across the country to meet the cap on counting events, especially in the Prairies and Atlantic Canada where there are not as many counting events.

The Order of Merit point breakdown will now be "tiered" based on the size of field:

- Seven (7) tiers of point allocation grids will be as follows:
 - 81+ participants
 - 61-80 participants
 - 46-60 participants
 - 33-45 participants
 - 21-32 participants
 - 11-20 participants
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- 10 & under participants
- There are separate grids for Match Play events.

The Men's and Women's Orders of Merit will no longer have any Junior counting events regardless of WAGR ranking:

- The Order of Merit Review Committee felt that it was important to compare 'apples to apples' on the Amateur Orders of Merit so it was recommended not to have junior events listed on the Amateur Order of Merit so as not to disadvantage players who are 19+.
- Similarly, juvenile events (eg. standalone provincial juvenile championships) will no longer count towards the Future Links, *driven by Acura* Junior Order of Merit.

Other changes to the Order of Merit include:

- For domestic Canadian events to count toward the National Orders of Merit they must meet pre-determined tournament standards that have been developed and circulated by Golf Canada (eg. number of certified rules official on site, suggested course set-up that matches LTPD standards, etc.).
- There will be a standalone Tournament Standards document posted within the National Order of Merit section of the Golf Canada website.
- Limitations on number of AJGA Open events, CJGA, and MJT counting events will be removed, however, they must be 36, 54, or 72 hole events to count for points unless otherwise stated on the tournament listing document.
- Any counting events shortened due to inclement weather will still count for points.
- The size of field clause has been removed from MJT and CJGA events. The new event weighting and corresponding "tiered" point breakdown based on size of field should negate the need to have these limitations in place going forward.

The above changes will all be retroactive to 2017 National Order of Merit rankings that started September 1, 2016.

Further tweaks and adjustments to the National Orders of Merit will be made on an annual basis during the off-season (following August 31st each season).

Canadian Golf National Order of Merit:

The National Amateur Orders of Merit (along with the Future Links driven by Acura Junior Orders of Merit) are used to identify and give recognition to top-performing amateur and junior golfers across Canada who have achieved success in the golf season. The National Orders of Merit are based on those tournaments that represent an extremely high standard of competition. A point



system is used based on tournament scores and results of the players in the approved tournaments to objectively rank performance. The goal of the National Orders of Merit is to provide an objective national comparison and ranking system for Canada's top male and female amateur players that will enable players to compare themselves to their counterparts across Canada. Golf Canada also uses the National Order of Merit to assist with the Team Canada player selection and International event player selection process.
