



PGA
Metropolitan Section

Junior Tour

**2017 Metropolitan PGA
Junior Tour
Membership Handbook
Policies & Procedures**

Sponsored By:



Met PGA Junior Tour Conduct Policy

Proper course etiquette and sportsmanship is extremely important and will be strictly enforced. The Met PGA Staff works hard to find courses willing to host junior events. By taking care of the course, we stand a better chance of a return visit. Players are expected to behave in accordance with the rules prescribed by the Met PGA Junior Tour.

As a member of the Metropolitan PGA Junior Golf Tour, it is your responsibility to abide by and respect the following:

- *Players are responsible for protecting the integrity of The Tour, and should refuse to sign any scorecard that he/she believes to be inaccurate and should speak to a tournament official immediately if this occurs. Players should be aware that under Rule Decision 1-3/6, it states that a player who knowingly signs an incorrect scorecard is also subject to disqualification.*
- *Players are required to: replace divots, repair ball marks, rake bunkers, and properly dispose of trash. There will be ZERO TOLERANCE! It is imperative to remember that we are guests of these clubs and lack of respect for the golf course will not be tolerated.*
- *Players must not display unsportsmanlike conduct, including but not limited to abusive language, cheating, disrespect to volunteers, officials or fellow competitors, and throwing clubs.*
- *Players must not display improper behavior on the golf course such as physical abuse, smoking, chewing tobacco, drinking alcohol, using illegal drugs etc.*
- *Players should leave the golf course in better shape than you found it!*
- ***Players should always take time out to write a thank you note to the course/host Professional in order to be invited back***

For those who do not abide by the rules above the following 3 strike policy has been put into affect:

- ⇒ First offense: You are disqualified from the tournament where you had the offense, The Met PGA staff contacts your PGA professional to make them aware of the situation, and you are put under probation where a staff member will follow you at future tournaments. *
- ⇒ Second offense: You are disqualified from the tournament where you had the offense and suspended from the Tour for two weeks. The probationary period will continue when your suspension is lifted.*
- ⇒ Third offense: You are expelled from the Junior Tour and disqualified from Player of the Year points and special honors that go along with them.

***Please note the severity of the offense may result in stricter reprimand.**



PGA

Metropolitan Section

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Kaitlin Sabbagh, Player Development Manager
Jeff Voorheis, Executive Director
Dan Kiley, Tournament Director
Kevin Rodine, Assistant Tournament Director
Paul Giordano Jr., Communications Manager
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WHO IS ELIGIBLE

The Metropolitan PGA Junior Tour is open to all boys and girls ages 7-18 who reside in or are members of a golf course within the Metropolitan Section. Members who have graduated high school may only play the season directly following high school graduation. Regardless of graduation date, a junior golfer may not play in an event if he or she has reached their 19th birthday. Any junior who has started college courses is not eligible to play in events. Members may compete in a championship event as long as they have not reached their 19th birthday on the last day of the championship. The Metropolitan Section includes Long Island, New York City, Westchester County, Rockland County, Sullivan County, Putnam County, Orange County, Southern Dutchess County, Southern Ulster County, and Fairfield County (south of Danbury and Bridgeport). All members must have completed the 2017 Membership Process including the annual online rules quiz to register for tournaments. If you were not a member in 2016, the PGA Professional Certification form must also be received before you will be considered an active member. All players must be able to carry their own clubs for 18 holes except for those in the 9 Hole Division who may use pull carts at courses where permitted.

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

All members receive the following:

- Tournament and championship opportunities at courses throughout the Metropolitan Section
- Access to 2017 Met PGA Junior Golf Special Events
- Access to the Junior Tour Player's Club via personal username and password
- A USGA GHIN number for handicapping purposes. (If the member does not already have one, and is 12 years of age or older)
- 2017 Membership Bag Tag
- USGA Rules of Golf Book
- Met PGA Divot Repair Tool
- Met PGA Junior Tour/ EY Hat
- Discounted entry into Future Series events for those between the ages of 12-18 with a handicap of 10 or below for boys and 15 or below for girls

MEMBERSHIP TIMELINE

April 21	Deadline to sign Up for 2017 Membership (\$90)
May 12	Complete and pass the 2017 Rules Quiz in Player's Club Tournaments will be open for selection through your Player's Club Account (you must have completed the entire membership process by this date for access to the selection process)
May 22	Tournament Selection Deadline
June 2	Juniors will receive online confirmation of their tournaments and will be charged no later than this date.
June 23	Start of the Season
August 31	End of the Season
October 9	Awards Ceremony*

*Date subject to change

ABOUT THE TOURNAMENTS

All regular season tournaments are stroke play and are conducted in accordance with the USGA Rules of Golf, the rules and regulations of the Met PGA Junior Tour, and the host clubs. The Junior Tour will permit the use of rangefinders, however, caddies are NOT allowed at events. A player may obtain distance information by using a device that measures distance only. If during a stipulated round, a player uses a distance-measuring device that is designed to gauge or measure other conditions that might affect his play (e.g., gradient, wind-speed, temperature, etc.), regardless of whether any such additional functions are actually used, the player is in breach of Rule 14-3, for which the penalty is disqualification.

Met PGA Junior Tour Westchester and Long Island tournaments are one-day events for players 12-18 years old. 9 Hole tournaments are one-day events for boys 7-14 years of age and girls 7-18 electing to play 9 holes. All juniors 7-11 must be in the 9 hole division. Championship events are generally two-day events for both the boys 15-18 year old division and girls 18 hole division (one day for everyone else) and will be listed in that manner on the website.

All 18-hole Met PGA Junior Tour events are \$50 per entry and 9-hole events are \$35 per entry. All Championships, including the Junior Classic, New York City Championship, 9 Hole Championship, the Tour Championship the Met PGA Junior PGA Championship, the Match Play Championship, and the Tommy Kuhn Cup have a \$60 entry fee for those playing 18 holes and \$50 for those playing 9 holes.

HOW DO I ENTER THE TOURNAMENTS?

Our goal for 2017 is to continue providing equal playing opportunities for our members. On May 12, the 2017 tournaments will be open for selection through your Player's Club Account using your ID and password on our website at www.metpgajuniorgolf.com. All tournament selections will be accepted until the stated deadline, May 22 at 12pm and will not be processed until after this date. Selections will NOT be processed on a first-come, first-serve basis. When doing your online tournament selection, members will be able to make 9 tournament selections and also be able to assign Preference Stickers for each event. At that time, members will be asked to supply a credit card number that will not be charged until they are selected for their events (on or before June 2). For the events that you do not get into, you will be placed on the Waiting List. Registration for championships also begins May 12 and are not considered to be part of your 9 selections. The average number of tournaments each member gets into is 5 plus Championships. Tournament fields will be determined by the Met PGA Tournament Committee. By June 2, members will be informed of the tournaments that they have been accepted to by email.

With over 1,300 members in our program we believe that this tournament allocation system provides the best opportunity for our members to get equal playing opportunities while allowing them to select tournaments around their summer schedule.

STANDBY POLICY

Any member can go to an event without being a confirmed participant of that event as a standby (as long as they meet age eligibilities for that event). The standby list will be first come - first serve by age division, and the junior must sign in with a Metropolitan PGA Staff member. Any names submitted to the club staff will NOT be valid. Standbys are only allowed to play with their own age division and cannot play in the place of someone in a different age division. Example: If you are 13 years old and there is a no show in the 15-18 division, you will not be allowed to play in that spot. The tournament fee for standbys is \$55 for juniors playing 18 holes, \$40 for juniors playing 9 holes, \$65 for those playing 18 holes in all Championships, and \$55 for those playing 9 holes in championships. Standbys must be pay by check or credit card on-site the day of the event. NO CASH WILL BE ACCEPTED. There are NO guarantees that any or all standbys will be able to play.

CANCELLATION/WITHDRAWAL POLICY

If you find that you are unable to participate in an event that you have entered, you must cancel the event online through your Players Club account and **NOT** by calling the office! Cancellations should be done at least two business days before the event. In the case of emergencies players will be able to cancel up until 9am the day of an event to avoid being listed as a No Show. If you fail to notify the Met PGA of a cancellation, you are subject to a loss of playing privileges listed below under "No Show Policy" THERE WILL BE NO REFUNDS GIVEN FOR CANCELLATIONS PAST THE CANCELLATION DEADLINE ON JUNE 9.

NO SHOW POLICY

The Met PGA Junior Tour cancellation/withdrawal policy enables the staff to replenish the tournament field. A "no show" takes away a playing opportunity for another Met PGA Junior Tour member. Therefore, the first time a player does not show up to an event without canceling, he/she will receive a warning from the Met PGA office. If a member "no shows" a second time, playing privileges are subject to suspension for the rest of the season. No refunds will be given if a member is disqualified or suspended from tournament play.

DRESS POLICY FOR JUNIORS & PARENTS

The following dress code must be observed: Appropriate attire for boys is a collared golf shirt, pants or long shorts, and golf shoes or sneakers. Appropriate dress for girls is a collared golf shirt, pants or long shorts/ skirts, and golf shoes or sneakers. No MOCK NECKS OR CARGO SHORTS, jeans, tank tops, sweat suits, T-shirts, gym/mesh shorts, bicycle shorts, halter-tops, midriffs, or short shorts/skirts will be tolerated. Girls' shorts/skirts MUST be no shorter than 4 inches above the knee. All shirts must be tucked in. No hats are to be worn backwards and should be taken off when entering the clubhouse. The use of cell phones, iPods/mp3 players is not permitted during a stipulated round unless it is for scoring purposes. Golf shoes must have soft spikes. It is important that children, as well as adults, dress appropriately at all times. **Players and parents who do not abide by the dress code will be asked to leave club premises.**

AGE DIVISIONS & POINT SYSTEM

Metropolitan PGA Junior Tour members ages 12-18, playing 18 holes, compete for Player of the Year within their own age and gender divisions throughout the summer via points system. Members must play in their own age divisions. The 9 Hole Division is meant to be a non-competitive, learning stage; therefore, points are not awarded. Points are awarded for participation in most Metropolitan PGA Junior Tournaments, and a member must participate in a minimum of four STROKE PLAY tournaments to be eligible for the Player of the Year. Your points are an average your top five point earning events and if you play in less than five it will be a strict average - your total points divided by the number of events you played. For example, if you played in ten events only your top five point earning finishes would be averaged the others are not used. If you only play in four events those will be averaged normally. Any ties in the Player of the Year race will be awarded as such and will not be broken. At the conclusion of the tournament season, the top three junior golfers within each age division will be recognized as Players of the Year for the 2017 tournament season. In championship events, the two tours are combined and points will be awarded based only on age groups regardless of the tour you play on.

Note: *If a member has a birthday during the season that would cause a change in age division, read the following rule: Members will play in the age division based on their age as of July 31, 2017. If a player would like to request to play in a higher age division, they can make their request to our Junior Golf Committee.*

AGE DIVISIONS	
Boys 7-11– 9 Holes	Girls 7-11– 9 Holes
Boys 12-14 -9 Holes	Girls 12-18 -9 Holes
Boys 12-14 -18 Holes	Girls 12-18 -18 Holes
Boys 15-18– 18 Holes	

Boys & Girls Regular Tournament Point Distribution	
First Place.....	1000
Second Place.....	500
Third Place.....	400
Fourth Place.....	200
Fifth Place.....	175
Sixth Place.....	150
Seventh Place.....	125
Eighth Place.....	100
Ninth Place.....	75
Tenth Place.....	50

There must be at least two players in an age division to constitute an event.

Girls Championship Point Distribution	
First Place.....	2000
Second Place.....	1000
Third Place.....	800
Fourth Place.....	400
Fifth Place.....	350
Sixth Place.....	300
Seventh Place.....	250
Eighth Place.....	200
Ninth Place.....	150
Tenth Place.....	100

There must be at least two players in an age division to constitute an event.

BOYS CHAMPIONSHIP POINT DISTRIBUTION

Due to the size of the field and the competitive nature of our boys Championships finishes are worth 4x the regular season points and points will be awarded to the top 25 finishers.

1	4000	10	200	19	70
2	2000	11	175	20	60
3	1600	12	150	21	50
4	800	13	125	22	40
5	700	14	100	23	30
6	600	15	95	24	20
7	500	16	90	25	10
8	400	17	85		
9	300	18	80		

PACE OF PLAY GUIDELINES

The Metropolitan PGA does not condone slow play. It is inexcusable to play 18 holes in over 4 1/2 hours. According to Rule 6-7, The player must play without undue delay and in accordance with any pace of play guidelines that the Committee may establish. Between completion of a hole and playing from the next teeing ground, the player must not unduly delay play. Therefore, the following guidelines will be enforced:

- The maximum amount of time groups need to play a hole are as follows:
Par 3: 13 minutes
Par 4: 14 minutes
Par 5: 15 minutes
- A group will be considered out of position if at any time during the round they exceed the time allotted to play a hole.
- Groups will also be considered out of position if a par 3 or par 4 is open ahead of them, or when the group ahead of them is on the putting green on a par 5 .
- When a group is out of position, a warning may be issued and the group will be encouraged to get back into position. If the group remains out of position, all individuals in the group will be put on the clock and timed on each shot.
- The timing of a player's stroke will begin when it is his/her turn to play and he/she can play without interference or distraction. A player is allowed up to 40-seconds to play a stroke. If a player exceeds the 40-second time limit on two consecutive occasions, they will receive a one-stroke penalty. If a player exceeds 40-seconds on three consecutive occasions, they will be penalized two additional strokes. A fourth consecutive occasion will result in the player being disqualified.
- Once a group has regained their proper position, all timing shall cease and all/ any bad time shall be void.

What to Expect the Day of a Tournament

WHAT SHOULD I HAVE WITH ME?

All of the regular things you would bring to play a round of golf such as your clubs, golf bag, golf shoes, tees, balls, ball marker, divot repair tool, sunscreen etc. Please note not every club will have a snack bar available. Please be sure to bring adequate food and drink supplies with you. It is also important to make sure juniors have some basic medical supplies on them that they might need. Frequently requested items include Band-Aids, sports tape, Advil, stomach medication etc. The Met PGA staff will have most of these things available but it may be more beneficial to have these items accessible at arms length.

WHEN TO ARRIVE

All players should arrive at a tournament at least 30 minutes prior to their starting time. Any player not checked in within 15 minutes of their starting time may be considered a no show and is subject to lose their original starting time. Please note all players should arrive at least 45 minutes early for a shotgun start.

WHAT TO DO

As soon as you arrive at the tournament you must check in with a Met PGA staff member at the Registration Table. Your starting time will be confirmed and you will be directed to the practice facilities available. Players are responsible for being at the tee 10 minutes prior to their starting time. It is NOT the responsibility of the Met PGA to make sure competitors are at their starting point on time. Any player who is late to the tee will be subject to penalty and/ or disqualification under the USGA Rules of Golf.

AT THE TEE

1. Please check the number of golf clubs in your bag- maximum is 14.
2. Please place an identifying mark on ball with a Sharpie marker.
3. Pace of Play: 15 Minutes maximum per hole.
4. Please be to the tee 10 minutes prior to your starting time.
5. If at anytime you are unsure of a rule, or doubt as to how to proceed please follow Rule 3-3.

Players will receive their official scorecards and additional Local Rules on the first tee. Each player will be responsible for keeping a fellow competitor's score, as well as their own. Players are highly encouraged to keep score for the rest of the members of their group as well. Players will be responsible for complete knowledge of the Rules of Golf and any Local Rules. Players are required to carry their own clubs, and are not permitted to use motorized carts, pull carts, or employ caddies at any time, unless otherwise specified.

AFTER I TEE OFF

Parents are encouraged to drop their kids off at the tournament sites and return shortly before they finish their round. **THERE ARE NO SPECTATORS ALLOWED ON THE GOLF COURSE!** An average 18 hole round takes 4:30-5 hours (2:30 for 9 holes).

SCORING PROCEDURES

The following guidelines have been established by the Met PGA to help ensure fairness to all Junior Tour competitors:

- All players should keep score for all competitors in their group.
- All players should keep a record of their own scores.
- All players must immediately sign and return their scorecards to Met PGA officials in the designated Scoring Area.
- After being dismissed from the scoring area, participants are free to leave the tournament for the day.
- Scoreboards will be posted at the tournament site.
- Scores will be e-mailed and results posted online shortly following the conclusion of the event.

The USGA Rules of Golf Rule 6-6a states: After each hole the marker should check the score with the competitor and record it. On completion of the round the marker must sign the scorecard and hand it to the competitor. If more than one marker records the scores, each must sign for the part for which he is responsible.

- There will be one competitor in each group at select 18 Hole Division events that will be elected to upload the scores of their group between the play of holes.

Rule 6-6d states: After completion of the round, the competitor should check his score for each hole and settle any doubtful points with the Committee. He must ensure that the marker or markers have signed the scorecard, sign the scorecard himself and return it to the Committee as soon as possible.

Rule 1-3 states: that “players shall not agree to exclude the operation of any Rule or to waive any penalty.” Although a player is his/her own official, any player who witnesses another player violate a rule must report it as soon as possible. If you see a rules violation by another player and do not report it, you are in violation of Rule 1-3, which will result in **disqualification**.

WHAT TO DO IF I SUSPECT A DISHONEST PLAYER

If you suspect that someone in your group is not being honest about their score please report it to a Met PGA official immediately. The longer you wait the less of a chance there is of rectifying the situation. STAFF MUST BE NOTIFIED BEFORE SCORECARDS ARE SIGNED!!! If you know that someone in your group is cheating and you do not do anything about it you are just as guilty for not protecting the integrity of the field.

Cheat today—pay the consequences the rest of your life!

WHAT CHAMPIONSHIPS DO YOU OFFER?
REGISTRATION FOR ALL CHAMPIONSHIPS BEGINS MAY 12
and can be accessed through your Player's Club Account

New York City - Junior Classic - 9 Hole Championship

The New York City and Junior Classic are open to all members ages 7-18 with an entry fee of \$60 for those playing 18 holes and \$50 for those playing 9 holes. The NYC Championship is July 18-19 at Pelham Bay GC and the Junior Classic is August 7-8 at Smithtown Landing CC. For both of events, only a select number of golfers from the Boys 15-18 and Girls 18 hole divisions will play the second day. That means all other age divisions will only play day one! Top finishers in the boys 15-18 and girls 18 hole division champions will receive Performance stars towards a future AJGA event. The site of the 9 Hole Championship is at Westchester CC on July 31.

PGA Junior Championships & Qualifiers

There are two PGA Junior Championships, one for the 9 Hole Tour and one for the 18 Hole Tour. The entry fee for both the qualifier and the Championship for the 18 hole divisions is \$60 and \$50 for the 9 Hole Tour. The championship for the 18 hole division will be taking place the week of July 3 or July 10. Site TBA. To participate in the event boys must qualify on June 27 at Hudson Hills GC or June 28 at Eisenhower Park Blue GC. The top 20 boys from the 2016 overall championship will be exempt from qualifying. Girls will NOT need to qualify. The PGA Championship for the 9 Hole Division (Boys ages 7-14, and Girls 7-18) will take place at the Milbrook Club on August 14. There are no qualifiers for this event.

Tour Championship

This is an invitational championship comprised of 12-18 year old juniors who have met one of the following qualifications: finished in first place in any of our regular season tournaments/ championships or finished in the following positions in the Player of the Year points race: Top 30 for boys 15-18, Top 25 for boys 12-14 (18 holes), and Top 20 for girls 12-18 (18 holes) There is no sign up form for this event as it is by invitation only. Once you qualify for the event you will be invited via email and will be able to register through your players club account. We will keep a running roster of qualifiers throughout the season on the Tour Championship Info page. Top finishers will receive Performance stars for an AJGA event. The dates for this Championship will be August 21-22. Site TBA.

Match Play Championship

The Met PGA Junior Tour will be having our 8th annual Match Play Championship. Qualifying will be held in conjunction with the Tour Championship results. The top 16 boys and 8 girls, regardless of age division, will advance to a 72 hole (for the boys) and 54 hole (for the girls) single elimination match play style tournament. This event will take place on August 24-25. Site TBA.

Tommy Kuhn Cup

This event will be held at the conclusion of the 2017 tournament season when the top point leaders from the Westchester Tour go head-to-head with the top point leaders from the Long Island Tour during this special event. More information on the qualifications will be posted on our website this summer. It will take place at Century CC on August 30.

PARENTS CORNER

Please read this handbook thoroughly before calling the office with any questions. Hopefully, most, if not all, information you will need is right here. It is our goal to provide our members with an experience in tournament golf that is both fun and educational. We ask that you, as their parents, help us in the endeavor and follow the guidelines set forth by our organization to ensure that our goals are met. We ask you to please make note of and abide by the following principals:

To us, every junior on our tour is the next up and coming star. Please do not let your personal pride and goals overshadow the thrust of our efforts.

- Parents, friends, or other spectators **will not be allowed** on the golf course during Met PGA Junior Tour regular season events. Spectators will be allowed on the course for specific Championship events which will be announced prior to the event. The other exception is for those parents authorized to walk and help score for the 7-11 age division. Where possible, there will be specific areas on the golf course where spectators will be able to watch players. Unauthorized spectators on the golf course will be asked to leave and may be subject to having the player(s) they are watching disqualified.
- The average number of tournaments each player gets into initially is limited. Generally, the juniors are initially accepted into 4-5 events each summer. Some courses are more in-demand than others. When determining your tournament selections online, please remember that we give each junior 9 Preference Stickers for a reason - the more options selected, the better your child's chance to participate in as many events as possible. If you do not use all of your preference stickers, your child might not be accepted into the average of 4-5 events!
- Our tour is an introduction to tournament golf for these juniors and for many it is a difficult transition from playing a regular round. It is our goal to make their first experience with tournament golf rewarding and enjoyable so they will want to continue their young careers. We hate to see any added pressure put onto our tour players and ask that you keep this in mind at all times.
- Parents are guests at these clubs too and must adhere to dress guidelines set forth in this handbook. If you are present at one of our tour events and are inappropriately dressed, you will be asked to leave.

Important Contacts

American Junior Golf Association
1980 Sports Club Drive
Braselton, GA 30517
770-868-4200 www.ajga.org

Winternational Junior Series
PO Box 1769
Pinehurst, NC 28370 847-204-9888
www.juniorgolfpinehurst.com

Future Collegians World Tour
2655 Ulmerton Road #337
Clearwater, FL 33762
727-540-9492 www.fcwtgolf.com

Plantations Junior Golf Tour
PO Box 1397
Summerville, SC 29484
888-862-2054 www.pjgt.com

Hurricane Junior Tour
2907 Spring Glen Rd.
Jacksonville, FL 32207
904-379-2697 www.hjgt.org

International Junior Golf Tour
PO Box 5130
Hilton Head Island, SC 29938
800-494-4548 www.ijgt.com

Junior Golf Scoreboard
4470 Cox Road Suite 136
Glen Allen, VA 23060
888-549-GOLF www.njgs.com

Southeastern Junior Golf Tour
PO Box 3933
Auburn, AL 36831
888-275-SJGT www.sjgt.com

Challenge Cup Junior Golf Foundation
21 Agnes St.
E. Providence, RI 02914
(401) 692-0859
www.uschallengecup.org

Contacting Coaches

National Collegiate Athletic Assc.
700 W. Washington Street
P.O. Box 6222
Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-6222
317-917-6222 www.ncaa.org

Golf Coaches Association of America
1225 West Main Street, Suite 110
Norman, OK 73069
866-422-2669 www.collegiategolf.com

International Junior Golf Academy
Admissions Office
PO Box 5580
Hilton Head Island, SC 29938
www.ijga.com

Additional Informational Websites

www.drivechipandputt.com

www.usga.org

www.pgajlg.com

www.thefirstteemetny.org

www.collegegolf.com

www.mgagolf.org

www.wmga.com

www.westchestergolf.org

www.longislandgolf.org

www.juniorlinks.com

PROTECT YOUR TOUR

Golf is a game of integrity.

Members are expected to:

Respect themselves

Respect fellow competitors and staff

Respect the rules of golf

Respect the golf course

All Met PGA Junior Tour events will be governed by the USGA Rules of Golf. Any question of a player's score or procedure should be immediately reported to the Tournament Committee to ensure fairness to all players. Rule 1-3 states that "players shall not agree to exclude the operation of any Rule or to waive any penalty." Although a player is his/her own official, any player who witnesses another player violate a rule must report it as soon as possible. If you see a rules violation by another player and do not report it, you are in violation of Rule 1-3, which will result in disqualification. Remember if you are caught cheating, that stigma can last a lifetime.





PGA

Metropolitan Section
FOUNDATION

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