



Ratings & Rulings

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A Publication for FSGA

Championship Season Underway

This past weekend the FSGA Championship season kicked off at the beautiful Ironhorse Country Club, in West Palm Beach, for the Senior/Mid-Amateur Four-Ball Championship. **Robert Hess** and **Doug Snoop** (an FSGA Board Member) captured the Championship by firing rounds of 65-64, for an impressive 15-under par 129, and a three stroke victory.

In addition to the Senior/Mid-Amateur Four-Ball Championship, this season will include more than 400 days of competition including 25 State Championships and over 40 qualifying events for USGA National Championships. Don't forget to also sign up to volunteer at the Florida Junior Tour (FJT) events. The 94th Amateur Championship, which is being held at the Doral Golf Resort & Spa, in Miami, is right around the corner with 14 qualifiers across the state so please sign up to help in your area. We greatly appreciate all of your hard work and dedication, and we look forward to a great year in 2011.



Doug Snoop (left) and Robert Hess (right)

Championship	Date	Entries Close	Location
Senior/Mid-Am Four-Ball	March 26-27	March 9	Ironhorse CC, West Palm Beach
Men's Interclub Team Matches	April 2-3	December 3	Grand Cypress GC, Orlando
Super-Senior	April 5-6	March 16	Vero Beach CC, Vero Beach
Senior (Qualifiers)	April 11-13	March 2	Ritz-Carlton Members GC, Bradenton
Mid-Amateur Stroke Play	April 29-May 1	April 6	Gainesville CC, Gainesville
Two-Man Shoot-Out	May 14-15	April 20	Bonita Bay Club, Bonita Springs
Mid-Amateur Four-Ball (North)	June 4-5	May 18	Plantation Bay GC, Ormond Beach
Mid-Amateur Four-Ball (South)	June 4-5	May 18	Wyndemere CC, Naples
Amateur Public Links	June 10-12	May 25	MetroWest GC, Orlando
Senior Amateur Match Play	June 12-16	May 25	Lake Wales CC, Lake Wales
Amateur (Qualifiers)	June 23-26	May 11	Doral Golf Resort & Spa, Miami
Boys Junior (Qualifiers)	July 6-8	June 1	Quail Valley GC / Bent Pine GC, Vero Beach
Four-Ball (Qualifiers)	July 9-10	June 1	Ritz-Carlton GC, Orlando
Florida Open (Qualifiers)	July 15-17	June 15	Black Diamond Ranch, Lecanto
Parent-Child	July 23-24	June 29	Walt Disney World Resort, Lake Buena Vista
Junior Match Play (16-18)	July 27-30	July 13	Lake Jovita G & CC, Dade City
Junior Match Play (13-15 & All Girls)	July 27-30	July 13	Lake Jovita G & CC, Dade City
Junior Florida Cup	August 1-2	Invitational	Ritz-Carlton Members GC, Bradenton
Amateur Match Play (Qualifiers)	August 4-7	June 29	Southern Hills Plantation, Brooksville
Junior Team	August 6-7	July 20	Sandridge GC, Vero Beach
Mid-Senior	August 19-21	August 3	Bear Lakes CC, West Palm Beach
Mid Senior Four-Ball (North)	September 10-11	August 24	Sugar Mill CC, New Smyrna Beach
Mid Senior Four-Ball (South)	September 10-11	August 24	The Wanderers Club, Wellington
Mixed Team (FWSGA)	October 1-2	September 16	Ponte Vedra Inn & Club, Ponte Vedra Beach
Mid-Amateur (Qualifiers)	October 6-9	August 24	Old Marsh GC, Palm Beach Gardens
Senior Four-Ball	October 11-12	September 21	Lago Mar CC, Plantation
Florida Cup Matches	October 27-28	Invitational	Sara Bay CC, Sarasota
Club Team	November 12-13	October 26	Grand Harbor Golf & Beach Club, Vero Beach

Recent Rulings on the Course

At a recent collegiate stroke play event conducted on the South Course of Lake Jovita Golf & Country Club in Dade City, several rulings came up. **See if you can find the Rule or Decision that applies.**

- On the par three twelfth hole, a player's ball struck the cart path and came to rest very near the out of bounds. He properly played a provisional ball from the teeing ground and went forward to check to see if the original ball had in fact come to rest out of bounds. Upon observing the resting place of the original ball in relation to the out of bounds stakes, the player was still unsure if the ball was actually in or out of bounds. He played a second ball and stated he would play both the original ball from where it lie and the provisional ball as well into the hole. He wished to score with the original ball if the Rules allowed. Later, the original ball was ruled to be out of bounds.
- On the sixth hole, a player's ball lodged high in a tree. With the assistance of a pair of binoculars from an official, the player did identify the ball as his by the markings on the ball allowing him to proceed under which Rule? Incidentally, two other balls lodged in trees on the same hole during the tournament. Neither could be identified. What Rule were they required to follow?
- On the first hole, a player's ball came to rest in the lateral water hazard at the bottom of the hill. Not realizing his ball was in a hazard, he purposely touched a loose impediment lying in the same hazard.
- On the tenth hole, a player's ball came to rest against a rake in the back of a bunker. The player removed the rake as permitted and the ball moved. The player was required to replace the ball. However, the ball would not come to rest on that spot due to the slope of the back of the bunker. The player then proceeded to find a spot in the bunker, no nearer the hole, where the ball when placed would come to rest.
- On the eleventh hole, a player's tee shot came to rest at the base of a tree in its roots in such a position that the ball was virtually unplayable. Some leaves had gathered in the fork of the roots and the player questioned as to whether or not there may have been a burrowing animal hole there. When questioned by an official as to how he would play the shot, if in fact, a burrowing animal hole were not there, he replied he would deem his ball unplayable. Relief was denied. Note: It was not a burrowing animal hole.
- On the eighth putting green, after completion of the hole, two competitors hit some practice putts to the hole. Due to an earlier withdrawal, the two were the only group of two on the course; all other play was in groups of three. Unfortunately, the Local Rule prohibiting practice putting on the hole just completed was in effect (Note 2 to Rule 7-2). Both players incurred what penalty on which hole.
- On the eleventh hole, a player's ball came to rest in an area of ground through the green which had collapsed down and toward a bunker on the right hand side of the fairway. Not sure if the area should have been marked as



ground under repair, the player played a second ball. He stated that the ball he dropped away from the condition was the ball he wished to score with if the Rules allowed. He played both balls into the hole, left a tee at the spot in question for the Committee to find and later reported the facts to the Committee before returning his score card. Upon further inspection by the Committee, the area was declared to be ground under repair by the Committee.

- On the ninth hole, a player's ball came to rest in the front left greenside bunker. Directly behind his ball was a small rock. The player asked if he would be allowed to remove the stone. The Local Rule deeming stones in bunkers to be movable obstructions was NOT in effect.



Jack Pultorak

Director of Rules and Competitions

Rules Official Certification Program

Late in 2008, the FSGA began a program to certify Rules Officials in the state of Florida. Successful candidates would complete an education, an on course and also a continuing education requirement to earn the designation. The program would focus on knowledge of the Rules of Golf as well as on course officiating techniques.

To date, the FSGA has presented seventeen Two-Day Officiating and Advanced Rules Workshops with the eighteenth slated for April 19-20 at Hunter's Green Country Club in Tampa. In all 148 tournament volunteers have attended the two-day seminar, and forty-two have been certified as Rules Officials.

Those persons that go on to attend the annual PGA/USGA Rules of Golf Workshop and score 92 or higher on the annual exam are eligible to be certified as Senior Rules Officials. Thus far, twenty have attained the Senior Rules Official designation.

There are many successful candidates who assist the FSGA in running its Championships, qualifying events for its Championships, and qualifying events for USGA National Championships. Also, many are active in officiating college, high school, and local junior golf events.

For further information on becoming a Rules Official, [click here](#).

To see a list of those people who have become certified, [click here](#).

If you are interested in becoming a certified Rules Official, contact Tracy Dachisen by email at tracy@fsga.org or by telephone at (813) 868-5816.



One-Day Season

Come out and play with us on your days off from volunteering!

The one-day events are designed for golfers of all skill levels. Other golf associations across the United States have been very successful in running one-day competitions. The FSGA started running one-day events in 2008 and it was an instant success. We wanted to gear the events to a wider range of golfers so that they can have fun and compete for prizes. The 2011 schedule features some of Florida's premiere courses including: **TPC Sawgrass, Innisbrook, Black Diamond, Naples National**, and many more!

Entry Fee

- Includes: Cart, golf, range balls, and prizes.

Format

- 18 holes of individual net stroke play within flights, unless you choose to play in the **Gross flight**.
- Players will play to 100% of their course handicap
- Shotgun start

Flights and Tees Played

- Gross Flight (All Ages) – Approximately 6,500 yards
- Under 50 Flight - Approximately 6,500 yards
- 50-64 Flight - Approximately 6,200 yards
- 65 and Over Flight - Approximately 6,000 yards
- Women's Flight – Approximately 5,200 yards



TPC Sawgrass – THE PLAYERS Stadium Course

Entries, Tee Times, Results, and Details

- All entries must be received through the FSGA website. ****Except for TPC Sawgrass****
- Groupings and hole assignments will be posted approximately 3 days before the event.
- Results will be posted through the FSGA website.

Prizes

- \$10 per person (from the entry fee) is in the gift certificate pool.
- Payouts within flights - the number of players earning gift certificates and the amounts will be based on the number of players in each flight that week.

Eligibility

- Amateur golfers (Women are eligible for select events in each region).
- FSGA/GHIN handicap required (24.0 or less).
- Golfers who do not have a FSGA/GHIN handicap index from a FSGA member club may purchase a 2011 handicap online for \$30 at www.fsga.org.
- First time players without an established GHIN handicap will be eligible to compete, but not for prizes.

Course Rating Update

Hello Course Raters,

The course rating requests are coming in, and I still expect more. We're set for a busy season of rating courses. And that is why this week we are having a Captain's Meeting at Hunter's Green Country Club where we will discuss several aspects of the Course Rating System.

Two main points of discussion will be the importance of measurements and Effective Playing Length or EPL adjustments. We will discuss proper procedures and how great of an impact measurements have on a rating. Procedures for conducting a measurement will include how to determine the starting spot for each tee, determining the pivot point, and determining the spots on the green to measure. We will also cover when to send the measurements to the FSGA office and other teams that need the information. The impact of measurements will be discussed with some visual aids comparing the final course rating with the yardage rating.



EPL adjustments will be discussed in depth, with the hope of generating a lot of discussion. These adjustments can be very subjective in nature, and my hope is to have teams utilize a consistent mindset pertaining to EPL adjustments.

I will have the final presentation available in PowerPoint. If you would like a copy let me know.



Gary Donat

Director of Course Rating

Happy Birthday to all of our Committee Members!



Happy Birthday to all 49 of our Committee & Staff Members born in the month of March! If you should be listed and are not, our database must have some bad information, so please email your birth date to Jeff Magaditsch at jmagaditsch@fsga.org.

Mary	Fleming	Palm Beach Gardens	3/1
Ann	Tedeschi	Clearwater	3/1
Chuck	Freedman	The Villages	3/2
Anthony	Hebel	West Palm Beach	3/2
Craig	Ammerman	Tequesta	3/3
Joseph	Tyrrell	St. Petersburg	3/4
Cathy	Cain	Fort Pierce	3/5
Pat	Finfrock	Port St Lucie	3/6
Leigh	Ford	Stuart	3/6
Scrib	Kelly	The Villages	3/7
Paul	L'Heureux	Eustis	3/8
Thomas	Cox	Punta Gorda	3/10
Shane	Ward	Lake Wales	3/10
Regis	Wenham	Wellington	3/11
Kathleen	Derbes	Tequesta	3/12
Boots	Farley	Jacksonville Beach	3/12
Kay	Kerksick	Estero	3/14
Melvin	Johnston	The Villages	3/16
Bob	Forward	Lake Wales	3/17
Frank	Rebollo	The Villages	3/17
Dale	Strub	Lake Suzy	3/17
Ward	Anderson	Ocala	3/19
Mac	McGlooin	Sarasota	3/19
Laura	Orlen	Jacksonville	3/19
Joseph	Proudfoot	Plantation	3/19
Marty	Van Steenderen	Bonita Springs	3/19
Gary	Belford	Fort Myers	3/20
Carole	George	Green Cove Springs	3/20
Michael	Alford	Nokomis	3/21
Mary	Perry	Parrish	3/21
Vincent	Volpe	Leesburg	3/22
Duane	D'Alessandro	Oviedo	3/24
Barbara	Womack	Bradenton	3/24
Roger	Harvie	Viera	3/25
Ann	Ives	Gainesville	3/25
Stanley	Jacobson	Palm Beach Gardens	3/25
Billie Sue	Furnas	Orlando	3/26
Ronald	Schroeder	Winter Haven	3/27
Judith	Dunlop	Lake Mary	3/28
John	Galm	Gainesville	3/28
Delph	Gustitus	Jupiter	3/28
William	Mattes	The Villages	3/28
George	Grant	DeLand	3/29
Carol	Jackson	Gulfstream	3/29
Joseph	Krum	Palm Beach Gardens	3/30
Carolyn	Reichel	The Villages	3/30
Jeanne	Scarborough	Altamonte Springs	3/30
Linda	Kane	Port St. Lucie	3/31
Jane	Romanasky	The Villages	3/31

Recent News

Welcome New Volunteers

As the tournament season gets underway, we welcome new volunteers to the FSGA family. Thanks again for all that you do for the Florida State Golf Association!

Greg Gow - Estero
Lewis Broslovsky - Miromar Lakes
Bill Jones - Punta Gorda
Bob Hayes - Naples
Rick Berger - Fort Myers
Jacques Legere - Fort Myers
Robert Wildner - Green Cove Springs
Marcia Berger - Lakeland
Ricardo Moreno - Miami
Gary Bennett - Lantana
Roger Andrus - Vero Beach
Bert Gwaltney - Niceville
Patrick Venker - Oldsmar
Joe Small - West Palm Beach

Recruit your Friends

We are in need of more Committee Members. Please talk to your friends and see if they are interested in coming along with you to volunteer at an event. Please let the Tournament Chairman know before the event.

We want your club on GHIN!!

The FSGA is actively trying to get the entire state using one handicap system being the GHIN Handicap System. GHIN has grown to more than 600 clubs in the state and we want your club to join the list. Please talk to your club staff or call the office and let Aaron Skoviera, Director of GHIN, show your club why GHIN is the most advanced Handicap System available.

