



Ratings & Rulings

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A Publication for FSGA Volunteers

USGA Qualifiers Get Underway

The Championship season is in full swing and that means USGA Qualifiers are also just beginning. With the help of our Tournament Chairmen and Committee Members, we successfully conducted all 17 U.S. Open local qualifiers for the 110th U.S. Open. Florida continues to conduct the most qualifiers in the country. More than 9,000 entries were received for the 110th Championship. The FSGA will also conduct one of the 15 sectional qualifiers at McArthur Golf Club in Hobe Sound on June 7. In all, the FSGA will conduct over 40 qualifying events for USGA Championships in 2010.



FJT Season Wraps Up

The Florida Junior Tour concludes its season at the end of this month with the final events at Orange County National and Harmony Golf Preserve May 29-31. This year has been a great success, and we are already looking forward to next season.

More than 700 juniors signed up for membership for the 2009-2010 season. This season featured 23 events that included the best juniors in the state of Florida. Next season will feature an expanded schedule with events continuing into the summer months in addition to our Junior Championship schedule.

All of this could not have been possible without the help and support of our outstanding Committee Members. Thank you for your time and dedication and we hope to see all of you this summer and next season.



Volunteers:

This is your newsletter, please send me any information that you find interesting! Whether it's your 50th wedding anniversary, an interesting ruling, or a helpful course rating tip, please e-mail me at jmagaditsch@fsga.org

Recent Rulings on the Course

Have you ever had your ball end up in such a bad lie that you couldn't play it as it lies?

Of course you have! That's a part of golf and we should all know what our options are the next time it happens on the golf course.

This occurrence is covered by Rule 28; Ball Unplayable.

Here are a couple things to remember about an unplayable ball.

1. The player may deem his ball unplayable at any place on the course, except when the ball is in a water hazard. (If your ball is in a water hazard, you may be able to play it as it lies or you must proceed under the Water Hazard Rule – Rule 26)
2. The player is the sole judge as to whether his ball is unplayable.
3. When proceeding under this Rule, the player may lift and clean his ball or substitute a ball.

If the player deems his ball to be unplayable, he has three options, all under penalty of one stroke:

a. Play a ball as nearly as possible at the spot from which the original ball was last played (see Rule 20-5). This is the stroke and distance option that is always available to a player. If your last stroke was made from the teeing ground, you could once again play from the teeing ground. If it was last made from the fairway, you would be dropping back in the fairway; or



b. Drop a ball behind the point where the ball lay, keeping that point directly between the hole and the spot on which the ball is dropped, with no limit to how far behind that point the ball may be dropped. Many people forget about this option and jump straight to the third option. This may be your best option since you are able to go back to your favorite yardage, say that of a wedge, and drop the ball on that imaginary line. Remember, you don't get to drop two club-lengths either side of the line rather directly on that imaginary line; or

c. Drop a ball within two club-lengths of the spot where the ball lay, but not nearer the hole. This is probably the most often used option. Remember, drop a ball within two club-lengths of where the original ball lies, not from the edge of the junk your ball lies within.

And don't forget that when your ball is plugged up under the lip of a bunker, you can still use this Rule. If the unplayable ball is in a bunker, the player may proceed under options a, b or c above. If you are a lousy bunker player like I am, option a will have you dropping back outside the bunker as long as your last stroke was made from outside the bunker. If you elect to proceed under options b or c, a ball must be dropped in the bunker.

Remember, use the index or the table of contents to find the correct Rule that applies to the situation and follow the Rules of Golf to help yourself to enjoy the game of golf.

One-Day Net Season

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

The one-day net events are designed for golfers of all skill levels. Other golf associations across the United States have been very successful in running one-day net 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. We have included some of the premiere courses in the state: **Black Diamond, Innisbrook, TPC - Doral Blue Monster at Doral, Royal Palm Country Club of Naples** and many more!

Entry Fee

- Includes: Cart, golf, range balls and prizes.
- Prices range from \$40-\$95.

Format

- 18 holes of individual net stroke play within flights
- Players will play to 100% of their course handicap
- Shotgun start

Flights and Tees Played

- **"Under 50" Flight** - Approximately 6,500 yards
- **"50-64" Flight** - Approximately 6,200 yards
- **"65 and Over" Flight** - Approximately 6,000 yards



Old Corkscrew Golf Club, Estero

Entries, Tee Times, Results and Details

- All entries must be received through the FSGA website
- Groupings and hole assignments will be posted approximately 3 days before the event
- Results will be posted through the FSGA website

Prizes

- \$10 per man (from the entry fee) is in the gift certificate pot
- Ties will be broken by scorecard playoff. First by comparing the back nine, if still tied, then the last 6 holes on the course, then the last three, then the 18th hole and finally by a coin flip.
- 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.



Black Diamond, Lecanto

Course Rating Update

Hello All, this month I wanted to write about regional meetings I want to hold. Every year as most course rating captains know, we hold a meeting in Tampa and discuss various topics. This year I have decided to hold regional meetings for all course rating volunteers, which will include a calibration session and a team quiz.

Confirmed Dates:

- June 3rd Timacuan Golf & Country Club (Orlando Area)
June 10th Rocky Bayou Country Club (Northwest Florida Area)
June 16th BallenIsles Country Club (Palm Beach Area)



Gary Donat
Director of Course Rating

Meeting Tentative Schedule

- 7:30 am - 8:00 am Team Assignments, Distribute Form 1's and Assign Carts
8:00 am - 10:00 am Rating of 4 holes
10:00 am - 11:00 am Team Quiz
11:00 am - 12:00 pm Discuss results of Rating Exercise & Team Quiz
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm Lunch
1:00 pm - 2:30 pm Discussion of rating topics

I'm currently working on other meetings for other sections, look for an email soon for a meeting in your area. If you are interested in attending one of the meetings that has been confirmed, please shoot me an email and I will get you signed up.

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 580 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.

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.

Volunteer Central – Signing up to Officiate

Listed below are events in your area that are low on volunteers for the end of May and June.

Central Florida:

- Amateur Championship Qualifier - Southern Dunes Golf Club – Haines City (5/29/2010)
- Florida Junior Tour Major - Orange County National – Winter Garden (5/29/2010-5/31/2010)
- Florida Junior Tour Major - Harmony Golf Preserve – Harmony (5/29/2010-5/31/2010)
- Amateur Championship Qualifier – Hunters Green Country Club – Tampa (6/2/2010)
- Boys Junior Qualifier – Orange Lake Resort – Kissimmee (6/14/2010)
- Four-Ball Championship Qualifier – Orange Lake Resort – Kissimmee (6/15/2010)
- U.S. Public Links Qualifier – North Shore Golf Club – Orlando (6/21/2010-6/22/2010)
- Four-Ball Championship Qualifier – Hunters Green CC – Tampa (6/29/2010)

Fort Myers Area:

- Mid-Amateur Four Ball South Championship – The Sanctuary GC – Sanibel Island (6-5/2010-6/6/2010)
- Four Ball Championship Qualifier – Plantation Golf & CC – Fort Myers (6/14/2010)

Jacksonville Area:

- Amateur Championship Qualifier: Amelia National Golf Club – Amelia Island (5/26/2010)
- Boys Junior Championship Qualifier – Eagle Landing Golf Club – Orange Park (6/17/2010)
- Florida Open Qualifier - Amelia National Golf Club – Amelia Island (6/28/2010)

Tallahassee Area:

- Amateur Championship Qualifier - Southwood Golf Club – Tallahassee (6/8/2010)
- Florida Open Qualifier - Southwood Golf Club – Tallahassee (6/28/2010)

[Click here to sign-up](#)



The screenshot shows the Florida State Golf Association website. The main content area is titled "Volunteer for FSGA Championships". Below this, there is a table listing various events. A red arrow points to the "Sign Up" button for the "Senior Amateur Championship" event.

FSGA CHAMPIONSHIP / OTHER EVENT	CHAIRMAN	LIST	ACTION
Senior Amateur Championship Brooksville - Southern Hills Plantation Golf Club 4/13/2010 - 4/15/2010	Peter Dachisen		Sign Up!
Mid-Amateur Stroke Play Championship Vero Beach - Hawks Nest Golf Club 4/23/2010 - 4/25/2010	Tom Zaras		Sign Up!
Club Team Championship Fort Myers - Verandah Club 5/1/2010 - 5/2/2010	Peter Dachisen		Sign Up!
Two-Man Shoot-Out Palm City - Harbour Ridge Yacht & Country Club 5/15/2010 - 5/24/2010	Tom Zaras		Sign Up!
Mid-Amateur Four-Ball North Clermont - Sugarloaf Mountain Golf & Town Club 6/5/2010 - 6/6/2010	Tom Zaras		Sign Up!
Mid-Amateur Four-Ball South Sanibel Island - The Sanctuary Golf Club 6/5/2010 - 6/6/2010	Darin Green		Sign Up!
Amateur Public Links Championship Port St Lucie - PGA Golf Club 6/11/2010 - 6/13/2010	Jeff Magaditsch		EDIT SIGNUP
Senior Amateur Match Play Championship Orchid - Orchid Island Golf & Beach Club 6/13/2010 - 6/17/2010	Tom Zaras		Sign Up!
Amateur Championship Orlando - Bay Hill Club & Lodge 6/24/2010 - 6/27/2010	Peter Dachisen		EDIT SIGNUP
Boys Junior Championship Orlando - Grand Cypress Golf Club 7/6/2010 - 7/8/2010	Darin Green		EDIT SIGNUP
Four-Ball Championship Palm Coast - The Ocean Course at Hammock Beach 7/10/2010 - 7/13/2010	Tom Zaras		Sign Up!
The Florida Open Palm Harbor - Innisbrook Resort & Golf Club 7/16/2010 - 7/18/2010	Peter Dachisen		EDIT SIGNUP
Parent-Child Championship Lake Buena Vista - Walt Disney World Golf (Palm/Magnolia) 7/24/2010 - 7/25/2010	Kevin Kasubinski		Sign Up!
Junior Match Play Championship (Boys 16-18) Vero Beach - Indian River Club 7/29/2010 - 8/1/2010	Darin Green		Sign Up!
Junior Match Play Championship (Boys 13-15, All GI) Vero Beach - Sandridge Golf Club 7/29/2010 - 8/1/2010	Jeff Magaditsch		EDIT SIGNUP

Happy Birthday to all of our Committee Members!



George	McLeod	Belleair	5/3
Kenneth	Gaynor	Naples	5/3
Tom	Tarrance	Trinity	5/5
Gary	Messinger	Coral Springs	5/5
David	Terry	The Villages	5/6
Dominic	Valente	Naples	5/7
Robert	Perry	Lauderhill	5/8
William	Humes	Sun City Center	5/8
Larry	Flynn	Sarasota	5/9
Raymond	Zall	Port Orange	5/11
Thomas	Moore	Palm City	5/11
G David	Reynolds	Sanibel	5/14
Donald	Chornak	Coral Springs	5/14
Tom	Choate	Englewood	5/14
William	Andrews	West Palm Beach	5/15
William	Swerbenski	Ponte Vedra Beach	5/15
David	Ballingall	The Villages	5/17
Kelly	Thormahlen	Venice	5/17
David	Baines	Naples	5/18
Ralph	Corso	The Villages	5/19
K.E.	Conrad	Dunnellon	5/20
Tyler	Schroeder	Alachua	5/20
Jim	Demick	Tampa	5/20
Gerald	Vandewater	Bradenton	5/21
Don	Lockhart	Palm Coast	5/21
Gerry	Dye	The Villages	5/22
John	Speer	The Villages	5/25
William	Rambo	Orlando	5/25
Walter	Collyer	Orlando	5/25
Charlie	Moss	Lake Wales	5/25
Jim	Sykes	Bonita Springs	5/27
David	Wiesen	Dunnellon	5/27
Jerry	White	Niceville	5/28
Bob	Hart	Odessa	5/28
Barry	Hansen	Alto	5/29
Joe	Stein	Bonita Springs	5/29
Chip	Carpenter	Summerfield	5/30

Happy Birthday to all 37 of our Committee Members born in the month of May! 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.

Tournament Uniform Policy Change Jim Demick, Executive Director

Short Pants - i.e. How Ugly are Your Legs??? Male Tournament officials, beginning June 1st, through the end of September, are permitted to wear short pants when officiating at most events. Now, this is Demick speaking, so please hear me out and take my comments with the humor intended:

1. **Short Specifications** - Khaki shorts may be worn BUT - they must be good looking golf shorts that fit well! No cargo pants and make sure the shorts are long enough for any country club. If your shorts are too tight or too short - buy new ones or wear long pants.
2. **Socks & Shoes** - You should wear short white socks with golf shoes or clean sneakers. (Golf Shoes are preferred) We do not want to look like miss-placed tourists walking around our member clubs!! No high socks or clunky shoes. Make sure you look good.
3. **Legs** - No matter how good looking your shorts are - if your legs are in the bottom 20% of the class - we may have a problem. Be honest with yourself - if your legs are too big, too soft, too white, or just questionable - maybe long pants would be better.
4. **Exceptions** - Long pants continue to be required for all FSGA staff and officials when serving as Tournament Chairmen. Shorts can be worn when setting up a course in advance of a competition but not on the day of the competition.
5. **Long Pants Required at Certain Events** - Long pants are required at the Florida Open, the US Open Sectional and the State Amateur.

