

Ratings & Rulings

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A Publication for FSGA Volunteers

Volunteer Sign-Up Now Available

Now that the Championship schedule is set, volunteers can sign up for the 2005 tournaments online at www.fsga.org. Go to the "Volunteer Central" section to register for FSGA, USGA and FJT events.

As last year, the tournament schedule consists of 21 State Championships and 41 USGA Qualifying events. The Junior-Senior has changed names to the Foundation Four-Ball and will return to Riverwood Golf Club on April 23-24. To be eligible, one player must be over 55 years of age and the other between 25-54 years of age. This is sure to be a fun event so sign up early to volunteer or even play!

The 88th Amateur Championship will consist of 13 qualifiers across the state so please sign up to help in your area. These qualifiers are one day events with the Championship at Bear Lakes Country Club at West Palm Beach. Throughout the year, competitors are trying to earn points in events to advance to the biennial Florida Cup. This year, Timuquana Country Club in Jacksonville will host this Ryder Cup format event that matches the top players from North Florida versus South Florida.

The Winter Series are off to a great start. We expanded the first three individual events from 78 to 84 players to get more players in the events. Thank you to all who have helped with the Winter Series and we look forward to a great golf season!



Executive Board Member *Mike Timbers* congratulates *Kerry Schwecke* on his win in the 55-64 age division of the *Venetian Winter Series*.

Junior Conference Scheduled for March 19



Dr. Dorsey speaks at last year's Junior Conference.

Make plans to attend the 7th annual Florida Junior Golf Conference at ChampionsGate Golf Resort in Orlando on Saturday, March 19.

This unique conference is an opportunity for junior coordinators to exchange information and share ideas about junior golf in their particular region. Over 100 different junior programs from Pensacola to Miami have been identified and invited.

Last year, more than 30 programs were represented to discuss and exchange information pertaining to junior golf programs. This year, topics related to junior golf will include updates from the USGA & AJGA, Florida License Plate Money, Q & A Session, speakers and much more.

If you are a junior coordinator, please sign up at www.fsga.org. Tell other programs about this worthwhile conference. The cost is \$10 per person and includes lunch.

GIMMIES

Membership Numbers

Currently, more than 1720 individuals have signed up as 2005 FSGA members. If you have not renewed your membership, please do so at www.fsga.org. In addition, the Florida Junior Tour has already exceeded last year's membership. More than 495 juniors have registered for FJT membership as the Tour is a great success. We are well on our way of reaching our goal of 900 Member Clubs. So far, nearly 700 clubs have joined as FSGA Member Clubs. If yours is not a member of the FSGA, encourage your club to join and support golf in Florida.

USGA/PGA Rules Seminar

Many of the FSGA Staff attended the USGA/PGA Rules of Golf Seminar at PGA Golf Club in January. **Jack Pultorak, Tom Zaras, Peter Dachisen, Jim Demick, Darin Green and Megan Cushman** all attended to freshen up their knowledge on the Rules of Golf.

Rules of Golf Attendees

The following FSGA volunteers have attended a Rules of Golf Seminar so far this year. We appreciate your support and coming out to learn the Rules. **Glen Briggs, Brenda Davis, Andrew Davis, Jim Sykes, Carl Wangenstein, Doug Findlay, Joe Krum, Regis Wenham, Rose White, Edward Zimmerman, Ted Burfiend, Jack Whynot and Dick Nelson.**

GHIN Handicap

Receive your GHIN Handicap via email simply by going to www.ghin.com and entering your email address. It's that easy!

Rules Seminars Going Strong

The Rules of Golf Seminars are off to a great start! Attendance has been good and the feedback has been positive. New clips and examples have been added to the presentation making it more enjoyable. The workshops run from 8:30 am – 4:30 pm and includes indoor classroom instruction with state of the art video presentation, as well as outdoor hands-on sessions covering the Rules of Golf. FSGA Committee persons are only \$15! Sign up online at www.fsga.org.



FSGA Tournament Chairman *Mallory Privett* teaches at *PGA Nat'l GC*.

2005 Rules of Golf Seminars Remaining Dates:

PGA Golf Club, Port St. Lucie • February 23
Reserve by February 9

Inverrary Country Club, Lauderhill • February 24
Reserve by February 10

Southwood Golf Club, Tallahassee • March 3
Reserve by February 17

Fort Walton Beach GC, Fort Walton Beach • March 4
Reserve by February 18

Grand Haven Golf Club, Palm Coast • March 15
Reserve by March 1

Mission Valley Country Club, Laurel • March 24
Reserve by March 10

USGA Course Rating Seminar

The Florida State Golf Association recently hosted the annual United States Golf Association Course Rating Seminar at ChampionsGate Golf Resort on January 11, 2005. In attendance were 73 men's and women's course rating volunteers from both the FSGA and the Florida Women's State Golf Association. Scott Hovde, Director of Course Rating for the USGA, led the day long presentation which included an overview of the USGA Course Rating manual, questions and comments from the audience and an outdoor field training session in which the group rated the first hole of the National Golf Course at ChampionsGate. The day was a major success for the raters and also provided valuable knowledge to 13 new course rating volunteers. The FSGA is very proud to host the USGA and looks forward to many more seminars in the future.

Handicap Certification Seminars

As FSGA Volunteers, we ask that you speak with your club staff to ensure that a representative from your club attend a Handicap Certification Seminar.

The USGA now requires all golf clubs to be certified in the USGA Handicap System. The FSGA is conducting Handicap Certification Seminars across the state to become an authorized club able to utilize the USGA Handicap System and to certify a representative on the Handicap Committee at every club.

From 9:00 am – 12:00 noon, the seminars include an overview of the USGA Handicap System including Handicap Committee responsibilities, the Handicap System formula, handicap allowances, handicap stroke allocations and an insight into golf measuring and the Course Rating System.

In order to be authorized to use the USGA Handicap System, a club must meet the following requirements: 1) Attend an FSGA Handicap Certification Seminar and pass the test with a score of 70 and above. 2) Form a Handicap Committee and have a Handicap Chairman. 3) Meet all the requirements of the Club Compliance Checklist listed in the USGA Handicap System Manual. Once clubs complete these requirements, clubs may sign the USGA Handicap System Licensing Agreement and with USGA confirmation are approved to issue USGA Handicap Indexes. Clubs will also be recognized on the USGA website as an Authorized Golf Club. In January 2006, clubs not meeting these requirements will be listed on the USGA website as NOT APPROVED and will not be authorized to utilize the USGA Handicap System.

In order to obtain certification, one must attend any of the following Handicap Certification Seminars. Register online at www.fsga.org or call the FSGA office at (813) 632-3742 with any questions. Please make sure your club is authorized to use the Handicap System.



FSGA Director of GHIN Aaron Skoviera teaches a Handicap Certification Seminar last year.

GIMMIES

Senior Championship

If you plan on playing in the Senior Championship, there is now a qualifying stage. The deadline, March 2, is early this year, so don't forget to send your entry in. If you are not playing, please sign up to help at a local qualifier.

Volunteer Central

Be sure to check out the new FSGA website, www.fsga.org. At Volunteer Central, volunteers can sign up for events, view the volunteer directory, print all necessary forms, review the competitions manual and much more.

Club Delegates

We are still trying to get a Club Delegate at all clubs in the state. Currently, almost 400 clubs are represented in Florida. Club Delegates act as a liaison between the FSGA, USGA and your club. If you are not a delegate, please sign up at www.fsga.org or email abartell@fsga.org. You, the volunteers, know us best and are the best representatives of the FSGA.

2005 Handicap Seminars

February 10, 2005
Baytree Nat'l GC, Melbourne

February 11, 2005
Baymeadows GC, Jacksonville

February 23, 2005
Celebration GC, Celebration

February 25, 2005
PGA Nat'l, Palm Bch Gardens

February 28, 2005
Don Shula's, Miami Lakes

March 18, 2005
Bloomingdale GC, Valrico

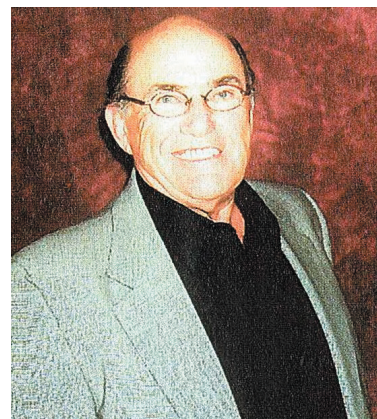
March 28, 2005
TwinEagles, Naples

May 3, 2005
Hunters Green CC, Tampa

Marvin Rogoff Keeps On Giving

Marvin Rogoff is about to send his 26,000th golf club to a junior program in the state. Since 1998, Rogoff has been collecting golf clubs and giving them to charities and organizations in need of golf equipment. His love for the game and his desire to help others keep him very busy.

Rogoff started by collecting golf clubs from his golfing buddies to send to area underprivileged schools and youth programs. Now, his program called Golf Fore Kids has grown to help more than 25 organizations across the country including the Special Olympics in 42 states. Rogoff expanded from his friends to clubs in the state asking their members to donate their clubs they no longer use. Rogoff and his neighbor Howard Bell pick up the clubs and store them in Rogoff's garage until they are sent out. Golf Fore Kids got so big that the USGA Foundation uses Rogoff now for organizations to contact if they are in need of clubs. Rogoff recently got involved with the 1st Tee and YMCA which has allowed these programs to introduce the game to many young people. Rogoff recalls one of his greatest moments when he gave 6,000 clubs to the Special Olympics and was able to go to Connecticut to present the awards to the athletes. Rogoff is



Marvin Rogoff



not looking for accolades or compliments. Rogoff says, "It's really neat when the children write you thank you notes." "You know you've really done something good when the kids, not just the pros, write a little note."

Rogoff says he has enough clubs but short on charities. He is always look for new organizations that may need golf equipment. If you know of a junior program, charity or organization in need of golf clubs, please contact the FSGA office at (813) 632-3742 and we will put you in touch with Marvin Rogoff.

Future of Golf Foundation

Every year, the Florida State Golf Association gives more than \$20,000 in scholarships to deserving juniors across the state. Last year, through the Future of Golf Foundation, the FSGA awarded scholarships to seven students during the year. We ask you, the volunteers, help in identifying these juniors.

The Future of Golf Foundation is a need and academic based program that provides college scholarships to juniors through FSGA member clubs and junior golfers in the state. The FSGA has committed \$250,000 over five years for the Future of Golf Foundation and will also be funded by contributions and fundraising programs including FSGA membership initiatives.

Club Member Scholarship Program - Applicants for the Club Member Scholarship Program must be employed at an FSGA Member Club or be a dependent of an employee at a Member Club. Employment must be for one year or more.

Junior Player Scholarship Program - Applicants must be a current Florida State Golf Association and/or Florida Junior Tour (FJT) member and have competed in a minimum of three FSGA and/or FJT events. A golf resume must be submitted with application.

The application process for both these scholarships is ongoing and decisions are made in the fall and spring seasons by the FSGA Board of Directors. The Board will award scholarships after reviewing need and academic records. Please tell your club staff and any deserving juniors about the Future of Golf Foundation. This scholarship program can be very successful but we need your help spreading the word. More information can be found on the website www.fsga.org or please call the office at 813-632-3742. Thank you and we hope to have many applicants.

FSGA Staff Directory

Jim Demick	Executive Director jdemick@fsga.org
Alyson Bartell	Membership Manager abartell@fsga.org
Les Brown	Tournament Director lbrown@fsga.org
Megan Cushman	Club Relations Manager mcushman@fsga.org
Peter Dachisen	Tournament Director pdachisen@fsga.org
Deborah Lamontagne	Accountant debby@fsga.org
Andy Green	Director of Course Rating agreen@fsga.org
Darin Green	Boatwright Intern dgreen@fsga.org
Ken Hagamann	Director of Course Rating khagamann@fsga.org
Patrick Melton	IT Manager pmelton@fsga.org
David Mock	Regional Manager/GHIN fsgamock@aol.com
Jack Pultorak	Dir. of Rules & Competitions jpultorak@fsga.org
Aaron Skoviera	GHIN/Handicapping aaron@fsga.org
Joe Stein	Regional Manager/GHIN jsteinfsga@aol.com
Tom Zaras	Tournament Director tzaras@fsga.org