

# Ratings & Rulings

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A Publication for FSGA Volunteers

## Tournament Season Kicks Off

The 2006 FSGA Championship season got underway in mid-April with the **Senior Amateur** at Victoria Hills Golf Club in DeLand. Congratulations to **Ron Cleland** for winning the Championship! Thank you to the following men who were Tournament Chairmen for the six Senior Qualifiers: **Dick Young, Pete Sniezko, Mallory Privett, Johnny Williams** and **John Ives**. **Dick Young** joins other new Tournament Chairmen **Roger Harvie, Ted Burfeind** and **Dyke Farrow**. Next up is the Junior Qualifiers followed by the Amateur and don't forget the USGA Qualifiers in between. We could not do all this without your help and support. Thank you!



*Karen Korf and Norma Diehl*



*Michael Lonergan and Scrib Kelly*

## FSGA CR Team Ties for 1st in National Calibration

The FSGA men's course rating team of **Charlie Caravati, Dale Strub, Brian Robideau** and **Ken Hagamann** tied for first place at the **2006 USGA Eastern National Calibration** at Hilton Head. The FSGA team tied with the Royal Canadian Golf Association with an overall grade of 98.5%. The FWSGA team, comprised of **Mary Ann Riccio, Sharon Baerenklau, Carolyn Hickman** and **Karen Korf**, placed second among women's teams competing in the USGA Eastern National Calibration.

The FSGA men's team received a 100% on the written test which is given out in advance then returned by a specific time on Day 1 of the Calibration. All FSGA team members then scored 100% on the individual test giving them a team average of 100%. These two scores are then averaged with the 100% in the written test format. The morning of Day 2 is devoted to the outdoor

team calibration where the team scored 97%. The average written score and the team score are totaled and averaged resulting in a 98.5% for the FSGA and a tie for first place. The Royal Canadian GA scored exactly the same in all categories.

The outdoor calibration rated four holes on the Arthur Hills Course at the Marriott Resort on Hilton Head Island. From a given criteria each team carried out its rating of these four holes for men and women, and then discussed their results against other competing association teams and the USGA Master Course Raters.

We wish to congratulate both teams for their outstanding efforts and success at the 2006 USGA Eastern National Calibration. We thank all our team members for their tremendous dedication to the game of golf and their contributions to the FSGA and FWSGA.

# GIMMIES

## Membership

Currently, more than 2,900 individuals have signed up as 2006 FSGA members. If you have not renewed your membership, please do so at [www.fsga.org](http://www.fsga.org). In addition, the Florida Junior Tour has hit record membership numbers. More than 770 juniors have registered for FJT membership. We are well on our way of reaching our goal of 900 Member Clubs. So far, nearly 870 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.

## 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. More than 550 clubs in Florida use GHIN 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.

## 2006 - 2007 Winter Series

Eight events are now planned for the 2006-07 Winter Series running from December - April. New sites include CC of Ocala and Dunedin CC. Check out the schedule online.

## Florida Junior Tour (FJT)

The FJT's third season is about to wrap up, and we are already looking forward to next season. The schedule features 22 events to keep up with the increasing demand of juniors wanting to play in FJT events. Venues include Bear Lakes, TwinEagles and CC of Ocala.

## Staff Receives High Grades on Rules Exam

Congratulations goes out to the FSGA Staff who scored an average of 98.2% on the USGA/PGA Rules exam. Director of Rules and Competitions, **Jack Pultorak** aced the test with a score of 100! **Darin Green**, Assistant Tournament Director, also received an excellent grade making a 94%. We are very proud of our tournament staff and if you ever have a Rules question, don't hesitate to call the office.

## Junior Coordinators Meet in Orlando

The FSGA hosted the **8th Florida Junior Golf Conference** on March 18 at **ChampionsGate Golf Resort** with over 30 junior coordinators in attendance representing more than 20 junior programs from around the state.

Many issues were discussed including fundraising which **Christy Peacock**, **Charlie DeLuca**, and **Tom Dudley**, with the Florida Sports Commission, spoke in regard to the Florida License Plate Junior Golf Grant and guided everyone through the grant application process and provided some tips on filling out the forms.

In addition, **Les Brown** explained the new Pace of Play Policy that the FSGA, AJGA, and USGA are using in most of its junior competi-

tions with timing checkpoints. The FJT has started using this system and it has proven to be successful.

The FSGA announced the possibility of starting a traveling Rules of Golf Workshop strictly for junior golfers. The idea was met with excitement and positive comments among those in attendance. The idea is to have certified Rules instructors travel to various sections of the state and teach a 2-4 hour, highly interactive Rules Workshops for junior golfers. The workshop would be taught mostly outside and will stress the importance of etiquette, pace of play, and cover the most common Rules that golfers encounter.

Everyone left with their hands and minds full of helpful information to assist their programs.



## FSGA Hosts Chrysler Club Championship for 2nd Year

The FSGA is pleased to partner with Chrysler and the Golf Digest Companies to host the regional **Chrysler Club Championship** in the state to benefit the National Multiple Sclerosis Society and American Junior Golf Association.

For the second year, the FSGA is conducting the regional Chrysler Club Championship for Club Champions across the state at **Falcon's Fire Golf Club** on October 7, 2006. The top four men and women from the Florida regional will win the opportunity to play at the Westin Innisbrook Golf Resort during the Chrysler Championship. The top man and woman from Innisbrook will then have the opportunity to play with professional golfers and celebrities at the 2007 Bob Hope Chrysler Classic.

Please help spread the word about this great opportunity. Please email Megan Cushman at [mcushman@fsga.org](mailto:mcushman@fsga.org) with your Club Champion's name, phone number and email. We hope to get all clubs involved, and we thank you for your help.

## Course Rating Captains Meeting

The FSGA held its annual **Course Rating Captains Meeting** on May 3-4 at Hunters Green CC in Tampa for all the team captains across the state. **Jim Demick** started the meeting with a warm welcome and spoke on the current issues affecting golf associations in Florida. Next, **Brian Robideau**, speaking on behalf of the FSGA Course Rating Committee, expressed certain goals outlined for the FSGA and FWPGA teams in areas of rating consistency. **Ron Audi, Tisha Vogell, Brian Robideau** and **Pat Case** then spoke as to the benefits of scheduling and rating together. Small to moderate size rating teams work well in this environment while large groups for combined teams sometimes overwhelm the golf course. The conclusion is that the FSGA Course Rating Committee will meet to recommend a proper size for a combined team number.

The meeting then focused on various topics with several speakers including **Karen Korf, Pat Case, Carl Schlanger, Brian Robideau** and **Ken Hagamann**. A slide presentation was shown that covered changes in the 2006 USGA CR Manual/Guide for the nine obstacle areas affecting the USGA Course Rating process. Each person was a discussion leader and fostered excellent interaction among attending team captains. **Brian Robideau** spent a good hour explaining new changes in an Excel spreadsheet program reflecting USGA Course Rating Manual/Guide changes as well as Excel format changes to allow men and women to execute the administrative efforts for our Course Rating presentation within the same spreadsheet.

The final day began with **Andy Green** and **Jim Demick** discussing administrative areas. Further discussion included **Ed Boyer** commenting on building relationships with golf courses in the Jacksonville area. **Don Glaser** and **Andy Green** then spent time discussing the course rating section within Volunteer Central. We ask that all volunteers become aware of and frequently use the tools and information available on the Volunteer Central page of the FSGA website. Next, **Brian Robideau** presented his Green Surface to explain the theories to evaluate green surface as we often rate outside our December-April playing season in Florida. The staff later stressed for Raters to use the course rating management area on the website so we can better know when ratings occur and make more on-site visits. A new initiative for 2006 is for team captains to schedule a time to participate in a rating with another FSGA/FWPGA team section. Our last discussions included **Kathy Gordon**, USGA Regional Affairs Director, thanking all team captains for their contributions to the game of golf in Florida.

## Over 460 GHIN Clubs Licensed to Issue Handicaps

After conducting 15 seminars just this year, more than 460 GHIN clubs in the state are now licensed to issue Handicaps. There are still clubs that are not licensed and they have until July 2006 to have a representative obtain certification and then get licensed. Please check the FSGA website to ensure your club is licensed and if you do not see your club listed, contact them directly and encourage your club to attend a seminar or take the online test at [www.fsga.org](http://www.fsga.org). Seminars remaining on the schedule include:

**May 25 - Mission Valley Country Club, Laurel**

**June 15 - Celebration Golf Club, Celebration**

## GIMMIES

### Welcome New Volunteers

Please welcome the following Committee Members to the FSGA. We greatly appreciate all their support and dedication. **James Fulwider, Wayne Koch, Frank Spitalny, Benson Picklesimer, Leonard Veraldi** and **Shane Ward**.

### Additions to Volunteer Central

Visit Volunteer Central on the FSGA website and see the new features we have added. You can now view pictures of Tournament Chairmen and Course Rating Captains. It's nice to put a face with a name and now you can! Also, the Tournament Chairman's Manual is available online for all Tournament Chairmen to view.

### Volunteer Profiles

Please keep your volunteer profile current on the Volunteer Central page of the website. This helps us learn more about you and what you enjoy most about volunteering.

### Tournament Volunteering

Be sure to visit Volunteer Central and see what events need help. Those tournaments highlighted in red need the most assistance so please check your schedule to see if you can volunteer at those events.

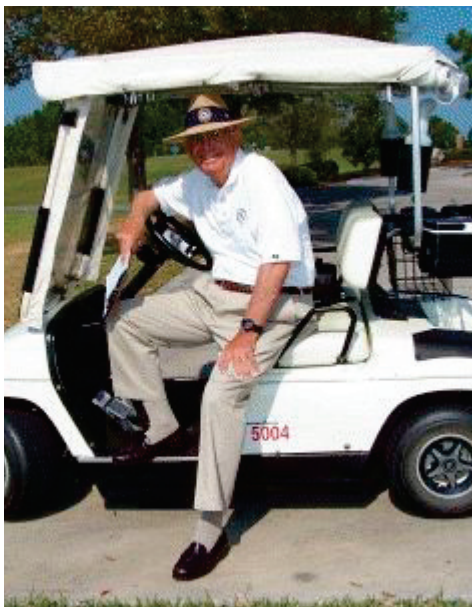
### Future of Golf Foundation

The Future of Golf Foundation is now accepting applicants for college scholarships. To be eligible, the applicant must be an employee of a member club or a dependant of an employee at a member club. Also, FSGA and FJT junior golfers are eligible for college scholarships. Please help spread the word at your club about this fantastic opportunity. More information can be found at [www.fsga.org](http://www.fsga.org).

# Volunteer Spotlight - Bill Clark

**B**ill Clark is a true Floridian. Born and raised in Tampa, he attended Plant Senior High School and graduated from University of Florida. His earliest recollections of golf are caddying for his father in the Tampa Bay area and playing golf at Palma Ceia Golf and Country Club in South Tampa.

In between high school and college, Bill spent two years in the Navy. Later, he worked for the Insurance Company of North American which became the CIGNA following the merger with Connecticut General. One of his responsibilities included entertaining customers which meant a lot of golf at some of the finest courses across the country! He retired from CIGNA in 1993, took a year off, and then spent two years in residential real estate. He decided he liked golf better!



In 1999, he was working part-time as a Starter/Ranger at TPC of Tampa Bay where the FSGA was conducting a qualifier. He asked how to get involved and soon after, he was volunteering at a qualifier with Charlie Bedford as the Tournament Chairman. Ever since, “Charlie has been a mentor and good friend.” One of the most special memories Bill has as a volunteer is attending the 2005 Annual Dinner where Charlie Bedford was inducted into the Florida Golf Hall of Fame. Bill even spent one year on Charlie’s course rating team which “gave him a new perspective on golf courses and their design.” Bill helps out mainly as a starter and scoring which has “given him the opportunity to meet a lot of nice folks, competitors and volunteers, who share his love for the game and the courses on which it is played.” Besides his FSGA tournament work, Bill helps out at many professional and collegiate events in the area. He is also the Club Delegate for Heritage Pines. He keeps his tournament knowledge fresh by attending Rules Seminars and Tournament Workshops each year. All this volunteering gives Bill

“the opportunity to give back in some small measure to the game.”

Living in Hudson in Pasco County, Bill and his wife of 43 years have one daughter and a grandson. Being involved with the community and church leaves Bill with only one day a week to play golf at Heritage Pines.

The FSGA thanks Bill for all his hard work and dedication to the game. His is an outstanding Committee Member who truly enjoys volunteering!



## 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	Assistant Tournament Director 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