

Ratings & Rulings

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A Publication for FSGA Volunteers

Look at all the FUN we had at Volunteer Appreciation Days!



GIMMIES

GHIN Seminars

Currently, there are four Handicap Seminars scheduled across the state. These seminars are intended to educate more golfers to the USGA Handicap System and to certify a Handicap Chairman at every club. Dates include November 18, 2003 at Delray Dunes in Boynton Beach, Celebration Golf Club in Orlando on November 19, 2003, January 15, 2004 at University Park CC in Sarasota and February 24, 2004 at Bent Pine GC in Vero Beach. Please check with your golf professional that a representative from your club will be attending. The final schedule will be posted on the website, www.fsga.org. You can also sign up now for the seminars on the website.

2003-2004 Winter Series

You can now register to play or volunteer in the 2003-2004 Winter Series events. Seven events will be GROSS scoring only. There are some great courses on the schedule so sign up early on www.fsga.org.

FootJoy Rain Gear

An order was just made in October for the FootJoy Rain Gear. There will be another order placed on March 15, 2004 so check out the volunteers to see how good they look. Please call Alyson in the office to order yours!

Thank you Captains!

All of us at the FSGA are sad to see Course Rating Captains Bob Kane and Criss Tausan retire. Ron Audi will take over Section 6 for Bob and Jim Parr will lead Section 11. You will be missed!

Advertising with the FSGA

If your business is interested in advertising with the FSGA or you know of a business that would be a good match, please contact Alyson Bartell at 813.632.3742.

Membership Renewal

The New Year is only a few months away, and it is time to renew your FSGA membership for 2004! This year, we are trying to have more people sign up electronically, so if you are able to, please sign up via the internet at www.fsga.org. If you join online before January 1, 2004, you will save \$5 on Patron and Regular memberships. All "Council" memberships will remain the same. For those of you who do not have access to a computer, a paper application will be sent in early December. Don't delay, sign up for membership today!

Rules of Golf Seminars Available for Sign-Up



Sign up now for one of the 2004 Rules of Golf Educational Seminars being held across the state. The FSGA staff will be conducting 14 seminars and one is coming to your area! This year features some Rules changes so sign up today at www.fsga.org. The 2004 Rules of Golf schedule includes:

PGA National GC, Palm Beach Gardens
January 22, 2004
Reserve by January 15, 2004

The Forest CC, Ft. Myers
January 23, 2004
Reserve by January 16, 2004

On Top Of The World, Ocala
January 30, 2004
Reserve by January 23, 2004

Timuquana CC, Jacksonville
February 3, 2004
Reserve by January 26, 2004

CC of Heathrow, Heathrow
February 5, 2004
Reserve by January 30, 2004

Hunters Green CC, Tampa
February 6, 2004
Reserve by January 31, 2004

Imperial Golf Club, Naples
February 13, 2004
Reserve by February 6, 2004

Don Shula's Hotel & GC, Miami Lakes
February 24, 2004
Reserve by February 17, 2004

PGA Golf Club, Port St. Lucie
February 25, 2004
Reserve by February 18, 2004

Ft. Walton Beach GC, Ft. Walton Beach
March 2, 2004
Reserve by February 23, 2004

Capital City CC, Tallahassee
March 4, 2004
Reserve by February 25, 2004

Celebration Golf Club, Celebration
March 11, 2004
Reserve by March 4, 2004

Grand Haven GC, Palm Coast
March 16, 2004
Reserve by March 9, 2004

Laurel Oak CC, Sarasota
March 17, 2004
Reserve by March 10, 2004

Tournament Chairmen's Meeting Proves to be a Success

A Tournament Chairman's meeting was held on October 21-22 in Tampa for all of the Tournament Chairmen in the state. Fourteen attended for a get together of golf and dinner followed by an intense meeting. The focus of the meeting was to continue to build and improve the quality of tournament administration in all of the events conducted by the FSGA.

Many topics were discussed including qualifications and training for Tournament Chairmen and Rules Officials as well as general Committeemen. Also, the FSGA Pace of Play Policy, as well as the FSGA hard card, is to be amended and improved as a result of the meeting.

The FSGA has set minimum guideline requirements for all Tournament Chairmen and Rules Officials that include mandatory attendance of a PGA-USGA Rules Seminar at least once every four years and a minimum achievement score of 85 on the PGA-USGA Rules of Golf test.

Also, the FSGA will administer fourteen Rules of Golf Seminars and six redesigned Tournament Volunteer Workshops in 2004 in continuing the education of its officials. The Tournament Volunteer Workshops are designed to be volunteer 101 classes for new volunteers as well as a good refresher for all Committeemen.

The FSGA will continue to utilize the FSGA website to assist in volunteer registration for all events, to encourage the use of the volunteer profile to help Tournament Chairmen learn more about you and what is it is you want, and as a reference guide and a quick "how to" on the duties and requirements of each assignment that may be presented at an event.

Overall, the Tournament Chairmen looked back on a successful season and acknowledged their strengths and weaknesses and have set a course to continue to build and improve the quality of tournament administration in all of the events conducted by the FSGA.

Tournament Volunteer Workshops

The FSGA Tournament Staff will conduct six Tournament Volunteer Workshops across the state during January. The half day, from 8:30 am - 11:30 am, will include an interactive powerpoint presentation and will cover the basic fundamentals a tournament volunteer should know while working an event. The 2004 Tournament Volunteer Workshops are complimentary and open to volunteers at www.fsga.org.

January 6, 2004
The Forest Country Club,
Fort Myers

January 8, 2004
Celebration Golf Club, Celebration

January 13
Timuquana Country Club,
Jacksonville

January 15, 2004
PGA National Golf Club,
Palm Beach Gardens

January 20, 2004
Hunter's Green Country Club,
Tampa

January 22, 2004
Fort Walton Beach Municipal GC,
Fort Walton Beach

GIMMIES

Club Delegates

The Club Delegate program is off to a great start but we still need more delegates. In the past year, we have grown to more than 150 delegates across the state. If you are an FSGA volunteer and not a delegate, please volunteer by calling Alyson at 813.632.3742.

FHSAA State Finals

More than 30 volunteers have signed up to help at the Florida State High School Golf Championships on November 11 & 12 at PGA Golf Club in Port St. Lucie. Thank you all - This is really a great event where we help administer the Championships on four courses.

Holiday Shopping

Shop on online at www.fsga.org for the golfer in your family. Items include Cutter & Buck golf shirts, Club Glove travel items, Ashworth sweater vests and much more. All prices now include shipping and will be delivered to your door in a matter of days. Remember, volunteers receive 20% off the member price.

Picture Gallery

Log on to www.fsga.org and view pictures of the past events and recent Volunteer Appreciation Days.

Florida Cup Matches

The 4th Florida Cup Match was won by the North team. With this win, the series is now tied at two a piece. The event held on October 23 & 24 at Avila Golf and Country Club in Tampa is a fun, yet competitive invitational event.

Memberships

As of October 1, 776 golf clubs joined as FSGA Member Clubs. Also, the FSGA finished the year with 2,675 individual memberships. That is 200 more than last year.

Volunteer Spotlight: Bob Kane



Bob Kane recently stepped down as Course Rating Captain of Section 6, but he will continue to rate and participate in the team's activities. Bob's hard work and dedication to the FSGA and his team will be missed.

Born and raised in New Jersey, Bob went on to college at Rutgers University on a swimming scholarship. He played golf throughout school for enjoyment but never played competitively. After school he worked for a major engineering consulting firm where he traveled overseas living in Saudi Arabia, Venezuela and Turkey. In 1979, Bob and wife Judy moved to Clearwater and later Ocala, where they currently reside.

Bob was introduced to the FSGA in 1995 through another volunteer Carl Arnold. Bob started as a tournament volunteer and then course rating sparked his interest. The course rating "fascinated" him and believed "it looked fun to do." For a few years, Bob was Captain of Section 6 and enjoyed "seeing all the area's courses and how they vary from each other." In addition, Bob and Judy volunteered at FSGA events. Bob has really enjoyed working with his team and the FSGA and wants to thank everyone he has worked with. "We've had a bunch of really good times."

Bob used to play golf 3-4 times a week but some medical problems have limited him to a few rounds in the past two years. For the past five years, Bob has organized a benefit scramble for the Ocala Civic Theater. On average, this event raises \$7,000 for the community theater.

Bob and Judy have two grown boys and enjoying vacationing in their time shares. They reside in the community of On Top Of The World.

Andy Green, Director of Course Rating

Please welcome Andy Green to the FSGA team, who will be sharing responsibilities as Director of Course Rating with Ken Hagamann.

Born in Champagne, Illinois, Andy moved to Florida in 1988 and later graduated from Land O' Lakes High School where he played golf throughout school. Andy then went on to play golf at Central Alabama University and moved back to Florida after graduation to pursue a career in golf.

Andy came from River Hills Country Club where he was Head Golf Professional for the past 2 1/2 years. Prior to River Hills, Andy's experience includes General Manager at Lexington Oaks Golf Club and Resort Head Professional at Doral Golf Resort in Miami.

Andy's love for the game steered him to the FSGA. He wanted to stay in the golf business but wanted to have more time to spend with his wife and one-year old daughter, Courtney. As Director of Course Rating, Andy is looking forward to the new challenge. He has always seen course rating through the eyes of a golf professional, and now he is excited to go through the entire process.

Recently, Andy met a few volunteers at the Volunteer Appreciation Days and looks forward to meeting more volunteers. He will soon be out in the field with the teams learning the system.

Besides golf, Andy enjoys other sports, reading and playing with his daughter and dog.



FSGA Staff Directory

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New Florida Junior Tour Formed

The FSGA's new junior golf tour will now be called the Florida Junior Tour (FJT) The Florida Junior Tour will provide affordable, high level competitions for junior golfers in Florida. Events will be held at many of the state's top courses as the Tour emphasizes quality, affordability and integrity.

The Florida Junior Tour caters to junior golfers under the age of 19. The number of events will continue to grow as does the Tour. Tournaments will be a mixture of 36-hole and 54-hole tournaments and field size will be limited.

The FJT will be guided by an Advisory Board of PGA and LPGA touring professionals, PGA section professionals, men's and women's college golf coaches and top USGA and FSGA officials. The FJT will also have a close relationship with the American Junior Golf Association (AJGA) allowing FJT competitors to participate in the AJGA's Performance Based Process. There will be given entry priority to certain players through means of a few ways as well as entries upon receipt. In addition, FJT players can earn exemption into AJGA and FSGA events.

A new website, www.floridagolftour.com, will be established to allow juniors to view information, sign up for events, view a points list and much more. Check it out soon!

This new tour will be such a great opportunity for those junior golfers who want that high level competitions in the state. The FJT is in the early stages but we will need the help and support of our fabulous volunteers to make this tour successful.