

Father-Son Championship ♦ August 16-17 ♦ Disney Bonnet Creek

Frank and Ryan Dillon won the Father-Son Championship at Disney's Bonnet Creek on the second playoff hole. Glen and Buddy Davis, the defending champions, both bogeyed the playoff hole to finish in second. Ryan Dillon is reported to be turning pro following this tournament and will attempt to play on the Tommy Armour Tour. He is just another example of our great young amateur golfers in the state.

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped at the Father-Son. In the last *Ratings & Rulings*, we only had one volunteer ready to work and asked for your help. You responded! We appreciate Bruce Flower, Jim Callender, Roger King, Cal Korf and Ray Columbaro for offering their assistance at the Championship.

Rules Update: At the Father-Son, a competitor mistakenly marked and then lifted his ball while on the apron of the green. He also fixed his ball mark, which was on the apron. After the error was discovered, the competitor conferred with Roger King and was assessed three penalty strokes. An unfortunate incident, but the competitor was humble and recognized his mistakes.

Four-Ball Championship ♦ July 26-27 ♦ Innisbrook

The Jacksonville duo of David Anthony and Steve Dodson won the Four-Ball Championship at Innisbrook's Island and Sandpiper courses. Defending champions Daniel Owen and Randy Briggs were two strokes behind in second place. **The average pace of play for both days on the two courses was 4 hours and 15 minutes. Great work officials!** Pace of play is and will continue to be an important part of each competition. Special thanks to Bruce Flower, John Ives, Don Whittemore, Joe Durante, Bob McClure, Cal Korf, and new volunteers - Carl Arnold and Mike Conigliaro - for working the Championship.

Rules Update: At the four-ball, a competitor's swing was obstructed by a fence bordering the clubhouse, but not out of bounds. The nearest point of relief did not provide relief for the player's line of play and he adamantly protested. Joe Naymick explained the rule in question, but the player continued to protest. Joe radioed Bruce Flower for additional help. Just the act of calling an additional official calmed the situation. The player then proceeded under Joe's ruling. Whenever a situation becomes heated -- remain calm, professional and call another official. Additional personnel can help calm an irate competitor and there will be an even greater certainty that the ruling is the proper one.

Match Play Championship ♦ August 21-24 ♦ The Forest CC

The Forest Country Club in Ft. Myers hosts the Match Play championship starting Thursday, August 21. Finals for first flight are Saturday evening, and championship flight finals are Sunday morning. Doug LaCrosse defeated John Corzilius 3-2 in last year's final. The officials scheduled to attend are Don Williams, Bill Western and Stu Aites.

Mid-Senior Championship ♦ September 5-7 ♦ Loblolly Pines CC

Loblolly Pines Country Club in Hobe Sound will host this year's Mid-Senior Championship. The 54-hole event will begin on Friday, September 5. Brandon's Skip Lujack is the defending champion. Mallory Privett and Bob Latimer are the officials working the championship. Additional officials would be helpful. If you would like to work, call Joe at the office.

Senior Four-Ball ♦ September 13 - 14 ♦ Bear Lakes

Ron LeClair and Curt Madson will try to defend their title at Bear Lakes in West Palm Beach this year. The two-day tournament begins Saturday, September 13. Officials working the tournament are Mallory Privett and Bob Latimer. Call Joe at the office if you would like to work the tournament.

PGA/USGA Rules of Golf Workshop Reminder

Applicants will be enrolled as they apply on a first-come basis beginning at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, September 3. If you plan to attend a workshop, call **800-474-2776** and use your credit card for payment. The cost for the Regular and Officiating/Tournament Administration Workshops is \$250.00.

REGULAR WORKSHOPS

Course #	Location	Date	Instructors
#8321	Palm Beach Gardens	Jan. 11-14	Gene Smith / Dr. Trey Holland
	PILOT PROGRAM (85 or higher during last four years)		
#8322	Palm Beach Gardens	Jan. 11-14	Joe Terry / Jeff Hall
#8325	Orlando	Feb. 3-6	Larry Startzel / John Morrissett
#8328	Atlanta, Georgia	Feb. 15-18	Mark Wilson / John Morrissett

OFFICIATING/TOURNAMENT ADMINISTRATION WORKSHOP

#8332	Ponte Vedra Beach	March 15-18	Rick Burton / Tom Meeks
	LIMITED (85 or higher during last four years)		

Unusual Ruling at US Amateur Qualifying

Following the first round of the 36-hole sectional qualifier at Innisbrook and after a competitor had officially returned his scorecard to the scorer's table, a member of the scoring committee noticed that a female caddie had signed the scorecard and not the official marker. Jim Witherspoon, the official-in-charge, went to Rule 6-6b in the Rules of Golf. Rule 6-6b clearly states that the player shall ensure that the marker has signed the card, and that the penalty for a breach is disqualification. Under Decision 6-6b/5 in the Decisions book, a similar situation is covered in which a spectator acts as the marker for two players, signs the cards and the players return them. Decision 6-6b/5 calls for the disqualification of both players.

In an effort to try and save the competitor, as well as to demonstrate concern for the seriousness of the ruling, Witherspoon attempted to call several USGA rules officials including Tom Meeks, Jeff Hall, Kendra Graham and John Morrisette. None of the USGA officials could be reached, so Witherspoon called Gene Smith, a Senior PGA Tour official. Smith believed that a penalty of disqualification was unavoidable. Ultimately Witherspoon was able to reach John Morrisette at home. Morrisette said that a disqualification was necessary in these circumstances since the Committee had assigned the marker at the first tee.

The competitor was then approached and carefully read Rule 6-6b. He was explained that he had incurred a disqualification penalty. The competitor's "coach" complained about the unfairness of the rule, but he could not grasp the idea that the player is responsible for his scorecard.

The lessons learned from this event are: (1) Ensure your scoreboard personnel are alert to whose signatures are on each card; (2) Scoreboard personnel should not only look for two signatures, they should remind the player to be certain that the appointed marker's signature is on the card. If the signatures are illegible, ask whose is whose; (3) Officials-in-Charge should have phone numbers available for appropriate rules officials. An opinion from someone not directly involved can be a great

help. (NOTE: The FSGA office must be notified of unusual rulings at any FSGA/USGA qualifier) (4)
Take your time and methodically review all available evidence before reaching a conclusion. Do not allow anyone to rush you.

USGA Course Rating and Calibration Seminar

Forty-three women from the Florida State Women's Golf Association, including seven team captains, attended a two-day Course Rating and Calibration Seminar in West Palm Beach recently. Kevin Boggs, the USGA's Eastern Division Manager of Course Rating Service, conducted the seminar. Course rating training took place on four holes at Bear Lakes Country Club during the first day, and calibration ratings were compared on the second day. The calibration ratings proved to be within the proper ranges. Overall, the seminar was a great success.

New Signs

The new course rating signs are being manufactured, and we anticipate the signs being sent to team captains the first week of September. The signs are green in color with white letters and look great. (we have seen a sample) They will be made of aluminum with a T-shaped post, which will allow them to be placed on the first tee. We hope these signs will make life a little easier on our course raters while on the course.

Course Rating Situations

If any course rating volunteers encounter any interesting situations that you would like to share in *Ratings & Rulings*, please contact Chris Lowery at the FSGA office. We enjoy sharing information that could possibly help other volunteers.

USGA Championship Information

Junior Championship

Boca Raton's Chris Zeller advanced to the semifinal match in the 1997 U.S. Junior Amateur Championship at Aronimink Golf Club in Newton Square, Pennsylvania. Zeller, 17, defeated the stroke play medalist Ryan Hybl of Georgia in the quarterfinals to advance. He lost to eventual champion Jason Allred of Ashland, Oregon.

Public Links Championship

Tampa's Ryuji Imada advanced to the finals of the 72nd U.S. Amateur Public Links Championship, but fell 7 and 6 to Raleigh, North Carolina's Tim Clark in the 36-hole final match. Imada, a 20-year-old University of Georgia student, breezed through the match play rounds at Kearney Hill Golf Links in Lexington, Kentucky. Clark, a member of North Carolina State's golf team, finished tied for tenth in this year's NCAA Championship.

Girls' Junior Championship

Beth Bauer of Valrico defeated Candie Kung of Fountain Valley, California, 4 and 2, to win the 49th U.S. Girls' Junior Championship at the Legends Club of Tennessee. She defeated defending champion Dorothy Delasin in the quarterfinals to advance.

Team Championship

Tampa's Doug LaCrosse, Sarasota's Mark Leetzow and Nokomis' John Corzilius will represent Florida in the 2nd USGA Men's State Team Tournament at SunRidge Canyon Golf Club in Fountain Hills, Arizona on September 16-18. They will face amateur teams from all 50 states. Florida finished in second place in the inaugural tournament in 1995.

FSGA Supports Juniors

The four qualifiers for the USGA Junior Championship received \$200 from the FSGA to help offset the expenses of traveling to the Championship in Newtown Square, Pennsylvania. The FSGA is extremely proud of each of these young men and their accomplishments.

Membership Numbers

The club membership for 1997 as of August 20 is 530. Club membership at the end of last year was 516. With over 900 clubs in the state, there are still many clubs that need to be reached.

Correction

In the August edition, an error was made on the calendar. The Bear Lakes' US Amateur qualifier was August 5-6, not August 4-5. This will not be our last error in *Ratings & Rulings*, but every effort will be made to provide accurate updates in future editions.

Wanted

- ♦ If you know of individuals who might enjoy volunteering, please contact Eileen Forrester in course rating and/or Joe Naymick in tournaments.
- ♦ We need a first-class woodworking hobbyist to help build and replace aging equipment. The FSGA will pay for materials, but we need a craftsman who could build new starter boxes, protective transportation boxes for our trophies, clock boxes, etc... If you have the necessary equipment, time and skill, please give Jim Demick a call at the office.