



Ratings & Rulings

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A Publication for FSGA

2011 FSGA Rules of Golf Seminars Schedule Released

Location	Date
Timuquana Country Club, Jacksonville	January 11
Quail Ridge Country Club, Boynton Beach	January 14
Baytree National Golf Links, Melbourne	January 20
Kensington Golf & Country Club, Naples	January 21
Belleair Country Club, Belleair	January 25
Hunter's Green Country Club, Tampa	February 4
Country Club of Ocala, Ocala	February 8
Weston Hills Country Club, Weston	February 15
Vero Beach Country Club, Vero Beach	February 17
Mission Valley Country Club, Nokomis	February 22
Rio Pinar Country Club, Orlando	February 24
Gainesville Country Club, Gainesville	March 8
ChampionsGate Golf Club, ChampionsGate	March 11
Plantation Bay Golf & Country Club, Ormond Beach	March 15
International Golf Links of Miami, Miami	March 23
River Hills Country Club, Valrico	March 30

Rules of Golf Workshops are taught by certified Rules Instructors and designed to benefit golfers of all abilities and tournament volunteers.

Class Details

- 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM
- Indoor slide and video presentations
- Outdoor demonstrations
- Lunch & Rule Book included

Cost

- \$30.00 per person

Summary

- A full day interactive class covering the Rules of Golf with emphasis on the most common Rules encountered.

Recent Rulings on the Course

The following interesting scenario regarding a provisional ball was recently relayed to me. Play is in groups of three in stroke play. Both individual and team events are being played concurrently.

Player A hit his tee shot toward an area of heavy brush and trees. Fearing his ball may be lost outside of a water hazard, he properly informs his marker (Player B) and fellow competitor (Player C) that he will play a provisional ball. However, both the original and the provisional ball are of the same model and number and neither have an identifying mark applied by the player.



The player hits his provisional ball toward the same area but not quite as deep into the brush. The players proceed toward the area of which the balls are presumed to have come to rest. Upon reaching the area, a ball is found of the same brand, model and number played. Player A advises the other players that it is his original ball. Players B and C disagree, stating that the ball recovered was the provisional ball since it was observed to come to rest short of the brush.

Player A claims that the ball found is the original ball because he can distinguish it from the provisional ball due to the wear marks on the ball and it may have bounced out of the trees into the area of the second ball. He claims the provisional ball was brand new and had no such wear marks.

This is a tough call. Player A should have applied an identifying mark on his ball as suggested by the Rules of Golf. By not doing so, he is required to provide proof of which ball is which. By not allowing the other players to see the provisional ball, he gets strike two and digs a deeper hole.

Decision 12-2/1 gives us some guidance in this case. It states that the player may be able to distinguish the ball by the condition of the ball. However, if another ball of the same brand, model and identification number is lying in the same area and either ball from a condition standpoint could be the player's ball, the player may not assume the found ball to be his original. From the evidence and testimony of the players, the Committee decided that the found ball cannot be identified as neither the original nor the provisional.

As a result of not being able to identify the ball, Decision 27/11 becomes applicable and the third situation now becomes applicable. Since the found ball may not be positively identified, it must be presumed to be the provisional ball.

Remember that a provisional ball is meant to save time and not to trap players into penalties. Take a moment and read through the provisional ball Rule and help save time and improve pace of play on the course and contribute to a more enjoyable round of golf for everyone.

Jack Pultorak

Director of Rules and Competitions

Course Rating Update

Hello Course Raters,

The USGA has released their new online Course Rating Program, and of course with any new piece of software, it has its share of bugs, mainly due to the fact we use the summary entry method to generate ratings. Another bug is the way the ratings need to be entered. A vital component of the program still doesn't work, so I have to create a new tee and once I complete the rating, I need to delete the existing tee and rename the new one. This is very time consuming. You may also notice that the rating summary sheets that I send out may have rating numbers a little different than what your workbook generates. I was assured by the USGA, that the behind the scenes calculations with the new program are more accurate than the old program and there will be differences. So don't be too alarmed when you see these differences. One advantage of the new Course Rating Program is because it's online, I can set-up user accounts, which will give the captains the ability to login and look over existing ratings. I think this is a huge benefit for the teams for future ratings. If you are interested and are a captain, please email me to set-up an account at gdonat@fsga.org.

I have noticed lately a number of ratings coming in without tee designations and dates. I need to have the correct tee designations included with every rating. This is a basic component of the rating and without it, we just delay the process. Another basic component would be the date the course was rated. This information is essential to the process so please do not leave it out.

Thanks again for everyone's hard work. Talk to you again next month!

Gary Donat

Director of Course Rating



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.

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.

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

Volunteer Central – Signing up for FJT & Winter Series Events

The **2010-2011 Florida Junior Tour** season is underway. Volunteer sign-up is now available online under Volunteer Central. We need your help to continue conducting first-class events for Florida's juniors. Please sign up to volunteer for the opportunity to watch Florida's future of golf.



Location	Date	Entries Close
Delray Dunes G & CC (13-15), Boynton Beach	September 11-12	August 4
Eagle Creek Golf & CC (16-18), Naples	September 18-19	August 11
Wyndemere CC (13-15), Naples	October 2-3	August 25
Sugarloaf Mountain G & TC (16-18), Clermont	October 16-17	September 8
World Woods GC (13-15), Brooksville	November 6-7	September 29
Mission Inn Resort (16-18), Howey-in-The-Hills	November 13-14	October 6
Lake Wales CC (13-15), Lake Wales	December 11-12	November 3
Old Corkscrew GC (16-18), Estero	December 11-12	November 3
Brooksville CC (16-18), Brooksville	January 8-9	December 1
Gainesville CC (13-15), Gainesville	January 15-16	December 8
Amelia National GC (16-18), Amelia Island	January 29-30	December 22
Viera East GC (13-15), Viera	February 12-13	January 5
Southwood GC (16-18), Tallahassee	February 26-27	January 20
LPGA International (13-15), Daytona Beach	March 5-6	January 26
Vero Beach CC (16-18), Vero Beach	March 12-13	February 2
Cypress Run GC (13-15), Tarpon Springs	March 19-20	February 9
Harmony Golf Preserve (16-18), Harmony	April 2-3	February 23
Rio Pinar CC (16-18), Orlando	April 16-17	March 9
Lemon Bay GC (13-15), Englewood	April 30-May 1	March 23
Ritz-Carlton Members GC (16-18), Bradenton	May 14-15	April 6
Innisbrook Resort & GC (Boys 16-18), Palm Harbor	May 28-30	April 20
Orange Co. Nat. (Boys 13-15 & Girls 13-18), Winter Garden	May 28-30	April 20
The Evergreen Club (13-15), Palm City	July 16-17	June 8

2010-2011 Winter Series

The **2010-2011 Winter Series** will begin in late November and volunteer sign up is now open online.

Location	Date	Entries Close
PGA Golf Club, Port Saint Lucie	November 29-30, 2010	November 17
Orange County National, Winter Garden	December 13-14, 2010	December 1
Victoria Hills Golf Club, DeLand	January 3-4, 2011	December 22
Waterlefe Golf & River Club, Bradenton	January 17-18, 2011	January 5
Santa Lucia River Club **Four-Ball** , Port St. Lucie	January 31-February 1, 2011	January 19
Hunters Green Country Club, Tampa	February 14-15, 2011	February 2
Verandah Club, Fort Myers	February 28-March 1, 2011	February 16
Southern Hills Plantation, Brooksville	March 14-15, 2011	March 2

Happy Birthday to all of our Committee Members!



Chris	Swenson	Bonita Springs	10/1
Dan	Hynes	Trinity	10/2
Dick	Chapman	Bayonet Point	10/2
Bob	MacPherson	Sun City Center	10/3
Joe	Vanderveen	Haines City	10/4
John	Kranak	Pensacola	10/4
Maryann	Chapman	Bayonet Point	10/4
Dottie	Chepp	Fleming Island	10/6
Bob	Jackson	Clermont	10/9
Herb	Funk	Lakeland	10/9
Kyle	Catlett	Tampa	10/9
Christine	Sartori	Orlando	10/10
David	Jungk	Ocala	10/11
Frank	Lacks	Lakeland	10/11
Taffie	Brisley	Bradenton	10/14
Ray	Mantle	Jacksonville	10/15
Bill	Missildine	Destin	10/17
Nick	Fernandez	Pembroke Pines	10/17
Scott	Thompson	Bradenton	10/19
Vincent	Difilippo	Trinity	10/19
John	Ives	Gainesville	10/21
Frank	Skoviera	Tampa	10/24
Gene	Cook	Ponte Vedra Beach	10/24
Martin	Connelly	Stuart	10/25
Pep	McPhillips	Sumter	10/25
Sharon	Baerenklau	Heathrow	10/25
Troy	Lovell	Valrico	10/25
Charlie	Sokolash	University Park	10/26
Sandra	Columbaro	Vero Beach	10/26
Joan	Carville	Palm City	10/27
Michael	Tatom	Jacksonville	10/27
Wil	Sherrell	Niceville	10/27
Joe	Thompson	Fort Myers	10/28
Joseph	Rezek	Lake Suzy	10/28
Paul	O'Neill	Poinciana	10/28
Richard	Derbes	Tequesta	10/28
Robert	Collins	Fort Myers	10/28
Pierre	Fisher	Lake Suzy	10/29
Christopher	Brown	Orlando	10/30
John	Lopiano	St. Augustine	10/31

Happy Birthday to all forty of our Committee Members born in the month of October! 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.