

Ratings & Rulings

NEWSLETTER FOR FSGA VOLUNTEERS

AUGUST 2001

GIMMES

Mixed Team Event

The dates of the Mixed Team Event at Gasparilla Golf Course have been changed. Originally scheduled for November 3-4, the new dates are October 27-28. Please mark the change on your schedule and we look forward to seeing you at this great event.

U.S. Senior Open

The Florida contingent was strong at the U.S. Senior Open in Salem, Mass. **David Boesel** made the cut and finished tied for 48th with scores of 73-74-71-78--296. He also just missed being the top amateur at the event by two strokes. FSGA President **Rick Woulfe** also advanced, but he fought off back pains to shoot 80-82 and miss the cut. FSGA Executive Director **Jim Demick** joined **Bruce Flower**, **Ray Columbaro**, **Charlie Bedford**, **Ivan Trusler** and **Mallory Privett** as officials at the event. Florida residents **Gene Smith**, of the Senior PGA Tour, and **Mike Shea**, of the PGA Tour, also officiated. Tampa resident **Fred Ridley** was also present as Vice-President of the USGA and Chairman of the Championship's Committee.



**FLORIDA STATE
GOLF ASSOCIATION**

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Appreciation Days have been Scheduled

■ Five Sites have been set for our Volunteer Appreciation Days to be held this fall. (Two more sites -- Orlando and Pensacola -- will be included, but no date and site has been determined.) All active volunteers will receive an invitation to one of the sites based on the section they serve. Last year, over 150 volunteers attended and had a great round of golf and delicious lunch.

**TwinEagles G&CC
Naples
Monday, October 22**

**Selva Marina CC
Jacksonville
Friday, October 26**

**Bear Lakes CC
West Palm Beach
Monday, October 29**

**Palma Ceia CC
Tampa
Tuesday, October 30**

**Golden Eagle G&CC
Tallahassee
Thursday, November 1**

State Amateur: Rain, Rain and More Rain

■ The top amateur golfers in the state arrived at the challenging World Woods Golf Club for the 84th Florida State Amateur Championship. To provide an even harder challenge, rain clouds also started rolling in. **Robbie Schulz** overcame the challenging conditions and lengthy rain delays to post a final-round 67 and win the title by four strokes.

After an uneventful first round, the rain showed up early during the second round. Players were evacuated for about two hours until conditions lightened up. Tournament Chairman **Jack Pultorak** had prepared a "Plan B" in case the second round was washed out, but fortunately all 156 players finished their rounds before dark.

The third round on Saturday was one of the hardest and most frustrating days for players and officials. After the long day on Friday, Saturday was even longer. Two groups had started play on both the front and back of the Rolling Oaks Course when lightning caused officials to suspend play at 7:17 a.m. Officials kept communication open with players and let them know the anticipated time of a restart was 11:38. Players hit the range and started warming up while the four groups were situated back on the course. At 11:32 (6 minutes prior to the re-start), the Thor-Guard Lightning Detection System alerted officials of nearby lightning strikes. Officials "aborted the mission" and remained in suspension. Another thunderstorm cell had formed and caused heavy rains and lightning. The new re-start time was set at 1:18. Six hours after their original tee times, the weather cooperated and players were finally able to start their round.

The final round was similar to Friday with a quick morning thundershower. All the players were on the course when inclement weather forced officials to suspend around 10:30. As players mingled, they found the leaderboard had already changed dramatically. Schulz had got off to a hot start and was tied with the leaders. He stayed hot even after the rain, to pull away and claim the title despite waiting almost 10 hours in the clubhouse during the event.

The Tournament Staff did a great job. **Jack Pultorak** was Tournament Chairman and did a great job of keeping everyone safe and making good, quick decisions. **Peter Dachisen** acted as Rules Chairman and was joined on the Tournament Committee by **Bill Clark**, **Jim Marshall**, **Bill Smith**, **Carl Arnold**, **Paul Del Vacchio**, **Bob Kane**, **Jack Whynot**, **Ray Beloin**, **Bob Hart**, **Jo Smith**, **Lee Habjan**, **Karen Korf**, **Pat Donnelly**, **Cora Marshall**, **Phyllis Jarskey**, **Judy Kane** and **Pauline Beloin**. FSGA staff members **Andrew Crabtree**, **Les Brown**, **Chris Lowery** and **Jim Demick** were also available.

Honest Man

In the spirit and integrity of the Rules of Golf, State Amateur competitor **Doug Ritter** imposed a one-stroke penalty on himself during the final round due to his ball moving after address on the putting green. And yes, he did replace his ball.

Evacuation Record?

The Tournament Committee had a lot of practice, but they may have broken an evacuation record at the State Amateur. Once the horns sounded to halt play during the final round, the course was clear in less than 7 minutes.

US Junior Qualifiers

We tried an experiment this year by running all 36 holes of the US Junior qualifiers on the same day. We ran into some problems, so the Championship Committee will review plans for next year.

Helping Out

Jack Pultorak and **Andrew Crabtree** were speakers at the recent Florida Athletic Coaches Association Annual Conference. Coaches from all over the state attend to network and learn interesting information. Jack spoke on the Rules of Golf and how to use the USGA Rules of Golf book, while Andrew spoke about the FSGA's involvement with high schools and junior golf programs.

Logoed Apparel

If you are interested in FSGA merchandise or would like to purchase additional shirts or hats, you can contact **Marcia Morris** at the FSGA Office.

Club Members

As of July 1, 732 clubs have joined the FSGA. At the end of last year, we had 758 member clubs.

"I'm on the wrong putting green..."

■ On the 12th hole, I pull my second shot left of the fairway and my ball comes to rest on the putting green of the 16th hole. How should I proceed?

If I look up "wrong putting green" using the index or the table of contents in the Rule Book, it will lead me to Rule 25 and specifically section 25-3, which deals with a wrong putting green and how to proceed.

First, I need to find out what is a wrong putting green?

By definition, a "wrong putting green" is any putting green other than that of the hole being played. Unless otherwise prescribed by the Committee, this term includes a practice putting green or pitching green on the course.

Since I am playing the 12th hole, the putting green of the 16th hole would be a wrong putting green.

Next, I must determine if interference exists?

(Rule 25-3a) Interference by a wrong putting green occurs when a ball is on the wrong putting green. Interference to a player's stance or the area of his intended swing is not, of itself, interference under this Rule.

Since my ball lies on a wrong putting green, interference does exist.

Finally, I must take relief as prescribed if interference does exist? (Rule 25-3b) If a player has interference by a wrong putting green, the player must take relief, without penalty as follows:

The nearest point of relief shall be determined which is not in a hazard or on a putting green. The player shall lift the ball and drop it within one club-length of and not nearer the hole than the nearest point of relief, on a part of the course which avoids interference (as defined) by the wrong putting green and is not in a hazard or on a putting green. The ball may be cleaned when so lifted.

Since I have interference, I must take relief by dropping my ball without penalty within one club-length of my nearest point of relief no nearer the hole.

Remember, use the index or the table of contents to find the correct rule that applies to the situation and follow the Rules of Golf to help yourself to enjoy the game of golf.

Lots of help at the State Junior

■ Eventual champion **Robert Gates Jr.** appreciated it. So did the rest of the field at the Florida State Junior Championship.

They all appreciated the volunteers that shuttled players from green to tee when the distance was too far to walk. Turned out to be seven holes over the two courses at LPGA International that needed shuttle drivers.

Usually finding a group of shuttle volunteers would be hard to find, but we didn't have a problem this year thanks to **Bill Hermann**.

Hermann worked with Tournament Director **Les Brown** and the club to organize a group that would be able to volunteer during the championship. He put up notices at Daytona Beach Municipal Golf Course and at his home course, Spruce Creek Country Club, in order to find volunteers.

The response turned out to be perfect. Fourteen volunteers showed up the first day. Hermann had organized a registration table where volunteers could check in and receive their assignments. He didn't want to confuse players and volunteers by combining the player registration table with the shuttle regis-

tration, so he just set up his own.

The second day went very smoothly. Nine volunteers returned, and he added five new people who were unable to show for the first round. Many requested to work the same assignment they had been given the previous day.

After all the players had passed their specific holes, many volunteers continued to work by driving players to the scoring area once play was completed.

Bill knew many of the volunteers because they all assisted when the LPGA held events at the club. That, along with the volunteers being very sensitive towards juniors, helped make the process of getting volunteers fairly easy. When it came down to it, they all just wanted to come out and be a part of the activities.

We appreciate Bill and all of the shuttle volunteers for all of their hard work! They, along with Tournament Committee Members **Stu Aites**, **Ted Burfiend**, **Charlie Caravati**, **Judy Comella**, **Tom and Cora Corum**, **Larry Flynn**, **Tom Keedy**, **Roy Hobson**, **Karen Korf**, **Jim Shupe** and **Tom Storey** made the State Junior another successful FSGA championship.

GIMMES

Junior Programs

Andrew Crabtree, our Manager of Junior Programs, is establishing a central clearinghouse for junior golf programs. If you are familiar with a local junior golf program, please pass it along to Andrew at his e-mail: acrabtree@fsga.org.

FWSGA Website

The Florida Women's State Golf Association has a new website at www.fwsga.org. The creative site has up-to-date information on tournaments, as well as a junior golfers page and a news and notes page.

Deadline Reminders

The deadline is quickly approaching for the State Mid-Senior (July 25). The State Mid-Amateur closes on August 15, while the Mid-Senior Four-Ball's close on August 22. Entry forms for all events can be found on the FSGA web site -- www.fsga.org.

Junior Golf Summit

We are working with the USGA in co-hosting a North Florida Junior Golf Summit. It will be held Saturday, July 28 at Marsh Landing Country Club in Ponte Vedra Beach. The Summit is one of numerous conferences being held across the nation to provide junior golf program directors and coordinators, teaching professionals, course owners and operators and allied golf associations the opportunity to come together to share best practices and voice their opinions on opportunities for all youth to learn and play golf. The Summit is being conducted as part of Golf 20/20, an industry-wide initiative introduced by the World Golf Foundation to enhance the game of golf.

GHIN Seminars Still Going Strong

Four successful GHIN Seminars have already been held throughout the state. Three more are on the schedule with two additional sites to be named at a later date.

Each seminar provides informational tutorials on the Golf Handicap Information Network (GHIN) and training in the Tournament Pairings Package (TPP). Question-and-Answer sessions are also included.

The seminars run from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and are free of charge. They are open to PGA Professionals, shop staff and Handicap Chairmen. Professionals also receive four hours of continuing education credit for attending. It isn't necessary for a club to be on the GHIN System to attend the seminar. All clubs, regardless of handicap system, are encouraged to send a representative.

We hope you will help make these seminars known to your club's staff. For more information or to register, please contact Aaron Skoviera in the FSGA Office at (813) 632-3742.

GHIN SEMINARS

August 6	Plantation Inn Resort, Crystal River
Sept. 17	River Bend Golf Club, Ormond Beach
October 1	River Hills Golf Club, Valrico
November - December	To Be Announced

Nov 5 forest glens, Naples
 Dec 3 ?

COURSE RATING ROUND-UP

Quick Quiz for course raters

Congratulations to Criss Tausan and Brian Robideau for correctly answering the three course rating questions in the last quiz. The questions are derived from a Course Rating Quiz handed out at the USGA National Course Rating Calibration Seminar, so they can be tough. Following are the answers to the last quiz including the percentage of rating teams that missed the question at the calibration seminar and the percentage of FSGA raters returning answers that missed the question:

Question 1: The difficulty of a golf course for an average player is best described by:

- A narrator from the club.
- Par.
- USGA Course Rating
- USGA Slope Rating
- Both USGA Course and Slope Ratings

Answer 1: E (50% and 55%)

Question 2: Which of the following obstacles can be assigned a rating of 0 +2 ?

- Fairway.
- Green Target
- Recoverability and Rough
- Green Surface
- None of the above

Answer 2: E (2% and 9%)

Question 3: Mature trees left and right at the tee shot landing zone have a probability of recoverability of 30%. To the left, they are 36 yards from the center of the fairway; to the right they are 16 yards from the center. The appropriate Trees rating is:

a.	4	0			
b.	5	0	left	Scratch	bogey
c.	6	0	right	4	4
d.	6	+1		6	6
e.	7	0	avg.	5	5

Answer 3: B (59% and 64%)

Here's the next quiz. Individuals that correctly answer all the questions will be listed in the next issue of *Ratings & Rulings*. At the end of the year, the individual who has correctly answered the most questions will win a prize.

You can e-mail your answers to clowery@fsga.org or mail/fax your answers to the office. The deadline for this month's contest is Wednesday, August 8. Correct answers will be in the following month's issue.

Question 1: The green target rating must be determined:

- After the Effective Playing Length factors are rated.
- Before the Bunker ratings are determined.
- Before the Recoverability and Rough ratings are determined.
- All of the Above.

Question 2: An adjustment for obstacle squeeze is needed when:

- The tee shot must be hit between trees 15 yards apart 100 yards from the tee.
- Water is 15 yards left and OB is 20 yards right of the center of the green.
- Firm, flat bunkers are 15 yards left and extreme rough is 20 yards right of the center of the fairway landing zone.
- Out of bounds is 30 yards left and water is 15 yards right of the center of the fairway landing zone.

Question 3: A green which has been divided into three circles to rate Green Target because of three relatively flat tiers has a Stimpmeter reading of 7 feet. Its Green Surface rating should be:

- 4 0
- 4 +1
- 5 0
- 6 0
- 6 +1

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Course Rating Info.

♦ In order to "earn" new shirts and hats, make sure you are keeping a complete record of days worked. If you need a "Volunteer Service Credit Form," please call Chris or Marcia at the FSGA Office.

♦ When rating a par-3 hole, there is no such thing as fairway. For the bogey golfer, on par-3 holes over 200 yards long, grassy areas around the green are taken into account by the Recoverability and Rough rating, not Fairway. Base the Green Target on the short approach shot or, if applicable, on Transition Zone concepts.

♦ Within a week of receiving a request, the captain should contact the club and let them know you have received their request. Many of the clubs are very anxious to hear from you! Captains should also give them an approximate time frame as to when the service will be performed. If you are busy, at least call them, say you have received their request, but it will be a couple of weeks until you can rate their course. You can set the date of the rating at a later time.

♦ Always be in proper uniform when at a club. The official rating uniform is a white FSGA golf shirt, khaki slacks/shorts and FSGA hat/cap.

♦ Don't forget that you are representing the FSGA when rating a course. This is a great opportunity for public relations. Compliments on course condition or playability should be made whenever warranted. Negative comments should never be expressed to the club!

Rating Update

■ **Walt Gagnet**, Course Rating Captain of Section 6, has decided to call it quits after more than 10 years of rating. He started rating in South Carolina and was a captain the last 8 years he was there. After moving to Florida in 1998, he joined **K.E. Conrad's** team. When K.E. retired, Walt dutifully accepted the position as captain. His team has been one of the best in the state. Not only have they been accurate, but they have been timely.

We wish Walt all the best in his future projects and appreciate his hard work over the years. He will be missed!

Bob Kane will step up and act as captain for the Section 6 team.

Wigder joins staff

■ The FSGA has added **Bruce Wigder** to its staff as a Regional Manager of Handicapping.

Originally from Connecticut, Wigder started volunteering with the FSGA in January of 2000. He has served as President, Vice-President, Handicap Chairman and Tournament Chairman at golf clubs over the years. He was also a Tournament Director with the Junior Golf Association of Connecticut.

Wigder will work out of the Palm Beach area and promote the GHIN Handicap System while assisting with handicap needs. We welcome Bruce to the team and look forward to his help in promoting GHIN.

New GHIN Clubs

■ The following clubs have been added to the GHIN Handicap System since the last issue of *Ratings & Rulings*:

Golden Bear GC at Hammock Creek
Palm City

Hawk's Nest Golf Club
Vero Beach

Seven Hills Golf Course
Spring Hill

Spring Hill G&CC
Spring Hill

Terrace Hill Golf Center
Temple Terrace

Lucerne Lakes Golf Club
Lake Worth

Bay Colony Golf Club
Naples

Broken Sound Club
Boca Raton

Quail West G&CC
Naples



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