

Ratings & Rulings

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A Publication for FSGA Volunteers

Where Has The Summer Gone?

This summer has flown by! The kids are back in school already and the tournament schedule is more than halfway over. This year has been quite successful with the number of entries we have received for events as well as the response from volunteers. We hope this enthusiasm continues through the remainder of the year and into 2004. Here are some snapshots of volunteers at recent events. Keep those smiles on!



Volunteer Appreciation Days!

These fun events are just for you - the volunteers. Please call the office at (813) 632-3742 or log on to www.fsga.org to sign up for the site of your choice. Come and enjoy a round of golf, lunch and fun!

October 7, 2003

Bluewater Bay Resort, Niceville
1st tee time at 9:30 am

October 8, 2003

Mirasol Club, Palm Beach Gardens
1st tee time at 10:00 am

Orlando - TBA

October 15, 2003

Marsh Landing CC, Ponte Vedra Beach
1st tee time at 9:00 am

October 21, 2003

Lake Jovita CC, Tampa
1st tee time at 9:00 am

Naples - TBA

GIMMIES

Rules & GHIN Seminars

Be on the look out for the Rules of Golf seminars and GHIN workshops. All are in the planning stage and should be finalized soon.

Advertising with the FSGA

The FSGA newsletter, "Inside the FSGA," is now accepting advertisements. 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.

Footjoy Raingear

Recently, we formed a relationship with Footjoy and have ordered raingear for our staff. If you are interested in purchasing logo raingear for those wet days of summer, please contact Alyson Bartell at the office.

Shipping Included

Shop on the website and all your orders now include shipping. We will deliver your ordered items right to your doorstep in a matter of days. We also now carry Golf Road Maps. These are a great source of information on golf courses in a particular area.

PGA/USGA Rules Workshops

Online registration begins on August 14 at 5:00 pm EDT for the 2003-2004 PGA/USGA Rules of Golf workshops. Seminars in Florida include Port St. Lucie on January 7-10, Orlando on February 9-12 and a Tournament Administration Workshop in Ponte Vedra on March 14-17. Register online at www.pgalinks.com or call (800) 474-2776 or (561) 624-8570 after August 15 at 9:00 am.

Pace Of Play: What To Do If A Player Is Out Of Position?

Rule 6-7 states, in part: "The player shall without delay and in the accordance with the pace of play guidelines which may be laid down by the committee," and thereafter prescribes penalties for slow play.

If you find that a player is not within the pace of play guidelines or "out of position" there are some guidelines you must follow. First, what does "out of position" mean? The first group to start will be considered out of position if, at any time during the round, the group is behind their allotted time. Any following group will be considered out of position if it **a)** is taking more than the allotted time to play and **b)** reaches the tee of a par 3 hole and the hole is clear, fails to clear the tee of a par 4 hole before the preceding group clears the putting green or arrives at the teeing ground of a par 5 hole when the preceding group is on the putting green. When **both** conditions apply, the group is out of position. When timing a group

to see if they are out of position, time from a good distance away, at least 100 yards away. You do not have to tell the group they are being timed unless they ask you their status. Start timing when it is a player's turn to hit and he can play without distraction. The player must play a shot in 40 seconds or under unless he is first to play in his group. After one bad timing, advise the tournament chairman you are about to give a warning, and with his approval, give a warning.

Please be polite and courteous when letting players know they are out of position. Leave the area and let the Tournament Chairman or Rules Official on that side know what group is out of position. Let the Tournament Chairman or Rules Official take over from there to proceed with the group if they have further bad timings.

Pace of play is extremely important in running a successful and efficient event and with your help, we do just that!

Rintoul Ruling

At the recent Parent-Child Championship at the Walt Disney World Resort, a funny ruling happened in the junior division. Playing at the Oak Trail Executive Course, **Kyle Rintoul**, six years old, inadvertently struck and moved his ball at rest and in play on the putting green while making a practice putting stroke. Luckily, Kyle's partner and dad **Steve**, who when not playing golf earns his living as a PGA Tour Rules Official, was there to make sure Kyle got the ruling right.

At least he knew enough to replace the ball," said Steve. "That's more than some of the tour players know!"



Kyle and Steve Rintoul having fun at the Parent-Child Championship.

Are You Wearing The Correct Uniform?

Many FSGA volunteers are fairly new to the organization so here is a reminder of the proper uniform when volunteering at FSGA tournaments or performing course rating. A perfect example is Mike Craven, Tournament Chairmen. Mr. Craven has all the necessary clothing and equipment to be a volunteer.

If you need the proper FSGA shirt, hat or name tag, please contact Alyson Bartell in the office. Also, the more hours you volunteer, the more merchandise you receive. Remember, to fill out those Service Credit forms and send them in to receive merchandise.



Name tag - Please wear your name tag so players and fellow volunteers can learn your name. We ask that you wear one without a title on it.

FSGA Hat - This is your preference, but if you do wear a hat please make it a FSGA logo hat. There are many styles to choose from. Hats are available in the FSGA Golf Shop at www.fsga.org.

FSGA WHITE Golf Shirt - Please wear the white FSGA logo golf shirt. We have long gotten rid of the shirts with the blue collar.

Khaki Pants - Men, please wear khaki pants and women may wear khaki shorts, skorts or pants.

Shoes - Golf shoes are preferred but tennis shoes that are mostly white and clean are acceptable.

Radio & Headpiece - Clipping your radio to you is a good idea so it is always on you. If you like to use an earpiece, please keep it in so others can contact you.

Stopwatch - Good for volunteers to time pace of play.

FSGA Speaks at FHSAA Rules Clinics

Throughout the month of August, the FSGA Tournament Department with the assistance of Tournament Chairmen and volunteers will be traveling the state speaking to High School coaches and players at FHSAA Rules of Golf workshops. The FSGA has been involved in these seminars for 3 years and this is the first year that coaches are invited to bring their golf team with them to these clinics. The FHSAA hopes this will prove successful and players as well as the coaches will be better informed on the Rules of Golf. Jim, Jack, Les, Peter and Tom will split the duties of speaking at 12 Rules clinics. These clinics will include state of the art video presentation and rules examples. All high school players will receive a current Rules of Golf book.

GIMMIES

Picture Gallery

Visit the website, www.fsga.org and view pictures from recent tournaments. Pictures include the winners, volunteers and fun shots!

Scholarship Recipients

The FSGA recently gave more than \$7,000 to deserving students for their hard work in and out of the classroom. The students receiving scholarships are: **Brian Amell, Jennifer Bowie, Shane Burda, Christine Calvagno, Caitlin Robinson and Jeffrey Stanton.** The scholarship program is ongoing so if you know someone who you think is a good candidate, please contact the FSGA.

Mid-Amateur Qualifiers

Thank you to the following Tournament Chairmen who have volunteered their time and energy to be Tournament Chairmen for the Mid-Amateur Qualifiers in September. They are: **Randy Walford, Charlie Bedford, Pete Sniezko, Mike Craven Tom Storey and Skip Small.**

U.S. Senior Open

Last issue, it was mentioned that **Jim Demick** and **Mallory Privett** were rules officials at the U.S. Senior Open. Joining them from Florida were **Ray Columbaro, Tom Dudley** and **Bruce Flower.** The representation from Florida is wonderful!

Club Memberships

As of August 1, 763 golf clubs joined as FSGA Member Clubs. If your club is not a member, encourage them to join! Also, 491 clubs in Florida are on the GHIN Handicap System. If you help get your club on GHIN, you receive a Burton golf bag.

Volunteer Spotlight: Mike Alford

Mike Alford is one volunteer that comes with experience. As a past rules official for the Metropolitan Golf Association for 13 years and the Met's Director of Course Rating for two years, Mike knows his stuff!

Mike now lives in Nokomis, near Venice, but he grew up in the eastern part of the country. After graduating from Ricker College in northern Maine, Mike entered the paper business and has continued in that industry ever since. Working in New York City, Mike worked for a few paper companies and later moved to Florida to be able to play golf 12 months of the year. He and his wife are golf enthusiasts and wanted that luxury. So, Mike moved to Englewood and most recently, Nokomis. In Englewood is where he owns VenWood Awards and works with his son. The FSGA works closely with VenWood Awards as they engrave all the FSGA bag tags as well as our namebadges.

When he is not working, Mike is on the golf course at Mission Valley Country Club. He enjoys playing in many of the Winter Series events as well as some of the Championships. Every year for the past 13 years, Mike goes to Northern Ireland to play in the Black Bush tournament with some buddies.

Since working with the Met Golf Association, Mike has attended many PGA/USGA Rules Seminars. He enjoys his involvement with the FSGA and promoting amateur golf. He says, "The FSGA is as professionally run an association, I've ever seen." "It is nice to be associated with an organization with such high standards and follows by the Rules of Golf."

Everyone here at the FSGA really values Mike's involvement, both professionally and personally.



FSGA Winter Series Schedule Set

The 2003-2004 Winter Series events are planned and ready for entrants and volunteers. This year, there will be seven competitions, five individual events and two four-ball events. There will be three age divisions, Mid-Senior (40-54) will play approx. 6600 yards, Senior (55-64) will play approx. 6300 yards and Super Senior (65 & over) will play approx. 6000 yards. New this year, there will only be gross scoring (no net division). However, each age division will be flighted after the first round.

Sign up to play or volunteer by logging on to www.fsga.org.

Four-Ball Events

Lake Jovita Country Club
Dade City
January 26 & 27, 2004
entries close January 12, 2004

Harmony Golf Preserve
Harmony
March 8 & 9, 2004
entries close February 23, 2004

Individual Events

Links at Madison Green
Royal Palm Beach
December 8 & 9, 2003
entries close November 24, 2003

Victoria Hills Golf Club
DeLand
January 12 & 13, 2004
entries close December 29, 2003

Metrowest Country Club
Orlando
February 9 & 10, 2004
entries close January 26, 2004

River Hills Country Club
Valrico
March 22 & 23, 2004
entries close March 8, 2004

PGA National Golf Club
Palm Beach Gardens
April 2 & 3, 2004
entries close March 19, 2004

FSGA Staff Directory

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