



Ratings & Rulings

Ratings & Rulings ♦ December 2011

A Publication for ESGA Volunteers

GET READY...it's time to play some golf!

Volunteer Appreciation Days

We are gradually closing in on yet another fantastic summer of golf and it's time for you, our dedicated committee members, to be spoiled with a day of golf, lunch and stories of the season. Nine clubs around the state have been contacted to host volunteer appreciation days and four have already confirmed. Once all of the dates are scheduled, the entire committee will receive an email with complete site information and how to sign up.

Mark your calendar:

- Tampa – [**TPC of Tampa Bay**](#) – Wednesday, September 21st – 8:00 am shotgun
- Orlando – [**Grand Cypress Golf Club**](#) – Thursday, September 22nd – 8:00 am shotgun
- Ocala – [**Golden Ocala**](#) – Tuesday, October 4th – 8:30 am shotgun
- Sarasota – [**Sara Bay**](#) – Thursday, October 27th – 8:30 am shotgun

Grand Cypress



Golden Ocala

I Think That's My Ball

How many times have you observed someone looking for their ball reach down and pick up a ball to see if it is theirs? I bet it's been a bunch of times. Sometimes they won't even get out of the cart; just sort of give it the foot wedge to roll it over!

That may be what common sense tells us to do, but let's see what the Rules of Golf tell us we must do.

Rule 12-2, Identifying Ball, is the applicable Rule. It tells us what to do when we find it necessary to lift a ball to identify it. This Rule spells out very specific actions a player must take in order to lift a ball. Remember, the Rules do not want you to lift your ball just any old time. With the privilege of lifting your ball, other than on the putting green, come some responsibilities. Let's see what they are.

- 1. Before lifting the ball, the player must announce his intention to lift the ball to his opponent in match play or his marker or a fellow-competitor in stroke play.**
- 2. Before lifting the ball, he must mark its position**
- 3. Before lifting the ball, the player must give his opponent, marker or a fellow-competitor the opportunity to observe the lifting**

"Hey Pete, I think this is my ball. I put a tee down behind it and I'm going to lift it to see if it's mine. Do you want to watch me?"

"Nah, go ahead Tom, I trust you."

Tom may now go ahead and lift the ball to see if it his ball or a stray ball. If he cannot tell if it is his due to mud, grass or some other material adhering to the ball, he may clean it only to the extent necessary to identify it.



If it's not his ball, he may disregard and keep looking. If it turns out to be Tom's ball, he must replace it to its original position. However, he has one more action he must take before replacing his ball.

- 4. He must allow his opponent, marker or a fellow-competitor the opportunity to observe the replacement.**

"Hey Pete, it's mine. Do you want to watch me put it back?"

"Yea Tom, I'd better since I've got five bucks riding on this and I know it must have been sitting down pretty deep in that rough!"

If Tom had failed to comply with all or any one of these four requirements, he incurs a one-stroke penalty total; not one penalty stroke for each one he forgot.



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.

Jack Pultorak

Director of Rules and Competitions

One-Day Season

Come out and play with us on your days off from volunteering!

The one-day events are designed for golfers of all skill levels. Other golf associations across the United States have been very successful in running one-day competitions. The FSGA started running one-day events in 2008 and it was an instant success. We wanted to gear the events to a wider range of golfers so that they can have fun and compete for prizes. The [2011 schedule](#) features some of Florida's premiere courses including: **TPC Sawgrass, Innisbrook, Black Diamond, Naples National**, and many more!

Entry Fee

- Includes: Cart, golf, range balls, and prizes.

Format

- 18 holes of individual net stroke play within flights, unless you choose to play in the **Gross flight**.
- Players will play to 100% of their course handicap
- Shotgun start

Flights and Tees Played

- Gross Flight (All Ages) – Approximately 6,500 yards
- Under 50 Flight - Approximately 6,500 yards
- 50-64 Flight - Approximately 6,200 yards
- 65 and Over Flight - Approximately 6,000 yards
- Women's Flight – Approximately 5,200 yards



Entries, Tee Times, Results, and Details

- All entries must be received through the FSGA website. ****Except for TPC Sawgrass****
- Groupings and hole assignments will be posted approximately 3 days before the event.
- Results will be posted through the FSGA website.

Prizes

- \$10 per person (from the entry fee) is in the gift certificate pool.
- Payouts within flights - the number of players earning gift certificates and the amounts will be based on the number of players in each flight that week.

Eligibility

- Amateur golfers (Women are eligible for select events in each region).
- FSGA/GHIN handicap required (24.0 or less).
- Golfers who do not have a FSGA/GHIN handicap index from a FSGA member club may purchase a 2011 handicap online for \$30 at www.fsga.org.
- First time players without an established GHIN handicap will be eligible to compete, but not for prizes.

Course Rating Update

Hello Raters,

How's your summer going? I know many of you are very busy with ratings and I truly appreciate all of your hard work. This month I would like to discuss some procedural issues we need to iron out. I would appreciate some input about the Skycaddie GSX.

When submitting a rating to the office, in the body of the email, please indicate if the club has any combo tees that I need to compute. Also, please confirm with the club that the team has rated all necessary tees. Many times this summer, I have calculated ratings and printed certificates for a club, only to receive a call inquiring about a missing tee for men or women. Please make sure all tees are accounted for. If combo tees and/or other tees need to be calculated by making a yardage adjustment, please include a note in the body of the email regarding these calculations.

A golf professional at a club in Fort Myers measured his course with a Skycaddie GSX prior to my arrival. I, of course, told him his measurements could not be used because they were not done to USGA standards. When I finished measuring, I was very surprised by the results. We had an overall difference of 2 yards. Currently, I am looking into the procedure Skycaddie uses when measuring each course to see if this is a viable option for our rating teams. I think using the Skycaddie GSX could make everyone's job a lot easier. Please let me know if you have any experience with this device. We need to figure out if this is a fluke or not.

Until next month, take care....



Gary Donat
Director of Course Rating

Handicap Seminars

Each club is required to have at least one USGA\FSGA handicap certified representative before 01/01/2012. Seminars will begin at 8:00 am, end at 1:00 pm and include lunch. Topics covered will include:

- Responsibilities of the handicap committee
- Handicap index calculation
- Players competing from different tees
- Exceptional tournament performance
- Equitable Stroke Control
- Handicap allowances
- and many more

Fort Lauderdale Country Club (Plantation)
Hunters Green Country Club (Tampa)
Eagle Creek Golf & Country Club (Naples)
Bear Lakes Country Club (West Palm Beach)
TPC Prestancia (Sarasota)
Grand Harbor Golf & Beach Club (Vero Beach)
West Bay Golf Club (Estero)
Weston Hills Country Club (Weston)

Wednesday, 8/10/2011
Wednesday, 8/17/2011
Thursday, 9/1/2011
Wednesday, 9/7/2011
Monday, 9/19/2011
Friday, 9/23/2011
Thursday, 10/13/2011
Friday, 11/8/2011

Click [here](#) to sign up for a Handicap Seminar.

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 600 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.

Happy Birthday to all of our Committee Members!

Jack	Pultorak	Tampa	8/1
Joseph	Culleton	Lakeland	8/2
Vincent	Labella	Lutz	8/2
Maureen	Zajac	The Villages	8/2
Bob	McClure	Tampa	8/3
Boo	Privett	Palm Beach Gardens	8/4
Nancy	Becker	Naples	8/5
Ronald	Greenwald	Estero	8/5
Larry	Stewart	Trinity	8/5
Bryce	Voisin	Orlando	8/5
Robert	Chango	Tampa	8/7
Harlan	Chapin	Lady Lake	8/7
Ralph	Hoerner	The Villages	8/7
Robert	Belanger	Sun City Center	8/8
Larry	Van Dyke	Land O' Lakes	8/8
Thomas	Warren	Lady Lake	8/9
Cameron	White	Orlando	8/9
William	Fitzgerald	Jensen Beach	8/10
Geraldine	LaFerriere	Tarpon Springs	8/10
Rick	Berger	Fort Myers	8/11
Henry	DeHart	Trinity	8/11
Fred	Theye	Palm City	8/11
Jackie	Nelson	Bayonet Point	8/13
Lee	Thiery-Koch	Miramar	8/13
Glenn	Osick	Lakeland	8/14
Karen	Coffin	Poinciana	8/15
Ellen	Freund	Clearwater	8/15
Bill	O'Keefe	Lake Worth	8/15
Bob	Hayes	Naples	8/16
Tom	Keedy	Lady Lake	8/16
Pat	Keenan	Palm Beach Gardens	8/16
Dick	Johnson	Naples	8/17
Jeff	Magaditsch	Riverview	8/17
Bill	McBroom	St. Augustine	8/17
Elaine	McGivern	Lecanto	8/17
Lee	Habjan	Seminole	8/20
Ken	Stoner	Fort Myers	8/20
Royce	Zelnar	The Villages	8/20
Tom	Mahern	Venice	8/22
Thomas	Storey	Longwood	8/22
Marvin	Weinstein	Commerce Township	8/23
Tom	Nikoncyk	Winter Park	8/24
Robert	Powers	Naples	8/24
Rick	Greenleaf	Jupiter	8/25
David	Miller	Jupiter	8/28
Patti	Wadsworth	Parrish	8/28
Eric	DeFrain	Bonita Springs	8/30
Doug	Gillie	Palm Harbor	8/30
Jan	Smith	Poinciana	8/30

Welcome to the Family

Please welcome our new volunteers. Thanks again for all that you do for the Florida State Golf Association!

Cameron White – Orlando - Tournaments
Ray Norman – Merritt Island - Tournaments
Robert Weber – Pensacola – Tournaments
Sean Schreiber – Tarpon Springs - Tournaments

Recruit your Friends

We always welcome new Committee Members to join the FSGA family. Please talk to your friends and see if they are interested in coming along with you to volunteer at an event. If so, please call or email Tracy with their name and contact information.

The 2011-2012 Winter Series schedule of events is now available to sign up and volunteer.



Karen Korf and Pat Young

Volunteer Trivia: Debbie Dove

- 1. What year did you start volunteering for the FSGA?**
May 19, 2010 for a US Open Qualifier at Ballenises.
- 2. If you could be one person for a day, who would it be?**
Queen Elizabeth – I think I'd look good in a tiara!
- 3. What is your lowest round of golf?**
72 at Bear Lakes about two years ago. Sure would like to see something close to that again!
- 4. What state are you originally from?**
New York. I've lived all over the U.S., and spent 13 years in Europe.
- 5. Who is your favorite PGA Tour player?**
Ricki Fowler. Loved watching him on those final holes in the Ryder Cup.
- 6. What is your favorite food?**
Ice cream, bacon and everything bagels.
- 7. What is your favorite movie?**
Recently, Bridemaids – it was hysterical!
- 8. What is your favorite golf course?**
St. Andrews. The historical significance of it gave me the goose bumps.
- 9. Who is your favorite musician?**
Renee Fleming, the soprano – she's extremely talented, beautiful, AND gracious.
- 10. What do you do when you are not volunteering?**
I spend quality time with my husband and our two 15 year old labs, play some golf, and do Cross Fit in an attempt to shed the pounds brought on by the ice cream, bacon, and bagels!

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Volunteer News

Happy 50th Wedding Anniversary

**Johnny & Sandy Williams
August 19, 1961**

Congratulations!

Volunteer Service Credit Forms

Don't forget to record your volunteer service days on the Volunteer Service Credit Form. You can earn FSGA merchandise for your volunteer days. Please mail your completed form to Tracy to receive your goodies.

Volunteer Profiles

If you have not already done so...please take a minute to create or update your volunteer profile in Volunteer Central. We encourage you to keep this information current as it is a useful tool for tournament chairmen as well as the FSGA staff.

Florida Rules of Golf Group

FROGG meetings have been postponed until September. Please contact Scrib Kelly scribkelly@aol.com if you are interested in information regarding the Florida Rules of Golf Group.

FSGA Store

Please take a minute to visit the FSGA Store. We are continuing to add new merchandise to the store. We have recently added an FSGA carry golf bag, tee shirts and FootJoy windshirts.

Tracy's Tidbits.....

I hope everyone is having a wonderful summer. Once again this year, Peter and our son, Peter IV, played in the Parent-Child Championship at Disney World. The tournament format is Modified Alternate Shot and as you can see in the picture below, Peter IV was in need of a ruling. Jim Demick saw the situation and asked Peter IV to grab the longest club in his bag....hoping to teach him how to properly drop from the cart path. Unfortunately, as Jim approached the ball, you could see the disappointment in his face when he realized the ball was actually within the hazard. The moral of the story....Peter IV should play with his Mom so he can hit from the center of the fairway!

Tootles for now,

Tracy



Peter Dachisen IV and Jim Demick

SAY CHEESE!!!

2011 Florida Open Black Diamond Ranch



Royce Zelnar



Dave Jungk & Tom Keedy



Mallory Privett



Peter Dachisen & Mallory Privett

2011 Junior Championship
Quail Valley GC & Bent Pine GC, Vero Beach



John Penicnak



Rick Greenleaf



Debbie Dove

2011 Parent-Child Championship
Walt Disney World
(If only we could put a microphone on these kids?!)





The Collier County Course Rating Team

OWEN SODETZ, FRANK CARADONNA, DON GLASER, DOM VALENTE, BOB POWERS, RON DENNE



Love the pictures...keep 'em coming!!

*Thank you
for all you
do for the
FSGA!*