

Ratings & Rulings

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A Publication for FSGA Volunteers

2004 Off to Great Start

The 2004 Competitions Schedule is off to a great start as many of the Championships have had a full field and exciting finishes. The year started with the **Senior Championship** at the **Royal Palm Yacht and Country Club** in Boca Raton. There was a full field of 156 players as **Bruce Scamehorn** won his first senior event. Next, the first-ever **Junior-Senior Championship** was enjoyed by all. This inaugural event will definitely be on the schedule next year (see page 2 for more). The **Club Team Championship** returned to the **World Golf Village** as the **Ponte Vedra Inn & Club** won the title for the second straight year. The Ponte Vedra Inn & Club won the inaugural Championship in 1941 and again the following year, 1942. Next, **The Forest Country Club** in Naples hosted 48 teams for the **Two-Man Shoot-Out**. Both **Mid-Am Four-Ball Championships** received a great response as the **Country Club of Ocala** will host the North and **Miramar Lakes Golf Club** hosts the South. Entries for the **State Amateur Championship** closed May 5 with more than 700 entries. With the help of FSGA tournament chairmen and volunteers, we are able to conduct 13 State Amateur qualifiers across the state. Some pictures from the beginning of the year. . .



Pep McPhillips



George Andre & Mallory Privett



Pat McPhillips



Skip Small



Karen Korf, Pat McPhillips, Sue Zaras & Norma Diehl

U.S. Open Entries

U.S. Open entries closed last month and the USGA received a record 8,726 entries for the 2004 U.S. Open at Shinnecock Hills Golf Club in Southampton, New York on June 17-20.

The FSGA administers 17 local qualifiers for the U.S. Open and one sectional qualifier on June 8 at Lake Nona Golf Club. The sectional qualifier is one of only 13 across the country. This year, 1,234 competitors will attempt to qualify in Florida compared to 1,230 last year.

The youngest golfer to enter is 13-year-old Tommy Mou of Bradenton. Tommy currently plays on the Florida Junior Tour conducted by the FSGA.

Throughout the season, the FSGA will administer 41 qualifying events for USGA National Championships, more than any other region in the country!

GIMMIES

Membership Numbers

Currently, more than 2950 individuals have signed up for membership. We ask that all volunteers join the FSGA and support your State Golf Association. Renew your membership today at www.fsga.org. Also, over 730 clubs have signed up as 2004 FSGA Member Clubs. Encourage your club to join the FSGA!

GHIN/TPP Seminar

The USGA will teach a three-hour GHIN/TPP training session on June 4 at **Tampa Palms G & CC** in Tampa. The topics covered include the GHIN program and the 2004 TPP program. Registration begins at 8:30 am. The seminar runs from 9:00 am -12 Noon. Coffee and danish will be available and PGA pros will receive three CE's. Please register online at www.fsga.org.

Handicap Seminars ADDED

More Handicap Seminars have been added to the schedule in order to certify a Handicap Chairman at every club. The Handicap Seminars are intended to better educate more golfers to the USGA Handicap System. You can register at www.fsga.org or call the FSGA at (813) 632-3742.

New Dates

June 23 - River Hills CC, Valrico
July 13 - CC of Deer Run, Casselberry
August 17 - Sugarmill Woods CC, Homosassa
September 8 - The Villages Hacienda G & CC, The Villages
November 8 - Inverrary CC, Lauderhill

Junior-Senior Championship

This year was the inaugural year for the **Junior-Senior Championship**. The event was in high demand and lived up to its expectations.

The Orlando team of **Cap Caponi** and **David Lindquist** won the Championship at **Riverwood Golf Club** in Port Charlotte on April 24-25. Caponi and Lindquist were three strokes back from the leaders after their first round score



(L-R) **Cap Caponi**, Board member **Mike Timbers** and **David Lindquist**

of 68. The team came out in the final round to fire a nine under par 63, the low round of the tournament, to finish with a 131. The team of **Terrance Sourbeer**, of Princeton, and **Ed Trinidad**, from Miami, placed second shooting a pair of 66's to finish one back from the Champions with a 132. The father-son team of **Andy** and **Rick Spears**, who won the 2003 Parent-Child Championship, won the first flight recording a 71-67-138. **Howard Freeman** and **Thomas Lapcevic**, of Gainesville, prevailed in the second flight shooting a 76-71-147.

Forty-four teams of two competed in this inaugural Championship. One partner must be over 55 years of age and the other between 25-54 years old. Competitors played 36 holes of four-ball stroke play over the two days with the field flighted after 18 holes.

Be sure to look for the Junior-Senior Championship on the schedule next year but maybe with a different name!

Future of Golf Foundation

The Florida State Golf Association has formed the Future of Golf Foundation to benefit junior golfers and the future of golf in Florida. The FSGA has committed \$250,000 over five years for the Foundation.

The Future of Golf Foundation will provide college scholarships to junior golfers and assist juniors with entry and travel expenses to USGA national tournaments. The Foundation will also provide support to junior programs and other golf related causes.

The FSGA scholarship program benefits member clubs, their employees and dependents. In the past year, the FSGA has awarded more than \$20,000 in scholarships and provided an additional \$20,000 in grants.

The Foundation will be funded by contributions and fundraising programs including FSGA membership initiatives. All membership dollars above the Regular \$45 membership will go to the Foundation. In addition, competitors and visitors to the website will soon have the opportunity to donate through their tournament entry or purchases on the website.

The FSGA is now accepting donations to the Future of Golf Foundation to be distributed to deserving juniors this fall. To contribute, please call the FSGA office at (813) 632-3742 or send checks payable to the FSGA at 8875 Hidden River Parkway, Suite 110, Tampa, FL 33637.

The FSGA is also accepting applicants for the Future of Golf Foundation. To apply, please log on to www.fsga.org or call the FSGA for an application. The application process is ongoing and distributed throughout the year.

Understanding Your Handicap

By 2005, FSGA Member Clubs will be required to attend a USGA/FSGA Handicap Certification Seminar and attain certification to participate in the USGA Handicap System. Seminars continue to be scheduled so look for one in your area!

During our seminars and daily phone calls we receive in the office, several questions arise about the basic concepts within the USGA Handicap System.

A typical situation is when a golf course undergoes renovation, opens and the FSGA provides a revised course rating. Play begins and members see scoring changes and immediately say “the course rating is not correct because my scores are higher” or “my Course Handicap is 9 and I do not shoot my Course Handicap plus par (72).” Then, the Head Golf Professional says, “We need a new course rating.”

Let’s review an example where the new USGA Course Rating is as follows:

		USGA Course Rating (CR)	USGA Slope Rating (SR)
Championship	7135 Yards	74.6	139
Blue	6720 Yards	72.9	133
White	6335 Yards	71.6	125
Green	5745 Yards	69.3	117

In each case, a player (USGA Handicap Index 8.6) establishes a course handicap from each set of tees. A Course Handicap is your USGA Handicap Index/113 x USGA Slope Rating for the set of tees you intend to play. Then, a player establishes his expected target score (ETS) from each set of tees by adding his Course Handicap to the USGA Course Rating of that set of tees. Compare the scoring record to this example:

Championship	Course Handicap 11 + 74.6 (CR) = 85.6 or 86 (ETS)
Blue	Course Handicap 10 + 72.9 (CR) = 82.9 or 83 (ETS)
White	Course Handicap 10 + 71.6 (CR) = 81.6 or 82 (ETS)
Green	Course Handicap 9 + 69.3 (CR) = 78.3 or 78 (ETS)

It is essential to see that a player will shoot a different expected target score (ETS) from each set of tees. Increases in the USGA Course Rating will increase a player’s expected target score (ETS). Since your handicap index is the average of your 10 best score Handicap Differentials ((Adjusted Gross Score – USGA Course Rating) x 113/USGA Slope Rating multiplied by .96). The average of your ten best scores represents your lowest 25% of all your eligible scores multiplied by 96% which means that you will shoot your expected score (ETS) only 20-25 percent of the time. The average score of your last twenty scores represents a score you will score 50 percent of the time. The average member sees this number and relates it to his USGA Handicap Index to say the course rating is wrong. That player likely will score a minimum of one full shot higher, usually 2 or 3, than their expected target score as the average of their last twenty scores.

For further explanation and questions, please contact Ken Hagamann or Andy Green, Directors of Course Rating.

GIMMIES

Earpieces Available

You can now purchase your very own earpiece to be used during FSGA events. The earpieces cost \$10 and are available by calling Alyson Bartell at the FSGA office, (813) 632-3742 or emailing abartell@fsga.org.

Florida Junior Tour

The Florida Junior Tour is almost mid-way through the first season and more than 470 juniors have signed up for membership and all events have had a full field. Look for more events next season! FSGA volunteers can sign up to volunteer at FJT events online at www.fsga.org under Volunteer Central.

Parent/Child Championship

The Parent-Child Championship will once again return to the Walt Disney World Resort on July 31-August 1. Sign up now to play or volunteer at the fun event for the entire family. Entries close July 7. Remember, grandparents can play with a grandchild.

GolfWeek

FSGA Members only can receive 25 issues of GolfWeek for only \$24.95 and get a free sleeve of golf balls. Log on to www.fsga.org to order your subscription today!

Father’s Day

Shop in the FSGA Pro Shop for the special man in your life. The Pro Shop has great Father’s Day gift ideas including logo shirts, sweater vests, windshirts and golf bags. Shipping is now included in the price and your items will be shipped directly to you or your dad!

Volunteer Spotlight George Andre

George Andre is one volunteer who knows his stuff on and off the course! Growing up in Tulsa, Oklahoma, he then moved to Virginia where he lived for 30 years. Before retiring to Palm Beach Gardens, George worked as an airline pilot for US Airways. After junior college, he graduated from aviation school to work as a pilot and then flight instructor.

George first got involved with the FSGA five years ago when Board member Mallory Privett introduced him to the organization. Since, he has been involved as a tournament volunteer and certified Rules Official. He has attended two PGA/USGA Rules workshops and three FSGA Rules of Golf seminars. He enjoys the Rules side of the game as well as starting and “just meeting the guys.” George volunteers his time at many of the events in Palm Beach County. This summer, he will be volunteering at many of the USGA and FSGA qualifiers in that area.

George is also quite the player. He started playing golf at the age of nine and continued to play as an adult. He won the Virginia State Mid-Amateur Championship in 1979 as well as the Valentine Invitational in Richmond that same year. George qualified for the U.S. Senior Open in 1988 and 1996 but did not make the cut. He even played in the FSGA Southeast Challenge Matches. Throughout his golfing career, he has made six hole-in-ones. Now, George tries to play at least three days a week at his home club PGA National where he serves on the long range planning committee.

In his spare time, George is an amateur club maker and enjoys building clubs for friends. George and his wife have two children and one grandchild.



George Andre



(L-R) Pat McPhillips, George Andre & Mallory Privett at the Senior Championship.

FSGA Staff Directory

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Course Rating Calibration at LPGA



Director of Course Rating **Andy Green** shows the probability of the scratch golfer recovering from trees.



Joann Sluder demonstrates the stimp meter at the LPGA Calibration.



The men from **Section 8** go over the day's work.