

Ratings & Rulings

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A Publication for FSGA Volunteers

Volunteer Sign-Up Now Available

The Championship season kicks off this month with qualifying for the **Senior Amateur Championship** at **Old Corkscrew Golf Club** in Estero (Ft. Myers area) on April 15-17. We are looking forward to a great season at such fine venues as **Jupiter Hills**, **TPC Sawgrass** and **Quail Valley**. Committee Members can now sign up for all events online under the “Volunteer Central” page of the website at www.fsga.org.

This year will include more than 250 days of competition including 25 State Championships and over 40 qualifying events for USGA National Championships. Don't forget to also sign up to volunteer at Florida Junior Tour events. The **91st Amateur Championship** is right around the corner with 13 qualifiers across the state so please sign up to help in your area. These qualifiers are one day events with the Championship at **Jupiter Hills Club** in Tequesta. Soon after Amateur qualifying, Junior and Four-Ball qualifying are set to start with USGA qualifying events throughout the summer. We greatly appreciate all your help and support and we look forward to a great year in 2008.



John Dickey, Mike Lonergan, Len Veraldi and Scrib Kelly with David Leadbetter at the Victoria Hills Florida Junior Tour event.

Championship	Date	Entries Close	Location
Men's Interclub Team	April 5-6	December 3	Tampa Palms CC , Tampa
Senior (Qualifiers)	April 15-17	February 27	Old Corkscrew GC , Estero
Sr/Mid-Am Four-Ball Club Team	April 26-27	March 26	Fiddlers Creek , Naples
Two-Man Shoot-Out	May 3-4	April 2	Golden Hills, Ocala/Juliette Falls , Dunnellon
Mid-Am Four-Ball (N)	May 17-18	April 16	LPGA International , Daytona Beach
Mid-Am Four-Ball (S)	May 31-June 1	April 30	Windsor Parke GC , Jacksonville
Amateur (Qualifiers)	May 31-June 1	April 30	Hobe Sound GC , Hobe Sound
Senior Match Play	June 19-22	May 7	Jupiter Hills Club , Tequesta
Boys Junior (Qualifiers)	July 6-10	June 4	Golden Ocala , Ocala
Four-Ball (Qualifiers)	July 7-9	May 14	Interlachen/CC of Orlando , Orlando
Public Links	July 12-13	May 28	TPC Sawgrass , Ponte Vedra Beach
Parent-Child	July 18-20	June 25	Hunters Creek GC , Orlando
Jr Match Play	July 26-27	June 25	Disney , Lake Buena Vista
Match Play (Qualifiers)	July 28-31	July 2	Bear Lakes CC , West Palm Beach
Junior Team	August 7-10	June 11	Quail Valley GC , Vero Beach
Junior Florida Cup	August 9-10	July 9	Disney , Lake Buena Vista
Mid-Senior	August 13-14	Invitational	Palma Ceia G & CC , Tampa
Mid-Sr Four-Ball (N)	August 15-17	July 16	Grand Harbor , Vero Beach
Mid-Sr Four-Ball (S)	Sept. 13-14	August 13	Amelia River GC , Amelia Island
Mid-Amateur (Qualifiers)	Sept. 13-14	August 13	Kensington G & CC , Naples
Senior Four-Ball	October 2-5	August 6	Coral Creek Club , Placida
Mixed Team (FWSGA)	October 7-8	September 10	Lost Tree Club , North Palm Beach
NW Club Challenge	October 11-12	September 26	River Wilderness , Parrish
SE Challenge Matches	October 18-19	September 24	Santa Rosa GC , Santa Rosa Beach
	October 18-19	Invitational	Kiva Dunes , Gulf Shores, Alabama

Membership Numbers

Currently, more than 2,000 individuals have signed up as 2008 FSGA members. If you have not renewed your membership, please do so at www.fsga.org. In addition, the Florida Junior Tour is on its way of hitting record numbers. More than 760 juniors have signed up so far for FJT membership and many events remain on the schedule. At this point, we already have more than 830 Member Clubs. If your club is not a member, encourage them to join and support golf in Florida.

USGA/PGA Rules Seminar

All of the FSGA Tournament Department attended or will be attending one of the USGA/PGA Rules of Golf Seminars this year to freshen up their knowledge on the Rules of Golf. Tournament Chairmen who attended a Seminar include Ted Burfeind, Duane D'Alessandro, Tom Dudley, Dyke Farrow, Bob Forward, John Ives, Scrib Kelly, Chuck Phillips, Skip Small, Richard Young and Ken Hagamann.

Scholarship Money Available

We need your help reaching deserving juniors in the state. Through the Future of Golf Foundation, the FSGA awards college scholarships to employees of full member clubs and junior golfers. The FSGA also offers junior golfers financial assistance to state and national tournaments. Please help us get to these juniors. Tell your club staff and juniors at your club about this scholarship opportunity. Direct applicants to www.fsga.org or contact the office at 813.632.3742.

Rules Official Certification

With the growth of competitive golf in Florida, the need for qualified Rules Officials continues to rise. The FSGA frequently receives requests to provide officials for all types of competitions.

To address the need for more officials, we are offering comprehensive Rules and officials' training for interested golfers and existing volunteers. The training provided will allow you to expand your competency in both the Rules of Golf and officiating techniques.

To help at a golf competition, you do not need to be an expert on the Rules – you just need to love of the game. Some volunteers help out three or four days a year while others work more than 50 days each year – it all depends on your level of interest and everyone is welcome. There are many responsibilities involved in conducting a competition that do not require advanced Rules knowledge, such as serving a starter or scoring official, or helping with pace of play checkpoints. In fact, most volunteers at our competitions are not certified Rules Officials.

However, as you become more interested in helping, we hope you will choose to become a certified FSGA Rules Official. To become certified as a Rule Official, you will need to attend two different training workshops, pass a test and work several events to become proficient in officiating techniques.

Below are the criteria for attaining and remaining certified as a Rules Official. Those who achieve certification will have their name and picture added to the FSGA web site as a Certified Official.

The FSGA will be conducting 2 day Advanced Rules & Officiating Classes in the near future. Please contact Tom in the office at tzaras@fsga.org if you are interested in attending a class. Also, please continue checking the website for Rules Seminars to be added to the schedule.

RULES OFFICIAL

Education: 1. Attend EITHER an FSGA One day Rule Seminar OR a PGA/USGA Three day Rule Seminar; AND
2. Attend an FSGA Two day Advanced Rules & Officiating Class; AND
3. Achieve a score of 85 or higher on the FSGA examination (Administered at Two day class) OR a score of 75 or higher on PGA/USGA annual examination (provide copy of certificate). Scores are valid for a period of 4 years.
On Course: Work four (4) days at an FSGA administered Championship or qualifying event after completing education requirement.

SENIOR RULES OFFICIAL

Education: 1. Attend an FSGA Two day Advanced Rules & Officiating Class; AND
2. Achieve a score of 92 or higher on the annual PGA/USGA Rules of Golf examination. Score is valid for a period of 4 years.
On Course: Work four (4) days at an FSGA administered Championship or qualifying event after completing education requirement.

CONTINUING REQUIREMENT

1. Work three (3) days at an FSGA administered Championship or qualifying event per calendar year; AND
2. During each four (4) year period, attend an FSGA Advanced Class; AND
3. During each four (4) year period, attend an FSGA One day Rules Seminar OR PGA/USGA Rules of Golf Seminar.

Course Rating News

Pricing

In an effort to bring more consistent USGA Course Ratings to the state, beginning this year an Official Golf Course Measurement must be conducted by the FSGA prior to the rating of any golf course unless an official FSGA measurement is in place and no changes affecting the existing measurements has occurred. Clubs that are full member clubs (clubs that use the GHIN Handicap System) will receive the measurement at no charge. FSGA affiliate clubs (clubs that don't use the GHIN Handicap System) will be charged \$500 for each nine holes. The clubs will be notified of the pricing for course measurement by the FSGA Course Rating Department after the initial request for a rating has been received.

Permanent Markers

Because yardage affects the course rating so heavily, it is extremely important that a course is measured properly and accurately. Accurate placement of the permanent markers is also critical. An inaccurate placement of permanent markers will result in the handicap index either being artificially too high or too low. The permanent markers shall be placed in the center of its allocated teeing area or pad.

We now offer FSGA logo granite markers to clubs. These markers will be supplied by FSGA at a cost of \$15 a unit. If the club has permanent markers in place but are positioned incorrectly the club will be asked to move them to the proper position. Or, if the club wants to use their own markers (Stone, Brick, etc.) that is acceptable by the FSGA as long as the markers are put in the ground soon after the measuring team has completed their work. The club would be required prior to the rating to have permanent markers on the primary set of Men's tees installed. It would be strongly recommended that the club places permanent markers accurately positioned for each set of tees. The FSGA also provides other options for permanent markers at an additional cost. Please contact Gary in the office at gdonat@fsga.org about obtaining more information on the markers and how to get them at your club or at a club that you have measured.



GIMMIES

Welcome New Volunteers

Please welcome the following Committee Members to the FSGA. We greatly appreciate all their support and dedication. Maureen Zajac, Joe Plouffe, Delph Gustitus, Karen Knight, John Knight, Richard Delaney, Edward Hritz, Hugh Brown, Andrew Dosek, Ben Romanasky, Denny Meskill and John Hubbert.

Volunteer Profiles

Be sure to update your Volunteer Profile for the season. Visit the Volunteer Central page of www.fsga.org for all your Volunteer needs. Please read over the Volunteer Policies and if you need a uniform shirt or hat, please contact Alyson in the office.

Recruit your Friends

We are in need of more Committee Members. Please talk to your golfing buddies and see if they would be 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.

Sights of the Season



FSGA Staff Directory

Jim Demick	Executive Director jdemick@fsga.org
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