

Ratings & Rulings

NEWSLETTER FOR FSGA VOLUNTEERS

OCTOBER 2001

Appreciation Days update (Marcia)

Course Rater Helps FSGA Find New Club

Pat Finfrock, one of our Course Rating Committee members, checked into a new high-end course being developed in Vero and found out that they had a tentative schedule to be "rated" by another organization. Marcia Morris, FSGA Manager of Course Rating, called the club and the manager was surprised to find out they weren't dealing with the FSGA. They were pleased to hear from us and asked to have their course rated and the GHIN handicap system installed. They did not want to be associated with any organization other than the FSGA.

Unfortunately, this same scenario occurs several times a year - "other" organizations in the state are masquerading as "the" state golf association. Unwary club officials often take them at their word and assume that they are dealing with the FSGA. This problem is particularly acute when new clubs are developed and during the fall of each year when handicap vendors increase their marketing against the GHIN handicap system.

The bottom line is that we (FSGA) are sometimes getting outsold by a few people representing the Golf Association of Florida. GAF has been in existence for only 5 years and continues to try every means possible to make money and to confuse clubs about their position in the state. Basically, they are leveraging off the goodwill our organization has created over 85 years and they are deceiving the golfing public about their history.

The strength of our organization is at risk and this risk can easily be avoided if each of us would make a little effort. As you find out about new clubs, let our office or Jim Demick know and follow-up on your own to find out who's involved in the development. Become a greater ambassador for the FSGA and golf!

Skip Small Runs FSGA Rules Seminar

FSGA Board Member Skip Small, Neptune Beach, spoke to the Grand Haven Mens' Golf Association in September at their lunch and rules session. They invited the FSGA to speak to their members and answer questions. Small said there was a good turnout of about 70 members and they had some good questions for him. Thanks for helping out and representing the FSGA, Skip!