

Ratings & Rulings

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A Publication for FSGA Volunteers

It's Not Too Late To Sign Up For Volunteer Appreciation Days!

Don't miss out on all the fun. Join fellow volunteers for a day of golf and lunch compliments of the FSGA. Please call the office at (813) 632-3742 or log on to www.fsga.org to sign up for the site of your choice. Join us as we recognize you, our outstanding volunteers.

October 6, 2003

Regatta Bay G & CC, Destin
1st tee time at 9:10 am

October 8, 2003

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

October 9, 2003

Interlachen CC, Winter Park
1st tee time at 10:00 am

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

November 3, 2003

Imperial Golf Club, Naples
1st tee time at 9:00 am

Wanted: Club Delegates

We are in need of your help getting the word out! That's why we are recruiting you, the FSGA volunteers, to be the Club Delegate for your home club(s). If you are not familiar with the program, it is designed to encourage better communication and coordination between the FSGA, USGA and its member clubs. It is our hope that members will be more informed about what this association does and what benefits we offer to members.

As a Club Delegate, you will act as a liaison for the FSGA and USGA and share information with other members at your club. We will provide you all relevant information, such as tournament calendars and entry forms, by means of email and mail. The FSGA will be in contact with you several times throughout the year.

Being a Club Delegate does not require much time, but we do expect your total commitment to the program. It can be very successful if we receive full participation from our Club Delegates. We look forward to establishing a relationship with every club in the state and with your help, this can be achieved.

Please contact Alyson Bartell at abartell@fsga.org to learn more or to sign up to be the Club Delegate for your club. Learn more at www.fsga.org.

GIMMIES

GHIN Seminars

Currently, three GHIN seminars are scheduled across the state. More will be finalized soon. Dates include November 18, 2003 at Delray Dunes in Boynton Beach, Celebration Golf Club in Orlando on November 19, 2003 and Crown Colony in Fort Myers on December 10, 2003. Please check with your golf professional that a representative from your club will be attending. The final schedule will be posted on the website, www.fsga.org.

2003-2004 Winter Series

You can now sign up to play or volunteer in the 2003-2004 Winter Series events. Seven events will be GROSS scoring only. There are some great courses on the schedule so sign up early on www.fsga.org.

Rules Workshops

The 2004 Rules Seminars schedule is almost complete. The Rules change this year, so make sure you reserve your spot early. Keep an eye out on the website, www.fsga.org!

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.

Graham Wins Canadian Senior Match Play

Billy Graham, FSGA Course Rater and Tournament Volunteer, recently captured the 2003 Canadian Senior Match Play title. Graham, from Pensacola, now has won two Canadian Senior Match Play Championships, the first in 2000.

Order Your FSGA Logo FootJoy Rain Gear Today

We are now taking orders for FSGA Logo Rain Gear by FootJoy.

The DryJoys Tournament Pullover and Performance Rain Pants are perfect for changing weather conditions.

Prices retail at \$175 but can be your for only \$89!!

Please call the FSGA office at (813)632-3742 to order yours! Deadline for ordering will be October 15, 2003 and another order will be placed on March 15, 2004.



Rub of the Green

During the recent U.S. Mid-Amateur qualifying event held at Fox Hollow Golf Club in Trinity, the grounds crew used a pump to move excess casual water through a hose from left of the third fairway to a storm drain on the right side of the fairway.

After taking relief from a water hazard on the hole, one of the competitors played his next shot which deflected off of the hose and back into the same water hazard.

"Now what do I do?" he said to FSGA Rules Official Bob McClure stationed on the third hole.

Bob explained to him the situation was covered under Rule 19-1 as a "Ball in Motion Deflected or Stopped by an Outside Agency." Commonly referred to as a "Rub of the Green," the ball in play and in motion was deflected by an outside agency; the hose. No penalty is incurred and the ball is played as it lies. Since the ball came to rest in the water hazard, the player was allowed to play it as it lies or proceed once again under the water hazard Rule.

A "Rub of the Green" is not always bad. If the ball had deflected off of the hose and bounced in to the hole, the player would have holed out with his last shot without penalty.

Junior License Plates Benefit Florida Golf Junior Programs

Last month, Jim Demick, FSGA Executive Director, attended a meeting at the World Golf Village to discuss specific funding criteria about the Florida Junior Golf License Plate.

The Junior Golf License Plate has grown to be quite popular in Florida. Seen on cars across the state, the plate has already raised more than \$100,000. The first \$80,000 raised has been returned to the Dade County Golf Association to reimburse them for the fee and cost associated with getting the plate established. The balance will all be contributed to junior golf in Florida. The first disbursements will begin next year by the Florida Junior Golf Council.

By the end of 2004, there will be at least \$20,000 per month available to help junior programs. Each plate costs an additional \$25 and that is the recurring fee for as long as they own it. That way, the amount of funds raised increases each year.

It is our hope that our volunteers and competitors will help assess and review prospective junior programs. Please keep us posted of any junior programs in your area that grabs your attention.

Jim have been in constant communication with the Council and we will learn more as time progresses.



Call 1-877-GOLF TAG to order your Florida Junior Golf License Plate!

PGA/USGA Rules Workshops

Sign up now for the 2003-2004 PGA/USGA Rules of Golf workshops. Sites in Florida include Port St. Lucie on January 7-10, 2004, Orlando on February 9-12, 2004 and a Tournament Administration Workshop in Ponte Vedra on March 14-17, 2004. Register online at www.pgalinks.com or call (800) 474-2776 or (561) 624-8570.

GIMMIES

FSGA & USGA Qualifiers

Thank you to all who helped with the 2003 FSGA & USGA Qualifiers. In all, we had 31 FSGA Qualifiers and 41 USGA Qualifiers for 2003. WOW!

Scholarship Program Still Ongoing

If you know of a deserving high school student, please let them know about the FSGA Scholarship Program. The FSGA just gave out more than \$9,000 to six youths. The program is ongoing so please help us make more youths aware of the program. Applications can be found on www.fsga.org.

FHSAA State Finals

The FSGA will assist the FHSAA by administering the Florida State High School Golf Championships on November 11 & 12 at PGA Golf Club in Port St. Lucie. Sign up to volunteer on the website as we will be running four courses simultaneously.

Tournament Chairmen Meeting

If you are a Tournament Chairmen and you have not responded to the Tournament Chairmen meeting October 21 & 22 in Tampa, please call Jack 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.

Club Memberships

As of September 1, 774 golf clubs joined as FSGA Member Clubs. Also, 493 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: Neil McGillicuddy

Up in the Pandhandle, lives an outstanding volunteer, Neil McGillicuddy. In a town called Niceville, Neil has lived with his wife Betty since 1989.

Born and raised in Boston, Neil spent 31 years in the Army. Neil was in the Korean War and Vietnam and was a master aviator and parachutist. He retired from the Army but was asked to travel to the Middle East where he was the director of the military school system in Saudia Arabia. He was in Saudia Arabia for six years and then settled in Niceville 14 years ago. Neil lives in the Bluewater Bay community where he enjoys playing golf a few times a week. That is, when he is not rating golf courses!

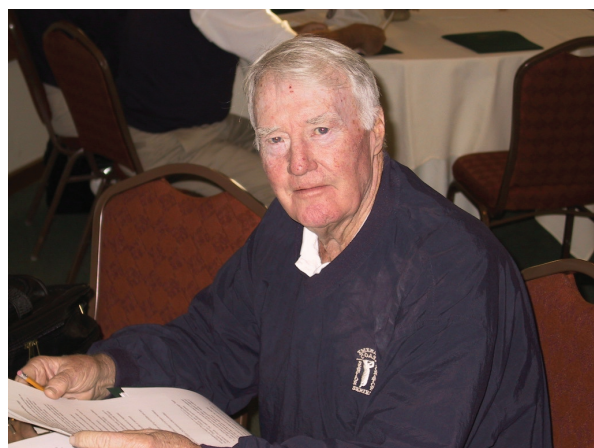
Neil first was introduced to the FSGA and course rating in 1993 when the Course Rating Director then, Peter Rippa, needed raters in the Panhandle. A bunch of volunteers met with Peter for an hour training seminar and then they were off rating courses. Their training was truly hands on! Neil is the course rating captain for Sections 1 & 2 in North Florida. He heads a group of 10 course raters. Neil goes along with his team to rate about 95% of the courses in his area.

About five years ago, Neil also got involved with tournament volunteering. He works at many of the events in his area and is happy to do anything he is asked of. He has experienced many functions at tournaments including scoring and roving the course. Neil has also been a board Member for the past three years.

Neil enjoys the course rating a little more because “it is a challenge since courses are always changing.” He says, “course rating also keeps him active and in good physical shape since there is so much walking involved.”

In his spare time, Neil works part time as a personal tax consultant for Jackson Hewitt where he also teaches a tax school class at nights. Neil has eight children and last time he could remember 12 grandchildren!

Neil is such a tremendous volunteer, we thank him for all his involvement and hard work.



Neil McGillicuddy at a Course Rating Seminar last year.

FSGA Staff Directory

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Tom Zaras	Tournament Director tzaras@fsga.org

FSGA Forms Junior Golf Tour

The FSGA is forming a high quality junior golf tour called the Sun Tour to provide affordable, high level competition for the junior golfers of Florida. Open to girls and boys, under the age of 19, the Sun Tour will emphasize affordability, quality and integrity. Events will be played at some of the state’s finest courses throughout the year. The tour will work closely with local junior golf programs and potentially junior programs will receive exemptions into events to provide the next level of competition before competing in AJGA events.

The Sun Tour will have a close relationship with the AJGA as Sun Tour players will receive exemptions and performance stars into AJGA events. Also, winners of Sun Tour events will receive exemptions into the Florida State Junior Championship.

Many new exciting opportunities are in store for the FSGA and junior golf. Please contact Les Brown at lbrown@fsga.org with any comments.