

# Ratings & Rulings

Ratings & Rulings • September 2007

A Publication for FSGA Volunteers

## Volunteer Appreciation Days

This day is for you - FSGA Committee Members! Join fellow volunteers for a day of lunch and golf compliments of the FSGA. If you are an active volunteer, please register online at [www.fsga.org](http://www.fsga.org) to sign up for the site of your choice. Join us as we recognize you, our outstanding volunteers.

**Tuesday, September 11**

**1 pm shotgun, 11:30 lunch**

**Santa Rosa Golf & Beach Club, Santa Rosa Beach**

**Tuesday, September 25**

**1 pm shotgun, 11:30 lunch**

**Windermere Country Club, Windermere**

**Thursday, September 20**

**8:30 am shotgun, 12:30 lunch**

**Cypress Run Golf Club, Tarpon Springs**

**Friday, September 28**

**1 pm shotgun, 11:30 lunch**

**Ironhorse Country Club, West Palm Beach**

**Thursday, September 20**

**1 pm shotgun, 11:30 lunch**

**Marsh Creek Country Club, St. Augustine**

**Tuesday, October 9**

**1 pm shotgun, 11:30 lunch**

**The Club at Renaissance, Ft. Myers**



# GIMMIES

## 2007 Membership

Thank you to everyone who joined the FSGA in 2007. More than 3,400 individuals signed up for FSGA membership this year and we hope to top last year's membership at year's end. Also, over 885 clubs have registered as 2007 FSGA Member Clubs. That is a record number! We wrapped up last season's FJT membership with over 830 juniors joining the Tour and already have 330 signed up for this next season. Please tell juniors at your club about this great Tour and opportunity to compete in high-end competitions at some of the state's top courses. See schedule (right).

## Chrysler Club Championship

For the third year, the FSGA will conduct the Chrysler Club Championship for club champions across the state. This year, Falcons Fire Golf Club in Kissimmee will host the championship on October 13. Please tell your club about this opportunity for their club champion to compete for the chance to advance to the Bob Hope Chrysler Championship in California. More information can be found at [www.fsga.org](http://www.fsga.org) or contact Katie Ruhe at [kruhe@fsga.org](mailto:kruhe@fsga.org). We also need your help volunteering at this event. Sign up online.

## Foundation Member-Guest

We thank all of our volunteers who are also Foundation Members. New this year, the inaugural Foundation Member-Guest will take place on October 11-12 at The Fox Club in Palm City just for Foundation Members and their guest. This will be a fun yet competitive event so reserve your spot now online at [www.fsga.org](http://www.fsga.org).

## FJT Schedule Set & We Need YOUR Help!

The FJT will begin its fifth season this month with 21 events on the schedule. Please help us as we continue to conduct first-class events for Florida's juniors. Registration for the 2007-2008 FJT season is open online in the Volunteer Central section of [www.fsga.org](http://www.fsga.org).

DATE OF EVENT	LOCATION/AGE DIVISION
September 8-9	Plantation Golf & Country Club, Venice (13-15)
September 15-16	Summerfield Crossings Golf Club, Riverview (16-18)
September 29-30	The Ocean Course at Hammock Beach, Palm Coast (16-18)
October 6-7	Links at Madison Green, Royal Palm Beach (13-15)
November 3-4	Santa Lucia River Club, Port St. Lucie (16-18)
November 3-4	Bluewater Bay Resort, Niceville (16-18 & 13-15)
November 23-25	Walt Disney World Resort, Lake Buena Vista (Girls 16-18, Girls & Boys 13-15)
November 23-25	Hunters Creek Golf Club, Orlando (Boys 16-18)
December 8-9	Lake Jovita Golf & Country Club, Dade City (13-15)
December 15-16	MetroWest Golf Club, Orlando (16-18)
January 5-6	Venetian Golf & River Club, North Venice (16-18)
January 12-13	Haile Plantation Golf & Country Club, Gainesville (13-15)
February 9-10	Victoria Hills Golf Club, DeLand (13-15)
February 16-17	Amelia Island Plantation, Amelia Island (16-18)
March 1-2	Southwood Golf Club, Tallahassee (16-18)
March 15-16	Rio Pinar Country Club, Orlando (16-18)
March 21-23	Eagle Creek Golf Club, Orlando (13-15)
April 19-20	Lake Wales Country Club, Lake Wales (13-15)
April 26-27	Lemon Bay Golf Club, Englewood (16-18)
May 10-11	Riverwood Golf Club, Port Charlotte (13-15)
May 24-26	University of Florida Golf Course, Gainesville (16-18)

## 2007-2008 Winter Series

We also need your assistance with the Winter Series events scheduled to start in December. Volunteer sign up is now open online and entries to compete open October 1.

### INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

December 17-18, 2007

Orange County National, Winter Garden

January 7-8, 2008

Timacuan G & CC, Lake Mary

February 4-5, 2008

Southern Hills Plantation, Brooksville

February 18-19, 2008

Queen's Harbor Yacht & CC, Jacksonville

March 17-18, 2008

Duran GC, Viera

### 54-Hole

March 30 - April 1, 2008

Bent Tree CC, Sarasota

### FOUR-BALL EVENTS

December 3-4, 2007

Lake Jovita G & CC, Dade City

January 21-22, 2008

CC of Ocala, Ocala

March 3-4, 2008

Santa Lucia River Club, Port St. Lucie

**HIGH SCHOOL GOLF  
CHAMPIONSHIPS  
OCTOBER 30-31, 2007  
Sign Up to Volunteer @  
[www.fsga.org](http://www.fsga.org)  
NEW SITES!**

## Meet Gary Donat - New Director of Course Rating

Many of you have met or spoken with Gary Donat, but we wanted to introduce everyone to our new Director of Course Rating. Gary is a great addition to the FSGA and we hope all of you have the opportunity to meet him in the near future.

Gary joined the FSGA in April as the Director of Course Rating. Born and raised in Monterey, California, Gary came to the FSGA from the Northern California Golf Association where he was the Assistant Director of Handicapping for eight years. "I am excited to head up the department for such a great organization," said Gary about the FSGA. "I hope to bring all the sections together to be consistent and continue to educate and train our outstanding volunteers."

Growing up, Gary attended Carmel High School where he played on the golf team (Carmel High's home course was Pebble Beach) and went on to major in finance at Chico State. Gary continues to play golf but not as much as he would like. He enjoys spending his free time with his five children, four boys and one girl.

Gary said of his experience at the FSGA, "so far, so good." "I have enjoyed meeting all the volunteers and seeing the courses in a different environment."



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## 2008 PGA/USGA Rules Workshops

Registration for the 2008 PGA/USGA Rules Workshops open online at [www.usga.org](http://www.usga.org) on October 3 and by phone on October 10 at (908) 234-2300, ext. 5100. Reserve your spot early!

### *4-Day Rules of Golf Workshops*

#### **Port St. Lucie**

January 6-9, 2008

Deadline December 27, 2007

#### **Port St. Lucie**

January 6-9, 2008

Deadline December 27, 2007

#### **Ponte Vedra Beach**

March 26-29, 2008

Deadline March 16, 2008

**Other out of state sites available  
online at [www.usga.org](http://www.usga.org)**

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## Check out FSGAtv online at [www.fsga.org](http://www.fsga.org)

View highlights from FSGA Championships  
and Volunteer Information

## GIMMIES

### **New Volunteers**

Please welcome the following new volunteers to the FSGA: **Jamie Hornburg, Scott Hornburg, Craig Ammerman, Denny Meskill, Thomas Warren, Wilkie Colyer, Robert Peterson, Richard Ried, Carol Ried, William Broberg, David Touch, Mary Starr, Cindy Gates, Jack Pearson, Tony Aurelio, Steve Sirbaugh, Brian Ross, Doug Gillie, Gary Baker and John Speer.**

### **New Boatwright Intern**

We have another new face in the office - Jeff Magaditsch. Jeff is the USGA Boatwright Intern and will be helping in Tournament Operations so many of you will meet Jeff soon.

### **Annual Dinner**

The 2007 Annual Dinner is scheduled for Friday, November 16 at Interlachen Country Club in Orlando. The Annual Dinner is where we recognize our 2007 Players-of-the-Year and Volunteers-of-the-Year. We will also induct the third class of the Florida Golf Hall of Fame.

### **Tournament Chairman's Meeting**

The annual Tournament Chairman's meeting is set for Saturday, November 17 at Interlachen Country Club. The schedule of activities and additional information will be mailed shortly to all Tournament Chairmen.

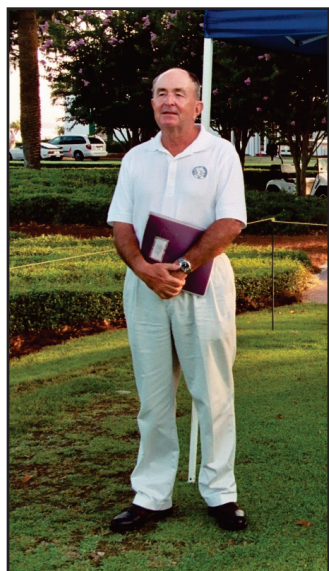
### **Volunteer Central**

Visit Volunteer Central on the FSGA website to view a wealth of information. There, you can sign up for events, read the Tournament Chairman's Handbook, see course rating information and much, much more. Log on today!

# Volunteer Spotlight - Mike Lonergan

Mike Lonergan has been volunteering with the FSGA for close to two years and he has already totaled more than 45 events, including USGA and FSGA events.

Born and raised in Leavenworth, Kansas, Mike attended Rockhurst College in Kansas City, receiving a degree in Business Management. Mike's 93 year old mother still lives in Leavenworth in the same house she moved into after she married Mike's father. After college, Mike joined the Army Reserve and was stationed in Milwaukee. It was there that he met his wife of 43 years. Mike and Marianne moved many times around the country during his career in consumer products, commercial furniture sales and management. He first started out in sales at Colgate Palmolive for 15 years in various locations and then joined Boise Cascade Office Products in Chicago. With these experiences, he then worked for a variety of commercial furniture companies in the US. They moved to Coral Springs in January 2000 to work for Loewenstein Furniture and subsequently worked for a Danish company that allowed him to work from anywhere he wished. In 2002, they chose The Villages, by accident. "We were visiting some friends and we thought this place was like Disneyland for adults," said Mike. "We sold our home, moved and lived happily ever after." On New Years Eve of 2005, Mike retired. "Because of my work and travel for over 40 years, I couldn't really play a lot of golf and volunteer," said Mike. "I had lots of energy and time and wanted to give something back to the game that I loved."



Mike found the FSGA through a friend and took the initiative to start volunteering. When he showed up at his first tournament at Alaqua Lakes there were a few other residents of The Villages who Mike was randomly paired up with to play golf with the day prior. They never discussed volunteering with the FSGA and by coincident, they all showed up at the same event. "My first experience was wonderful," said Mike. "I had a great time." Mike signed up for more events and since January 2006, he has volunteered his time at more than 45 tournaments. "I enjoy watching great golf and I understand the game so much more now," said Mike. "I like meeting all the competitors and working with the staff." There are now 13 volunteers from The Villages who travel together to different events. "We have a wonderful relationship," said Mike. "We like talking about the USGA Rules." They like the Rules so much they have a monthly get together in The Villages to discuss the Rules of Golf. The Villages

gang continuously talks up the FSGA and recruits volunteers from their area. They are credited for introducing many new volunteers to the FSGA. Mike also enjoys working with the juniors. A memorable experience for him was last fall when he watched Alexis Thompson who at 11 years of age played and won an FJT girls 16-18 age division event at Disney. "I was so impressed," said Mike. "It's fun to follow her career now, note her significant maturity and progress." Mike also helps at NCAA tournaments and hopes to become a certified Rules Official. He has already attended an FSGA Rules Seminar and plans on attending a USGA/PGA Rules Seminar next year. He is also the Certificated Handicap Chairman for one of The Villages clubs.

With nine golf courses to choose from at The Villages, Mike plays golf at least three days a week working to continue to lower his current 7 handicap. Besides his involvement in golf, Mike manages a small sales and marketing consultant business on the side. Mike and Marianne have two children, a son living in Peoria, Illinois and a daughter in San Antonio, Texas. Together, they have six grandchildren.

We are extremely grateful for Mike and his dedication to the FSGA.

## FSGA Staff Directory

Jim Demick	Executive Director jdemick@fsga.org
Alyson Bartell	Membership Manager abartell@fsga.org
Peter Dachisen	Tournament Director pdachisen@fsga.org
Gary Donat	Director of Course Rating gdonat@fsga.org
Darin Green	Tournament Director dgreen@fsga.org
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Deborah Lamontagne	Accountant debby@fsga.org
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Katie Ruhe	Assistant Tournament Director kruhe@fsga.org
Aaron Skoviera	GHIN/Handicapping aaron@fsga.org
Joe Stein	Regional Manager/GHIN jsteinfsga@aol.com
Tom Zaras	Tournament Director tzaras@fsga.org