

GEORGIA  
JUNIOR

OFFICIAL  
PUBLICATION OF  
THE GEORGIA  
JUNIOR GOLF  
FOUNDATION



# Golfer

2010



## HUMBLE HEATH

Up Close with Winner Slovic

## GJGF Clearinghouse

## The Address Routine





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**EDITOR**  
Kathy Cousart



Welcome to the 7th Georgia Junior Golfer Magazine! 2010 will be a record year for the Georgia Junior Golf Foundation. This year the Foundation will more than double our financial support of junior golf in Georgia. Our new Rules and Etiquette Program will be delivered all across our state, giving juniors and their parents' access to vital information for enjoying and playing the game of golf. We will continue to work

with our allied associations to impact junior golf all across our state. This magazine will once again be filled with great instruction articles, tournament information, and tips for our state college golf coaches. We will also highlight the Muscogee County Middle School Golf Program here in my home town of Columbus. We hope this information will inspire other parents and school systems to introduce competitive golf at the middle school level.

We were all very proud to have one of our own win the 2009 Open Championship. Stewart Cink's victory was inspiring to so many of us in Georgia, and we are so proud to have him as a supporter of the Foundation. The weather was certainly a big story in 2009, and I am sure that none of us were able to play as much golf as we wanted to. I hope that 2010 brings more "normal" weather and we can once again enjoy many days playing golf, and more importantly sharing this great game with our family and friends.

Last year I encouraged you to support junior golf in Georgia by purchasing a GJGF specialty tag, and I am proud to say that nearly 1,000 tags are on the road today! Thank you for your support of the Foundation and for junior golf in Georgia. If you haven't gotten your tag, please visit our website at [www.gjgf.org](http://www.gjgf.org) for more information. Your support of the tag has enabled the Foundation to increase junior programming all across Georgia – your support is REALLY making a difference!

Let's all hope for sunny skies and nice green fairways in 2010!

Brian Stubbs, PGA  
President

*Please contact the GJGF office for information about any of our programs. Please see our website for other information ([www.gjgf.org](http://www.gjgf.org)).*

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# Humble Heath

By Stan Awtry

When his 20-foot putt on the 72nd hole rolled over the edge and into the cup at The Barclays tournament last summer, Heath Slocum did something he rarely ever does on a golf course. He celebrated.

Nothing crazy, mind you. No wild fist pumps. No dance steps. It was just a simple act of holding his arms toward the heavens, his putter in his right hand, and giving them a slight thrust upward.

Seconds later, he retrieved his golf ball, tugged on his visor to recognize and thank the applauding fans that encircled the 18th green at Liberty National, and returned to being Heath Slocum. When playing partner Steve Stricker missed the ensuing putt that would have forced a playoff, Slocum quietly removed his visor and his sunglasses and sympathetically shook Stricker's hand.

For once the rest of the golfing world watching on television got a peak into the persona of Heath Slocum, a quiet man who does things the right way. The Alpharetta resident isn't flashy and he doesn't have a cool nickname, but his playing ability and his values are both rock solid.

The win at The Barclays, the first high-profile tournament in the FedEx Cup Playoffs, was amazing for many reasons. Slocum had admittedly not been playing well all season and gave no notion he was ready to win. He struggled just to get into the FedEx Cup playoffs. He hadn't won a tournament since 2005. At The Barclays, he was competing against the players regarded as the world's best.

When that final 20-footer completed its right-to-left journey into that hole, Slocum had defeated a "Who's Who" of golf. He was one shot better than Tiger Woods, Ernie Els, Padraig Harrington and Stricker. It was certainly worthy a grin and a celebration.

Afterwards, Slocum said he had to watch the video replay



of the winning putt many times to recall exactly what happened. It was sort of like an out-of-body experience for him, with all the details a bit fuzzy.

The victory was just another step forward for Slocum, who has been battling the big boys all his life. He was always an athlete -- he was a scrappy point guard on the basketball team -- and golf was the sport that didn't require a supersized 5-foot-8 body.

It was natural that Heath gravitated toward golf. His father, Jack Slocum, was a golf professional and Heath had a club in his hand from the time he was old enough to walk. Heath was born in Baton Rouge, La., and grew up in Vicksburg, Miss., where his father was a club professional. That's where learned how to play the game and behave himself on and off the course.

But Slocum spent his formative years in Milton, Fla., a small town in the Panhandle area, not far from Pensacola. Jack Slocum got the head professional's job at Tanglewood

Golf and Country Club, and Heath had no choice but to go along. He was ready to enter high school, never an easy time for a young person to move to a new school in a new town. Turns out the move changed his life for the better.

What could have been a very difficult period was made easier the first week he showed up at the new school. That's when he met Boo Weekley, the son of the town's pharmacist and unquestionably the most popular kid in town. Boo and Heath quickly became friends, which made the new kid's transition much, much easier.

"Boo made it so easy for me to fit in," Heath said. "That could have been a very hard." But the rest of the kids in Milton knew that if Boo said he was OK, he must be OK.

Now, nearly 20 years later, the two remain good friends who often play together on the PGA Tour. In 2008, when both were playing in their first Masters, they enjoyed a practice round together. And when Boo was

chosen to represent the United States in the World Cup, he didn't think twice about choosing Slocum to be his partner. "There ain't but one person that I'd ever think about going with me, and that's my best friend," Weekley said. The duo finished second, losing in a playoff.

When he graduated from Milton High School, Heath took advantage of an offer to play on the team at the University of South Alabama in Mobile. He was a three-time All-American for the Jaguars and turned professional when he graduated in 1996.

Success didn't come instantly for Slocum, who missed the cut in 14 of 19 events on the Nike Tour, now known as the Nationwide Tour, when he made his debut in 1996.

His progress took a big detour in 1997 when he got sick around Thanksgiving. Heath saw the family doctor and was placed on antibiotics, but never seemed to get any better. Four months later he was diagnosed with ulcerative colitis, an inflammatory bowel disease that affects the large intestine.

"When I was first diagnosed with ulcerative colitis, I had never heard of it," Heath said.

The cause of the disease is unknown and may be inactive before it gets worse over a period of years. Already slight at 150 pounds, he lost nearly 30 pounds and was being fed intravenously. He was unable to do anything, let

alone play golf, for nearly 18 months.

"It took me about a year and a half to get over it, to be able to play golf on a daily basis," he said. "It really messes up your stomach, and the side effects from that, also, it gives you arthritis, which I had pretty badly. I just couldn't play.

Heath said he felt like a 60-year-old man. He said he ached so bad at times that he couldn't get out of bed. It took four months for the disease to be properly diagnosed and it was eventually controlled with medication. By the summer of 1999 he was playing again, but didn't have his stamina back. It wasn't until another examination by another doctor and a change in treatment that Heath began to completely recover. While he didn't enjoy his bout with the disease, Slocum continues to look at it from the bright side.

"I think the colitis is the best thing to happen to me, maybe as a person and as a golfer," Slocum said. "It definitely grounded me. It gives golf a different perspective. I do enjoy being out here a lot more than I did then. I just enjoy myself more often out here now. I don't get nearly as down and I do enjoy the good times."

The full turnaround came in 2001, when he qualified to return to the Buy.Com Tour, now known as the Nationwide Tour. That's when his career caught fire like never before. He won three tournaments, which earned him an instant "battlefield promotion" to the PGA Tour. He enjoyed a great run, at one point going 106 holes without a bogey, and becoming the first player on the circuit to win more than \$300,000.

He worked his way up the PGA Tour's pecking order, which typically requires players to prove they can contend before they win. Slocum had no trouble keeping his card his full rookie season and nearly won at Hilton Head. He had another close call in 2003 with a runner-up finish in Milwaukee.

The breakthrough came in 2004, when he shot a final-round 65 and won the Chrysler Classic of Tucson. Among those he passed on the final day were John Daly, Tom Lehman and Larry Mize. The victory earned him an automatic two-year exemption on the PGA Tour. It also earned him a "Heath Slocum Day" in Milton.



He won again in 2005, this time at the Southern Farm Bureau Classic, and continued his steady play. He had three top-10s in 2006, six top-10s in 2007 (including a near-miss in Tampa), and five top-10s in 2008.

The 2009 season had not been very memorable until he won The Barclays. He missed 13 cuts and seemed to have one poor round every week that kept him from moving up the money list. After barely qualifying for the FedEx Cup playoffs, he put it altogether in New York for the biggest victory of his career. It's certainly something he can use to further build his career.

"I don't think we should be surprised that he won," Sticker said. "He's a very good player."

After the season was over, Slocum had a career-best \$2.195 million in earnings and finished eighth in the FedEx Cup standings.

"I'll be honest, it was very exciting, but at the same time, I'm still just trying to get better," Slocum said. "I'm a work in progress."

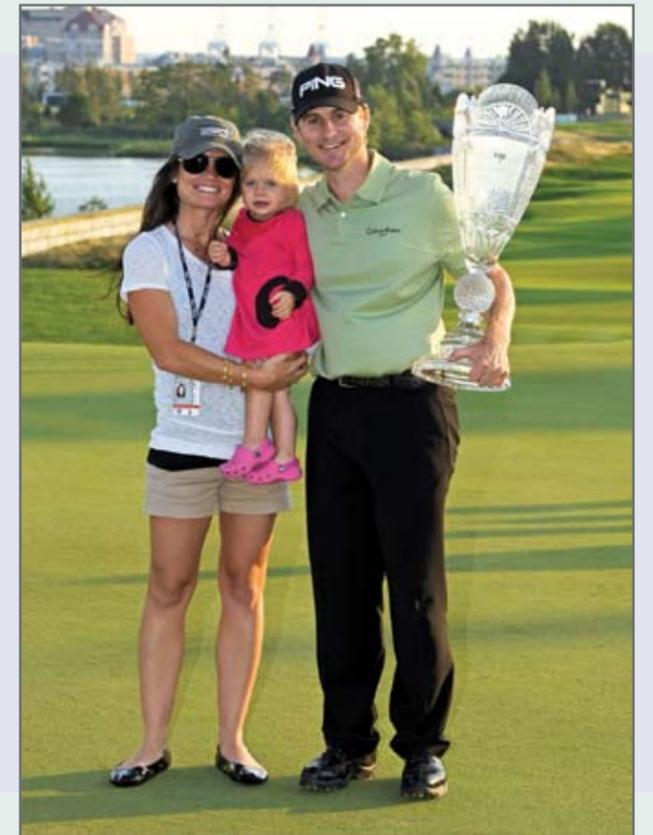
His goals are like that shared by many others. He would like to be considered among the elite players in the land.

"At the beginning of this year I struggled," he said. "I was playing better than my results, but I still truly feel like I'm still just climbing that ladder. And then a couple years down the road that I'm a contender in majors and for a lot more titles. I don't know if you'd call me an elite player or whatever kind of player, but I want to be a more consistent player at the top level."

In addition to playing golf, Heath and his wife Vicky are actively giving back to the community. They announced a \$40,000 charitable gift during the Tour Championship, a portion to be split among three organizations: Tickets for Charity, Children's Health Care of Atlanta, and the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America.

Tickets for Charity benefits the East Lake Foundation. Heath said, "Any kind of help that they can get to help better that community, I'm just glad that we can help out a little bit."

With their second child on the way, Children's Health Care was another logical target. The health care organization had taken a big hit when the BellSouth



Classic vanished from the PGA Tour schedule. Children's was the biggest beneficiary of the BellSouth Classic.

The Crohn's and Colitis Foundation remains important to Heath, since the illness almost robbed him of his health and his livelihood.

"We're in a good position to help out," Heath said. "This is something that we've been talking about for a while and I'm glad we could help out. I'm just glad that we could even just be a small part of it."

The future looks bright for Heath Slocum. Only 36, he should have many more productive years in front of him. He's got his priorities in order, a good support team around him, and would surprise no one if he continued to be a consistent winner on the PGA Tour.

Stan Awtrey is editor of Golf Georgia magazine and writes a weekly column for PGATOUR.com.



## How to Bring A Golf League to Your Area

By Neill Hatcher

**I**n January of 2007, the Columbus Valley Middle School Golf League (CVMS) was formed to replace a current league that was unorganized and had little structure. The new league wanted credibility, accountability, and a new vision. What the organizer's created has been much more than they envisioned.

To make this league successful, the league aligned itself with The First Tee of Columbus, Georgia, and the core values of the first tee program. The vision statement of the league states that the CVMS was

created to develop middle school children into young men and women that will be good citizens and future leaders. To achieve this vision, the CVMS uses competition and the nine core values of The First Tee.

The mission statement states that the CVMS pledges to serve every middle school golfer with the highest level of sincerity, fairness, courtesy, and respect through the nine core values. These nine core values are honesty, integrity, sportsmanship, respect, confidence, responsibility, perseverance, courtesy, and judgment. The CVMS also pledges to offer the guidance, leadership, and competition that are delivered by caring coaches who will take 100% responsibility for meeting the needs of each middle school child.

The vision statement and mission statement are backed up, and it is truly amazing how it works. The league has a fall and spring season. Each season, the league averages around 10 to 12 middle schools, and the league also makes room for players that do not have enough to make up a team. The league operates three divisions: a B-team, Junior Varsity, and Varsity division. The B-team division consists of beginner golfers that are new to the game while the Junior Varsity and Varsity divisions are catered to the more experience golfer. Each division has its own expectations and competition rules.

Each season starts with team meetings. At these meeting, each player is given a Player, Parent, and Coach Contract. This contract states the expectations of the player, parent, and coach. After the team meetings, the league has a rules seminar. The seminar is a requirement of the league, and usually last for 3 hours. The seminar covers the core values, etiquette, hazards, scoring, lost balls, etc. After the rules seminar, the matches begin.

The Junior Varsity and Varsity matches are usually held at Bull Creek, Fort Benning, Oxbow Meadows, Red Oak Golf Club, and Lakewood Golf Club. The B-Team matches are held at Godwin Creek.

The JV and varsity matches consist of 4 player teams. The JV matches count the best 2 scores of 4, while the varsity counts 3 of 4. The B-Team can have has many as 6 players per team, but a school can have more than 1 B-Team.



Individual scoring and team records are kept on the JV and Varsity level, and each season the CVMS awards a season team champion, along with the male and female player of the year.



After the matches end, the CVMS has a City Championship. At the City Championship, the league provides food, drink, and a great atmosphere for the children. The City Championship ends with the awards ceremony, where there is one player from each school that is awarded a most improved player award, but that's not the big award. The biggest award the league has is called the "Living the Values" award. This award goes to a player from each team that represents the nine core values the best on and off the golf course.

After the season ends, the league donates a \$1,000 to The First Tee, and has a Chairman's Cup event in the fall for the top 24 players, and a "Sweet Sixteen" event in the spring.

High school coaches are seeing the benefits from the league. Mart Durden, the head coach of Brookstone School states, "The effect the league has had upon youth golf in Columbus has been huge. We have programs which are ranked in the top few in Georgia now that are stocked with players who came through the league. I have also noticed a significant improvement in the way our kids act as a result of the sportsmanship

which the league espouses." Chris Parker the Columbus High School golf Coach stated, "The middle school program has fueled more interest in junior golf in the Columbus community. I have noticed around town that there is now more depth on several of the local high school programs. Instead of having 3 or 4 experienced players, some teams have up to 10 players who are 'varsity' ready."

really nice to know that people genuinely care and give of themselves to make these activities successful. Thank you."

A lot of the success comes from the coaches and parents of the league, but all of the professionals in Columbus are 100% behind this league. They assist in preparing scorecards, making sure the courses are available, and they all are willing to assist in the rules seminar.



Brian Motycka, a parent of a B-Team player is quoted "I feel that it is really awesome what you are doing to support the youth through the golf program. It is

**For more information, please email Neill Hatcher at HATC4040bellsouth.net, or you can call (706) 325 4601.**



## Another exciting year is shaping up for Girls' Golf here in Georgia.

By Stacy Easley

The **3rd Annual Presidents' Day scramble** will kick off the Georgia State Golf Association (GSGA) Girls' Program season at Piedmont Driving Club on February 15th. The event will be a four person scramble played on a par 3 golf course; all skill levels are encouraged to participate. The event is free of charge; complete details for this event and others are available at [www.gsga.org](http://www.gsga.org).

I know most of us get out the calendar and try to take a look at all of the activities that are going on where we can participate, but have you thought about the benefit of getting out to watch some of the top amateurs compete? Georgia will be hosting numerous collegiate women's championships over the course of the year. Check out [www.golfstat.com](http://www.golfstat.com) to view the sites and dates of these events around the state. You never know when you might pick up a tip or two watching some exciting golf.



Carrie Metz  
2009 GSGA Champion

Please check us out and be a part of girl's golf in 2010.

Information on all the events and many more will be available at [www.gsga.org](http://www.gsga.org) or [www.gjgf.org](http://www.gjgf.org).



Photos by Mary Helen McElreath

Many other events are being planned for 2010, including the **2nd Annual Girls Golf Day in Georgia**, offering free clinics throughout the state. The 2010 Georgia Girls Championship at Capital City Club - Brookhaven Course, which offers a division for both the championship and tournament golfer. The championship division is 54 holes (June 21-23), while the tournament division will be played over two days (June 21-22), 9 holes each day from a yardage that is comparable to that of U.S. Kids. Those competing in the tournament division have a great opportunity to experience a championship atmosphere, while competing in a far less intimidating environment.

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# New from the Georgia Junior Golf Foundation

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Mike Paull, Georgia PGA Executive Director,  
Stewart Cink & Kathy Cousart, GJGF Executive Director  
"The game of golf is a huge resource for the state of Georgia. It builds character and integrity in players and teaches us life lessons that we carry with us forever."  
Stewart Cink  
2008 Travelers Champion  
2008 Ryder Cup Team Member

All proceeds go to support the growth of junior golf in the state!



"I am very happy to support the Georgia Junior Golf Foundation and its new license tag program. Having been a product of Georgia junior golf programs myself and experienced all the benefits of what golf can bring to life, I look forward to helping the Foundation raise funds and awareness about junior golf in Georgia."

Davis Love III

GJGF Advisory Board Member, 20 career PGA tour victories, including 1997 PGA Championship and is firmly established as one of the all-time money leaders on the PGA Tour

"I am very excited to be associated with the Georgia Junior Golf Foundation and its new license plate program to raise awareness and funds for the youth of Georgia. Junior golf meant so much to me growing up because it built a solid foundation that helps me everyday on the PGA TOUR. With Georgia being my new home I look forward to a long relationship with the GJGF to help juniors find joy in the game of golf. Play Golf Georgia!"

Heath Slocum  
Multiple winner on the PGA Tour



For Information

[www.gjgf.org](http://www.gjgf.org)



## Southeastern Junior Golf Tour

Sign up Now for 2010

The Southeastern Junior Golf Tour will enter its 17th year of conducting quality junior golf tournaments. In 2010, the SJGT will conduct over 35 events in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina and Tennessee.

Visit our website and join today!

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## Georgia Junior Golf Foundation

**OUR MISSION:** To positively affect youth by promoting interest and participation in the game of golf.  
**OUR PURPOSE:** To introduce the game of golf and its values to young people in Georgia and to provide opportunities for continued growth and involvement in the game with programs such as:

- New GJGF golf license tag program - go to [www.gjgf.org](http://www.gjgf.org) for more information and forms
- Newly redesigned website with interactive clearinghouse
- Resource and information center for all junior golf activities in the state
- Georgia Junior Golfer Magazine • GJGF Clearinghouse
- New statewide workshops and clinics - see website for details
- National First Tee School Programs in elementary programs in Cobb and Gwinnett Counties
- 2010 Fundraiser events: Pro-Am at Idle Hour Country Club, March 1, 2010

GEORGIA JUNIOR GOLF FOUNDATION IS JOINTLY SUPPORTED BY:



# 2010 Junior Golf Planner

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**Southeastern Junior Golf Tour**  
 The Southeastern Junior Golf Tour is entering its 17th year in 2010. This year the SJGT will conduct over 35 tournaments across six states. All events will be ranked by the National Junior Golf Scoreboard, with 10 being ranked by GolfWeek. A number of events will carry AJGA exemptions for the Overall Male and Female winners. The SJGT is open to all male and female golfers between the ages of 12-19. Players compete in five divisions: Female 12-14, Female 15-19, Male 12-13, Male 14-15 and Male 16-19. Membership fees for 2010 are \$185 and the average tournament cost is \$165.  
 For additional information, please visit [www.sjgt.com](http://www.sjgt.com) or call 1-888-275-SJGT.

**Hurricane Junior Golf Tour**  
[www.hjgt.org](http://www.hjgt.org) • 904-379-2697  
 Events in Georgia, Florida, and South Carolina from January through December. Juniors play in one of five age divisions: Boys 16-19, Boys 13-15, Boys 10-12, Girls 15-19, or Girls 10-14. One-time per year membership is only \$20 and entry fees average \$180. All events ranked by National Junior Golf Scoreboard. Select events have AJGA exemptions and will be Golfweek/Titleist ranked. Become a fan of the Hurricane Junior Golf Tour! Find us on Facebook.

**Other Junior Golf Organizations**  
**Atlanta Junior Golf Association**  
 Contact Jeff Holt at 770-850-9040  
[www.atlantajuniorgolf.org](http://www.atlantajuniorgolf.org)  
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**Junior Golf Resources**  
 PING American College Golf Guide - [www.collegegolf.com](http://www.collegegolf.com)  
 The Young American Golf Guide - [www.youngamericangolf.com](http://www.youngamericangolf.com)  
 United States Golf Association - [www.usga.org](http://www.usga.org)  
 Golf Parent for the Future - [www.coachingforthefuture.com](http://www.coachingforthefuture.com)  
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 JuniorLinks.com - [www.juniorlinks.com](http://www.juniorlinks.com)  
 NCAA - [www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org)  
 Junior Golf Scoreboard - [www.njgs.com](http://www.njgs.com)  
 Golfweek - [www.golfweek.com](http://www.golfweek.com)

**Other Junior Events** This is a partial listing of different events. Many tournaments require advance registration of up to 6 - 8 weeks. Please contact individual events for more information. For additional opportunities in your area, visit [www.juniorlinks.com](http://www.juniorlinks.com).

<b>Jones Cup Junior Invitational (Boys Only)</b> December 20-22, 2009 Sea Island Golf Club - Sea Island, GA Contact: The Lodge Golf Shop - (912) 638-5118	<b>WESTERN JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP (Boys Only)</b> June 21-25, 2010 Blue Mound Golf & Country Club - Wauwatosa, WI Contact: Western Golf Association - (847) 724-4600
<b>JUNIOR ORANGE BOWL INTERNATIONAL GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP</b> December 27-30, 2009 Biltmore Hotel Golf Course - Coral Gables, FL Contact: JR Steinbauer, Jr. - (305) 461-1959	<b>WOMEN'S WESTERN JUNIOR</b> July 12-16, 2010 Knollwood Country Club - Granger, IN Contact: Women's Western Golf Assoc. - <a href="http://www.wwga.org">www.wwga.org</a>
<b>THE JOANNE WINTER ARIZONA SILVER BELLE (Girls Only)</b> December 28-30, 2009 Raven Golf Club at Stone Mountain - Phoenix, AZ Contact: Sharon Petrytus - (480) 905-3621	<b>JUNIOR WORLD GOLF CHAMPIONSHIPS</b> July 12-16, 2010 Various Courses - La Jolla, CA Contact: Meagan Mahoney - (858) 558-8277
<b>THE VERIZON JUNIOR HERITAGE</b> February 6-7, 2010 Sea Pines Resort - Hilton Head, SC Contact: Andy McMillen - (843) 671-2448	<b>U.S. JUNIOR AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP (Boys Only)</b> July 19-24, 2010 Egypt Valley Country Club - Grand Rapids, MI Contact: USGA - (908) 234-2300
<b>KATHY WHITWORTH INVITATIONAL (Girls Only)</b> March 15-17, 2010 Mira Vista Golf Club - Fort Worth, TX Contact: Laura Bley - (800) 959-2444	<b>U.S. GIRLS JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP</b> July 19-24, 2010 Country Club of North Carolina - Pinehurst, NC Contact: USGA - (908) 234-2300
<b>SCOTT ROBERTSON MEMORIAL</b> May 14-16, 2010 Roanoke Country Club - Roanoke, VA Contact: Tournament Office (540) 529-3176	<b>TRUSTED CHOICE BIG I JUNIOR CLASSIC</b> July 26-30, 2010 Olde York Country Club - Chesterfield, NJ Contact: Callie Cady - (817) 637-7116
<b>BUBBA CONLEE NATIONAL JUNIOR</b> June 7-10, 2010 Quail Ridge Golf Course - Bartlett, TN Contact: Larry Conlee - (901) 277-0444	<b>JUNIOR PGA CHAMPIONSHIP</b> August 2-5, 2010 Sycamore Hills Golf Club - Fort Wayne, IN Contact: PGA of America Headquarters - (561) 624-8400
<b>HUDSON JUNIOR INVITATIONAL</b> June TBA, 2010 Country Club of Hudson - Hudson, OH Contact: Jeff Camp Jr. - (330) 650-1192	<b>BOBBY CHAPMAN JUNIOR (Boys Only)</b> September 18-19, 2010 Country Club of Spartanburg - Spartanburg, SC Contact: Chris Miller - (803) 732-9311
<b>SOUTHERN JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP (Boys Only)</b> June 16-18, 2010 Squire Creek Country Club - Choudrant, LA Contact: Southern Golf Association - (205) 979-4653	

**American Junior Golf Association**  
[www.ajga.org](http://www.ajga.org) • 877-373-2542  
 The American Junior Golf Association was established in 1978 and annually conducts 80 championship junior golf tournaments and 45-plus qualifiers for players 12-18 years old. The AJGA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to the overall growth and development of young men and women who aspire to earn college golf scholarships through competitive junior golf. Players are able to earn their way into tournaments based on their performance at state, regional and other national events. The championships are run in a professional manner and create a tournament atmosphere rivaled by only the major professional tours. The AJGA has five different levels of tournament play that accommodates most players, plus a financial assistance program for players with the talent to compete on the national level, but not the financial resources.



**Check out the GSGA**

**GEORGIA STATE GOLF ASSOCIATION**  
[www.gsga.org](http://www.gsga.org) • Email: [info@gsga.org](mailto:info@gsga.org)  
 (770) 955-4272 • (800) 949-4742

**45th Annual Georgia Junior Championship:** June 21-23  
 Green Island Country Club, Columbus

Open to male juniors ages 14-17. Must be a Georgia resident and a GSGA member or dependent of a GSGA member. The field of 144 is determined by handicap index. Cut to low 70 and ties after 36 holes. Entry fee: \$80.00

**31th Annual Georgia Girls' Championship:** June 21-23  
 Capital City Club - Brookhaven Course, Atlanta

Open to female juniors ages 9-17. Must be a Georgia resident and a GSGA member or a dependent of a GSGA member. Divisions: Championship (54 holes), Tournament (18 holes, 9 holes first two days of the event). Entry fee: \$50.00

**37th Annual Junior Sectional Program:** June - July  
 (see ad on back cover)  
 The GSGA Junior Sectional Program provides juniors of all levels and ages a chance to experience competitive golf.

- One-day events held throughout the state in June - July
- No pre-registration necessary
- \$15 entry fees
- Online registration at [www.gsga.org](http://www.gsga.org)

There are seven geographical sections that each conduct 4-5 events per season. Eligibility: Ages 17 and under as of first event. Must be a Georgia resident and play in the section in which you reside. Age Divisions: Boys 16-17, 14-15, 12-13 and 11-under (9 holes). Girls 14-17, 12-13 (9 hole) and 11-under (9 holes). Top five boys and top three girls in each age division win trophies and top five boys and girls earn points toward qualifying to represent their section in the statewide Challenge Match.

For schedules and information, visit [www.gsga.org](http://www.gsga.org).

**Georgia Junior Sectional Challenge Match:** July 27-28  
 Southern Hills Golf Club, Hawkinsville

**USGA QUALIFYING**  
**U.S. Junior Amateur Qualifier:** June 28  
 Pinetree Country Club, Kennesaw

**U.S. Girls' Junior Qualifier:** June 17  
 The River Club, Suwanee

Entries must be submitted to the USGA. Enter online at [www.usga.org](http://www.usga.org).

**GJGF.org**  
 For the best information on opportunities for junior golfers in the state of Georgia, check out the Georgia Junior Golf Foundation website at [www.GJGF.org](http://www.GJGF.org).

**Georgia PGA**  
[www.georgiapga.com](http://www.georgiapga.com)  
 678-461-8600 • 800-474-2911  
**Georgia PGA Junior Tour**

The Georgia PGA Junior Tour will begin its ninth year 2010. Most tournaments are 36-hole events for juniors ages 11-18 that have not yet attended college. New for 2010 will be the "Summer Series" with three 18-hole events at some great facilities.

Membership is \$110 to join the Georgia PGA Junior Tour and the entry fee for 36-hole tournament is \$135. Entry fees for the "Summer Series" tournaments will be \$95. Membership is valid January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010. The membership fee must be received prior to acceptance of entry to the first tournament in which the junior wishes to play. Only 500 members are being taken in 2010.

<b>Forest Heights Junior Classic</b> Forest Heights Country Club Statesboro February 20-21, 2010	<b>Junior Piney Woods</b> Glen Arven Country Club Thomasville July 7-8, 2010
<b>The Brickyard Junior Classic</b> The Brickyard at Riverside, Macon March 14-15, 2010	<b>Governors Junior Classic</b> Governors Towne Club, Acworth July 26-27, 2010
<b>North Georgia High School Golf Classic</b> Presented by the GA PGA Junior Tour Achasta Golf Club, Dahlonega April 5, 2010	<b>Champions Retreat Junior Classic</b> Champions Retreat Golf Club Evans August 14-15, 2010
<b>Georgia Vets Junior Classic</b> Georgia Veterans Golf Course at Lake Blackshear, Cordele April 24-25, 2010	<b>Wilmington Island Junior Classic</b> Wilmington Island Club Savannah September 18-19, 2010
<b>Callaway Gardens Junior Classic</b> Callaway Gardens Resort Pine Mountain May 22-23, 2010	<b>Heron Bay Junior Classic</b> Canongate at Heron Bay Locust Grove October 9-10, 2010
<b>Stone Mountain Junior Classic</b> Stone Mountain Golf Club, Stone Mountain June 30-July 1, 2010	<b>Tour Championship</b> Location - TBA Date - TBA

**Summer Series Tournaments**

<b>Summer Series # 1</b> Atlanta Athletic Club Johns Creek June 28, 2010	<b>Summer Series # 2</b> Location - TBA July 12, 2010	<b>Summer Series # 3</b> Capital City Club at Crabapple Woodstock July 12, 2010
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Cost is \$95 per Summer Series event. Must be a member of the Junior Tour to participate in the Summer Series

Check [www.georgiapga.com](http://www.georgiapga.com) for additional tournaments

**Georgia PGA Junior Championship**  
 Country Club of Columbus, Columbus  
 June 7-8, 2010

The Championship is open to juniors who are **18 and under** through the final round of the National Championship on August 2-5, 2010 to be held at Sycamore Hills Golf Club in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

**Age Divisions - Holes Played**  
 Ages 12 & Under - 18 holes (1 day) - \$40  
 Ages 13-15 - 36 holes (over 2 days) - \$85  
 Ages 16-18 - 36 holes (over 2 days) - \$85

Note: Entries are accepted on a first come, first served basis this year. No qualifiers will be held.

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- 2009 tournament season attracted **more than 900 competitive junior golfers** from the Southeast
- Events in **Georgia, Florida, and South Carolina** from January through December
- Juniors play in one of five age divisions: Boys 16-19, Boys 13-15, Boys 10-12, Girls 15-19, or Girls 10-14
- Every tournament can be entered via **www.hjgt.org**, phone, or mail
- One-time per year **membership is only \$20** and entry fees average \$180
- All events **ranked by National Junior Golf Scoreboard**
- Select events have **AJGA exemptions** and will be **Golfweek/Titleist ranked**
- Tournaments at **premier venues** including: Chateau Elan GC, Grande Dunes Resort, The Georgia Club, Kiawah Island Golf Resort, Amelia National, and many more.

## The Best in the Southeast

Headquarters are centrally located in Jacksonville, Florida  
 Contact the Hurricane Junior Golf Tour by visiting our website **www.hjgt.org**,  
 calling **904-379-2697**, or emailing **info@hjgt.org**.  
 Become a fan of the Hurricane Junior Golf Tour! Find us on Facebook.

# WHY *We Play* the GAME...



By Lauren Cousart  
 PGA Professional, Class A

their best when they are tight and feeling tense? It is important to stay in the present and to focus on the shot at hand. You are the only person that can control your thoughts and attitude. If you are still upset about a previous shot that did not go the way you wanted it to how can you begin to focus on the shot you are about to hit? Being angry also can hinder your

*The key to playing great is having a great attitude about every shot, even if it is not your best.*

missing in their lives, especially during this economic situation.

Golf is a leisure sport that people of all ages, races, shapes, and sizes can play. Golf can be enjoyed for an entire lifetime. Next time you are on the course, try to think about all of the reasons why you began to play the game of golf! I would bet that once you start focusing on positive thoughts, you will begin to play better and have a little more fun too!



## Georgia Juniors Shine in National Spotlight



Franco Castro of Alpharetta shot a final-round 66 to overcome a six-stroke deficit and take top honors at the Aldila Junior Open.

In April 2009, the American Junior Golf Association hosted the Aldila Junior Open at The Country Club of the South in Johns Creek, Ga. While local competitors paced the tournament field, the real stars were the three organizations that benefited from the tournament's fundraising efforts: the Georgia Junior Golf Foundation, Atlanta Junior Golf Association and The Country Club of the South's junior program.

### Boys Top Five

- 1 Franco Castro, Alpharetta, Ga.
- T2 Jay Vandeventer, Bristol, Tenn.
- Tom Lovelady, Birmingham, Ala.
- Jack Walsh, Lawrenceville, Ga.
- Billy Kennerly, Alpharetta, Ga.

### Girls Top Five

- 1 Kelly Shon, Port Washington, N.Y.
- 2 Tanaporn Kongkiatkrai, Bradenton, Fla.
- T3 Amy Meier, Rochester Hills, Mich.
- Shannon Aubert, ChampionsGate, Fla.
- Austin Ernst, Seneca, S.C.



Georgia natives fared well at the Aldila Junior Open. Jack Walsh of Lawrenceville (right) and Billy Kennerly of Alpharetta (left) tied for second.

The AJGA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to the overall growth and development of young men and women who aspire to earn college golf scholarships through competitive junior golf.



Developing Golf's Next Generation

## Ever get mad at yourself while you were on the golf course?

Of course you have, everyone has at some point. However, the key to playing great is having a great attitude about every shot, even if it is not your best. A very popular quote states, "Golf is not a game of perfect, it is a game of misses," meaning the best players are the best because they can come back after a bad shot. Getting angry at yourself after one shot is definitely not going to help you hit the next shot well.

Dr. Bob Rotella has written several great mental golf books. In "Play to Play Great" he writes, "A player who is angry is not staying in the present, he is focusing on the past." Also he writes that anger brings tension to the body. Who can play

decision-making abilities on the course. If you are unhappy about something that you no longer have control over, how can you expect your mind and body to react to your future shots?

You should treat yourself on the course the way that you would treat your friend or family member if you were caddying for them. Would you scream at them and throw their clubs if they missed the green? Would you break their putter if they missed a short 5-foot putt? Hopefully the answer is no! We've got to be our own best friend out on the course and remember that golf is a GAME. We started playing it because we loved competition, being outside was relaxing, and hanging out with friends was a lot of fun. FUN is something a lot of people are



By Krag A. Woodyard  
PGA Golf Professional  
www.mgjgt.com



Eujina Pyon - "Pee Wee" golfer

of 6 and 18. Local golf courses will host quality affordable tournament that are designed to teach junior golfers the rules, etiquette, sportsmanship and competitiveness of golf. Players involved on the tour compete in stroke play and point system tournaments throughout the year. The points system, known by many as a dogfight or stableford points system has been the key the tour's success this year. The point system allows for junior golfers of different playing abilities, the opportunity to compete fairly against one another.



Ryan Woodyard

GC Junior Club Championship, and Griffin Joyner captured the Landings GC and Southern Hills GC Junior Club Championships as well as the Houston County Amateur Championship.

The Middle Georgia Junior Golf Tour would not have the current success without the support of local PGA Professionals, facility owners, and volunteers. The unique thing about the tour is the commitment made by the PGA Professionals and volunteers to ensure the success of this junior golf program.

Krag Woodyard said, "It is the dedicated player like Conner who makes the Middle Georgia Junior Golf Tour so successful!"

*"It has been great for a golfer just starting out. It's nice that you can really mess up on one or two holes but still have a good chance of playing in the tournament."*

Conner Albright, 13  
GJGF Grant Recipient, 2009



Conner Albright



Jordan Kozloski and her father, Mike

Another requirement of the Middle Georgia Junior Golf Tour is that each junior golfer must pass the rules of golf test annually before being eligible to play in their first event. MGJGT members between the ages of 6 to 10 take the rules test with their parents. The parent and child must both pass the rules test, which in turn meets the requirement that a parent must caddy for their child during each event. "The 'Kaddie Fore Kids' program has been great!" said Mike Kozloski of Warner Robins. "The tour has given my daughter Jordan (8 years old) and I the opportunity to work together as a team on the course and spend some quality family time together."

"Girl Power" is very evident on the MGJGT. There are 29 girls between the ages of 6 and 18 involved on the tour. This year we had a "Pee Wee" golfer, 7 year old Eujina Pyon, shoot a personal best 39 from the 1500 yard tees at International City GC. This year MGJGT players Megan Reddick and Allisa Davis won their age division during the Waterford GC Junior Club Championship. The tour also has 9 girls playing on the local high school golf teams.

The boys are not to be outdone. Three boys of the MGJGT have won five local junior golf titles in 2009. Tyler Woodyard won the Warner Robins City Junior Championship, Ryan Woodyard won the Waterford



Strud Nash gives a rules briefing

# The Proof of a Golfer: How You Take Care of the Course.

By Richard Staughton, CGCS Town Lake GC  
Superintendent of the Year 2010

The word etiquette is defined as “the conventional rules for proper behavior.” You have been taught, as beginner golfers, the proper etiquette when playing the game – don’t play out of turn, don’t talk while others are hitting, don’t hit into the group ahead, etc. Did you know that there is also proper etiquette in caring for the course? There are definitely some things that you should know about course care.

## The Most Important Topics of Proper Course Care Are the 3 R’s:

1. **Repair ball marks** – it takes less than a minute to repair a ball mark, less than a week for properly repaired ball mark to completely heal – but up to 3 weeks for an incorrectly repaired ball mark to disappear.
2. **Replace/re-fill divots** – in some cases no loving care will bring a divot back to life – but filling all divots by replacing the piece of grass that was removed, kicking the edges of the divot together or filling the divot with sand will help ensure a smooth playing surface for others.
3. **Raking bunkers** – make use of the rakes placed around bunkers – shots from the sand are difficult enough without being in a footprint.

### Here is a poem that tells the simple story of proper course care:

The proof of the pudding is the eating they say,  
 But the proof of a golfer is not  
 The number of strokes he takes in a day  
 Or the skill he puts into a shot.  
 There is more to the game than the score which you make  
 Here’s a truth which all golfers endorse:  
 You don’t prove your worth by the shots which you make:  
 But the care which you take of the course.

Just watch a good golfer some day when you’re out,  
 And note what he does as he plays,  
 He never goes on leaving divots about,  
 Till the grass is put back, there he stays.  
 Observe him in traps as he stands for his shot,  
 Then note when the ball has been played,  
 He never unthinkingly turns from the spot,  
 Till he’s covered the footprints he made.

You may brag of your scores and may boast of your skill,  
 You may think as a golfer you’re good;  
 But if footprints you make, in traps you don’t fill,  
 you don’t love the game as you should.  
 For your attitude unto the sport you enjoy,  
 Isn’t proven by brilliance or force;  
 The proof of a golfer – now get this my boy,  
 Is the care that you take of the course!



**Course care etiquette is simply being courteous, leaving the course in better shape for the next player and helping you and others enjoy this wonderful game of golf!**

### Do you know that golfers are not the only people interested in taking proper care of the course?

Those other people are the Greens Crew and the Golf Course Superintendent. The general image of a golf course superintendent may be that of a well-dressed gardener who cuts and waters the grass, but the golf course superintendent does much more. They are part scientist, part accountant, part psychologist, part mechanic, part naturalist, part plumber, part artist, and part golfer. As you can see, they know a lot more than meets the eye! They make sure that everything about the course is right – from how fast the greens putt to the mixture of soap and water in the ball washers. They are out there everyday thinking about how the course will affect your game.

### Here is another little poem telling you about the golf course superintendent:

He’s on the job at break of day and when the stars come out,  
 There’s always trouble on the course for him to fret about.  
 He starts the gang to work at dawn and follows them around  
 Then listens to the golfers whose wisdom is always profound.

He’s on the job from dawn to dusk, a million pests to fight,  
 ‘Tis his to see that every green is watered well at night.  
 The weeds attack his finest work, the drought destroys his grass,  
 The rain beats down the tender shoots, but still the players pass.

And still they play the game they love, a happy golfing clan  
 Who never stop to count the odds against a single man.  
 And so I wave my hand to him, who toils in sturdy jeans,  
 The best friend all golfers have – the man who keeps the greens!

So the next time you see your golf course superintendent on his cart, don’t think of him as a moving target. Rather, think of him as the one who helped you roll in that 20 footer for a birdie. He won’t admit it, but he might like that – and then you can thank and kiss your putter!



# Tournament Preparation 101

By Todd Thompson  
Southeastern Junior Golf Tour

## How do I get ready for a tournament?

- ✓ Schedule the tournament and get the entry fee in on time
- ✓ Do some research about the golf course, for example is it long or short? Are the greens large or small? What kind grass is on the putting surface? Is the course hilly or flat? Are most of the holes straight by design or does it have a lot of doglegs? Does the course have a web site so that I can review the holes? When can I schedule a practice round? Schedule a back up date for the



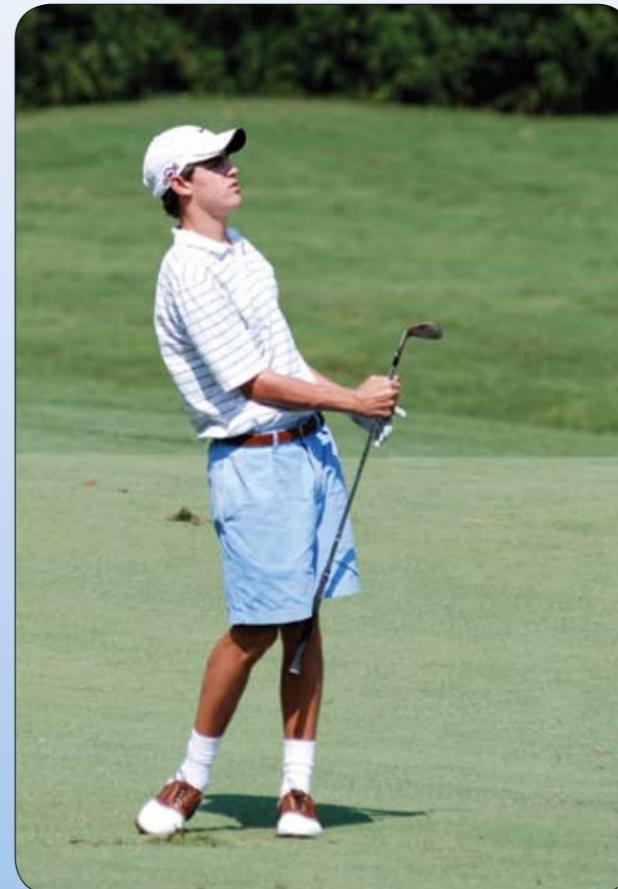
Carrie Mezt



practice round in case it rains.

- ✓ Now that I know something about the course I know what kind of shots to practice and that is what I need to work on for the next few weeks.
- ✓ What kind of short game shots do I need to practice, for example, bump and run or flop shots depending on the design of the course?
- ✓ Before traveling to the tournament check the weather forecast and pack accordingly and always pack rain and cold gear and be prepared if the forecast changes after you leave home.
- ✓ Do I have all my clubs and do I have enough balls and golf gloves on hand?
- ✓ When we reach the tournament site we want to play a practice round. First big rule in practice rounds is – We do not keep score! Go through the tournament routine prior to the practice round and warm up before playing. Test the conditions of the practice putting green and compare that to the greens on the course to see if all are consistent.
- ✓ Walk during the practice round. If you have a laser shoot distances to specific landmarks, for instance, how far is it to a bunker in the fairway or how long do I have to hit it to get past the bunker?

- ✓ Pay attention to the design of the hole and should I hit another club besides driver off the tee?
- ✓ How are the green complexes designed and if I were to miss a shot, which you will, what is the best side to miss a green to give me the best opportunity to get up and down?
- ✓ Is there more danger over the greens or short? Do I have to carry a lot of shots on to the green or can a shot run up from the front?
- ✓ How fast are the greens?
- ✓ Get good yardages on all of the par three's so you know what club to hit in any situation based on tee and hole location and direction of wind. Reminder when watching the weather report pay attention to the wind forecast and what direction it is blowing in and get your bearings on the golf course as to where, North, South, East and West are.



Jack Gibbs

- ✓ Take lots of notes during the practice round.
- ✓ Practice round is over, now work a lot on your short game and hit a few shots on the driving range imagining the holes you just played.
- ✓ Time to make sure we eat right the night before the event and drink lots of water the day and night before the first round. Get our body hydrated. Do not drink a lot of tea, soft drinks or eat a lot of junk.
- ✓ Night before the event make sure you are ready for the next day with clothing, clubs are ready and you have plans for drinks and snacks during the round. Plan your routine so that you know when to get to the golf course. Double check your tee time and which hole your start on.
- ✓ Morning of the round eat a good healthy breakfast, stay away from sugar filled food and caffeine.
- ✓ When you arrive at the course go to the tee you are teeing off and see if they are running on time then go through your routine, stretch and get in a good warm-up.
- ✓ When you go to the driving range warm up but do not hit lots of balls. All we are trying to do is get loose and prepared mentally. Before go to the first tee hit the club that you will use on your starting hole and be prepared for that first shot.
- ✓ Get to the tee at least 5 minutes before your time and be ready to play when it is your turn. Do not get to the tee and then start collecting tees and ball markers and marking your golf ball. Come to the tee ready to play.
- ✓ During the round drink a lot of water throughout the round and make sure you eat some small snack at least every three holes to keep your energy level up.
- ✓ Keep a good attitude, realize that you are going to miss some shots and keep the game fun.
- ✓ After the round take care of your scorecard and make sure all is correct before turning in and get ready for round two.

# >>The Address Routine

By Jeff Hull  
PGA Professional, UGA GC

**In all the discussions about which swing theory is most valid, a very important element of the swing has been forgotten: proper set-up routine.**

I teach the importance of this in almost every lesson I give because it guarantees success in so many areas. If you watch a basketball player shooting a free throw, a pitcher on the mound, or even a football kicker preparing to kick a field goal you will see them diligently placing their bodies in a certain place on the field and in particular positions to allow them the best opportunity for success. I use these examples because these athletes are not reacting; they have time to set-up before any action is required. The same is true in hitting a golf shot.

Once you have determined what is required to hit a particular shot it is important to begin your set-up process from the ground up. In golf, the ball must be directed toward the target with a club. Because of this they become the two most important elements of the shot. The ball must be struck squarely with the clubface, which is attached to the shaft, which is held with the hands, which are attached to the arms, which are moved with the body.

Most poor shots in golf start with poor set-up. In fact, players on the PGA Tour actually practice their set-

up routines in order to make every aspect of the shot automatic. Use the following routine to help eliminate mistakes and make your game more automatic and consistent.

**>>Step 1:** Plan your shot. Check your yardage, lie of the ball, wind direction, and what kind of shot you want to play in order to select the proper club. Once this is done select the target line you wish the ball to travel on so that you have something to aim with.

**>>Step 2:** Place the club head behind the ball so that the face is square to your target line. You also need to make sure that the sole (bottom of the club) is flat to the ground and the shaft is angled slightly forward, preferably to the inside of the left shoulder. This club is now set to the proper impact condition and is ready to be set-up around.

**>>Step 3:** With your feet together and in line with the ball position your body with enough bend forward to allow your arms to hang down under your shoulders and grip the club. Because your club is pre-set to proper impact, your left arm should come down on top of the club, much like if you were to bend down to pick up a bucket. Your left hand is in position to grab the club without manipulation. Your right hand now goes on behind the shaft and under your left hand.

**>>Step 4:** You are now ready to set your body to your arms and club. While maintaining your posture and club position, spread your feet to accommodate the club you are using and the shot at hand. For most full shots as the club gets longer the ball is placed more forward in the stance (towards the left foot) with wedges being played in the center. Clubs are designed with varying degrees of "shaft lean" built in to them so that at impact the club should point at the left shoulder. The driver is the longest club and really the only one that is "vertical" at impact which is why it is placed more forward in the stance.

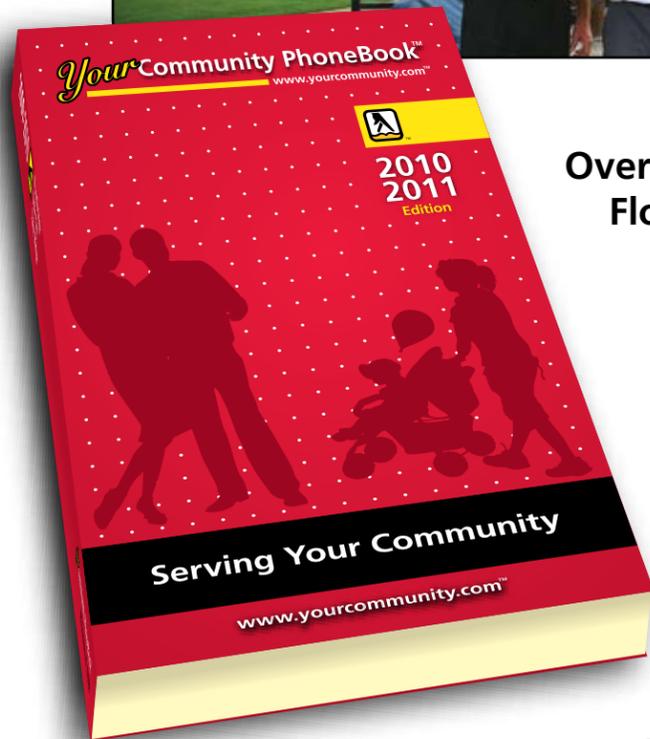
**>>Step 5:** This is where you verify all of your set-up alignments and make any necessary adjustments. You should verify that you have the proper amount of waist bend and knee bend, you are the proper distance from the ball, your hands are comfortable and correct, and that you are stable and in good balance. Check your aim by rotating your eyes along the target from the ball to your target. A waggle and an impact rehearsal would also be good.

**>>Step 6:** You are now ready to hit the shot. Execute the swing you have practiced for that shot and monitor your balance. You should be balanced in 3 key areas: address, top of the backswing, and the finish. Maintain that solid balanced finish with no wobble until the ball lands or stops rolling. This simple key will enable you to swing within yourself and get a real feel for the proper motion, and be able to distinguish between good swings and bad.



**Remember, every shot from a putt to a drive can use this systematic approach to guarantee successful set-up and shot execution.**

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# GSGA Junior Sectional Program



Series of age-division, one-day competitions in seven geographical sections with awards given



Participants earn points at each event to qualify for the statewide Junior Sectional Challenge Match



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## 2010 Schedule

### Northwest

June 8 LaFayette GC  
June 14 Crystal Falls GC, Dawsonville  
June 28 Fields Ferry GC, Calhoun  
July 6 Polo G&CC, Cumming

### Northeast

June 7 The Chimneys, Winder  
June 21 Monroe G&CC  
June 28 Chattahoochee GC, Gainesville  
July 13 Mossy Creek GC, Cleveland

### West

Dates and sites TBA

### Middle

June 14 Georgia Vets Memorial GC, Cordele  
June 28 Griffin CC  
July 12 Southern Hills GC, Hawkinsville  
Additional date/site TBA

### East

June 7 Jones Creek GC, Evans  
June 17 Bartram Trail GC, Evans  
July 1 Waynesboro CC  
July 8 Forest Hills GC, Augusta

### Southwest

June 1 Spring Hill CC, Tifton  
June 7 Kinderlou Forest GC, Valdosta  
June 14 Doublegate CC, Albany  
July 6 Valdosta CC  
July 19 Sunset CC, Moultrie

### Southeast

June 8 Lakes at Laura S. Walker, Waycross  
June 15 Jekyll Island GC  
June 29 The Ford Plantation, Richmond Hill  
July 6 Willow Lake GC, Metter  
July 14 The Landings Club, Savannah

Statewide Junior Sectional Challenge Match  
July 27-28 Southern Hills GC, Hawkinsville



Low \$15 entry fee per event  
Pre-registration not required



On the web:  
[www.gsga.org](http://www.gsga.org)



East Section  
2009 Junior Sectional Challenge  
Match Champions



# GSGA

GEORGIA STATE GOLF ASSOCIATION