



Sussex Golf Partnership News

"Growing Golf in Sussex"

October 2010

Development Academy Success

The SGP's Development Academy has been put into operation to identify and encourage girls and boys aged between 9 and 15 who were not already part of the Present county squad coaching programme. 96 children were selected to join one of the Development Academies in Sussex: Royal Eastbourne Golf Club,



Chartham Park Golf & Country Club and Rustington Golf Centre. It has been really well received amongst the children, parents and coaches alike. James Victory, aged 9 from Worthing has felt the benefits of the Academy: "It has helped me progress and learn new skills, I have enjoyed it and it has helped me with my confidence playing against others". From a parent's point of view, Mark Dignan, from Goring, praised the set up and its benefits: "It's great value for money and a great opportunity for Tom to learn golf the right way and not pick up any bad habits". The Academy can boast a number of success stories, from the Rustington Academy, Elodie Jayne Yates and Philip Hoy have excelled with Philip taking ten shots of his handicap from -18 to -8, he said, "I'm now hoping to play in Junior Opens and reach County level and I feel the academy has given me the belief to do so". At Chartham Park, George Roser has taken 8 shots off his handicap to -19 and Harry Bayley has taken 5 shots off his to - 8. At Royal Eastbourne Laurence Collier, Academy coach revealed, "Some players have been pulled out to play in junior competitions. This shows the dramatic rate of improvement, and that's because the program is so well structured". *For more information on the different Academy programmes, please contact Neil Plimmer (see contact details page 4)*

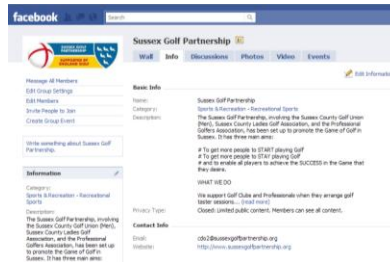


Kerry Scott...

With the Ryder Cup over and Europe victorious, Kerry feels it is also looking good for Golf in Sussex too! Highlights have included the firm establishment of the Development Academy at the three centres mentioned in the headline article... and possibly a fourth centre to be set up in 2011, so watch this space! The inspiration of the ladies Rookie Academy will also see girls/ladies starter sessions coming to Sussex Golf clubs before the end of the season. The SGP aren't just helping the golfers, the launch of the coach development group is a fantastic opportunity for pro's and young organisers to develop their skills and network with the top coaches in golf. The summer success of the Turn to Golf campaign has continued at University fairs across Sussex with students showing great enthusiasm to get involved. Golfmark accreditation is looking good, with 7 more clubs hoping to achieve Golfmark by the end of March 2011. With the playing season almost at an end, the Partnership are always here to help with the myriad admin jobs during the winter season!

SGP soon to be on

We are proud to announce that an SGP Facebook Group will be set up very soon! What are the benefits for users? Not only will we keep you up to date with key events both on and off the golf course, but we will be able to give you extra and exclusive interactive coaching tips and advice....all for free. It will also give you a chance to let us know what you like or dislike about events, so we can keep giving you guys the best service possible!



Putting the Fun into Fun-damentals



Girls and lady rookies of Sussex were lucky enough to take part in a specially designed rookie academy over the summer at Mid Sussex Golf and Country Club. Set up by Neil Plimmer, the academy fits into Sussex's player development pathway that bridges the gaps between school, club and county golf. This particular academy focussed on girls and ladies, which ultimately proved a big hit amongst the Academy attendees, such as Helena Boyle who explains, "Having women only sessions makes it much less intimidating for us, so we can just concentrate on improving our game." The two hour session focussed on what we all tend to forget when playing golf...having fun! Mo Froud applauded this "that's what makes this great, it's fun for us and the kids because it is a lot more engaging and you don't realise how much your learning!" By introducing the essential and correct movement patterns in a way that engages all ages, it's fair to say the Rookie academy puts the fun back into fundamentals. The youngsters of the group couldn't have been more enthusiastic, Dominique Froud, aged 10 and Sophia Faydherbe-de-Maudave, aged 9 revelled, "it was so fun and the coach got us to think about our movement to help hit the ball properly, especially kinematic sequence". Well, for those of us that don't know what this means and the secret of how to hit a golf ball properly, I guess we had better book our place on the next Rookie academy. *For more information contact Neil Plimmer (contact details page 4)*

Forthcoming Events and Dates

Junior Organisers Golf Competition & Dinner

Please note the closing date to enter has now passed, but for future fixtures keep checking the SGP website and the newsletter!

- Sunday 10th October
- Mid Sussex Golf Club
- First tee time 10am
- Dinner at 6pm approx

Sussex Coaches Network

Michael Dalgleish – Introduction to Long Term Athletic Development (For Introductory to Intermediate level coaches)

- Monday 25th October
- Slinfold Park Golf & Country Club
- 6.00pm – 9.30pm

Golf Roots Workshop

Focusing on School Club Links to help ensure children progress from school based activity to regular club activity.

- Tuesday 16th November
- University of Brighton
- 8.30am – 11.45am

To book a place on any of the courses please contact Neil Plimmer (details, page 4)

Partnership Forum

YOUR opportunity to give us feedback on where we should be focusing our efforts and resources.

- Tuesday 23rd November
- West Hove Golf Club
- 6pm start

Turn to Golf: Update

The busy Turn to Golf summer schedule reported in July's newsletter saw huge numbers of budding golfers of all ages and backgrounds giving golf a go, and it hasn't stopped there! Sussex Golf professionals teamed up with the Mid Sussex Council for their summer road shows, with yet more people wanting to give golf a go. The team at Chartham Park attended the events at the Haven Centre in Crawley Down on 26th July and The Rec in Balcombe on 11th August. Cuckfield attended the events at Whitemans Green on 4th August and the 999 day at Haywards Heath on 4th September. Finally, Mid Sussex attended summer events at Hurstpierpoint Court Bushes on 18th August and Leylands B Hill Football Club on 25th August. Congratulations to everyone that took part!



A Degree of Interest!

As part of the SGP's strategy to get more people in Sussex playing golf, the team decided to attend with Chichester University and The University of Brighton's Fresher's fairs. This fits perfectly in the remit of the SGP's plans, especially for that elusive 18 – 30 male group. But what exactly are Fresher's fairs? Well, these are pre organised days for University students to attend and sign up to a festival of opportunities, for example sports teams, societies and groups either within the University or local to the area. Both events were incredibly well received attracting a lot of interest, and Sean Parker, Assistant County Development Officer at the SGP indicated this was a great opportunity for local students to take up reduced memberships at local clubs.

Coaching Courses

The PGA Level 1 course is free to anyone that is volunteering with the SGP. We also accept nominations from Clubs or individuals that would like to register their interest in applying for a grant towards the cost of the course. This training would be of great benefit to Junior Organisers and anyone involved with helping to teach golf to beginners. The qualification does not infringe Amateur status. For more information please see our website at www.sussexgolfpartnership.org or email cdo@sussexgolfpartnership.org

Fairness Framework

October 1st saw the enactment of the 2010 equality law in golf. This has been done to make sure discrimination within clubs unlawful. Members, associate members, prospective members and guests are to be treated fairly and no-one must be treated less favourably because of their sex, race, religion, disability, etc. To make sure your club and association is compliant please read the Equality Act 2010 on our website.

GolfMark Update



Sussex have nine clubs that are currently awarded GolfMark status, these include:

- Chartham Park Golf Club
- Horsham Golf & Fitness
- Lewes Golf Club
- Mid Sussex Golf Club
- Pyecombe Golf Club
- Royal Eastbourne Golf Club
- Selsey Golf Club
- West Hove Golf Club
- Worthing Golf Club

We hope to have seven more Sussex clubs attaining GolfMark status by March 2011. When those clubs achieve the accreditation we will announce it in our forthcoming newsletters. If your club hasn't been accredited and you're wondering what's in it for you, well a recent survey has revealed that GolfMark accreditation brings positive benefits, such as increased memberships, access to more funding/grants for coaching, and stronger links between clubs and schools and the community. See our website for the full report.

Coach Development Group Launch Evening

A newly formed Sussex Golf Coach Development Group has been set up to assist with the personal development of golf coaches in Sussex! A launch evening was held on Tuesday 5th October at the East Sussex National Golf Resort in celebration of its infancy. 12 coaches attended and were rewarded with presentations from Peter Mattsson (Head of Coaching English Golf Union), Fiona Brown (Regional Coach Development Officer PGA), Anthony Statham (Coach Development Manager ActiveSussex), Steven Orr (Director of Cranfield Coaching Academy) and our very own Matt Warwick (SGP County Development Officer). Neil Plimmer, Chair of the new Sussex Golf Coach Development Steering Group was really pleased with the evening, "It was well received amongst the coaches. Not only are we offering coaches the chance for further development, but it's a great way to network with other coaches with a wealth of experience from county coaching up to PGA." The group has the backing of Jonathon Right, the England Coach Education Manager from the PGA National Training Academy, "I am delighted to see such a fantastic development in Sussex. Neil Plimmer and the team are totally committed to delivering quality development opportunities for Sussex coaches, both Professional and Amateur alike." Two lucky coaches, Shaun Creasey from Cooden Beach Golf Club and James Burrell from Cuckfield Golf Centre won free entry to the next development sessions for the next six months, worth £180. If you missed out on the event, don't worry, as more coaching development workshops are coming soon. Please check the forthcoming events and dates section and contact Neil Plimmer if interested.

Stay Focus Group @ The Forum

Is your club finding it hard to retain players within the 18 – 40 age group? Do you have any ideas on how to solve this problem? If so, the SGP have decided to set up a focus group of Club representatives at our Forum in November to come up with ideas and solutions. This is definitely a priority group for golf as these will be the next generation of Captains and administrators. If you are interested in being a part of this please contact the County Development Officer. *(Event details can be seen on page 2 under forthcoming dates and events)*

- **Questions or comments?** E-mail **County Development Officer** at cdo@sussexgolfpartnership.org or **Communications Officer** at james.perrin@live.co.uk or call on **07793974492**
- **Player Pathway, Coach Development and to book a place on Coaching course,** contact Neil Plimmer at neilplimmer@tiscali.co.uk or **07713646988**
- **To remove your name from our mailing list, please e-mail back 'REMOVE'**
- **For more information please visit www.sussexgolfpartnership.org**

Volunteers Wanted

The SGP are currently looking for a Welfare Officer and a Volunteer Co-ordinator. In addition we are always happy to hear from anyone that is interested in helping develop the game of golf within Sussex, e.g. to help out at the different shows we attend such as the South of England show and Goodwood Festival of Speed. Travel and general expenses are paid by the partnership and PGA Level 1 coaching course is free to all volunteers of the partnership. For more information please see our website or check out www.golfvolunteers.org or www.do-it.org.uk

Regional Development Officer Vacancy

(South East Region) Starting salary c.£25,000 plus car plus benefits. An organised, enthusiastic and self-motivated individual is needed to deliver the 'Golf Roots' junior golf initiatives being promoted by the Golf Foundation on behalf of the England Golf Partnership. For more information please visit our website at www.sussexgolfpartnership.org