



THE COACH APPROACH

Wisconsin High School Golf Coaches Association Newsletter

Volume V Issue 2

May 1991

Preparation for competition is important

by Kaz

One of the major functions of high school golf coaches is to prepare students for competition. Most students, especially the younger ones or those with little experience will view golf competition with more fear than eagerness. This fear grows as the car, van or bus nears the course, the small pit in one's stomach becoming much larger as the trepidation factor multiplies. How do we as coaches decrease the student fear and turn a negative into a positive? There are several methods to employ.

Preparation:

Golfers who are thoroughly prepared for competition will suffer far less fear than those who are not prepared. This preparation involves several steps. First, swing error correction will result in the golfer having

more confidence in his or her ability to hit necessary shots on the course. Second, short game practice will result in the golfer having the confidence necessary to score around the greens. Their course management or course preparation sessions will help prepare the golfer to develop a mental picture of the shots they will need to play ahead of time. "Going over the course" on the way to the tournament will help set the stage by eliminating the unknown. A course map or yardage booklet will really help present a picture of each hole to your players. When reviewing the course, don't dwell on all the trouble. Kids tend to see just fairways and greens when playing, and dwelling on just the trouble on each hole will result in creating a false mental image of a terror filled round. Try and compare the various holes to holes on your home course that may be similar. This technique will create a sense of familiarity and calm for the

player. Yet, with much preparation, coaches need to realize that golfers will still have "butterflies" in their stomach caused by a fear of an uncertain future.

Dealing positively with Uncertainty:

In a previous article, we discussed the learned-effective person. Such a person has an "ability for perceiving our world in a way that creates excitement, energy, and positive motivation and therefore creates personal success..." (p. 5). This type of person reacts differently to new situations than does the average person. He or she will adopt the philosophy that "I am better than the others until they prove otherwise to me." (p8). This is much like Lee Trevino's statement in a T.V. commercial when he says, "Somebody has to win these tournaments; it might as well be me!" Instead of doubting his ability (continued on page 2)

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to score lower than the other players, Trevino takes the approach that he is in control of his life and future rather than allowing somebody else to control him. He controls his own destiny and while he cannot control how others will play, he will always try to control how he plays with the result that he usually plays consistently better than his opponents. Teach your students that "to go into competition doubting yourself, fearing failure and thinking that other people are better than you, just about guarantees that you will fail and leave not knowing if your competitors were really better than you or if you just didn't believe in yourself." (p.8)

The Value of Patience and Persistence:

"Learned effective athletes are patient and persistent." (p. 8) Most athletes are impatient with themselves or their performance, especially young

golfers who tend to get very down on themselves after a few poorly played shots. As soon as they get frustrated with themselves, they lose confidence and motivation to play well. Youngsters must be taught patience and emotional control on the course. To lose one's patience will result in the loss of control over those things the golfer is supposed to control. Loss of patience also results in a loss of motivation. "You must work to stay motivated. Now that some of the fun and magic of seeing success is gone, you must remind yourself that if I am patient and persist, I will soon be successful again." (p8)

In college golf, the successful golfer stays motivated by "grinding or playing hard even if things are not going well. High school players need to learn to "grind" when things don't go according to plan. "Grinding is really nothing more than focusing in on the goal of playing well and maintaining that focus throughout

the round. High school players need to learn this technique from their coaches through proper education rather than just giving up on themselves. As a coach, you will not know how your players react to adversity unless you are on the course with them, watching their responses to various situations. It is not easy to handle poorly played shots or bad bounces in a positive manner, but if it were easy, everybody would become an accomplished golfer. You need to convey this message to your players along with the idea that in golf, there are many challenges awaiting those who are eager to accept these challenges.

Quoted material is from An Introduction to Sport Psychology by Dr. Bob Rostella University of Virginia.



drawing by Gene Haas

**FIFTH ANNUAL
WHSGCA GOLF
TOURNAMENT,
CLINIC, AND
ANNUAL MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 10
LAKE
ARROWHEAD
GOLF COURSE
RESERVATIONS
DUE FRIDAY,
MAY 24**

Recipients of Friends Awards named

Rick Maas, golf coach at Bloomer High School, was responsible for the Friends of High School Golf Award being presented to Ben and Deb Rubenzer and John and Annette Hassmer on behalf of the Wisconsin High School Golf Coaches Association.

The couples are the owners of the Veterans Memorial Golf Course in Bloomer. During the years they have given free golf memberships to any boy or girl on the high school golf team.

They have never charged the school for practice or meets; during the summer they have been helpful in the junior program by providing free use of the range during lesson and by providing clubs for those who do not have any.

PGA Friends of golf include Mike Bencriscutto, now deceased, for his lifetime of dedication and support of Junior Golf, and for the founding of the Wisconsin State Junior Masters

PGA Friends of golf include Mike Bencriscutto, now deceased, for his lifetime of dedication and support of Junior Golf, and for the founding of the Wisconsin State Junior Masters Tournament.

The other PGA Friends Award went to George Schiro of Four Seasons. George was recognized for his availability as a Pro to help young players at all times. He was further recognized for the impact he has had on the boys and girls on the various area teams he assisted.

Decisions on the Rules of Golf

by Chuck Menzel

1. Player B removes the flagstick, places it on the putting green behind the hole and putts. Player A believing that B's ball will strike the flagstick, picks up the flagstick, allowing B's ball to roll beyond where the flagstick had been placed. What is the ruling?

ANSWER: In stroke play, A incurs a penalty of two strokes. B incurs no penalty. Rule 1-2 or 24-1. In match play, A loses the hole for removing an obstruction on the player's line of play while the player's ball was in motion. (Decision 1-2/3)

2. A player who started a round with 14 clubs lost his putter. May he replace it during the round?

ANSWER: No. A lost club is not one which has become "unfit for play in the normal course of play." (Decision 4-4a/6)

3. Player A takes a rake into a bunker so that he can smooth his footprints after playing from the bunker. He sticks the handle of the rake into the sand prior to playing his stroke. Is this permissible?

ANSWER: No. Player A was in breach of the rule 13-4 which prohibits testing the condition of a hazard when the ball lies in the hazard. (Decision 13-4/22)

4. A player playing a shot in a bunker accidentally touched the sand when making his backswing. What is the ruling?

ANSWER: The player was in breach of rule 13-4b when he touched the ground in the bunker with his club before making the stroke. (Decision 13-4/31)

5. A player swings at and misses a wrong ball. What is the ruling?

ANSWER: Since the player made a stroke with the wrong ball, he incurs a two stroke penalty. (Decision 15/1)

6. May a player brush aside dew from his line of putt?

ANSWER: No. Rule 16-1a prohibits touching the line of putt except in removal of loose impediments, repair of ball marks, etc. Dew is not a loose impediment--see definition of "Loose Impediments." Accordingly, such action would be a breach of Rule 16-1a. (Decision 16-1a/3)

7. In stroke play, a marker recorded some of the competitor's hole scores in the wrong boxes. He altered the hole numbers on the card to correct the error. Should the card be accepted?

ANSWER: Yes (Decision 6-6a/3)

8. A competitor who started on the 10th hole returns a card with scores for the first nine holes recorded in the boxes for the second nine holes, and visa versa. Should he be disqualified since the scores for some holes were lower than actually taken?

ANSWER: Yes (Decision 6-6d/3)

9. Individual and team competitions are being played concurrently in stroke play. A competitor is given advice by a team mate who is playing in another group. What is the ruling?

ANSWER: The team mate would be penalized two strokes. (Decision 8-1/21)

10. Under rule 11-2, tee markers are deemed to be fixed when playing the first stroke from the teeing ground. Are tee markers obstructions thereafter?

ANSWER: Yes (Decision 11-2/1)

Wisconsin Valley Conference

by Tom Conrad

As one of your Board of Directors to the Wisconsin High School Golf Coaches Association and golf coach at D.C. Everest High School for the past 21 years, I would like to give you a brief history of our conference format, of some of the past and present coaches in the Wisconsin Valley, and some of our better high school golfers who golfed in our conference.

The Wisconsin Valley Conference is probably best known for its strong football and wrestling teams. Although golf season and golf weather can come late to the Wisconsin Valley, we have had some very good teams and individual players over the past 21 years.

Our conference is presently made up of the following schools: Antigo, Marshfield, Merrill, Rhinelander, Schofield, Stevens Point, Wausau East, Wausau West, and Wisconsin Rapids. When I started coaching golf in 1970, the conference had only seven schools. They were: Antigo, Marshfield, Merrill, Rhinelander, Schofield, Stevens Point and Wisconsin Rapids. Shawano joined our conference in 1971 and remained until 1979. Wausau East and Wausau West joined the Wisconsin Valley Conference in 1974 and are presently in our conference making up the nine school conference. In 1970 our conference championship was determined by a one day 18 hole tournament. It remained that

way until 1973. Since then our conference championship is determined by a 54 hole tournament played three consecutive Fridays at three different conference school courses. This 54 hole 3 day tournament format has given both coaches and players many nervous moments and lots of exciting golf. As they say, "The cream comes to the top."

The Wisconsin Valley Conference schools are blessed with many beautiful and challenging golf courses to play. Antigo has both the Antigo Bass Lake C.C. and Riverview G.C.. Marshfield plays both the Marshfield C. C. and Riveredge C.C. (new 9 holes opening this year). Merrill golfs at the Merrill G.C. (new nine holes also opening later this year). Rhinelander now plays on both the Rhinelander C.C. and the new Northwoods G.C. with its 135 slope handicap. D.C. Everest, Wausau East and Wausau West host their meets at the elegant Wausau C.C. while Stevens Point plays at both Stevens Point C.C. and Sentry World G.C. Wisconsin Rapids plays host at the beautiful Bulls Eye C.C., site of many WIAA State Tournaments.

Rhinelander High School won the Wisconsin Valley Conference championships in 1970 and again in 1971. They were coached by Gerald Ditter. Mr. Ditter's 1969 team won the WIAA State Golf Tournament at Madison's YaHara Hills. Mr. Ditter continued to coach at Rhinelander until his retirement in 1984. Mr. Ditter passed away this last year after some 20 years as coach at

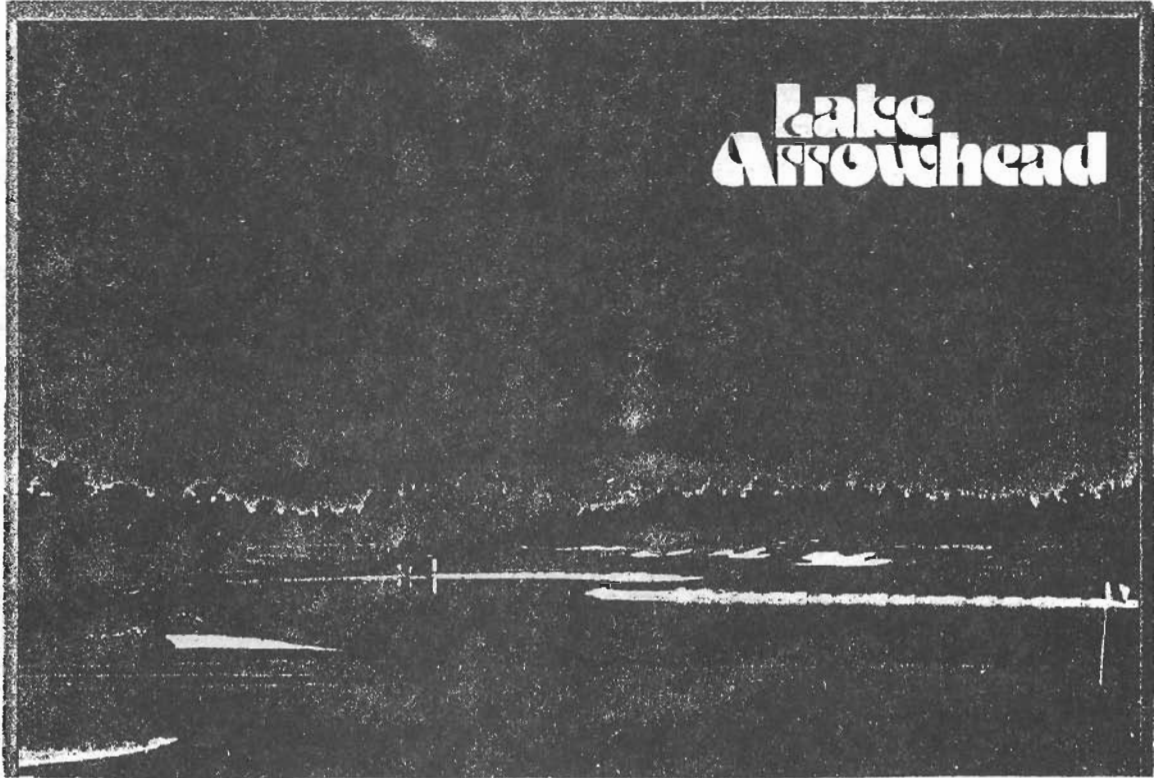
Rhinelander. Steve Jensen took over the coaching duties after Mr. Ditter's retirement in 1984 and is presently the goal coach. Steve's 1989 team won the Wisconsin Valley crown and has been one of the Wisconsin Valley teams represented in the WIAA State Golf Tournament the past two years. His 1990 State Tournament team finished 3rd in the Class A Division. His 1986 team was led by Ken Schoppe, who won the Wisconsin Valley Conference medalist honor for that year.

In 1972, the last year for the old 18 hole championship format, Wisconsin Rapids won the conference championship under the coaching of Steve Peterson. Steve started his golf coaching career in the spring of 1970 and has coached golf for the past 21 years at Wisconsin Rapids Lincoln H.S. Steve won three more Wisconsin Valley Championships (1974, 1984, 1988). Since his 1970 win, Coach Peterson has taken his team to the WIAA State Tournament consistently over the past 21 years. Dave Nimtz was the 1970 WIAA State Tournament medalist. Other outstanding players for Wisconsin Rapids were Bill Ellis, the 1974 conference medalist, and Pat Paterson, the 1985 conference medalist. Preparing students for Tournament Competition

Merrill High School won the WIAA State Tournament and had very strong teams through 1974, winning the Wisconsin Valley titles in 1973 and 1974. They were coached by Willis Borgenhagen who coached the golf team for 12 years, retiring his coaching position to Roy Hull in

ENTRY FORM

FIFTH ANNUAL WISCONSIN HIGH SCHOOL GOLF
COACHES ASSOCIATION GOLF TOURNAMENT,
CLINIC, AND ANNUAL MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 10, 1991



NAME: _____ SCHOOL _____

SCHOOL ADDRESS _____ CITY/ZIP _____

HOME ADDRESS _____ SCHOOL PHONE: _____

CITY AND ZIP _____ HOME PHONE. _____

HANDICAP OR AVERAGE 18-HOLE SCORE: _____

YOUR ENTRY MUST INCLUDE:

_____ \$55.00 FEE FOR GOLF, CART, PRIZES, CLINIC & LUNCH

ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY MAY 24, 1991 AND ARE LIMITED TO THE FIRST 100 GOLFERS.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: WISCONSIN HIGH SCHOOL GOLF COACHES
ASSOCIATION.

PLEASE RETURN TO: WISCONSIN HIGH SCHOOL GOLF COACHES ASSN.
C/O TOM CONRAD
10660 DANA LANE
SCHOFIELD, WISCONSIN 54476

enjoys years of success

coaching position to Roy Hull in 1980. Roy Hall coached the Merrill Blue Jay golf team for 7 years until Joe Mertins took over the head coaching position in 1988. Joe has won the Wisconsin High School Golf Coaches Association Tournament for the past two years. Some of the better players at Merrill were Tom Rajek, the 1973 Wisconsin Valley medalist; Mike Harbath, the 1975 Conference medalist; and Mark Giese, a 1987 all conference team member.

Wausau East won the Wisconsin Valley title in 1976 under the coaching of Jeff Lang. In 1990, after some twenty years as golf coach at Wausau East, Coach Lang gave up the coaching duties to Howard Manski. During Jeff's twenty year span of coaching the Wausau East Lumberjacks, his teams were very well represented in the Wisconsin Valley and WIAA State Golf Tournaments. His teams finished no less than 2nd or 3rd for some thirteen years in the Conference standings. Rob Peters, who played for coach Lang won the 1977 Wisconsin Valley medalist title and later played for the University of Wisconsin under coach Dennis Tiziani.

D.C. Everest High School won four consecutive Wisconsin Valley Conference titles in 1977, 1978, 1979, and 1980. As coach at D.C. Everest, I must say I was blessed with a multitude of talented athletes during those four years. Players like Guy Holmes, the 1976 conference medalist; Scott Habeck,

the 1978 conference medalist; Roger Lundy, who graduated from Farris State University and is presently a class A PGA professional in Indiana. Kerry Fitzgerald who played on the 1977 and 1978 championship teams was an assistant at Wausau Country Club under Head Pro Al Yates. Kerry is now the new head professional at the Merrill.C. Scott Ewaskowitz won the conference

senior years. Pat graduated from the University of Wisconsin and played on the Wisconsin golf team under Coach Dennis Tiziani. He worked as an assistant at Cherokee C.C. for Dennis and Larry Tiziani. Pat is presently an assistant PGA professional in Florida.

Stevens Point High School has been the dominating golf team in the Wisconsin Valley Conference for the past ten years, winning championships in 1981, 1982, 1983, 1986, 1987, and again in 1990. Their championship teams of 81, 82, and 83 were coached by John DeWitt and led by the fine play of Jeff Bisbee. Jeff won Valley Conference Medalist honors in all three of those years along with a WIAA State Medalist title and led the Point Panthers to a WIAA State Championship. Jeff played college golf at UNLV and is presently one of the better playing professionals in Wisconsin. Their 86, 87, and 90 championships under Coach John Shell. Coach Shell has also been blessed with many fine players- players like 1984 conference medalist Tom Otterlee; Eric Aherns, the 1987 conference medalist; and the very talented Jason Allen, the 1989 and 1990 Valley Conference Medalist. Jason will be a senior this season on the Point team after a fine 1990 season in which he broke the individual conference 54 hole medalist record with a score of 222, previously held by Wausau East's Rob Peters. Jason also finished third in the 1990 WIAA State Tournament (Class A) and made All State honors.



by Gene Haas

medalist honors in 1979 and 1980. Scott played on the University of Wisconsin golf team for one year and turned professional, working at course in Florida, Indiana, and Wisconsin. Scott was an assistant at Sentry World for several years before going into business for himself in Wausau. Pat Gorman played on the 1979 and 1980 championship teams as a freshman and sophomore and was an all conference player his junior and

cont. from page 5.....WV
Conference

(Continued on page 6)

Antigo High School won the Valley Conference title in 1985 under the coaching of Leon Kalkofen. That 1985 Valley Championship team went on to place third in the 1985 WIAA State Tournament held at Wisconsin Rapids Bull Eye C.C.. That Antigo team was led by Pete Kretz who later graduated from Farris State Golf Program and is an assistant pro at Cherokee C.C. in Madison. Some other fine players on that 1985 team were three time all conference player Mark Rusch (1985-1987), and 1985 all conference player John Prodoehl.

Antigo's present golf coach is Dennis Schmidtke who has been coaching the Red Robbins for the past four years.

Wausau West High School, which came into the Wisconsin Valley Conference in 1974, has had just two coaches. Loni Rubis coached from 1974-1979 and present coach Jerry Layton will be going on his 12th year as golf coach of the "Warriors". Coach Layton's fine player, Jeff Langlois, was on the 1987 Wisconsin Valley All Conference Team.

Marshfield High School golf coaches for the past 21 years have been Ron Aslaskin, Steve Strong, Joe Kretz, and present day golf coach Dick Vruwink.

Some of the fine players from Marshfield have been Roger and Doug Billings, Greg Pizl, and Mike Fish the 1988 Conference Medalist and present player on the University of Minnesota Golf Team.

Where are they now?

Girls from Appleton West seek 'big time' success

by Mary Beth Nienhaus

The articles in the last issue sparked some interest and a few more letters were received letting us know where they are now.

Coach Mary Beth Nienhaus of Appleton West wrote to us about Sue Ginter and Ellen Mielke and also sent a promise to track down her third state medalist Darcy Madden Kelly. All three have continued to pursue the game of golf.

Sue Ginter's ambition is to qualify for the LPGA Tour. While at Appleton West, Sue played on the golf team all four years. In her senior year she captured State Medalist honors in the WIAA State Girls Tournament. She was Wisconsin's Junior Stroke Play Champion and won the Wisconsin Match Play title at Butte Des Morts in 1988.

After graduation from West, she received a golf scholarship from the University of Texas and had an outstanding career. In 1986 and 1988, Sue was selected to the first team of the Southwest Conference. In her senior year, she was selected to the All American Team.

She graduated in 1988 with a degree in mechanical engineering with an emphasis in management.

Since graduation, she has concentrated all of her efforts in achieving her goal. She has played the Futures' Tour in Florida and has won two events. Last year her

average was 74.1 and she did not have a round over 75.

Last Fall, Sue finished ninth in the first LPGA qualifying school with rounds of 74,74,73. In her second qualifying school she missed qualifying by two strokes.

Sue is still determined to reach her goal. This winter she plans to play in the Central Florida Challenge and possibly play the European Tour in April.

Sue practices many hours during the day, lifts weights and is into Yoga.

It's only a matter of time before you will see Sue Ginter's name in a LPGA Tournament!

Ellen Mielke was the medalist in the 1985 and 1986 Wisconsin High School Golf Tournament leading her team to State titles.

Ellen is currently a senior at Oklahoma. She is a secondary science education major.

In the spring of 1989 Ellen competed in four tournaments. She finished first or second in every tournament. She also posted the lowest average on the squad in 1990 Spring and Fall tournament action. She finished first or second on the team in eight out of eleven tournaments played. Ellen won the Susie Maxwell Berning Classic with a spring average of 78.7.

She was also the winner of the 1990 Joan Blumenthal Award given to the OU team's most valuable player. Ellen will continue to be Oklahoma's top player this year.

UW Parkside earns District 14 title; UW Eau Claire first in conference

A consistent performance over three days earned UW-Parkside its first ever NAIA District 14 golf championship in the district tournament which was held at The Springs Golf Course this fall.

Coach Steve Stephens' Rangers put together rounds of 388, 384, and 387 to win by 30 strokes over runner-up UW-Eau Claire and become the first district golf champion other than a Wisconsin State University Conference team.

As District Champion, Parkside will advance to the 40th annual NAIA Nationals, May 21-24, hosted by Oklahoma City University in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

The Rangers were so balanced that they captured five all conference spots. Steve Gerber took medalist honors with a 225, nine strokes ahead of teammates Mark Schneider and Tom Agazzi and La Crosse's Scott Friday. Other Parkside all conference winners included Paul Connell and Robb Schulze.

As district champions, Steve Stephens earned District 14 Coach of the Year honors.

Final District 12 Standings

1. UW-Parkside..... 1159
2. UW-Eau Claire.....1189
3. UW-Stevens Point...1200
4. UW-Whitewater.....1211
5. UW-Platteville.....1233
6. UW-Oshkosh.....1247
7. UW-Stout.....1268
8. UW-La Crosse.....1272
9. UW-River Falls.....1276

10. Marian College.....1354
11. M.S.O.E.....1364

Final WSUC Team Championship

1. UW-Eau Claire.....1189
2. UW-St. Point.....1200
3. UW-Whitewater.....1211
4. UW-Platteville.....1233
5. UW-Oshkosh.....1247
6. UW-Stout.....1268
7. UW-La Crosse.....1272
8. UW-River Falls.....1276

Individual results All NAIA District 14 Selection

1. Steve Gerber, Parkside, 225; 2. Scott Friday, La Crosse, 234; Mark Schneider, Parkside, 234; Tom Agazzi, Parkside, 234; 5. Tony Rohlik, Eau Claire, 235; John Severso, Eau Claire, 235; Paul Connell, Parkside, 235; 8. Todd Gaynor, St. Point, 236; 9. Greg Dean, Stout, 237; Todd Watkins, Stout, 237; Chip Summers, St. Point, 237. 12. Noel Zimmerman, Eau Claire, 238; Robb Schulze, Parkside, 238; Kohn List, St. Point, 238.

WSUC Individual All Conference honors

1. Scott Friday, La Crosse, 234;
2. John Degen, Platteville, 235;
- Tony Rohlik, Eau Claire, 235; John Severson, Eau Claire, 235; 5. Todd Gaynor, St. Point, 236; 6. Dirk Willis, Platteville, 237; Greg Dean, Stout, 237; Todd Watkins, Stout, 237; Chip Summers, St. Point, 237;
10. Noel Zimmerman, Eau Claire, 238; Dan Thomas, Oshkosh, 238; John List, St. Point, 238.

Fifth Annual Wisconsin High School Golf Coaches Association Clinic, Golf Tournament, and Annual Meeting

MONDAY, JUNE 10 LAKE ARROWHEAD GOLF COURSE Program

8:00- 8:30 rolls and
coffee

8:30-10:00 Annual
Meeting

10:05-11:00 Clinic
(golf practice area)

11:05-12:00 Lunch
(Lake Arrowhead Club
House)

12:00-2:50 Tee times
Entry Fee: \$55.00

includes coffee, rolls, clinic,
lunch, golf, cart, and prizes

Reservations:

Entries to this event are limited to the FIRST one hundred members of the WHS GCA who complete and return the entry blank, together with the \$55 and entry form

Reservations must be postmarked no later than Friday, May 24, 1991.