

# The New Coach Approach



## Wisconsin High School Golf Coaches Association Board:

**Bill Berkholtz** - Burlington H.S.  
President, Academic All State  
bberkholtz@basd.k12.wi.us  
bberkholtz@wi.rr.com

**John Lonergan** - Hartford Union H.S.  
1st Vice President, Printing, Coach Approach  
john.lonergan@huhs.org

**Dave Blake** - Hayward H.S.  
Spring Clinic, Boys All-State, Welcome Gifts  
packer@cheqnet.net

**Anna Curtis** - Holmen H.S.  
Girls All-State  
curann@mail.holmen.k12.wi.us

**TJ Dieck** - Milton H.S.  
Treasurer, Awards  
tdieck@charter.net

**Bob Lehninger** - Wisconsin Lutheran H.S.  
Boys All-State  
lehnin@wlhs.k12.wi.us

**Steve Lien** - Baraboo H.S.  
Membership Chair  
slien@baraboo.k12.wi.us

**Don Marx** - Madison Memorial H.S.  
Raffle  
d.marx@mycidco.com

**Dick McKichan** - Platteville  
Boys All-State, Awards  
mckichan@mhsc.net

**Chuck Menzel** - Green Bay Preble H.S.  
Boys All-State Chair, Awards  
cmenzel@greenbay.k12.wi.us

**Scot Meyer** - Watertown H.S.  
Website  
meyers@watertown.k12.wi.us

**MaryBeth Nienhaus** - Appleton H.S.  
Spring Clinic  
mbnienhaus@aol.com

**Roger Prickette** - Watertown H.S.  
Girls All State  
prickette@charter.net

**Mark Rechlicz** - Yahara Hills G.C.  
PGA Representative  
rechlicz@pga.com

**Brian Scrobel** - Brookfield Central  
Summer Clinic/Boys & Girls All-State  
scrobelb@clmbrook.k12.wi.us

**Jack Vruwink** - Marshfield H.S.  
Boys All-State  
Vruwink@marshfield.k12.wi.us

**Jerry Allen** - Stanley-Boyd H.S.  
jallen@stanleyboyd.ker.wi.us

Volume XVIII Issue 2

January 2005



## President Berkholtz's Message

Greetings Coaches,

January is the most difficult time of the year to get through for Midwestern golfers. The high school seasons and the important tournaments of the PGA are finished. We are forced to watch tourneys from Hawaii and can only dream about playing golf in tropical conditions. Therefore, I have chosen to watch the political scene. Governor Doyle recently delivered his "State of the State" address. President Bush will do the same for the nation in a few days. Hence, I would like to report on the state of Wisconsin high school golf.

Golf in Wisconsin's high schools is in excellent shape. The girls' season concluded in October of 2004 was a great success. Congratulations go out to Division I team champions Hartland Arrowhead (649) and individual champion Carly Werwie of Kenosha Bradford (146). Congratulations to Division II team Champions Madison Edgewood (693) and individual champ Becky Allen of Stanley-Boyd H.S. (157). Jessie Hauser of Arrowhead was named Player of the Year and she joins 25 other fine players on the WSHGCA All-State teams.

This past spring there were over 100 boys golfers named to the WSHGCA Academic All-State team and I anticipate an equally impressive list of girls.

Tom Shafranski reports that the number of boys and girls participating in high school golf is increasing with more girls' teams

every year. He also reports that the state tournament time schedules are being perfected. Don't forget that pace of play is an important point of emphasis this year. Don't forget, too, to go to the WIAA web site and find out the locations of the upcoming distance learning rules meetings required of all coaches. For boys' coaches there will be a rules meeting at the WSHGCA spring clinic.

Scot Meyer is working on updating the WSHGCA web site and most forms will be available on-line. In addition, historical info will also be available. Dave Blake, MaryBeth Nienhaus, and Brian Scrobel are all working on putting on fantastic clinics in March and June. Speaking of June, I hope you're all as excited as I am at being able to visit a great golf facility at Kohler. Hopefully you've sent in your clinic forms.

Finally, please join me in welcoming three new members to our board- John Quinlan, the PGA Junior director, Mark Johnson of Reedsburg, and Jerry Allen of Stanley-Boyd. I'm sure they will bring a wealth of expertise and enthusiasm to your organization

In conclusion, my admiration for those of you adept at the game of golf knows no bounds, for as President Woodrow Wilson once said, "Golf is a game in which one endeavors to control a ball with implements ill adapted for the purpose."

Berk

### Whats inside?

- P.2 Girls All State
- P.3 A True Friend
- P.4 WSHGCA Minutes
- P.5 Tom Shafranski
- P.6 Tom (cont.)
- P.7 Tom (cont.)
- P.8 A Lost Friend
- P.8 Where are they now?
- P.9 Board Minutes (cont)
- P.10 The "Yes" Putter
- P.11 R 7 Driver
- P. 11 25 Years of Coaching
- P.12 Spring Clinic Info



**All-State Nominations Show Improvement**

The girl's All-State nominations again illustrated the continuous improvement that high school girl's golf is enjoying. Twenty-eight skilled nominees made the selection committee's job very difficult.

Jessie Hauser, a senior at Hartland Arrowhead, was recognized as the Player of the Year. Jessie finished second individually at State and led her team to a first place finish. Other first team selections were:

Carly Werwie, a sophomore at Kenosha Bradford and State Tournament medallist.

Ann Marie Sztukowski, a senior from Fond du Lac.

Lindsey Solberg from Middleton and the only freshman on the all-state team.

Heidi Hidders, a junior from Middleton.

Becky Allen, the Division 2 State Tournament medalist, is a senior at Stanley-Boyd High School.

Marci Hill, a senior on Division 2 champions, Edgewood.

The second team selections were:

Kelsey Verbeten	11	Green Bay Preble
Stephnie Easterling	12	Waukesha Catholic Memorial
Stephanie Campbell	11	Kettle Moraine
Molly Schemm	11	Fort Atkinson
Meggie Bertram	12	Fond du Lac
Laura Ashpole	12	Brookfield Central

The third team selections were:

Elena Vukmir	11	Divine Savior Holy Angels (Milwaukee)
Heather Herrick	12	Hartland Arrowhead
Meagan Hayes	11	Divine Savior Holy Angels (Milwaukee)
Elizabeth Warren	12	LaCrosse Central
Liz Sobczak	10	Muskego
Kate Wierwill	12	Verona
Stephanie Hird	12	Edgewood (Madison)

The honorable mention selections were:

Jenna Henshue	12	Madison Memorial
Casey Peterson	11	Divine Savior Holy Angels (Milwaukee)
Alicia Stauffacher	12	Madison East
Emily Kuiper	11	Racine Case
Kristen Elliott	12	Edgewood (Madison)
Martha Elson	12	Brookfield Central

**Visit us on the web @ [www.whsgca.com](http://www.whsgca.com)**

**Find the forms for All-State, Hall of Fame, Friend of Golf, etc.**

**You also will find our past Hall of Fame Coaches, All-State Teams and several other important items.**



While there are a number of Wisconsin Golf Professionals that are very supportive of high school golf programs in the state, John (Jack) Shoger, the head professional at Abbey Springs Country Club is a true friend of both high school golf and high school golf coaches. He welcomes high school coaches to his course as players and tries to employ as many as possible during the summer months as rangers. Let's get to know Mr. Jack Shoger.

Born in 1955 to Virgil and Joy Shoger, Jack has two older brothers, Mike and Ron and a younger sister, Susie. After graduating from high school Jack attended Kishwaukee Jr. College before transferring to Northern Illinois University. He graduated with a B.S. in marketing in 1979 having been on the deans list. In 1975 and 1976, while attending Kishwaukee, Jack was named to the All-Conference Golf Team. At Northern Illinois he was a two year golf letterman. He earned Club Championship honors at Kishwaukee C.C. in 1975, 1976, 1978, and 1979. He also competed in the Illinois State Amateur in 1975, 1977 and 1979.

Jack decided that the game he so loved was going to be more than an avocation so he became a golf professional. In 1982 he joined the Abbey Springs Country Club staff as an assistant professional. His personality and ability to work with the members must have greatly impressed because the following year he was named as the head professional. In 1992 Jack started the junior program. To watch him work with youngsters is to understand how much he loves kids and wants them to learn and appreciate this great game. He even expanded his work with juniors beyond the club membership by creating a Fontana Park District junior program called "Hook a Kid on Golf" which had a first year membership of some 45 children. To further stimulate junior interest in the game he created a "Drive, Pitch and Putt" competition at Abbey Springs a number of years ago. It is loosely based on the "Punt, Pass and Kick" program. As if his junior golf program were not enough, Jack also serves as a baseball coach for his son's team.

As a teacher of golf, Jack Shoger has few equals. He encourages the local high school teams to improve by offering FREE group lessons on weekends. His aim is to provide a better junior program than what he had as a junior. Better instruction, better equipment, making the game more affordable and fun are his goals. He makes his golf classes informative and useful. But, he does not force the game on children. Instead he creates interest by employing games and fun activities. Soon, his pupils want to learn to play because Jack made the game fun. He has them hooked, hopefully for life.

One of Jack's strongest attributes is that he really works well with others, not just juniors, but with adults as well. Teaching many adults, Jack subscribes to the philosophy that "it's never too late to start learning the game, but the sooner the better because it is an activity you can do the rest of your life." His pupils have made several comments about Jack Shoger as their teacher. "He is unbelievably knowledgeable about the golf swing." He really communicates well and makes the swing seem so easy." "He is willing to work and help at a moments notice." "He really makes the game fun."

Jack's main motive is to teach all students to have fun, enjoy the game and to pass their knowledge and zeal for the game on to others. He is unique in that he does all of this without putting financial gain as an issue.

In 1994 Jack married his wife Jane. They have two wonderful children, Kyle who is eight and Abby who is six.

Is he dedicated to the high school golf coaches in the state? Yes. Is he dedicated to his club? Yes. Even his daughter bares the name of his club. If you are looking for a summer job working for a truly great human being, give Jack a call and tell him you are a golf coach. He will try to find a spot on his staff for you.



## WHSGCA Board Minutes

Wisconsin High School Golf Coaches Association  
Executive Board Meeting  
Neosho, WI  
November 13, 2004

1. Meeting called to order by president Bill Berkholtz at 9:40. Members present were: Bill Berkholtz, John Lonergan, Dave Blake, Anna Curtis, TJ Dieck, Bob Lehninger, MaryBeth Nienhaus, Mark Rechlicz, Dick McKichan, Chuck Menzel, Roger Prickette, Brian Scobel, Dick Vruwink. Members absent were: Mikki Duran, Steve Lien, Don Marx, Scot Meyer, and Pete Reif.
2. Minutes of the June meeting were passed around and approved. One correction was that Roger Prickette is going to replace Sandee Johnston as the Girls All-State Chair.
3. President's report: Bill Berkholtz reported that Tom Shafranski contacted him with a few issues.
  - a) Athletes have participated in non-school events during the season and that athletes have accepted prizes (gift certificates, clothing, equipment, etc). Both of which are against WIAA policy. We hope to have Tom write an article about these issues for our next coach approach.
  - b) 60 girls were involved in boys golf last year. 2 schools have added girls golf this fall as a direct result of the girls involvement in the boys program.
  - c) Should we create a State Boys & Girls Coach of the year to be nominated for a National Coach of the year? We will attempt to come up with a nomination procedure and form for this. MaryBeth Bill will gather information to help create a form. We will discuss this at the winter meeting.
  - d) Upcoming dates:

Feb. 19 -	Board meeting at Bridges (9:30 am)
March 12 -	Spring Clinic @ Western Lakes
June 21 -	Summer Clinic @ Blackwolf Run
4. Treasurer's Report: TJ Dieck reported that we have \$5103.00 in checking. This is about where we usually are at this time of the year. Everything is going fine.
5. Membership Report: Bill read a report from Steve Lien. We have 223 members to date. This is ahead of last years pace. Steve is going to resign from the board. He has found a replacement that is willing to take over the membership duties. Mark Johnson will replace Steve. Mark is the golf coach at Reedsburg H.S. and an Assistant Pro at Reedsburg C.C. Steve will bring Mark to the Feb. board meeting.
6. Academic All-State Report: Bill Berkholtz reported that the certificates were a bit behind schedule in being sent out for a variety of reasons. But there are all out. We are going to move the deadline for the Girls Academies All-State from March 15 to Feb. 15. This will need to be changed on the form.
7. Web-Site Report: Scot Meyer is absent. He did request that we get him an updated list of the board with names, addresses, phone, e-mail, duties, etc. Chuck will get that to him. The board had a few concerns that the web-site has not been updated promptly. We need the forms to be modified, All-State Teams updated, Hall of Fame inductees included, etc. It was suggested that we get pictures of the 1st Team All-State Team included in the web site. Who would take the pictures was the major concern. Should the coach include one with the nomination form? We will look into it. We also would like to get the past 2nd, 3rd, HM Team names on the web-site. Kaz is the only one who may have that information. Bill will contact Kaz.
8. College Report: Pete Reif is absent. He did have Dick McKichan bring web site addresses for colleges that offer golf. We also had results of several tournament to review from this past fall.
9. Spring Clinic: Dave Blake & MaryBeth Nienhaus have several ideas for the spring clinic. Possible ideas are a rules presentation that would replace the distance learning requirement from the WIAA, a greens superintendent to talk about course set-up, Tom Shafranski from WIAA, and a few others. Final details will be worked out by the Feb. board meeting.
10. Summer Clinic: Brian Scobel reported that we already have 70 coaches registered for the summer clinic at Blackwolf Run. Final details are still being worked out about the clinic presenter. The welcome gift will be a golf hat and ball mark clip.

(continued on page 9)



Knowing the rules of the sport you coach is identified as one of the most essential components of good coaching. As we begin to prepare for the start of the 2005 Boy's Golf Season, there are three rule issues that seem to be asked more and more each year. These include Amateur Status, Purchase Programs and Nonschool Participation issues. Below I have organized some information that I hope will be helpful to golf coaches as you prepare for the season ahead.

**AMATEUR STATUS**

The basis of Amateur Status rules can be found in the WIAA Senior High School Handbook in the Rules of Eligibility section, page 34, Article IV. It reads as follows:

Article IV – Amateur Status

Section 1 – Loss of Eligibility

A. A student shall be an amateur in all recognized sports of this Association in order to compete in any sport, and he/she shall become ineligible for all further participation in the school's interscholastic program if he/she:

- 1) Accepts reimbursement, in any form (a) salary, (b) cash, (c) merchandise of any kind or amount or (d) share of game or season proceeds, for achievement in athletics.
  - a. Actual and necessary reimbursement for transportation, food, and lodging paid in connection with playing a contest shall not be regarded as a violation.

- b. A student may receive an award which is symbolic (non-merchandise) in nature such as trophies, medals, ribbons, event T-shirts, event hats, game balls, or other items of no intrinsic value, but may not receive such merchandise items as jackets, sweaters, sweatshirts, equipment, balls, watches, rings, billfolds, etc.,

regardless of their value. (See Bylaws, Article X -Awards.)

- c. A school may allow a student to retain items of practice and playing uniforms which, for reasons of hygiene, obsolescence, deterioration, etc., will not be passed on to another student.

- 2) Signs a contract or agreement for services as a participating athlete.

- a. A student may be employed (but not self-employed) on a part-time basis as an instructor on the play grounds, game official, lifeguard, etc.

- b. This rule shall not prevent a student from signing (a) an agreement which binds him/her to play only for a particular team or (b) an athletic tender with a university or college.

- 3) Receives compensation or benefit, directly or indirectly, for the use of name, picture, and/or personal appearance, as an athlete, or provides endorsement, as an athlete, in the promotion of a commercial or profit-making event,

item, plan, or service. Plays in any contest (school or nonschool) under a name other than his/her own name.

Below you will find some questions and answers for a variety of situations you may encounter with your golfers this coming spring and summer:

**Can a golfer accept prizes while competing in a nonschool tournament?**

Only prizes that are symbolic in nature as listed in the Amateur Status regulations--such as trophies, medals, ribbons, event T-shirts, event hats, game balls, or other items of no intrinsic value. Student-athletes may not receive such merchandise items as jackets, sweaters, sweatshirts, equipment, balls, watches, rings, billfolds, coupons, gift certificates, etc., regardless of their value.

**Can a player receive a gift certificate for merchandise?**

NO, student-athletes can not accept any gift certificate or coupon for merchandise.

**Can a player have their parent or someone else accept a prize or gift certificate for them?**

NO, if a parent or anyone else (adult, other team member, friend, etc.) accepts prize money, merchandise, gift certificate(s), etc. for a student athlete, this is considered to be noncompliance of the Amateur Status regulation. A student-athlete involved in this type of noncompliance becomes ineligible for all further participation in the school's interscholastic program.

**Is it allowable for a golf course to provide a free membership for the year to student-athletes that make the golf team?**

NO, due to the performance-based nature of the membership, this would be a violation of the WIAA's Amateur Status regulation. If any member of the golf team receives a free membership because they are a member of the team, they become ineligible for all further participation in the school's interscholastic program.

**Is there any way team members can receive a free golf membership to the local golf club?**

The only way that members of a golf team can have their membership paid for is if this membership opportunity is offered to the entire

(WIAA continued from page 5)

student population of the school. School administrators should maintain copies of the announcements made providing this information to all the school's students.

**A student-athlete makes a hole-in-one; can he/she accept merchandise or the prizes for the hole-in-one?**

NO, a student-athlete can only accept prizes that are symbolic in nature.

**Can student-athletes accept the following prizes for competing in golf tournaments/events?**

Silver-plated trophy--Yes.

Cash--No.

Golf bag for winning a pin prize for closest to the hole--No.

Green Jacket (Jr. Masters)--No.

Balls received as part of entry gift--Yes.

Free lessons for winning the longest putt contest--No.

**PURCHASE PROGRAMS**

"GOLF PURCHASE PROGRAMS/DISCOUNTS" ARE AGAIN BEING PROMOTED AND USED BY NIKE, ADIDAS AND OTHER GOLF SUPPLIERS.

THESE PROGRAMS CAN RESULT IN WIAA ATHLETES LOSING THEIR ELIGIBILITY.

WIAA RULES OF ELIGIBILITY, AS THEY RELATE TO AN ATHLETE'S AMATEUR STATUS, PROHIBIT ATHLETES FROM RECEIVING ANY BENEFIT BASED ON THE FACT THAT THEY ARE ATHLETES OR FOR THEIR PERFORMANCE AS ATHLETES. (ARTICLE IV, SECTION 1, A., 1., 2004-05 WIAA SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL HANDBOOK).

THE NIKE PROGRAM STATES "ONLY HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGIATE GOLF COACHES ARE ELIGIBLE TO PLACE ORDERS FOR THEMSELVES AND THEIR TEAM. PURCHASING FOR FRIENDS, FAMILY, CO-WORKERS OR OTHERS IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED!" THE WIAA INTERPRETS "TEAM" TO SPECIFICALLY REFER TO SCHOOL TEAM AND NOT INDIVIDUAL PURCHASES.

WIAA TEAM PARTICIPANTS MAY NOT PURCHASE APPAREL AND EQUIPMENT ON THEIR OWN IN ORDER TO RECEIVE DISCOUNTED PRICES.

IF SCHOOLS FEEL IT IS IN THEIR BEST INTEREST TO PURCHASE ATTIRE OR EQUIPMENT THROUGH A PURCHASE PROGRAM, THEY MAY DO SO. ATHLETIC DIRECTORS AND/OR COACHES ARE ALLOWED TO PURCHASE THESE ITEMS AS SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES AND THEN PROVIDE THEM TO THEIR TEAMS.

**A COUPLE OF QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ARE FOUND BELOW:**

**Can schools utilize Nike and Adidas and/or other golf purchase programs to receive reduced savings when purchasing attire and/or equipment?**

The fundamental issue regarding the use of any purchase program is that student-athletes, golfers in this case, can not receive discounts when they purchase apparel and/or equipment because they are members of a team. Article IV—Amateur Status, Section 1—Loss of Eligibility, A., in the WIAA Senior High School Handbook indicates . . . he/she shall become ineligible for all further participation in the school's interscholastic program is he/she: 1) Accepts reimbursement, in any form (a) salary, (b) cash, (c) merchandise of any kind or amount or (d) share of game or season proceeds, for achievement in athletics.

If schools feel it is in their best interest to purchase attire or equipment through a purchase program, they may do so. Coaches and/or Athletic Directors are allowed to purchase these items as school representatives and then provide them to their golf teams.

**Can student-athletes purchase their own golf shirts at discounted prices through a NIKE purchase program if the purchase program is open to all students?**

The NIKE Golf Purchase Program specifically states "Only high school and Collegiate golf coaches are eligible to place orders for themselves and their team. Purchasing for friends, family, co-workers or others is strictly prohibited! Items available through this program are not for resale." School officials should contact NIKE to obtain permission to sell apparel and equipment items to all students. If permission is received, school officials should contact the WIAA regarding their program and document announcements informing the student body of the availability of this program.

**NONSCHOOL PARTICIPATION**

During the golf season, it is the philosophy of the WIAA that a student owes loyalty and allegiance to the school and team of which he/she is a member. A student becomes ineligible in a sport for the remainder of the season for competing in nonschool games, meets or contests in the same sport during the season of practice and competition established by the school.

This rule may be waived on behalf of an exceptional athlete provided:

The competition has international ramifications, i.e., there are countries outside the United States (50 states) involved, and  
The school requests an exemption on the basis that such participation will not impair the student's loyalty and allegiance to school and team, and  
The athlete

Achieved one of first five places in previous WIAA State Meet or  
Was prevented by illness, injury, or unusual circumstances from one of the first five places in the previous WIAA State Meet or  
Defeated in subsequent competition by a person who was one of the first five places in the previous WIAA State Meet.

**Can golfers participate in Local Events/Fund Raisers/Charity Events?**

During the season--NO.      Outside of the season--Yes.  
Can they accept prizes?      Only prizes that are symbolic in nature.

**Can golfers compete in summer tournaments and leagues?**

During the season--NO.      Outside of the season--Yes.  
Can they accept prizes?      Only prizes that are symbolic in nature.

**Can golfers compete in spring tournaments during the school year prior to the start of the season?**

Yes, however, without any instruction from the high school coach and without wearing school apparel.  
Can they accept prizes?      Only prizes that are symbolic in nature.

**Can my team participate in a Hospital Foundation Golf Outing during the regular golf season or tournament series?**

NO, this is considered to be a nonschool competition.

**Can golfers compete in a hole-in-one competition?**

During the season--NO.      Outside of the season--Yes.  
Can they accept prizes?      Only those that are symbolic in nature.

**Can golfers compete in a putting tournament?**

During the season--NO.      Outside of the season--Yes.  
Can they accept prizes?      Only those that are symbolic in nature.

**Can golfers compete in a closest to the pin competition?**

During the season--NO.      Outside of the season--Yes.  
Can they accept prizes?      Only those that are symbolic in nature.

**We had a boy participate in a "Demo Day" at a local course. During this "Demo Day" one of our boys won a driver as part of a long drive contest. What are the consequences of his participation in this event?**

There are no WIAA rules that prevent high school golf participants from participating in "Demo Days." However, if a contest of any sort is announced in any way (verbally or written), high school golf participants are NOT allowed to participate in accordance with WIAA Rules of Eligibility, Article VI--Nonschool Participation, Section 1-- In-Season, A., which indicates that . . . A student becomes ineligible in a sport for the remainder of the season for competing in nonschool game, meet or contest in the same sport during the season of practice and competition established by the school.  
In addition, high school golf participants are NOT allowed to accept a "driver" for winning a long drive contest. Per WIAA Rules of Eligibility, Article IV--Amateur Status, Section 1--Loss of Eligibility, A. A student shall be an amateur in all recognized sports of this Association in order to compete in any sport, and he/she shall become ineligible for all further participation in the school's interscholastic program if he/she: 1) Accepts reimbursement, in any form (a) salary, (b) cash, (c) merchandise of any kind or amount or (d) share of game or season proceeds, for achievement in athletics.

**If a player plays in a father/son or mother/daughter tournament, what can they accept?**

Awards which are symbolic in nature (trophy, medal, ribbon) can be accepted. However, any type of merchandise awarded cannot be accepted by the son or daughter. If the father or mother accepts the merchandise, this is not considered to be in compliance of Amateur Status regulations. Best idea: Neither father/son or mother/daughter should accept awards that are not symbolic in nature.

Additional information is always available by contacting Tom Shafanski, WIAA Assistant Director and Golf Liaison. Tom can be reached by calling (715) 344-8580 or via email at tshafanski@wiaawi.org.



## WHSGCA Upcoming Important Dates:

- Winter Board Meeting --- Feb.19 @ 9:30 am  
"Bridges" in Madison
- Spring Clinic ----- March 12  
Western Lakes
- Boys Season Begins ---- March 28
- Summer Board Meeting - June 20  
Site & Time TBA
- Summer Clinic ----- June 21 @ 9:00  
Blackwolf Run



## Loss of a Friend

**Steve Johnson**, a longtime popular teacher and coach at Lancaster, died October 8th from a heart attack at the age of 56. He was currently coaching the boys' golf team at Lancaster High School and had coached the girls' golf team in the past. He was an active member of the Wisconsin High School Golf Coaches Association. Steve positively influenced the lives of many young people and he will be greatly missed.



## Where are they now?

Submitted by Dave Roberts of Brookfield East H.S.

Glenn Murray graduated from Methodist College in December of 2004. His degree was a Bachelor of Science in Business with a concentration in Professional Golf Management. Glenn was a former varsity player from Brookfield East.

Submitted by Ann Hatch of Brillion H.S.

Aaron Kabat played at Brillion H.S. for four years (1997-2000). He was on the team that finished 4th in state in 1999. Aaron is finishing his last year at UW-Oshkosh. This summer he received his card and is the assistant pro at Royal St. Patricks near Wrightstown. He is planning to continue his career in the golfing profession after graduation.

Submitted by Mike Sobotta of Arcadia H.S.

Josh Klimek was a State Champion in 1992 (Division 3). He is currently an assistant coach at Augsburg College near the Twin Cities.

Submitted by Mike Sobotta of Arcadia H.S.

Meghan Sobotta placed 5th in State in 2003 (Division 2). She is currently playing college golf at Eau Claire and just made first Team All-Conference as a freshman.

Please e-mail me information about our past golfers that may be competing in college golf, working in a golf related job, maybe still competing in golf after college, etc. Please list the name, high school attended, date of graduation, as well as the information listed above. Nothing too long but enough to inform us.

This is new so any suggestions, let me know.

**E-mails to: [john.lonergan@huhs.org](mailto:john.lonergan@huhs.org)**



11. WIAA Advisory: Anna Curtis & Bill Berkholtz reported that the following items were discussed at the WIAA Rules Advisory meeting in October. These are just recommendations, these will need to be approved by the Board of Control.
  - a) Encourage summer rules to be played in all events. If course conditions dictate, play mark, clean, place.
  - b) Pace of play: A yellow card will be the first warning. The first red card will be a warning. The second red card will be a 1 stroke penalty.
  - c) No scheduled regular season events scheduled after the WIAA Regional. Make-up events are excluded from this policy.
  - d) Lawsuit in Michigan - Gender Equity, the same season for girls and boys sports. Same opportunity for all.
  - e) Once the meet is closed, it is done. No changes will be allowed after the fact.
  - f) Non-Varsity coaching on the course will be allowed other than on the greens and in bunkers. 3 year trial period. Pace of play a concern.
  - g) The WIAA wanted feedback about a shot gun start in emergency situations at the state tournament and using how many strokes over par as determining the team and individual scores. It would mean not all players played the same holes. This was not agreed to by the board. It was decided that we would suggest that contending teams and individuals would be paired together so they could play common holes.
  - h) It was recommended that a sudden death playoff be conducted whenever possible as opposed to matching scorecards. It was further proposed that all athletes must stay on the premises or they automatically lose the playoff.
  - i) The yardage at the state tournament was 5216 for girls and 6442 for the boys. Was that yardage ok. Some felt that is was too short but for pace of play concerns, maybe is was fine.
  - j) Another concern of the Advisory board was accuracy of scoring. Work with athletes on integrity.
12. Coach Approach: John Lonergan has taken over the coach approach duties from Kaz. He will put in articles that people submit but he will not write articles himself. Encourage coaches to submit to the "Where are they Now" column. We will put something in the next issue about filling out forms correctly. The next issue will be out at the end of January. Submit items to John by mid January.
13. All-State Committee: Roger Prickettee and committee selected the Girls All-State Teams. Attached is the list.
14. Old Business - none
- 15) New Business
  - a) We had a few deaths in the golfing community. Do we send flowers, donation, card on behalf of the Association? We decided that we will put a short article in the Coach Approach in their memo ry.
  - b) We will add three new board members: they are -
    - John Quinlan - PGA Junior Director
    - Mark Johnson of Reedsburg - he will be the membership chair
    - Jerry Allen of Stanley Boyd - he will take either the treasurer duties or the award duties. We hope to meet these new board members at the Feb. meeting.
  - c) A few members asked if we could look at a new Association Logo. John and Brian will work on it.
  - d) Next years fall meeting will be Nov. 12 in Neosho @ 9:30.
16. Adjournment: 1:00

Minutes Submitted by John Lonergan

For those of you looking for a newly styled putter with an alignment aid similar to many of those rising in popularity, I have good news. Master club designer and putting Guru Jerry Korte has done it again! His newly designed "Yes! Plus" will provide the same visual properties as the two ball putter and other similar designs, but with the added benefits that only the "Yes!" putter line provides.

The "Yes! Plus" putter is similar to the original "Yes!" putter, except the stabilizer bar has been removed and an enlarged stabilizer bar that additionally serves as an alignment aid was developed. This new stabilizer bar adds 40 grams of weight to the putter. For those of you who might have found the original design a bit too light, the "Yes! Plus" will satisfy those concerns. I prefer a putter that has a very specific balance. My preferences run to lighter weight putters, so I found the original design much to my liking. The "Yes! Plus" seemed to be just a bit too head heavy for my tastes so I drilled two holes in the bottom of the new stabilizer/alignment bar, neither of which can be seen while looking down at the putter head, which resulted in the perfectly balanced putter for my needs.

This new putter design is center-shafted and has a narrow slot cut along the length of the bar. (See picture) This slot was designed to allow the player to make certain the putter was perfectly aligned to the target. If you use a line around the circumference of the ball, simply align that line with the target then hover the slot over the ball line making sure you match up the slot and the line on the ball. Then place the putter behind the ball and begin your stroke. As several state club professionals were overheard to say; "It's almost like cheating."

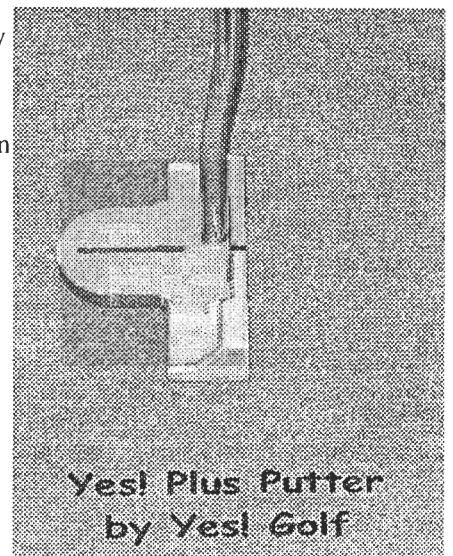
Another advantage of the new "Yes! Plus" putter is the high center of gravity. The New stabilizer bar rides high on the club-head providing immediate over spin to the ball resulting in a smoother roll and target line hugging properties. With the weight now centered behind the face, the putter seems to float back and forth almost magically. And most important, the "Yes! Plus" still maintains the two point attachment from shaft insert point to the face of the club. The shaft is inserted into the new stabilizer bar which is then attached in two places to the face of the putter. Where should these two attachment points be located? These points were extensively tested to find their perfect placement. Remember, according to the laws of physics, a two point attachment of shaft to clubhead is the most perfect application in order to maintain a stable club-head. To my knowledge, The "Yes!" line of putters are the only clubs with this two point attachment to ever be deemed conforming by the USGA.

The putter line includes a propriety shaft developed by True Temper. The club is face balanced to insure a square clubface. It can be ordered in various lies, from 2 degrees flat to 2 degrees upright. In addition, you can order any specific length by 1/4 ". The putter includes a cover and a special Lamkin Grip.

When Jerry Korte originally submitted the putter to the USGA for approval, he received a letter informing him that the putter had been deemed nonconforming because the alignment /stabilizer bar was an added alignment aid and not an integral part of the putter. Parts added to putters for alignment purposes were then not legal. However, the USGA official told him to call back in several weeks and ask to have the putter resubmitted for approval. Doing so, Jerry was informed on June 14th that the putter was now found conforming to USGA standards. The USGA had changed the rules that originally said only alignment aids that were molded in as part of the design were then conforming. Of course, this ruling was most important because it allowed the propriety two point attachment of shaft to putter head to be an integral part of the "Yes! Plus" design.

Over the last several years the "Yes II" putter line has compiled an enviable record among the top players in the state. 40 tournament wins have been recorded by "Yes!" putters. 2004 placements includes 1st in the State Amateur, 1st in the State Senior Amateur and 1st in the State Senior Open, 1st and 2nd in the Milwaukee District Match Play, 1st in the WSGA Senior Best Ball, 1st in the Ray Fischer, 2nd in the Mid-Amateur and qualifiers for the USGA Public Links.

Coaches, by special arrangement with Mr. Korte, you can order the "Yes! Plus" putter, not at the regular retail price of \$149.95, but at the special price of \$90.00. Jerry said he will also cover the sales tax and shipping as well. You can call him at 1-262-679-8410. Leave a message and he will get back to you and personally take your order. Recently a player from Arizona tried the putter while visiting in Wisconsin. His low score for 2004 had been an 81. The day he first tried the "Yes! Plus" putter he shot 74 with only 22 putts! He kept exclaiming how solidly the putter/ball contact felt. He had been a confirmed "Ping" putter advocate, but no longer. He is now a "Yes! Plus" believer!



**Yes! Plus Putter  
by Yes! Golf**



Just when you thought you had seen everything new that club makers could develop, the scientists at TaylorMade Golf Company of Carlsbad, California have created a new driver that can actually help you create the ball flight shape that you want. Technically, the R7 has many attributes that will help players of all abilities, but those with swings that are moderately fast to tour speed will see greater benefits. In other words, if you play ten times a year or less and regularly shoot scores above 105, you will not experience benefits equal to better players because your swing is probably not consistent enough to set the weight screws to offset one particular type of shot. Let's take a look at the most technically advanced golf club ever developed.

The R7 incorporates 48 grams of discretionary weight and the player can distribute 24 of those grams in order to create an improved ball flight. There are four ports incorporated into the head of the club. By positioning the four weight screws, two weigh 10 grams and the other two weigh 2 grams each, you can alter the launch angle, spin rate and clubface alignment at impact. You can control how high the ball flies, how far it carries and the direction the ball goes. By using the weight screws or cartridges in different positions (there are a total of six different configurations from which to choose), you can create the best performance characteristics for your personal swing. By varying the cartridges then testing the effect on ball flight, the player can certainly create their ideal launch conditions.

The head of the club has four different ports into which the cartridges are inserted. Two are located low and forward just behind the heel and toe of the face. The other two are located near the back of the head and towards the heel and toe. By keeping these ports as close to the perimeter of the club-head as possible, the engineers have widened the club's center of gravity outward thereby creating an extremely high moment of inertia which enables miss-hits to travel farther and straighter.

The cartridges are truly engineering works of art. The design challenge was in keeping them, especially the ten gram cartridges, firmly in place during impact. Yet these cartridges had to be easily removed. A three-piece cartridge was developed that will securely stay positioned because they are pressure-fit through the use of a special torque wrench (comes with each driver) that applies up to 30 torque pounds of pressure to insert it properly into the port. Developing a method of securing these cartridges firmly under a large dynamic load at impact seems to have been the most complicated engineering challenge. A specially designed torque wrench was created to install and remove the cartridges and is included with the purchase of any R7 driver. Interestingly, this wrench is designed to be self-limiting and will provide only 30 inch pounds of torque to prevent over-tightening.

The head of the club uses super-thin wall technology made of titanium in order to free up 48 grams of weight. Twenty four of those grams are used in the weight cartridges whose configuration directly affects ball flight. Like the R500 series of drivers which preceded the R7 series, the face is constructed using inverted cone technology. This internal face design increases the size of the club's coefficient of restitution meaning that there is a larger face area to deliver a consistently high initial ball velocity. (Longer shots, even on miss-hit contact)

The R7 series uses a deep face design, (a larger area from the sole plate to the crown of the club) and with the location of the weight cartridges low in the club-head, the resulting low center of gravity creates a larger hitting area that delivers a vertical-gear effect. This vertical-gear effect results in a higher launch angle with less backspin that delivers the most distance for virtually all players.

Finally, the R7 comes with a lightweight 65 gram graphite shaft with 2.8 degrees of torque and a medium-high kickpoint. It was specially created to perform best at medium to fast swing speeds. If you use a regular, stiff or tour stiff flex shaft, this particular shaft will work wonderfully. The specially developed Tour Velvet grip weighs in at less than 50 grams further enhancing club-head speed. A special R7 headcover is included in the purchase price.

Suggested retail price is \$600.00, but the common street price is generally under \$500.00. While I will not rule out further technological developments by the masterful TaylorMade engineers, this club certainly delivers all that it advertises. Working with several club professionals, I have personally witnessed their ability, based on the weight cartridges configuration, to hit every thing from hooks to slices with high or low trajectories using identical swings. Among less skilled players it is certainly possible to configure the cartridges to produce high or low ball flights and draws or fades. The technology here is absolutely amazing. Although the price is high, what might you be willing to pay to eliminate that hateful slice or hook? I would certainly assume that with this technology, most players could easily use the R7 driver and enjoy great satisfaction for ten or more years. Try one at your nearest pro shop. Use various weight cartridges configurations and see if they don't have an immediate effect on your ball flight. With this technology you should be able to find a cartridge configuration which enables you to maximize your distance and control. I guess maybe the modern player can buy a better game!

**WHSGCA 25 Years of Coaching**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Total years of coaching golf: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Years: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Years: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Years: \_\_\_\_\_

Present school address:

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Principal: \_\_\_\_\_

**Return by March 1, 2004**  
The Wisconsin High School Coaches Association is presenting plaques to all high school golf coaches that have coached for 25 or more years. If you have coached for 25 or more years, please fill out the following form and mail to:

**Mail to: TJ Dieck, 40 W. Basswood Ln., Milton, WI 53563**