

Wow, the school year is flying by us. As you read this publication our season is soon to begin, March 18th is first official practice day. Hope you have had a great year since putting your clubs away, and are looking forward to bringing them back into play. If you were lucky like myself maybe got away to warmer weather and maybe a few rounds of golf.

Hope you were able to attend some of the clinics available to you, I always enjoy seeing coaches at a clinic in the winter. The Junior PGA run by Bob Bush, had a coaches form, with information for players about college golf on February 2 at Bunker Hills GC, 250 people attended, a lot of good information. Gopher coaches had a clinic at U of M on March 2, and our association had our Sunshine clinics, March 9 at Providence Academy, and March 16 at Staples. At Providence Academy we had a special guest, Jim Hardy ranked 7th of 50 greatest teachers and other great speakers at both clinics. Special thanks to Mike Seiffert from Providence Academy for putting together the March 9th clinic, and Glen Hasselberg from Staples the March 16th clinic. Hope you were able to attend at least one and got some good information and had a great day with other coaches.

State rankings this year will be run by Barry Wallin Rosemount for girls, Brian Johnson Eagen for boys, Academic awards Steve Heslop Pequot Lakes, Golf Hall of Fame Rick Aulie Crosby Ironton, and the State banquet chairs will be Rich Aulie Class A, Mike Frankenfield Shattuck Class AA, and Tim Kallevig Park Center Class AAA. Thanks to all of these coaches for their hard work. So coaches remember to honor your teams and players by sending scores and Academic information on time. Forms for all of these are on our MSHSCA website, at mshsca.org and remember to keep your membership active so your players are eligible to receive their awards.

The Birdie Marketing Golf Card is the only golf card the Coaches Association endorses. There are other golf cards out there and a multitude of fundraisers but this golf card gives back to the coaches and programs. Each year we draw 8 teams who sold at least 25 cards and they get \$500. The contact number for Birdie Marketing, Inc is 763-753-6988 consider this as your fundraiser.

Something new, that will be available to coaches on our website will be a link for coaching aids. If you have something that has worked and want to share, pass it on and I will put it on that link. First one that is up is P2, a putting aid submitted by Don Patton.

So as we start another golf season, have fun and keep teaching this great game to your players. They will be able to enjoy this great sport for a lifetime. And everyone have a great season and hope to see you on a course. Arnold Palmer said it best... "Golf is deceptively simple and endlessly complicated. It satisfies the soul and frustrates the intellect. It is at the same time rewarding and maddening... It is without a doubt the GREATEST game mankind has ever invented."

Golf Coaches Association President Bob Gorden

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