



Jacksonville Area Golf Association 2019 ANNUAL REPORT

The Champions



Jordan Batchelor and Tori Mouton were JAGA's champions this year. Batchelor won the men's amateur at Sawgrass and Mouton took the ladies title at Eagle Harbor.

From the president

It is my pleasure to serve as the president of the Jacksonville Area Golf Association. It also is my duty to report on the association.

I'm proud to say that I'm proud of what I have to report.

We've had a great year and we look forward to 2020. JAGA is a strong organization — not because of me, but because of the past leaders and the current board who together have set a course and followed it.

Some highlights for the past year:

- Our tournament schedule was as good as ever. There were 10 that we conducted, plus our annual participation in the Underwood Cup with the local PGA Chapter. Most events had capacity fields.
- Our membership remained strong. Almost every club in Northeast Florida pays the annual \$175 dues and most assign directors to our meetings.
- JAGA and our tournament competitors pay their way. Our events and our meetings produce a profit for the member clubs which host them.
- We again reached out to other organizations and our partnerships are strong with the PGA chapter, the junior program, other associations including the Jacksonville Women's Golf Association, and the PGA Tour.
- The scholarship program assisted nine more students with their college costs, and we now have 25 on scholarship. This is funded from donations by area clubs and we applaud their generosity.
- The Celebration of Golf banquet attracted an overflow crowd of about 240 at San Jose, which was a wonderful host and arranged for extra space. Our friends at TPC Sawgrass have taken us in this year and we expect in the range of 350.
- No organization can be successful without good outreach. Jeff Adams ran our 2019 tournaments and he also lent the expertise he showed as a public relations whiz with the PGA Tour. We get excellent media attention, plus our monthly News & Notes offering goes to almost a thousand people.
- Most of all, I want to thank everyone who is serving as a director from their club. These are the people who make JAGA work. At our first 2020 meeting at Timuquana, we had 28 different clubs represented by over 60 directors. There was a lot of enthusiasm, and that's a great start for a terrific 2020.

Randy Nader
President

About JAGA

Established:

In 1954 by six clubs to coordinate tournament activities.

Membership:

Golf clubs in Northeast Florida.

Tournaments:

JAGA conducts 10 events annually including six championship events and five others that feature team formats.

Board:

Each member club may appoint up to four directors.

Voting:

Each club has one vote, regardless of the number of directors present.

Officers:

Elected annually by the Board. Randy Nader of Sawgrass is the current president. There is no term limit on officers but the tradition is a maximum of two years.

Meetings:

The Board meets eight times annually.

Community:

JAGA manages the annual Celebration of Golf banquet held each winter. The banquet brings together the golf community and is highlighted by the presentation of the Deane Beman Award.

Awards:

There are five other awards honoring a professional, a club executive, a JAGA director, a community service and a longtime worker.

Scholarships:

JAGA manages a scholarship program that currently has 25 students receiving college aid. The program was established in 1974 and since has generated almost \$2 million to over 375 students.

Mission Statement

The Jacksonville Area Golf Association promotes and conserves the true spirit of the game of golf in the greater Jacksonville area for the continued enjoyment of those who love and play it.

Record Attendance At Banquet

Over 350 are expected at TPC Sawgrass on February 5 for the 8th annual Celebration of Golf banquet. It will be the highest attendance in the banquet's eight years.

The event is administered by JAGA with assistance from the Northern Chapter of the North Florida PGA, the Jacksonville Women's Golf Association and the Northeast Florida Greens Superintendents Association.

John Tucker, the Jacksonville newspaper executive who was instrumental in bringing the PGA Tour to Northeast Florida, will receive the Deane Beman Award.

The program will be a fireside chat with former PGA Tour Commissioner Beman and Tucker, and will be moderated by JAGA director Duke Butler of TPC Sawgrass. The program also includes recognition of association awards by the participating groups.

TPC Sawgrass General Manager Derek Sprague will be the Master of Ceremonies.

2019 Awards

JAGA annually presents six awards to honor those in the community who have benefitted golf in general and the golfers of the area.

The major recognition is the Deane Beman Award, named after the former PGA Tour commissioner who brought the Tour and the PLAYERS to the area. The 2019 recipient is John Tucker, the Jacksonville businessman who was instrumental in bringing the Tour.

The other 2019 award winners:

Earl and Eleanor Kelly Longtime Service Award: Emily Brown, Eagle Harbor. She is being recognized as a person who has made an overall impact on the golf community. For over 50 years, she has been a leader in the Jacksonville Women's GA and also is active with the Florida State GA and the United States GA.

Community Service Award: Bill Hughes, PGA Tour. Hughes retired as general manager of TPC Sawgrass for 12 years and was instrumental in the growth of the PLAYERS and the JUNIOR PLAYERS championships. He is a PGA Master Professional.

JAGA Director of the Year: Thomas Bozzuto, Hyde Park. He served as the association's Vice President/Tournaments in 2019. His work resulted in capacity fields for most events including the First Coast Amateur and the Jacksonville Amateur.

Professional of the Year: Clint Avret, Timuquana. A strong supporter of JAGA, Avret was at the club for 14 years and has been the North Florida PGA champion and its tournament director.

Club Executive of the Year: Bruce Mohler, Jax Beach. The former head pro at Ponte Vedra Inn and Club, Mohler took over the Beach operation during the course renovation and guided its renaissance to record play.



2018 JAGA Award Winners

At last year's Celebration of Golf dinner at San Jose: (from left) Greg Sheara, Timuquana, Club Executive of the Year; Jeff Willoughby, The First Tee of North Florida, Community Service Award; Duke Butler III, TPC Sawgrass, JAGA Director of the Year; Ray Barr Jr., Jacksonville G&CC, Professional of the Year; and Tom Dudley, Timuquana, Earl and Eleanor Kelly Longtime Service Award.

JAGA Executive Committee

President: Randy Nader, Sawgrass

VP/Administration: Jeff Adams, TPC Sawgrass

VP/Tournaments: Cary Helton, San Jose

Secretary: Larry Stark, Jax Beach

Treasurer: Billy Walker, Cimmarone

Immediate past president: Don Gilmore, Amelia Island

Scholarship chairman: Ken Hicks, Deerwood

Webmaster: Arch Copeland, Deercreek

At large: Barney Poston, Hidden Hills

At large: Fred Seely, Timuquana

Information:
JaxAreaGolf.org

Scholarships

JAGA now has 25 students on college scholarship with the addition of the 9 awarded in 2019. Founded 50 years ago, the JAGA Scholarship Trust is administered by a committee which considers applications from member clubs.

Applications must be submitted through a JAGA director from the club, and the applicant must be the child of either a member or an employee.

Those awarded scholarships must report grades each semester.

One scholarship each year is reserved for a PGA Apprentice who will attend the third and final education seminar prior to attaining Class A status.

All information regarding scholarships is on the JAGA website at www.jaxareagolf.org. This includes the application forms.

The deadline is March 31 and must be given to a JAGA director of the member club, who then will submit it to the Scholarship Committee. If a club does not have a JAGA director, the application will not be accepted.

The committee will interview applicants in April and May, and scholarships will be awarded prior to the annual Scholarship Meeting in June at Sawgrass.

The Trust Committee is comprised of Wayne St. Clair, Jacksonville G&CC; Ken Hicks, Deerwood; Steve Booma, Plantation; Michael McKenny, Timuquana; John Tancredi, Marsh Landing; and Joe Grippi, Deerwood.



Sawgrass Country Club annually makes a large donation to the JAGA Scholarship Trust and here was the check presentation in 2019. With the check are (from left) General Manager C.W. Cook, JAGA directors Randy Nader and Ray Gottschalk, and then-Director of Golf Ron Philo Jr.



PGA Scholar

Nicole Keyser, an assistant pro at TPC Sawgrass, received this year's JAGA scholarship which is reserved for apprentice pros. She was presented the award by (from left) committee member Michael McKenny of Timuquana, TPC Sawgrass director Duke Butler and former PGA Tour Commissioner Deane Beman.

The Class of 2019

John Fewell
Hyde Park

Nicole Keyser
TPC Sawgrass*

Patrick Libby
Hidden Hills

Cierra McKenzie
Timuquana

Samantha Maguire
St. Johns G&CC

Leslie Moore
San Jose

Todd Roy
Julington Creek

Christopher Ryan
Deerwood

Sara Schneider
Sawgrass

* - PGA scholar

Member Clubs

JAGA is an association of clubs, which pay annual dues of \$175 to participate in the activities which include hosting tournaments and board meetings, having members and employees eligible for scholarships, and having up to four designees to the JAGA Board.

Amelia Island Club
Amelia River
Atlantic Beach
Cimmarone
Deercreek
Deerwood
Eagle Harbor
Fernandina Beach
First Tee
Fleming Island

Hammock Beach Resort
Hidden Hills
Hyde Park
Jacksonville G&CC
Jax Beach
Julington Creek
Magnolia Point
Marsh Creek
Marsh Landing
Mayport Windy Harbor

NAS Jax
North Hampton
Oak Bridge
Pablo Creek
Palatka
Palencia
Plantation
Ponte Vedra
Queen's Harbour
San Jose

Sawgrass
South Hampton
St. Johns County
St. Johns G&CC
Suwannee
Timuquana
TPC Sawgrass
Windsor Parke
World Golf Village
(As of January, 2020)

Tournaments

A major part of JAGA's mission is to conduct tournaments to support the area's clubs and players. It is a year-long schedule, starting in January with the First Coast Amateur and ending in November with the Club Team Championship. In between are events for young and old, men and women.

Here's a look at the 2019 tournaments, winners and sites:

First Coast Amateur: Stephen Shepherd of Huntington (Ala.) College won by two shots at Hidden Hills with a two-over 218. Logan Sowell was second as the open event attracted a full field of 78 players.

Underwood Cup: The Amateur team won by a record margin of 17.5-6.5 at Timuquana.

Four-Ball: Josh Kennedy and Devon Hopkins won gross with 2-under 70 at Marsh Creek. Net went to Tom Tomlin and Bob Nickerson.

Senior Men: John Lobb was the winner by two with a two-over 218 at St. Johns G&CC over Scott Ray. David Houghton won Super Senior and Brian Sachs took Grand Senior.

Family: Keith and Ryan Nagy won the Open division at Jax Beach. Adam and Kristin Schupak took the Couples division.

Match Play: Michael Sass prevailed over Michael Smith, 2-up, in the final at TPC Sawgrass.

Women's Amateur: Tori Mouton won by two over Emily Felix with a 142 at Eagle Harbor.

Women's Senior Amateur: Leslie Smith's 146 was five better than Tama Caldabaugh and Therese Quinn at Eagle Harbor. Melissa Gotfredson had 163 to edge Shelia Brocki by four in the Super Senior.

Junior: Moses Compaan had even-par 144 to win the boys division by two over Logan Sowell. Elizabeth Kondal won the girls division with a 139, 11 ahead of Taylor Young. The event was at Eagle Harbor.

Amateur: Former UNF golfer Jordan Batchelor won by two over Michael Smith at Sawgrass.

Scholarship: Over \$15,000 was raised from the field of 98 at Queen's Harbour. Gross winner was the foursome of John Caden, Dan Olsen, Ron Smith and Jim Hoener, and net went to Larry Stark, Greg Gordon, David Brinkley and Larry Snodgrass.

Club Team: Timuquana took the trophy in the field of 23 teams at Deerwood. On the winning team were pro Jason Smith and amateurs Bill Hardaker, Jon Thompson and Fred Seely.



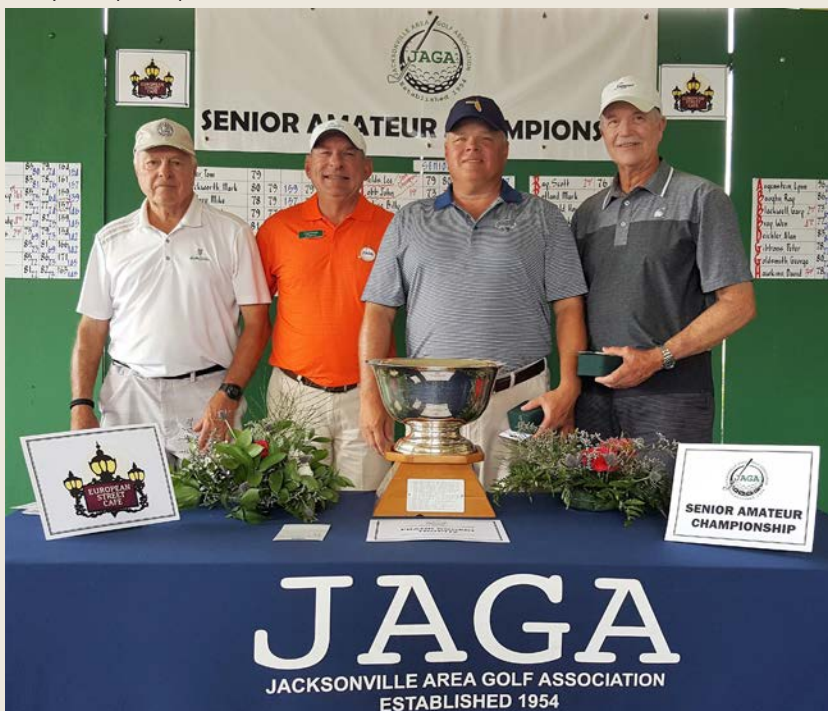
Club Team: Timuquana won the 2019 Club Team Championship which was played at Deerwood. Northern Chapter PGA President Tim Cooper (left) and JAGA President Randy Nader (right) were at the trophy presentation with (from left) Fred Seely, pro Jason Smith, Bill Hardaker and Jon Thompson.



Schupaks: Adam and Kristin Schupak of Sawgrass won the Couples division in the Family Championship.



First Coast: Stephen Shepherd won the First Coast Amateur at Hidden Hills.



Senior: JAGA Senior Amateur champions (from left): Brian Sachs (Grand Senior), Tournament Chairman Gregg Deiboldt, John Lobb (Senior) and, David Houghton (Super Senior).