



SPRING 2019

SEASONAL NEWSLETTER



SAVE THE DATES

*2019 Vet's Scramble & GIVE
Foundation Fundraisers*

JUNE 26 & 27

Blue Top Ridge
Riverside Casino & Golf Resort

AUGUST 7 & 8

The Falls
Grand Falls Casino

SEPTEMBER 26

Warrior Run
Des Moines

SEPTEMBER 27

Terrace Hills
Des Moines



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As winter releases its strong grip this winter, it's time to think about the year ahead for the GIVE Foundation.

For the last 13 years, we have partnered with the Veterans Administration and the Iowa Section of the PGA to provide an opportunity for veterans to learn about golf, to get equipment to start playing and to get access to courses around the state.

I am thankful for all the golf professionals that have contributed their time and talents to veterans over the last 13 years. They not only provide top-level instruction for veterans, but they also provide access to more than two dozen courses around the state in addition to our "home" courses at Blue Top Ridge in Riverside, Iowa, The Falls in Larchwood, Iowa and Warrior Run in Norwalk Iowa. In particular, I want to thank our board chair, Steve Hutton from Geneva Golf Club in Muscatine, Iowa for his leadership and Bryan Haas a board member and the head golf professional at Blue Top Ridge. In addition, Jim Dickerson, the head golf professional at Finkbine Golf Course for his leadership at our Riverside program, Mark Burke, head golf professional at Warrior Run in Norwalk and Jason Wagonman, head golf professional at The Falls in Larchwood. Jim, Mark and Jason spend more time than anyone with our veterans and deserve credit for making the program so successful.

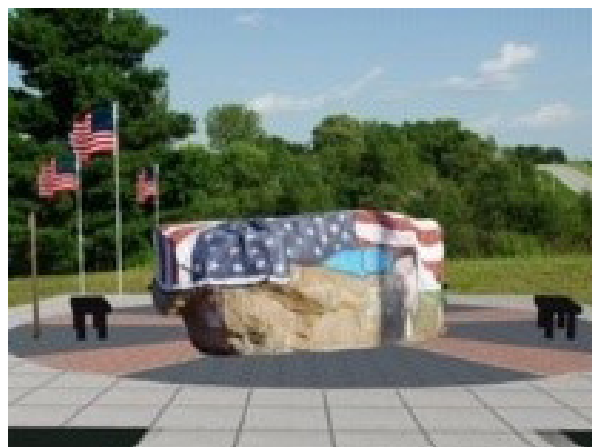
As you will see in this newsletter, our programs are filling up quickly and hundreds of veterans each year are starting the program, getting a refresher course and, if necessary, getting new equipment. Hundreds more are playing for free or at reduced rates at our partner courses around the state. Be sure to check the list of partner courses at our website here which is updated regularly: [click here to visit website](#).

Our schedule has changed a bit, and we are very excited for our annual golf fundraisers this year. Please check the dates and plan to attend. Again, I'm thankful for all of the volunteers who help us successfully organize a fun event with great auction items that financially supports our programs throughout the year. I want to thank everyone who participates in our golf events. Your support allows us to provide services and support to some great men and women who have defended this country. Many of them are dealing with physical or emotional challenges after their service and our program is working hard to thank them for their service.

Dan Kehl

Chief Executive Officer, Elite Casino Resorts

If you have any photos or stories germane to GIVE in any way, please share them with us by sending an e-mail to info@giveforveterans.com.



Freedom Rock

FREEDOM ROCK MEMORIAL GOLF BENEFIT

Please take note! The Freedom Rock Memorial Golf benefit will be held on May 20 with a shotgun start at 11:00 am. This awesome event will be held at Echo Valley Country Club in Norwalk, Iowa. It is being put on by the Hometown Pride organization with the help of the Rotary club. The proceeds go to the further beautification of the area surrounding the Warren County Freedom Rock, which is to become the Warren County Veterans Memorial Garden anchored by the Freedom Rock. We are still looking for sponsors and teams. One of the following pictures is an artist's rendition of what the area will look like. And the other is one side of the rock that tells a GIVE story.

Please contact Mark Burke with any questions at mark@warriorgolf.com.

A GOLF TIP

FROM MARK EGLY

The Give Foundation is a program near and dear to me. Many years ago a veteran, named Jim Dickerson, came to me at a teaching seminar at the Amana Colonies and said I want to become a PGA Member and be a great golf instructor and then teach my fellow veterans. All these years later, I can say that SGM Jim Dickerson, is a PGA Professional, and has achieved all those original ambitions and so much more, including being honored as the PGA of America National PGA Patriot Award Honoree!



Mark Egly

USE YOUR STRONGEST ARM TO CARRY THE LOAD OF SWINGING

This tip we are offering today is for every golfer, but especially any golfer who has a disability. The tip is simple, use your strongest arm to carry the load of swinging. If it is your right arm, play right handed and feel as though you are throwing a baseball from 3rd base to 2nd base with a natural throwing motion. Do not worry about keeping the left arm straight, this only causes problems and can cause havoc with balance and shot quality!

As well, do not try to keep your head down! Instead of keeping the head down, keep bent at the waist, and then after impact, let your eyes track the ball immediately allowing the body to flow naturally through the shot naturally. By doing this, your body will flow through much easier, it will also allow any player to keep much better balance, and the player will be able to see the results of their shot while hitting better shots more often!

Thanks to each and every veteran for your support all of us! We wish each of you success with the Give Foundation Program and your own golf game pleasure in 2019!

Questions? See your Local Iowa PGA Section Golf Professional. Can't find, call the Iowa PGA Section Office at (319) 649-0026 and we will recommend someone in your area.

SIOUX FALLS CHAPTER | THE FALLS GRAND FALLS



Jason Wagamon
Director of Instruction

The 2019 Season is shaping up to be a great one for the GIVE program here in Northwest Iowa. The first of the four sessions for 2019 is scheduled to start on Sunday, May 5.

In meetings with the Sioux Falls VA, we are all excited for what 2019 is going to bring. Anna and Cameron, from the VA, fully expect to have our best year yet, heading into the fourth year of the GIVE Program at Grand Falls. We have roughly 20 people already signed up for each of the four separate sessions.

Now, it is time for the weather to shape up and get all of our veterans back out on the golf course experiencing everything the great game of golf has to offer them.

DES MOINES CHAPTER | WARRIOR RUN GOLF COURSE



Mark Burke
Director of Instruction

The 2019 golf season has finally arrived and we are excited to get our GIVE classes started.

Klay Queck is taking over for Joyce Ellens as our liaison to the VA Med Center. He says that they already have over 20 vets signed up for each of our first two programs. Klay has an assistant, Joni Osmundson, and we are confident that they will take over where Joyce left off. We are very fortunate for our relationship with the VA.

Speaking of fortunate, we also have a great group of volunteers that show up every week to help in any way they can, Carol and I are very grateful and we encourage anyone that wants to join us, to do so.

In addition to our four scheduled five week classes, we are also planning three warmup sessions for the Tee Tournament. In the past many of our GIVE students have been involved with this, and it provides them with more opportunities to play with other vets.

Our third annual fundraiser will be held at Terrace Hills again this year. It will be hosted by Prairie Meadows and The Joe Riding family on September 27. They have been doing a wonderful job and I am sure this year will be even better, especially if it doesn't rain!

We will be holding our annual GIVE Veterans Scramble on September 26.





Jim Dickerson
Director of Instruction

WHOA! Spring is here, already.

We finished with the refresher sessions Saturday, March 23, where we had a total of 155 participants during nine Saturdays. The first two Saturdays in January were canceled due to weather and we battled the weather, still, during subsequent sessions. Yet, the turnout was commendable; anything to get out of the house, or was it the “to-die-for” cookies?

I have to give a shout out to L.D. Davies, PGA, Mike Armes, PGA, Brian Johnson, PGA, Allan Miller, PGA, and Carol Nitschke-Henrich, PGA, professionals of the Iowa PGA Section who made time to assist with the instruction for the veterans. Thank you! And, a great big thank you to Bryan Haas, PGA and Kevin DeNike, PGA for their assistance with the instruction, and their Riverside Casino and Golf Resort staff for all the support to make it all happen.

We start the new year’s classes Saturday, April 6, 1300 - 1500 hours with an anticipated 15-20 veterans and significant others. We will have five new classes starting April 6, May 11, June 22, July 27 and August 30. We will have the Veteran’s Scramble on Blue Top Ridge Golf Course June 26 with a banquet that night.

Let’s make this a great year for our veterans, they deserve all we can do for them. HOOAH!



MISSION STATEMENT

The GIVE Foundation is a not-for-profit organization to provide a structured golf program for injured Veterans who use the Iowa City VA Health Care System, the VA Central Iowa Health Care System, and the Sioux Falls VA Health Care System. The golf program is comprised of four phases of training for injured veterans to participate in to enhance injured veterans’ mental, social, physical, and emotional well-being; and improve their quality of life.



GOLF FOR INJURED VETERANS EVERYWHERE FOUNDATION

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