

# GROHMAN GOLF GAZETTE

## JUNIOR GOLFER EDITION

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### INSIDE TEAM TIGER

**“Joe, he’ll never lose another Amateur and he should have won this one.” Earl Woods in 1990** in response to my comment, “nobody’s this good (as Champ (Tiger)) at any age!” We had just finished a ‘great shots we’ve seen Tiger hit’ exchange. Tiger had made it all the way to the Semi’s

#### **U.S. Junior**

in the U.S. Junior a couple of days earlier and it was customary by then that Earl would debrief me on Tigers tournaments once they got home. (You’d think a kid as good as Tiger would enjoy talking about his own game more than he did. It was an amazing display of modesty from such a talented young man. The same as you see today. Supreme confidence in his ability born of practice and extremely humble

#### **A good winner**

about winning. “A good winner” I’d call it. And much more modest than most men on the planet would be with the same accomplishments.) I had started the conversation with my tale of an impossible shot Tiger had pulled off when we were playing the day before. Then Earl told me of a shot Tiger hit perfectly in the tournament that was even more

#### **One-upped**

difficult. I then one-upped him with a shot I’d seen Tiger hit awhile back that was even more difficult. By now we’re chuckling

because the shots we’re describing are so impossible. Then Earl one-upped me with a shot he’d seen Tiger hit and we just started giggling like a couple of kids and shaking our heads. “Wait til the World gets a load of

#### **Yep**

your kid.” I said. “Yep” Earl said, still smiling as though the thought was lingering right in front of him. “Ain’t they in for a little surprise!” We laughed again. (Imagine finding Tiger at 13 and knowing he was going to be the Tiger of today because he worked so hard, did the right things, had his head on straight and had perfect parents for it. Not to mention 5 Junior Worlds already and was the best player you’d ever seen at any age. In this situation you too would laugh with his father about the

#### **Unbelievable**

unbelievable shots you’d both seen the kid hit. Knowing nobody else on the planet would believe it. Until they saw it.) I’m sure all of you reading this were somehow a little surprised when it came to Tiger’s game. It’s fun having the greatest Champion of all time entertaining all of us with his ability. Instead of just his dad and me that is.

**Joe Grohman PGA**

**714.293.5576c**

**714.218.1507p**

[JoeGrohmanPGA@aol.com](mailto:JoeGrohmanPGA@aol.com)

**HowToGolf.com**

### LOCAL NEWS

#### SARASOTA JR. BLIND CLINIC

The Sarasota Jr. Blind Clinic has been set! January 25<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Foxfire Country Club. David Shue, a world renown blind neuromuscular massage therapist and avid golfer and Joe McCourt the director of the U.S. Blind Golfers Association are on board for the event. Joe McCourt is responsible for inspiring me to want to help the junior blind through golf. He was the host for the clinic I attended with the SCPGA at the Los Angeles Foundation for the Junior Blind. It was there that I decided that I wanted to help these kids. Clinic Chairwoman Suellen Garabedian, a lifelong friend, rounds out our committee. I’m very excited to be a part of this event, especially since it’s our first annual!

#### **MARK BLAKELY PGA TO THE RESCUE**

Mark Blakely, the Head Professional at Candlewood Country club, has donated over 100 clubs for use in my South Central Junior Golf Classes. I recently saw Mark and without hesitation or prompting he offered to donate the clubs! I’ve known Mark for several years and he has always been an outstanding PGA Professional, Gentleman and friend. As evidenced by this generous and desperately needed donation! Thank you Mark!

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### PROS CORNER

I recently talked to Jack Connelly, the National President of the PGA of America about PGA involvement in the upcoming Sarasota Jr. Blind Clinic. It's no secret that Mr. Connelly has been a big supporter of blind golf throughout his illustrious career. As has always been my experience, the cream always rises to the top. Mr. Connelly is a

#### **Inspiring**

wonderful man and inspiring to talk to. He is going to "hand deliver my information to the right people within the PGA". And he was quick to praise the efforts all of us have put forth in our clinics for less fortunate youth. And I certainly couldn't do anything

#### **Wonderful kids**

without the help of you wonderful kids in these endeavors. Whether acting as guides for the junior blind golfers, comrades and coaches to the juvenile hall kids or just helping out in class, from the President of the PGA of America and myself, thank you all for your help and support! And thank you Jack Connelly!

### **Jr. GOLF CLASS ADDED IN SOUTH CENTRAL**

I've added a new Jr. Golf Class on Saturdays at Chester Washington in South Central. It will be held from 10-11:00 a.m.

and all are welcome to attend regardless of JGA affiliation. We will be chipping, putting and on the range each class so it's very important to be on time. If you are late for your tee time in golf you go to the bottom of the waiting list. In a tournament you are disqualified. You are also welcome to come early to warm up and receive private instruction before class begins. See you on Saturday! -Coach Joe.

### FLASHBACK

The year was 1979. I was 14 and in the semifinals of the N.Y. State Boys Junior Championship. Back then they didn't send us out with scorekeepers like they do these days in most big junior events. My opponent had a caddie. The three of us were on the 12<sup>th</sup> green when I placed my putter behind

#### **Wobbled**

the ball and it wobbled. It didn't leave its position so I knew it wasn't a penalty and I proceeded to make the putt to go 2 up. However, my opponent said it did move and he searched out a rules official. I wasn't concerned with the delay because I knew I was right. However, sight unseen the rules official sided with my opponent and his caddy and awarded him the hole.

#### **Outrageous**

It was so outrageous that I proceeded to lose my cool and then the match. The Tournament Director said after the match that

his hands were basically tied and could do nothing. I can't tell you how long that 400-mile drive home was. But I learned a few great lessons. 1-Always carry a rulebook. It is only a matter of time before you are involved in a ruling on the golf course. 2-Know the rules. There are only 34 of them. 3-In tournament play, if you are not satisfied with a ruling on the course, contest it immediately. It might just save you a long ride home. The next article sums it up...

### BOOK REVIEW

**"As long as we structure our lives in a way where our happiness is dependant upon something we cannot control, we will experience pain."** Tony Robbins from 'Awaken the Giant Within'. I thought this was a great quote worthy of a closer look. How others treat and feel about us is something **we cannot control**. We've all had someone we like hurt our feelings because the feeling was not mutual. Traffic congestion on the freeways is something we cannot control yet a lot of people place their happiness on the flow. In golf many people have to shoot a certain score or better to be happy with their play, which is the last thing you want to do because the **opposite** usually happens! The only thing we have control over in golf is the shot at hand. That's it. Period. If you hit it poorly, "what does it matter, **it's in the past.**"

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And your next shot should now have your focus, not how poorly you hit the last one. It may seem hard to get over a bad shot, but it isn't once you learn how. A good start is to not let your level of happiness be **dictated** by how well you play golf. In other words just play for fun! After all that's the reason we all love this game, it's fun! If you're not having any fun when you golf you are in trouble. This sport can make you feel the **highest highs** and the **lowest lows** and can instantly become the most frustrating sport you've ever played if you aren't having fun with it. That's why **lesson one on day one** is to have fun with this game. Your ability will fluctuate not just from the amount of practice you put into your game but also from a **myriad** of other factors. How you feel, (sick, tired, injured, distracted, mad, sad, bad etc.) how well you can concentrate on the game-focusing on a relationship problem, school, other worries here or there or anything that distracts your mind from the shot at hand will affect your ability to pull it off. The weather-wind, rain, cold, lightening and other bad weather can turn even your favorite easy course into your worst nightmare. Who you are playing with can directly affect your ability to have fun. That's why most people stay close to their "regular" group-they know what to expect and don't worry about compromising their

ability with someone they don't know breaching etiquette or **breaking rules**. (Few things in this game are more distracting than having to deal with someone you don't know stepping on your line or talking on your back swing or moving during the same. As a PGA Pro it is very easy for me to tactfully point out the error of their ways to someone like this without incident. However I have seen the entire groups day ruined by **bad blood** between 2 players that initiated from the miss handling of a breach of etiquette. A breach in itself.) There are so many factors besides ability that enter in to how well you will play on any given day that no one can **consistently** say what they are about to shoot. If you make having fun and enjoying yourself your number one goal in golf, then you will. And no matter how good or bad you play you will be entertained by this game all the way around the course. And since this is the one sport you can play even after you reach a ripe old age, it's a good idea to learn how to enjoy it. You will be rewarded with a **lifetime** of satisfaction. After all, golf is life.

### QUOTEBOOK

**“Imagination is more important than knowledge.”**

*Albert Einstein*

**“He who lives without discipline dies without honor.”**

*Ancient Proverb*

**“The simpler we make our lives the more abundant they become.”**

*Unknown*

**“There is no easy way. There's just no substitute for hard work.”**

*Tiger Woods*

**“Embrace fear, embrace exhaustion for they are your call to arms.”**

*Coach Joe*

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### COMMUNITY FOCUS GOLF ASSOCIATION

I am delighted to announce the creation of the "Community Focus Golf Association!" This will be the vehicle from which Communities will be **mobilized** for our charitable clinics and tournaments benefiting the very organizations involved in that particular event. The Sarasota Clinic for the Jr. Blind has evolved into the entire community coming together for the event. Thanks to the dedication and **effort** of C.F.G.A National Director Suellen Garabedian, the direction and insight of Joe McCourt, the Director of the U.S. Blind Golfers Association as well as David Shue, a world-famous blind neuromuscular massage therapist and avid golfer who I look forward to **coaching** at next month's U.S. Blind Golf Championship. I can't say enough about the effort, heart and soul Suellen has put into the Sarasota Clinic. The C.F.G.A. is a direct result of her commitment to putting **smiles** on children's faces and inviting the entire community to join in on the fun of a worthwhile cause. The classes I teach in South Central in association with Sportsman's Jr. Golf and hopefully soon L.A. County Junior Golf will all be part of the Community Focus **family**. Which means when I do clinics out here, I will still be coming to you kids to help out as

guides in the case of the Junior Blind Clinics, or **mentors** in the case of the juvenile hall clinic we have. Also we will be **adding** clinics for mentally handicapped children, children with cancer and children with heart defects. As always, I will be turning to you kids, as I always have to make these events extra special, as you always do! One aspect will be our junior golf class in South Central and what we are able to accomplish on and off the golf course together. I would like our program to be a **blueprint** that can be taken and applied to any inner-city in the Country and have an immediate, positive impact on the community. If we can have this much fun doing all this good with golf in South Central, we really have to let the rest of the Country in on our secret! I will keep you posted on upcoming events. In the **meantime**, focus on your grades, your chores and your golf in that order. Remember what Senior Tour Star Joe Inman told us at Valencia last year, "If your life is not in order, you won't be able to play." I see a lot of National Champions in our classes. In fact I said this to James Oh, ('99 US Amateur Champion and close friend since he was 12) just last week. And added, "give me 2 years and South Central is going to **dominate** Jr. Golf, not by design but as fallout from adhering to Team Tiger standards and values in golf and in life!" Just like

James did, my first post-Tiger protégé and **living proof** that Team Tiger standards and values work. And I'm no hero. I am only the messenger. Anyway James will be giving a clinic for us at Chester Washington GC in South Central over Christmas vacation. He and Tiger were only 18 when they won their first US Amateurs so this will be a great opportunity to learn how young golf phenoms operate. I would like to have a few other sports stars there that would like to be a part of the clinic and share some brief words of wisdom and inspiration with the kids, South Centrals, Southern California's and the Nation's finest, and deserving of the nicest gesture I can come up with for them! (If any of you parents can help get word to Kobe, Shaq or any of the Lakers, Angels, Dodgers etc. or retired athletes or actors or musicians that would like to join us for an hour or two and help inspire some wonderful inner-city kids, please have them contact me at 714.293.5576 or Suellen Garabedian, CFGA National Director at 941.302.2740.) Let's make this a Christmas to remember! Thanks for your help!  
-Coach Joe

### COMMUNITY FOCUS GOLF ASSOCIATION

Suellen Garabedian/Joe Grohman PGA  
Co-Founders  
In FL-941.302.2740 In CA-714.218-1507  
[HowToGolf.com](http://HowToGolf.com)

To order “How to Golf Beginners Guide” send \$15 to Joe Grohman Golf  
1400 Harmony Lane Fullerton, CA 92831. Or online at HowToGolf.com. (after 12/10/02)

Makes a perfect Christmas present!

Please note which language- English, Spanish or Korean  
Joe Grohman Golf is a non-profit organization. Proceeds support Junior Golf.

## INSTRUCTION DIGEST

### THE SECRET OF GOLF

This was one of the first major “discoveries” I was able to elicit from Tiger and Earl that **united** everything they had been teaching me up to that point. It answered the questions why a horrible swing could work masterfully and a masterful swing could work horribly. It allowed me to add 50 yards to a student's drive in about 5 minutes. My average student was retired military, late 60's and took 2 years to talk into taking their first lesson in 40 years! I've had the pleasure from students of sharing the thrill of shattering personal bests, **winning** Club Championships and finally defeating regular group foes after years of failed attempts. After one lesson. Most of the retired people I've encountered that have been golfing for a very long time are studies in stubbornness. They either think that they can't be helped or they don't want to actually find out that they can be helped or would rather say they've been a 30 handicap for 30 years, which makes me **cringe** at the thought of accepting such a fate. But sooner or later curiosity gets the best of us. “Just get rid of my slice”, or “I need more distance without messing with my swing.” I loved these requests because I knew I would be able to help these students **quickly** and immeasurably. Yes they were

looking for a quick fix. But it was **40 years** in the making and boy did they come to the right place. (Did I mention who my mentors were?) Whether you are a beginner or expert, old or young, the secret of golf will keep the game **fun**. And please do yourself a favor and see your local PGA Pro. And ask if they're PGA! Don't settle for less.

From my book “**HOW TO GOLF Beginners Guide**” foreword by Earl Woods. Page 9, “**The Secret Of Golf.**” Based on the teachings of Earl and Tiger Woods and edited by them at their house in Cypress August-October 1994...

### **THE SECRET OF GOLF**

Just as the bowler doesn't walk up to the foul line straight-legged and throw the ball solely with his arms, and the tennis player doesn't swing the racket only with his arms, likewise the golfer doesn't swing the club just with his arms. As in most sports, the secret of golf that allows one to achieve a flowing, unrestricted and balanced golf swing is a **proper weight transfer**. In a proper weight transfer, body weight is used as leverage. The bowler pulls the ball back on his approach and, using his entire body, transfers his weight from his back foot to his front foot allowing him to fire the ball down the lane. The tennis player uses his entire body to pull the racket back, swing through with a weight transfer from back foot to

front foot and fire a forehand down the line. The principle also applies to golf. Weight is loaded up behind the ball on the back foot (at address, during the takeaway and back swing) so that at the top of the swing, the weight is in a position to be leveraged or transferred as energy (on the downswing and at impact) to the ball, via club head speed, sending it on its way. And with a proper weight transfer, the weight will end up on the front foot at the finish of the swing, just like the bowler and the tennis player.

To imagine the leverage in a weight transfer, imagine a baseball pitcher throwing a pitch. Now imagine how much speed would be lost if the pitcher threw the ball straight-legged, using just his arm. Weight transfer is just as important in a golf swing and just as much body weight is transferred. The difficulty in golf lies in the fact that this similar weight transfer must be accomplished just as completely and accurately, but in an area extending only from the inside of the right foot to the center of the left.

Thus, as you read this book and develop your own golf swing, it is important to understand that all the moves and positions made in a golf swing are done to facilitate a weight transfer during the golf swing. **A proper weight transfer is the secret of golf**, the foundation upon which a successful golf swing is built.