Northwest teachers and lessons

Golf teachers are the best in history so take a look at the top teachers in the Northwest

The Pacific Northwest is loaded with terrific golf instructors, some with years of experience, some with the most sophisticated equipment sold today. If you are looking to improve your game, you will find information about many of the best teachers in the Northwest in this section. Below, Mark Wurtz works with 91-year-old Pat Burns of Port Townsend, Wash., while GolfTEC owner Brett Allen (right) gets a tune-up on his swing.

Golf Destination: Southern Oregon Coast

Golfers from around the country, and the world for that matter, have come to recognize the Southern Oregon Coast as one of the top golf destinations in the United States.

From the award-winning Bandon Dunes Resort with its four courses, including Old Macdonald (far right), to the new Bandon Crossings (near right), to Salmon Run and Sandpines, there are some terrific courses to choose from.

And with the courses situated next to the Pacific Ocean, the opportunity to explore the coastal attractions is another reason to visit this region. For more see inside.
Whether you want to fix or elevate your game, lessons are the answer

Why take golf lessons?

The obvious answer to why we take golf lessons is to get better. No one enjoys standing over the ball not knowing where it is going to go. Let’s face it; the game is a lot more enjoyable when we play it well. Few things are more frustrating than mishitting a golf shot, especially when it really counts.

Most of us don’t expect to become scratch players, as golf is something we do for recreation, fitting it into our busy daily lives, at best, allows us minimal time to achieve an acceptable handicap. That’s not to say we don’t want to get better and lower our handicaps.

Golf is such a solo endeavor; we can’t rely on teammates for support or to help us when we’re in a slump. Life’s lessons have taught us that if we want to succeed at anything we need to be open to learning. Golf is no exception - if we are to improve then we will have to learn more about the techniques involved and how they apply to us individually.

A master PGA professional once said that his job was to teach students how to teach themselves. He would show them the how and the why of the golf swing, so that when they are confronted with a golf swing that goes astray they would then know how to fix it. “I can’t be with them on the course every time they play,” he said, “so they will need to be armed with the knowledge to fix things themselves.”

Golf swings are as varied as the body types that make up our planet - a tall person will not route the club like a short one, nor will a senior golfer swing like a teenager. Far too many beginning golfers take up the game and are given poor advice from other recreational golfers, who’s intentions are good but who’s suggestions usually miss the mark.

I think we can all agree that taking lessons is a sound plan. Beginners will show improvement much quicker if shown the correct way to play from the start. For those who have been playing for a while, be aware that it takes longer to change a bad swing into a good one, so be prepared to put in some effort on the range between lessons.

Where do you go to get instruction? Like auto mechanics or doctors, all golf teachers are not the same, nor do they use the same teaching methods. Some have a natural intuition that allows them to communicate easily with students. Others may have a vast experience with several hundred or even thousands of prior lessons. That said, all teachers have knowledge of the basics, which is essential for any golfer to learn, especially beginners.

Golf instruction today has grown in leaps and in the last 20 years. Technology has, for the most part, simplified the learning process - being able to see yourself on a video or in a sequence of still photos has shortened the learning curve. Teaching aids is another area that has sped up the ability to learn. Teachers also have been able to communicate their instruction much quicker with these aids. Golf teachers today are better qualified than at any time in history.

Finding a teacher who best matches your combination of mental, physical, and emotional traits can sometimes be quite difficult.

For that reason we have put together a vast list of professional golf teachers that gives you an insight into their experience, methods and philosophies. It is our intent that you will be able to match your goals with a instructor that can best help you achieve them in the shortest possible time and at a price that is within your budget.

It’s worth saying again, golf instruction really is best if it has ever been in the history of the game. Now is the best time to take charge of your game. As we head into a new season of golf you can make this year the one where you invest in your game.
Green Mountain Golf Course
Harold Bluestein – PGA Instructor, Path to Better Golf, LLC.
A professional for more than 25 years Harold understands that every student is different and lessons have to be about the student, not about a method. His knowledge has evolved from careful study of the golf swing and the teaching learning process (“how students learn”). As a result Harold has been honored with Oregon Teacher of the year nominations in 2007 and 2008 and the 2009 PNW PGA Section President’s Award for player development. Harold can be heard co-hosting “Golf in the Northwest” every Sunday morning 9 to 9 on ESPN 1080 TheFan (1080 AM on your radio dial). Tune in for his insights and tips!

Semi Private Series of 5 lessons $300 total, includes 40 minute range lessons and one on course lesson for 1 hour. Junior private series of 5 lessons $150, same format.

North Shore Golf Course, Tacoma
David Wetli – North Shore Golf Course
David Wetli has been the head golf professional at the North Shore Golf Course since 1992 and has been teaching golf for 25 years. He has been the lead for North Shore’s highly successful junior program that averages over 200 different participants each year. David also teaches a large number of adults of all skill levels. David realizes that no two students are alike so he helps each player understand how proper fundamentals can improve their game with a focus on grip, proper alignment, posture, ball position and balance. David also loves to focus on the short game for rapid improvement in scoring. Rates are: Adults 1/2 hour for $45; series of five for $180. Juniors 1/2 hour are $25 with a series of five for $100. 253.927.1375.

Ryan Willie – North Shore Golf Course
Ryan has been working at North Shore Golf Course in Tacoma for 15 years – eight of which has been as a golf instructor. Ryan enjoys working with golfers of all skill levels because he can adapt his teaching style to each student’s ability. Ryan does not believe there is one correct way to swing a golf club and the big part of his training sessions are devoted to focusing on balance, rhythm, flexibility and strength training. The best club, says Ryan, is your mind. You must believe to achieve. Rates are: Adults 1/2 hour for $45; series of five for $180. Juniors 1/2 hour are $25 with a series of five for $100. 253.927.1375.

Tacoma Firs Golf Center
Mike Givens - Manager, Teaching Professional (By Appointment, Monday - Friday)
Mike had a brilliant playing career, brief but very im pactive. He has a tremendous passion for the game. He loves to educate people in club fitting and enjoying working with players of all abilities. Mike has extensive knowledge of all current golf products and works well with all players with a relaxed and laid back style.

Lessons can be arranged by calling: 253-472-6899

Todd Erwin – PGA Class “A” Professional
Todd is an accomplished player, having tied for fifth in the 2003 West ern PGA Club Professional Championship. . Winner, 1987 Quebec Open. . .Competed in the 1990 and ’93 U.S. Opens, missing the cut. If you are serious about taking up golf or fixing your game, give Todd a call.

Lessons can be arranged by calling: 253-472-6899

Trenton Golf Course
Adult Private Lessons – 1 Lesson $50; Junior & Senior Private Lessons – 1 Lesson $45
GROUPLESSONS (Series of 4)
1 Hour Adult Lessons • 2 People $140.00 each • 3 People $130.00 each
4 people $120.00 each • 5 people $110.00 each • 6 or more $100.00
Lessons can be arranged by calling: 253-472-6899
Semiahmoo Resort

Jeff Coston – The Jeff Coston Golf Academy officially opened at the beautiful Semiahmoo Resort in 1994 and has been there since. Prior to Jeff’s 16 years at the resort, he played the PGA Tour and was a winner on the Nationwide Tour. Jeff is a 12 time Pacific Northwest PGA Player of the Year. He is also the all time major tournament winner in Pacific Northwest golf history.

Mike Bender the 2009 National PGA Teacher of the Year and coach to Masters Champion Zach Johnson and recent tour winner Jonathan Byrd states “Jeff is one of the very best instructors in America.” Jeff’s rates are $150 per hour for an adult and $100 for a junior. For more information visit www.jeffcoston.com for more information.

Riverbend Golf Complex

Eric Hiernics – PGA Assistant Teaching Professional

Eric Hiernics is a familiar face after spending the majority of his youth playing golf with his father, an accomplished amateur golfer, at Riverbend. After getting almost every golf record at Thomas Jefferson High School and winning his share of regional events, Eric decided to become a golf professional at an early age. For years, Eric has helped run Riverbend’s 18 hole golf course and he has also helped coordinate Riverbend’s junior golf camps, clinics and tournaments. In his 5th year of the PGA education program, Eric has ascended a thorough understanding of the golf swing and has helped several thousand junior golfers improve their game. He is currently making a full time commitment to his future as an education professional. Eric has 5 children and he and is married to Rachael Hiernics and resides in Semiuchowna, WA.

For information on playing lessons, semi-private and group lessons call 253-859-400-00.

Riverbend Golf Complex

Private – (1hr.) (2 people)......100.00
Semi-private – (1hr.) (3 people)......120.00
Semi-private – (1hr.) (4 people)...150.00

Carnation Golf Course

Semi-private (1.5 hr) (2 person).....150.00
Semi-private (1hr.) (2 person).....100.00
Semi-private (1hr.) (3 person).....120.00
Semi-private (1hr.) (4 person)...150.00
For more information about Erin you can visit her website: www.GolfingWithErin.com, or by phone at 425.273-4948.

Carnation Golf Course

For information on playing lessons, semi-private and group lessons call 253-859-400-00.

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With today’s high-tech equipment, and educational options, golf instruction is the best it has ever been in history!
GolfTEC Bellevue

Olle Nordlund – PGA Apprentice/Teaching Professional

Olle originates from Gotthepb, Sweden and has been living in the US since 2000. He is a avid football (soccer to Americans) and hockey player in Sweden. Olle took up golf in his early 20s, playing throughout the Swedish summers. In 2004, Olle decided to turn his hobby into a career, giving up his former life as a chef to become a Golf Professional. Olle is a 2005 graduate of the Golf Academy of America. Prior to joining the GolfTEC team, Olle worked as a professional club builder with Honitx Golf in Scottsdale, AZ, taking an active role in thousands of club fittings. And, he spent the last 3 years as an Assistant Golf Professional at The Golf Club at Echo Falls. Already given over 2,000 golf lessons and thousands of club fittings, Olle is continuing his golf education as a registered PGA apprentice, working towards his Class A certification.

For more information about fees and instruction, please visit GolfTEC.com and see the GolfTEC ad in this issue.

GolfTEC Bellevue

Brett Wilkinson – PGA Member for 28 years

Brett has over 40,000 lessons and thousands of club fittings. He is a Tandem Performance Institute (TPI) Golf Fitness Instructor. In 2007 Brett was a PNY PGA President’s plaque recipient for player development. Teaching philosophy: Maintain the good or great in people’s golf swings, and improve and strengthen the areas of concern. My goals are to guide my students toward their desired golfing goals, however aggressive they may be. Extensive knowledge of the golf swing and GolfTEC’s state-of-art teaching system, motion measurement readings, and tour video

swing comparison.

For more information about fees and instruction, please visit GolfTEC.com and see the GolfTEC ad in this issue.

GolfTEC Bellevue

Nicholas Burrington – PGA Golf Management Graduate/Teaching Professional Certified Personal Swing Coach and Club Fitter. Nicholas grew up and started playing golf in Kalsug, Montana. He attended the University of Idaho PGA Golf Management Program and in spring 2010 he finished requirements for a Bachelor’s degree in business Marketing. During this time he interned for the University of Idaho Golf Course, Garanghatch in Corvallis, and GolfTEC Corporate Headquarters with a focus in teaching and club fitting. While with GolfTEC Headquarters, Nicholas completed over 1,200 lessons with a philosophy of dedication to the improvement of his instruction and club fitting on the course and 75 lessons in his private teaching area.

For more information about fees and instruction, please visit GolfTEC.com and see the GolfTEC ad in this issue.

GolfTEC South Lake Union

Nathanial Johnson – Director of Instruction/Center Manager/Level 3 PGA Apprentice

Nathanial started his career at Brentwood Country Club in Los Angeles where he tutored and was the Certified Personal Club Fitter for 7 years. In 2009, he joined GolfTEC because he believes in the teaching philosophy and that’s the best form of instruction. He recently moved to Seattle from Santa Monica, CA. With his PGA training and GolfTEC teaching philosophy, he is looking forward to helping students understand their swing and improve their game.

For more information about fees and instruction, please visit GolfTEC.com and see the GolfTEC ad in this issue.

GolfTEC South Lake Union

Todd Barnum – Certified Personal Coach/Certified Personal Club Fitter/ Certified TPI Fitness Instructor

Raised in Issaquah, Todd followed his passion of becoming a Golf Professional. He began his golf career by working as a professional in the Professional Golf Management program at the Professional Golfers Career College in Temecula, CA. Todd pursued Assistant Professional positions in both Arizona and Iowa. Todd started as GolfTEC’s Director of Instruction’s first Certified Personal Coach in 2007. Since then he has given over 5,240 Lessons and Club Fittings. Providing outstanding customer service and a thorough understanding of the swing, Todd takes great pride in making sure each of his students understand their swings. For more information about fees and instruction, please visit GolfTEC.com and see the GolfTEC ad in this issue.

Columbia Super Range

Kathy DeNue – PGA Class A Professional

Kathy DeNue is a Class A PGA teaching professional in her 12th year at Columbia Super Range in South Everett. She enjoys bringing new golfers into the game with a plan to go from lessons to the golf course in about six weeks. Experienced golfers come to understand their swing better with the use of video to isolate behaviors causing those mischievous ball flight problems. Once you understand your swing we build in drills to change the habit or behavior causing the problem and you get a more consistent swing and ball flight! All lessons are built on the LPGA student centered teaching model, to teach to individuals to their learning style and ability.

Kathy also writes a monthly column called “Instruction for Women” in Inside Golf Newspaper. Her columns can be viewed at www.insidegolfonline.com. She can be reached at 425-338-2424 or by email at Kathy@Colombiaisableth.com.

Golf USA, Olympia

Kris Swanson – Teaching Professional

I have been a teaching professional for the last six years. I worked as the assistant golf professional at both Olympia C&GC and Tumwater Valley GC. I am currently the head Men’s golf coach at Pacific Lutheran University and the golf professional on staff at GolfUSA of Olympia. I am skilled at giving lessons to all skill levels and abilities. I am a PING certified club fitter.

You can take lessons from me at the Olympia Learning & Golf Center (First Tee of Olympia). To schedule a lesson or fitting, I can be reached at 360-808-3432, 360-489-6224 or by email at kristopher.swanson@hotmail.com.

Pro Golf Discount, Southcenter

Jim Bennett – PGA member with 27 years experience.

I have been teaching for 27 years, the last 15 at Southcenter Golf driving range. Worked at Rainier Golf and C.C. for 13 years. I was the 2001 Western Washington Chapter PGA teacher of the year. From 2003-2011 I was voted by Golf Digest’s Top Teachers list in the state of Washington. From 2007-2009 I was voted by Golf Range Magazine’s Top 50 instructors in America. Playing achievements: I have won the Wilson Shoot-out Championship, WPGA Championship, and Washington State Assists Championship. If you are serious about improving your game, please consider me out at Pro Golf Discount in Southcenter, in the laboratory. You can sign up for lessons by calling. Pro Golf at 206-431-0100 or 253- 350-4382. Or go to ProGolfSeattle.com.

Pro Golf Discount, Tacoma

Chris Griffin – PGA Class A “Member Director of Instruction

At Pro Golf Discount we offer use of Fore Sight Launch Monitor and Simulator for our indoor lessons in our state of the art golf theater system. I also include video with V1 Golf Software displaying your swing on a 42 inch plasma for you to view.

Call Pro Golf Discount in Tacoma to make an appointment, just request Chris Griffin and someone will schedule your lesson if I am unavailable. I enjoy working with golfers of all skill levels and have taught over 2500 lessons in my career. I have been a golf professional since 2000. My career began at Tacoma Country & Golf Club where I worked in every area of the golf business. For the past 10 years I have been consistent Top 10 player in the Pacific Northwest Section of the PGA, including numerous Top 10 finishes in Section Majors. For the past 2 years I have been pumping the driving aspect of the game which has given me more knowledge to pass on to my students about the game, both physical and mental.

Rates: 45 Minute Lesson: Adults $60 • Juniors (under 17) $40 Series of 3-45 Minute Lessons $160 • Series of 5-45 Minute lessons $250 Club Fitting $50

Let’s get to work on your game! Call (253) 473-4290 or email cgriffin@pga.com.

High Cedars Golf Club, Orting

Tad Davis – PGA Professional at High Cedars Golf Club. Tad has been an assistant professional for 25 years and is a Seattle resident for 20 years. He spent 9 years at Broadmoor Golf Club in Seattle, 6 years at Oaks Brook Country Club in Tacoma and 2 years at Druids Glen Golf Club in Clinton. We offer a variety of golf instruction, whether it’s private, group, junior or family lessons we have a program that will meet your needs.

2011 Golf Instruction: 360-983-3171 Rates: Private: Video 30 minute session $55, Series of 4 - $1800 Group Lessons: 2-4 People - $50 per 5 minute session or $50 per 8 People - 5 Five minute sessions. Rates for 5 person - $85 per 90 minute session. Club Fitting $50

Corporate or Club Offerings: 50 minute session, $85.00

Junior Lessons: 30 minute session $40.00, Series of 4 - $120.00 In 2011 Summer Junior Clinics: There are six sessions available starting June 27, July 4, July 18, August 18, and August 25 and 26.
There is no substitute for sound fundamentals.
Bellevue Golf Course

Courtney Swanson - Teaching Professional

Being in and playing golf her entire life along with Courtney’s expertise in turf management and rules give her a unique perspective of the game. Her background and respect of the game along with patience give beginners a comfortable environment to learn. Her strengths are breaking the swing down to the basics, and helping all ages, juniors to senior, with a technique that promotes quick learning, skills, and confidence.

Set up an appointment by calling: 425-452-7250

Shelley Connolly - LPGA Teaching Professional

As in learning any sport, the golf swing is about muscle memory. Every person can train their muscles regardless of age and ability. The challenge is that when a golf ball is introduced, most golfers focus more on the ball and forget about the swing. My goal as a Teaching Professional is to help my students create a swing that is simple and repeatable. My experience as an LPGA TCFP member has given me the tools to show you how you can become a more confident player. In turn, I will give you the tools you need to understand and correct your swing, as well as share with you my knowledge and subtleties I have learned in my 30 years of enjoying this fabulous “game of a lifetime.” Set up an appointment by calling: 425-452-7250

Bellevue Golf Course Lesson Rates

Individual Private Lessons

10 minutes – Free • 1 hour Adults $45 • Junior $35 • 1 hour Adults $90 • Junior $70

Private Lesson Packages

4-1/2 hour lesson Adults $160 – Junior $125 • 1/2 hour lesson Adults $255 – Junior $190

Group Lessons (per person - 1 hour sessions)

2 students Adults $130 – Junior $100 • 3 students Adults $100 – Junior $70

4 students Adults $80 – Junior $50 • 5 students Adults $70 – Junior $50

6 students Adults $60 – Junior $40

Jefferson Park Golf Course

Rob French - PGA

rfrench@premiergc.com – 206-285-2200

Rob is a Class A PGA Member and has been a Teaching Professional for 17 years. He was trained to teach golf by legendary Teaching Professional Jimmy Ballard. He teaches Ballard’s principles of “Connection” and the “Seven Common Denominators” of the golf swing. If you are trying to keep your arm down, keep your head straight and stiff, turn, create lag, or stay behind the ball, you are doing things that will keep you from hitting the ball with any consistency.

Rates: (Video analysis and range balls included in each lesson)

Individual Private Lessons - Adults (18 and over)

30 minutes $45 • 60 minutes $80

Series of 4-30 minutes lessons $215

Private lesson - Junior (ages 8-17)

30 minutes $35

Series of 4 lessons – $125 • Series of 6 lessons – $185

Jade Greens Golf Course, Auburn

Doug Campbell - Life Member of the PGA – 253-632-4528

Doug played #1 Man on Univ. of Wash. golf team.

Played on PGA Tour 1979 – 1982

Played in 1980 PGA at Oak Hill

Played in 1984 British Open at St. Andrews

Played in 1986 US Open at Shinnemock Hills

Won 12 Professional Regional Tournaments, including 2 Oregon Opens and 2 NW PGA’s

8 Hudson Chips

1 PGA Cup Team (Top 9 US club pros vs. Top 9 British Club pros)

Head pro at Auburn GC for 21 years and worked 3 years for John Jacobs Golf Schools as Instructor in Scottsdale, AZ.

Doug enjoys teaching golfers of all skills and ages.

Lesson Packages: 1/2 Hour Private lesson – $45

Series of 5 lessons – $200 • 1 Hour Private lesson – $35 • Series Junior – $150

Discovery Bay GC, Port Townsend

Mark Warte – Head Professional, former tour pro

Mark grew up in Port Ludlow learning golf at a young age from his dad Ted Warte-A Professional.

After winning numerous junior golf tournaments and 2 state High School individual championships. Mark attended the University of New Mexico on a golf scholarship. Following school Mark spent a brief time in Palm Springs as an assistant pro before playing full time on the Canadian tour. Assisted, Nationwide tour and 3 years on the PGA tour.

During this time Mark learned the mental side of the game from Dr. Bob Rotella and the fundamentals and physics of the golf swing from Mac O’Grady.

Mark’s philosophy to teaching is taking one’s own body built and natural ability and helping students understand their own tendencies. “You don’t have to know the perfect golf swing—you just need to know the rules and laws of your swing.”

Mark is currently Head Golf Pro at Discovery Bay Golf Course and can be contacted for individual lessons at (360) 85-0704, $40 for 45 minutes.

Meadow Park Golf Course, Tacoma

Molly Miller - The Molly Miller Golf Academy.

253-327-8403 (www.ewingcoaching.com)

Molly Miller has been nominated 2010 LPGA Section Teacher of the Year. The Molly Miller Golf Academy provides world-class golf instruction at the Meadow Park Golf Course and Learning facility in Tacoma, Washington. As a LPGA member since 1992, I have given nearly 28,000 lessons. I have over 40 years of playing experience. I am one of two certified female instructors in the nation who teach golfers with disabilities including amputees, stroke and heart patients as well as neck and back injuries. My philosophy is simple; to promote the game I love, to train many new golfers as possible and to increase skills, confidence and ability to maximize fun to those who golf already.

LESSON PACKAGES:

Metro Park Group lessons (Beginner, Intermediate, Senior, Women only)

See website for dates and details. 6 lessons $99

Adult Private 60 (45 min Lesson) • Junior and Senior 45 (45 min Lesson)

4 private Adult $180 – Junior $150 • 9 private Adult $240 Junior $200

Year package (40) private lessons $1200

Group lessons • 2 People $140.00 each • 3 People $160.00 each • 4 people $120.00 each

Dan Harrington - PGA Head Professional (253) 473-3033

- Western Washington Chapter - PGA Board Member

- 2005 WVC-PGA Junior Golf Leader award winner.


- District 3 PGA Director

- 4 Year Leman at Western Washington University

- Clover Park High school golf coach & former Kentridge High School coach.

- Leader of PGA Jr. Leagues Program.

- Active Participant in PGA Pro-Am Series since 1996

A lifetime golfer & student of the game, Dan has been a professional since 1995 and has been with Meadow Park Golf Course since January 2004. His prior experiences at Bear Creek Country Club, Sudden Valley Golf Course, The Course at Taylor Creek, Fairwood GC & Country Club & Meridian Valley Country Club have enabled Dan to continue his passion for the game of golf though player development and tournament programs. You will walk away from each session with a clear understanding of how to make easy improvements to your all-around golf game.

Erik Haag, PGA Assistant Golf Professional

Meadow Park Golf Course-Tacoma, Washington (253) 473-3033

erik@tacomaparks.com

- Professional Golf Association of America (Member)

- Experienced in Adult & Junior player development programs

- Former instructor of the Palm Springs Japanese Golf Academy

- Active in PGA Pro-AM series

- Continuous lesson education provided by the PGA of America

- Golf Management Degree from the College of the Desert in Palm Desert, CA

Charles Waggoner - Class A Member – Teaching Professional at Meadow Park Golf Course (206) 356-6946 - c.waggoner@pgp.com

Charles became a professional golfer in 1995. In 2001 he became a Class A Member or the PGA of America. His experience includes Assistant Golf Professional at Olympia Country Club and Golf as well as the Assistant Golf Professional at Riverbend Golf Complex for five years. An accomplished golfer, Charles has gained his vast knowledge and experience from his service in a multitude of golf facilities as well as his extraordinary ability to teach a wide range of ages, personalities and talents. His most rewarding experience was volunteering for four years to introduce and teach golf to special needs individuals. Charles also has been a Head Golf Coach at Mt. Rainier High School for both the Boys and Girls Teams.

If you are in need of refining any part of your golf game, Charles is ready to help you develop the proper technique and knowledge necessary to improve your golf skills. Please call Meadow Park Golf Course Pro Shop 253-473-3033 to schedule your golf lesson today.

Adult Lesson Prices:

Private 45 Minute Lesson $60.00 • Series of (3) Half Hours $125.00

Series of (5) Half Hours $200.00

Senior and Junior Lessons:

45 minute lessons $45.00 • Series of (3) Half Hour $125.00

Series of (5) Half Hours $200.00

Group Lessons: (4) Lessons of One Hour Each $120.00 per person

Skyridge Golf Course, Sequim

Kelly O’Mara – PGA Teaching Professional – 360-440-6335.

Kelly became the PGA Teaching pro at Skyridge GC in Sequim for the past five years. Certified Ping Club Fitter, and winner of Ping’s regional fitter of the year award. Was seen on KSTW TV for many years as the Golf Doc.

Twenty plus years experience teaching in the Northwest at some great clubs including Glenlede and Tacoma CC.

Can be contacted or followed on Facebook or Twitter. 360-440-6335.

Please call or email me at koglody@olypen.com for lesson or fitting pricing.

Senior and Junior discounts available.
Tacoma Firs Golf Center
Doug Gullikson — Class A PGA Member & Teaching Professional
Doug has been a golf professional at Canterwood Golf & CC, a Teaching Professional at Gold Mountain GC, and Director of Marketing PGA Section. Doug teaches all skill levels and makes learning the game an enjoyable experience. Teaching philosophy based on the principles of the golf swing – get down to the basics and go from there. Drill oriented instructor. Lessons are $60 per lesson. (253) 844-1751

Twin Lakes Golf and Country Club
Chris Johnson has been named as the new head golf professional at Twin Lakes Golf and Country Club in Federal Way.
Johnson returns to his hometown by taking the job. He graduated from nearby Decatur High School and played his junior golf at Twin Lakes while growing up. Johnson graduated from the San Diego Golf Academy and served as head professional at Fairwood Golf and Country Club for 10 years and Tacoma Firs Golf Center for two years.
Cost for lessons is $65 for 45 minute session.
Chris can be reached at 253-838-0345.

Best Public Golf Course on the Olympic Peninsula — Peninsula Daily News, 2010
The Discovery Bay Golf Club, five miles south of historic Port Townsend, is Washington’s oldest public golf course and is protected by the “Dub autos” of the Olympic rain shadow. The original nine holes opened in 1925 and in 1906 the back nine was added, designed by Michael Amundson who also designed the Home Course in DaPunt, WA. Since then new holes and greens have been completed on the original nine making Discovery Bay a 4,700 yard, par 73 layout offering a traditional, strategic golf challenge in an unpolished, natural setting. Discovery Bay is truly “a treasure to be discovered” in more ways than one.

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*May not have a GHIN Handicap in 2009-2010.
*Includes membership in an online WSGA club.
The game of golf was born on rugged, wind-swept land like this. Where every hole, every hazard, and every shot is defined by nature’s infinite presence. True links courses are rare, with only about 160 on the entire planet.

At Bandon Dunes Golf Resort, you’ll find four distinctly different courses built on a beautiful stretch of sand dunes perched 100 feet above the Pacific Ocean. Bandon Dunes and Pacific Dunes feature a dozen holes that run along the bluff overlooking 23 miles of sweeping, undisturbed shoreline. Bandon Trails begins on a massive dune, works its way through open meadows and upland forest, and then finishes in the dunes. Old Macdonald moves through dunes to ocean revealing breathtaking views throughout. The courses here weren’t built as much as discovered. Among the coastal forest, dunes and gorse, lie golf holes that yield fresh rewards each time they’re played.

Accommodations provide a refuge of relative seclusion. Chrome Lake Rooms offer double king and two-room lofts. Lily Pond Rooms offer two queen beds, while the Lodge offers single rooms and three suites, many with dramatic golf course views. Our Grove Cottages are designed specifically for a foursome of golfers, with four private rooms and a shared parlor and patio. The Inn at Bandon Dunes provides single king and double queen beds just a short walk from the Lodge.

Located on the property are full service restaurants, lounges, golf shops, hot tub, sauna, exercise room and locker rooms. A 32-acre practice center allows you to hone every shot required at Bandon Dunes and features a one-acre practice putting green and bunker practice area.

Bandon Dunes is 5 minutes from the seaside town of Bandon, just off Highway 101, and just 25 minutes from the Southwest Regional Airport in North Bend, served daily by flights from Portland and San Francisco.

Sandpines: Named Best New Course in U.S. in 1993

Nestled amidst wind swept sand dunes and towering pines, Sandpines Golf Links is a breathtaking location for coastal golf. The Rees Jones designed course was honored as the “Best New Public Course in America” in 1993. As one of the premier courses in the Northwest, Sandpines received a 4½ star rating from Golf Digest’s list of “Places to Play in the USA.”

The par 72, 7,190-yard course is a true test of the game to golfers of all levels. Both nines incorporate the beautifully rugged canvas that is the Central Oregon Coast. The outward nine is sculpted out of a forest of towering pines and majestic crystal blue lakes reminiscent of those found on the Monterey Peninsula. The inward nine, with its traditional

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links style brings you back to the soul of the game, with the rolling dunes at the forefront from tee to green.

Our 9,000 square foot clubhouse is now open with the Tavolo Restaurant & Lounge as the centerpiece featuring breathtaking views of the golf course and fresh, local cuisine. The golf shop offers the latest in golf equipment, apparel, and accessories for both men and women. A second phase will include a boutique hotel with spa and banquet facilities.

Bandon Crossings: A change of pace on the Oregon Coast

From an Inside Golf reader who recently played Bandon Crossings: I love Bandon Golf! I love the quaint town and the ocean views. My golf budget however struggles so I looked for a solution. I found one: Bandon Crossings is an answer to budgetary woes and what a course this budget affords.

I knew I had not stepped away from quality golf when I saw the first-rate practice facility and the line of mature cypress trees. This is all just from the parking lot. Standing on the first tee you can see that there is a little bit of elevation change. My first round I had no idea how much the property moves. The course wanders through nearly treeless land on the north, and moves into a forest setting to the south, with a challenge with every shot. Although there is only 80 feet of total elevation change, there is seldom a completely flat lie. The par-3’s are magnificent, from the 60 foot drop on number 14 into a bottomland flanked by two small creeks, to No. 17 that must carry over a pond.

The 18th hole finishes one of the best gambling holes of all time. If you don’t get a good drive you’ll have to lay up on your second shot leaving your partner the opportunity to go for the green on this par-5. The 80-yard array of cuts across the fairway at 200 yards out insists that you have your best stroke or you may lose much more than a golf ball.

Next time I want to come back with some buddies and stay in A Home on the Range, a big sprawling farm house right at the driving range or maybe an oceanfront home right in town. I will be back.

Salmon Run: Panoramic views and lots of water challenges

Salmon Run Golf Course is a golf retreat unlike any other in the Pacific Northwest. Located in beautiful Brookings Harbor and set in a maturely wooded area, this course is accentuated by panoramic views of the surrounding countryside. Golf Digest ranked this course as one of the most beautiful and challenging courses in Oregon. Salmon Run’s name originates from the Chetco River, which runs alongside this course and is one of the largest salmon spawning rivers in the country. During spawning season, hundreds of fish can routinely be seen making their way upstream. Fearless golfers only need apply.

The Feel of the Course

If you are fearless the fun begins right away. They start you off with the Salmon Spawn Hole, a par four that requires a well positioned tee shot. Don’t go too far off the tee as the fairway narrows dramatically. The signature hole is the Lombard Street Hole or fourth hole
Southern Oregon Coast

and has an island green that may be one of the prettiest holes in golf. The bridge crossing from the seventh green to the eighth tee provides one of many opportunities to view the spawning salmon during the fall, winter and spring months.

There is lots of water and many beautiful creeks. Playing Salmon Run is like island hopping, and many of the holes have some very impressive elevation changes. Your tee is sometimes located on a cliff with a grand view of the fairway and the wilderness area below. Narrow fairways abound with trees.

Ocean Dunes: Golf played under a variety of conditions

Ocean Dunes was built by noted architect William Robinson to be fair yet challenging under a variety of conditions. Emerald fairways wind over, around, and through wild dunes bordered by Goose, Heather, Shore Pines and native Sea Grasses. Pot bunkers guarding small greens and narrow fairways serve to both confound and delight the enthusiasts who play here. And, if you’re really lucky, the wind might blow - as they say in Scotland, “Nay wind, nay golf.” As with any true links, the course is extremely well drained and playable - even under the wettest conditions – year round.

The coastal climate in Florence is mild. Not too hot in Summer, and not too cold in Winter. The Old Town area is especially picturesque, with fine lodgings, restaurants, and galleries. Many other attractions such as Heceta Head Lighthouse are just minutes away.

USGA Championships: Bandon Dune Resort will host a pair

The United States Golf Association will hit the Southern Oregon Coast this year with a pair of championships in the Men’s and Women’s Public Links Championships. The events will take place at the same time on the Bandon Trails and Old Macdonald courses. The events will be held June 27-July 2. A total of 156 men and 156 women will play through two rounds of qualifying before the fields will be cut to the low 64 for men and women for match play. It marks the return of the USGA to the Bandon Dunes Resort.

The USGA played its Curtis Cup in 2006 at Bandon Dunes and then returned with the U.S. Men’s Mid-Amateur in 2007. The event will draw the top amateurs from around the country who are not associated with private clubs. The men’s defending champion Lion Kim won’t be back to defend as he will turn pro this summer but the women’s defending champ Emily Tubert of California will be back to win a second straight championship.

New course coming: Bandon Dunes will welcome par-3 course

Bandon Dunes resort will add a fifth course to its mix next year when a new 13-hole par-3 golf course will open up next to the Bandon Trails clubhouse. The course, designed by Ben Crenshaw and partner Bill Coore, will feature holes from 85 yards to nearly 200 yards and most will have views of the Pacific Ocean. The reason for 13 holes? It just seemed to fit the plans, said David Zinkand of the Coore-Crenshaw design group. The first tee will be located right outside the door of the Bandon Trails clubhouse and the courses will wind toward the ocean and back again.
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