

PGA BEST PRACTICES: PLAYER DEVELOPMENT

Start Sessions of Get Golf Ready With Get-Togethers



Patricia Henry is an LPGA teaching professional at Jimmy Clay and Roy Kaiser Golf Courses in Texas, which are municipal facilities.

Golf can be an intimidating venture, particularly for women, and it only adds to the angst when you're taking a clinic with a group of strangers. For that reason, I decided to host a social gathering, a meet-and-greet if you will, in the days leading up to my women's Get Golf Ready classes. The goal is to help the ladies get more familiar with one another and be more comfortable when we go out to the range for the first session. One of the first times I hosted such an event, I held it at a local salon with a makeup artist. The women received some sample cosmetic items and makeup tips while we sat, drink wine, ate hors d'oeuvres and chatted. I called it "The Blush Hour." I wanted to provide a relaxed atmosphere where I could get to know the ladies and they could get to know me as person, not just their golf instructor. Another time I hosted an event like this, I held it a wine-making studio called Water to Wine, where the ladies actually got to make their own wines and do some tastings.

We operate out of municipal facilities, so we don't have a spa or any of the resort-type amenities that other courses may enjoy. If you're at a resort or private course, this is something you could easily host right on site at the spa or poolside. These events are a great way to soften what can be an unsettling and intimidating situation.

For more information on Get Golf Ready and other PGA Player Development programs, please visit the Player Development page on PGALinks.com.



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