



PGA™



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Play Golf America University Schools to Send Teams to the National Collegiate Golf Championship Nov. 6-8 in Las Vegas

PALM BEACH GARDENS, Fla. – Students from 16 Play Golf America University schools will compete in the National Collegiate Golf Championship Nov. 6-8 (Friday-Sunday) at Silverstone Golf Club in Las Vegas, Nev. The National Collegiate Golf Championship (NCGC) is a Collegiate Golf Alliance (CGA) initiative and endorsed by the National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association (NIRSA). A total of 53 student teams representing 50 schools and 23 states are registered to compete for the Championship, including the 16 Play Golf America University teams.

Play Golf America University, formerly known as GOLF: For Business & Life, is a PGA of America college and university golf program, designed to teach and engage college and graduate students in the game of golf through PGA Professional instruction. The PGA of America renamed and expanded the program with additional recreational sport elements, including a partnership with the Collegiate Golf Alliance (CGA) to deliver on-campus playing opportunities as a next step for students learning the game.

"I am pleased to see that many of our member institutions are participating in the National Collegiate Golf Championship," said Tom Templin, Co-Director of the Play Golf America University Program. "Through their involvement in hosting local scramble events and other recreation sport activities, these colleges and universities have moved Play Golf America University to a new level of student participation in the great game of golf".

The CGA and NIRSA promote and market the National Championship to over 750 colleges and universities making this the premier recreational college golf event. In 2009, there were more than 5,000 participants with more than 400 qualifying for the National Championship. Over 250 colleges and universities were represented in local qualifying events, making this CGA and NIRSA event the largest golf event in the country.

"We are very excited to be able to expand the NCGC program to include the Play Golf America University schools which will allow more schools the opportunity to participate and compete," CGA's President and CEO Mike Munson said. "The thrill of competing for your university is now available to more students and the excitement and competitive spirit at the National Championship will be at an all time high in 2009."

There are 32 players representing Play Golf America University schools, who advanced to the National Championship by winning the two-person scramble local qualifying events. Play Golf America University schools represented this weekend include:

- Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College
- University of Alabama

- University of Arizona
- Arizona State University
- Georgia Tech University
- University of Illinois
- University of Kentucky
- University of Oklahoma
- Oklahoma State University
- University of San Diego
- Texas Tech University
- University of Nevada-Las Vegas
- University of Texas
- University of Wisconsin
- University of West Florida
- Western Kentucky University

The National Collegiate Golf Championship includes a Pairings Party at Gameworks, along with the Skills Challenge, almost Golf Short Course Championship, Practice Round and the National Championship round at Silverstone Golf Club.

Play Golf America University

Since its conception, The PGA of America has distributed \$7.3 million to 76 colleges and universities throughout the country participating in Play Golf America University (formerly GOLF: For Business & Life), including \$6.1 million on behalf of members of the U.S. Ryder Cup Teams as a means to support this initiative. PGA Professionals have provided instruction to more than 27,000 college students through this program since 1999.

About The PGA of America

Since 1916, The PGA of America's mission has been twofold; to establish and elevate the standards of the profession and to grow interest and participation in the game of golf. By establishing and elevating the standards of the golf profession through world-class education, career services, marketing and research programs, the Association enables PGA Professionals to maximize their performance in their respective career paths and showcases them as experts in the game and in the multi-billion dollar golf industry. By creating and delivering dramatic world-class championships and exciting and enjoyable golf promotions that are viewed as the best of their class in the golf industry, The PGA of America elevates the public's interest in the game, the desire to play more golf, and ensures accessibility to the game for everyone, everywhere. The PGA of America brand represents the very best in golf.

About the CGA

CGA was formed by a group of recreational professionals from two major universities on the West Coast with an extensive background and passion for golf. The purpose of the CGA is to provide the resources and services for the development of golf programs primarily on college campus. Tools, resources and customized management packages are available to help develop golf programs, affiliate golf interest clubs, lessons, clinics, fundraising tournaments, non-competitive outings, and social functions in your community.

NIRSA

The National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association is:

- The leader in accessing college and university students through recreational sports and fitness programming.
- More than 75% of students report use of the recreational sports programs and facilities on campus. That's almost 12 million participants per year.
- The leader in promotion of recreational sports events on college campuses. NIRSA hosts national intramural/sport club championship programs in five different sports plus a national training and fitness program.
- The leader in professional training for individuals leading campus recreation, intramural and sport club programs.
- Through its annual conference and national workshops, NIRSA sets the standards for professionalism in collegiate recreational sports.