

THE OAKS

INTERNATIONAL JUNIOR GOLF ACADEMY

FEBRUARY 2018

IJGA Hosts
WAVES WORKSHOP
for Student-Athletes

IJGA TO HOST
PRESTIGIOUS GLOBAL
JUNIOR GOLF EVENT

STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS

Kotara Murata
Haruka Shintani

CURRENT RENOVATIONS
to Pinecrest and Old Carolina
are on schedule

STAFF PROFILE

Shawn Mehring

VIDEO LINKS...

- ▶ Performance Training
- ▶ WAVES Workshop



- ▶ Check out the Interior of the IJGA Performance Center

IJGA Hosts WAVES Workshop



IJGA is committed to helping students grow in golf, school and life; and emphasizes this leadership development to help facilitate growth in all areas.

for Student-Athletes



IJGA hosted a WAVES workshop for student-athletes to develop character and leadership and affect positive change within the IJGA and surrounding communities.

The IJGA WAVES Program is a character education and leadership program. Director of Student Life Erin Elliott, and Mental Conditioning Coach Skylar Jewel presented students with goals for the upcoming semester and made suggestions on how to achieve those goals through teamwork and character development. Students were given a chance to realize their leadership potential and what being a leader means, not only within the IJGA community, but also in Bluffton and Hilton Head Island communities.

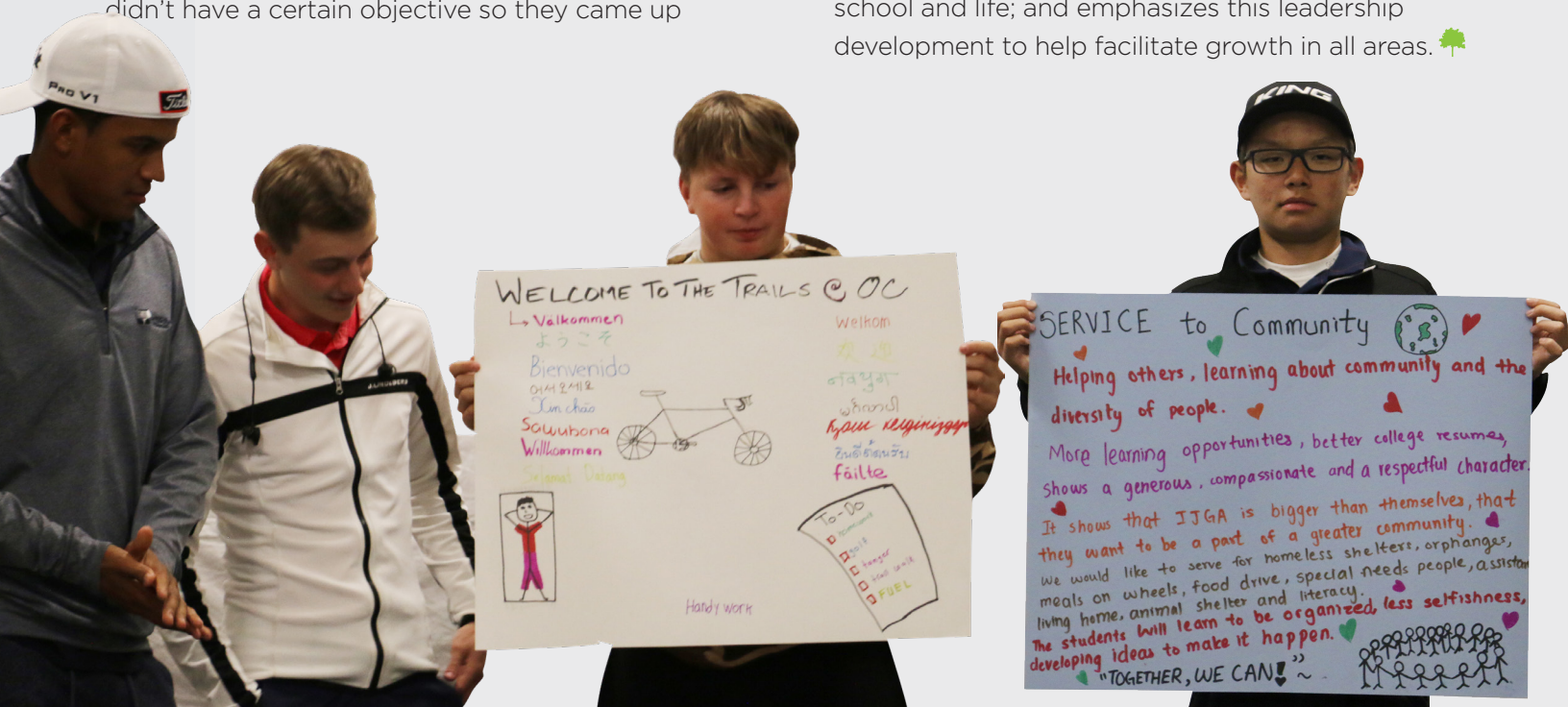
Students were split into five groups, all focusing on a certain aspect of leadership. The first group focused on how they could improve the various trails at Old Carolina (making the trails useable for pedestrians and cyclists). The second group had the task of organizing a book of records, where student accomplishments can be recorded and kept for years to come. The third group worked together and found ways to serve and make a difference in the community. The fourth group focused on student council/leadership in which they recognized leadership opportunities. The fifth group didn't have a certain objective so they came up

with various ways to improve IJGA and student life, including introduction to the arts, networking, maintaining a positive self-image, improved communication and learning valuable life skills.

All of these groups had to work together to create a presentation - another lesson in communication and teamwork.

The evening ended with a fun group exercise. Each group was given an egg and entasked with protecting the egg from breaking during an egg drop from the balcony of the IJGA Performance Center. At the end of the workshop one member from each team dropped the egg from the balcony to see whether or not it would break.

This first WAVES event gave IJGA student-athletes a voice and taught them some components of becoming a successful leader within the IJGA and surrounding community. The WAVES program kicked off the leadership development program for the spring, and it will continue throughout the semester. IJGA is committed to helping students grow in golf, school and life; and emphasizes this leadership development to help facilitate growth in all areas. 🌱





IJGA to Host Prestigious Global Junior Golf event

Released by Global Junior Golf

International Junior Golf Academy (IJGA) will host a prestigious Global Junior Golf (GJG) event in December 2018, which opens the gates for international players to experience WAGR ranked tournaments in the U.S. The American GJG 'tournament swing', also includes a tournament near Bishops Gate Golf Academy (BGGA), and will give juniors more possibilities to play on the home soil of college coaches, which ultimately helps their college placement process. IJGA will showcase the event not far away from its Bluffton Campus. GJG members will have the chance to visit and explore IJGA. Additionally, special packages will be available for GJG members to train at IJGA, introducing them to the full expertise of IJGA's coaching team led by Jonathan Yarwood. GJG is very proud to offer their members extra value over the off-season with this future premier junior tournament.

IJGA will be listed from 2018 onwards as a Global Junior Golf Performance Center.

GJG accepts only premium academies from around the world as GJG Performance Centers, which deliver top professional training facilities and a family atmosphere for juniors, so juniors can ultimately chase their golf and collegiate dreams. IJGA has a long history of building top juniors and has helped players from around the world to achieve successful college careers. It is a great honor that IJGA is now connected and will be able to share training and education resources and expertise to all GJG members around the world!

IJGA alumni include Morgan Hoffmann, Shanshan Feng, Song-Hee Kim, Pablo Larrazabal, In-Kyung Kim, Stephanie Meadow to name a few.



Left to right: Morgan Hoffmann, Shanshan Feng, Maria Jose Uribe, Pablo Larrazabal, Stephanie Meadow, In-Kyung Kim.

A big thank you to **Ms. Lee-Anne Misseldine, CEO of International Junior Sports & Education Advisors (IJSA)** and her staff for promoting junior golf. GJG took the opportunity to have a quick interview with Lee-Anne about the upcoming exciting endeavors:

GJG: Lee-Anne, once again a big thank you from the GJG family for promoting junior golf and for the exiting extended partnership. How do you feel about the new endeavors?

Lee-Anne: It has been a pleasure working with Global Junior Golf for the last couple of years. We have been so impressed by the passion and professionalism of the team and feel very aligned in our values and mission for growing junior golf. This new partnership, expanding into IJGA and bringing GJG events to the USA, was a natural progression for our already successful partnership and we are very excited for the new opportunities this will bring to our students and GJG members.

GJG: Please introduce International Junior Golf Academy to the GJG family.

Lee-Anne: IJGA is a very well established brand in junior golf, with a rich history over 20 years. At IJGA we believe in developing the whole person—the athlete, the student and the young adult. Emphasizing both intensive training and scholastic achievement through the nationally accredited Heritage Academy, IJGA has produced some of the best junior golfers playing within the

American Junior Golf Association (AJGA). As a result, nearly all of our students receive college scholarships to the top collegiate golf programs in the United States. Highly sought after, the diverse student body represents 28 countries as athletes and scholars. The golf team is led by Jonathan Yarwood, a UK PGA Master Professional with over 20 year's experience in developing some of the world's best juniors. Set in the golf paradise of Hilton Head, IJGA is ideal for players wanting to accelerate their progress and develop their game.

student-athletes for their programs and rely on our recommendations to make recruiting decisions. We will be inviting as many college coaches as possible to attend our event to give exposure to the players and showcases their abilities.

GJG: During each event, players and parents will have the chance to attend Lecturing nights about College Golf and Academy life. Can you give some advise on how players should prepare for these educational sessions? Do they need to bring any information



GJG: The goal of the “American tournament Swing” of Global Junior Golf is that juniors have a chance to meet each of your academies (BGGA & IJGA) and additionally play top international tournaments. Can you tell us something about the hosting golf courses and each of the tournaments?

Lee-Anne: We are so excited to be hosting two Global Junior Golf events in December of 2018, both which will be operated in partnership with the International Junior Golf Tour (IJGT). The first will be in Hilton Head, South Carolina, one of the most prestigious golf regions of the U.S., followed by an event in Central Florida, close to BGGA. At this time we are working to secure both courses, which will be highly ranked courses, providing excellent challenges and conditions. Both events will be powered by IJGA and BGGA respectively. We expect to have course confirmations in early March and look forward to those exciting announcements.

GJG: Can players expect that college coaches will attend the event?

Lee-Anne: IJGA is a premier junior program, with a strong network of college coach relationships and connections. Coaches are always looking for good

with them? And do you have any advice on how to approach college coaches?

Lee-Anne: The college recruitment process is complex and potentially overwhelming. Some students are unable to approach a coach due to NCAA rules, which restrict communication with students under a certain grade. At each academy, we will be conducting in-depth educational sessions to outline the process and provide practical tools to help student and families create their college plan. It would be helpful to bring your golf resume updated with academic scores such as GPA, SAT and TOEFL scores.

GJG: IJGA has produced some very successful alumni students. Who are some of your alumni, and from which part of the world do juniors attend IJGA?

Lee-Anne: We have students and alumni from all over the world, who have been successful in their collegiate and professional golf careers, as well as many who went on to pursue their passion in a number of other areas. The purpose of IJGA is to prepare our students not just for golf, but also for life, and give them the tools to be their very best, not matter what their path. 🌳



WHAT DRIVES YOU?

Kotara Murata

When it comes to golf and academics, I really push myself. I constantly have high expectations for myself and that drives me to be better. I am driven by my desire to be better and always improve. After every tournament, I try to evaluate what went wrong, what I could have done differently and what I will do differently next time.

grade Senior

cats or dogs? Dogs. I have one dog at home named Cha Cha.

who's your favorite golfer?

I really admire Tiger Woods because of his physical and mental strength on the course.

favorite sport besides golf?

Soccer

favorite movie? Jumanji (2017)

favorite meal? Ramen

favorite clothing brand? I'm not into fashion, so I don't have a favorite.

favorite golf course? Augusta National Golf Club in Georgia

which tournament would you most like to win? The Masters.

why are you passionate about golf? I really like playing a sport that I can constantly improve upon and that pushes me.

how did you start playing golf?

My father has been taking me to golf courses since I was young. He was the one who introduced me to golf.

how has IJGA improved your golf game? My golf swing has definitely improved since being at IJGA. I can hit farther and straighter now.

what are your golf goals?

My goals are to be on the Tour and then become the best in the world.

what is the best piece of advice you've ever received?

Don't forget your first resolution.

what are some plans you have for the future?

I want to go to college and get my degree in business. I then want to play on the PGA Tour for as long as I can. After I retire I want to travel the world, climb mountains and enjoy nature as much as possible.

what do you do to prepare for a tournament? I meditate to clear my head and drink lots of water before every tournament.

what has been the biggest challenge in your life?

Learning English has been the biggest challenge for me. When I came to IJGA last April I barely knew any English, and now I am almost fluent.

what have you enjoyed most about IJGA? I have really enjoyed making friends from all over the world. It is really nice to be able to meet people that I would have never met otherwise.

Haruka Shintani

My ultimate goal is to play on the LPGA Tour, and every day I am driven to get there by my family. They help me look toward my goal of becoming a professional, and I am driven to get there because of their love and support. Every time I am out on the course, I try to do my best, to make my family proud.

WHAT DRIVES YOU?

grade Senior

cats or dogs? Dogs. I have one dog at home.

who's your favorite golfer? Lee Bo-mee, a female golfer from South Korea. I like her because she is kind and plays very well. She is my role model.

favorite sport besides golf? Table tennis

favorite food? Sushi

favorite clothing brand? Dior. I love designer clothes.

favorite golf course? Any of the courses at St. Andrew's Golf Links in Scotland. It's so beautiful there and the courses are incredible!

which tournament would you most like to win? Women's Open

why are you passionate about golf? I like golf because it really pushes me both mentally and physically.

how has IJGA improved your golf game? The friends I have met at IJGA have really helped me become a better golfer. I have discovered that I need a strong group of friends and family supporting me to make me a better golfer. I'm grateful for all of my friends' suggestions and words of encouragement.

what are your golf goals? Be the best golfer in the world. Period!

what is the best piece of advice you've ever received? Be nice to everyone and everything. And follow your heart.

what do you do to prepare for a tournament? I sleep a lot and eat plenty of foods that will give me energy.

what has been the biggest challenge in your life? Leaving my country was very hard. It took me a long time to adjust to living in a new place.

what have you enjoyed most about IJGA? I have really enjoyed making friends.





Current Renovations to Pinecrest and Old Carolina are on schedule.

Here's a list of the current rounds of renovation.

Pinecrest Golf Club

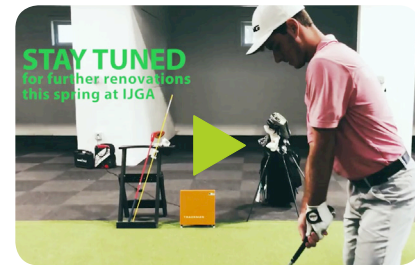
Under construction, ready by May

1. Cart path has been rerouted to allow members to use back range only, giving IJGA exclusive access to the front range which is being redeveloped.
2. We have built a 20,000 sq. ft. new training tee, featuring both flat and undulating lies to improve skill transfer.
3. We are building a new green and bunker zone in the right corner of the existing tee. This allows for more pitching, chipping and bunker skill options.
4. We are taking out some cart paths and filling them in to create more chipping and pitching areas.
5. We will picket fence, zone and brand the whole area as IJGA.
6. We will create a unique 'pitching field' consisting of shallow, random and small target bunkers to hone the skill of landing zones in pitching.

IJGA's Old Carolina Centralized Campus

Under construction, ready by May

1. Coupled with the IJGA Performance Center, our new state-of-the-art indoor training facility, we are developing a six green, random-tee short game 'Challenge' course at Old Carolina This will be outside Fuel and work its way around the lake. It offers holes of lengths between forty to one hundred and forty yards, the crucial 'scoring zone shots' that we talk about in our *Sub288 Golf Course Management system*. To add to the 'Challenge', we are including undulating and sloped tees to hone skills off slopes which is often overlooked.



Note: The par 3 challenge course is a great addition which will be utilized during Summer Camp as well as the Academy program, and also occasionally by the local community via family days.

2. We are creating a Himalayas putting green. This is based on the famous green at St. Andrews of the same name, and will feature large undulations to create great challenge and problem solving solutions. 🌲



Shawn Mehring

IJGA Director of Performance Training

Describe your role at IJGA. I am the Director of Performance Training, but it's so much more than that. I program and design all things strength and conditioning for our student-athletes. On top of training and conditioning, I am trained to assess injuries both on and off the golf course, and offer in-the-moment mobility and stretching exercises.

What's your favorite part of the job?

My favorite part of my job is being able to work with students from all over the world. I love learning new languages and discovering new cultures. Exercise is a universal language. It's great to see people from all over the world working together and encouraging each other.

What's the best advice you've ever received? Always trust your gut. I've found that the first decision you make is usually the best one.

Favorite thing to do in your free time?

Workout (personal fitness is incredibly important to me), cooking and spending time with my wife and son.

If you could live anywhere in the world, where would it be and why? I would live somewhere in the Caribbean. I love the nice, warm weather they have there and I'm a big beach person. I don't like feeling rushed, and prefer a slower and more relaxed lifestyle.

Favorite home-cooked food? Any of my wife's made-from-scratch cakes.

What are your must-have items for a good workout? A barbell, something to throw, dumb bells, kettle bells and a positive attitude.

Favorite movie of all time? Any of the Harry Potter movies.

Favorite sport besides golf? Baseball. I've played since I was 5 years old, played in high school and college and still play on the Savannah Adult Baseball League.

What fitness advice would you give seniors after they graduate from IJGA?

Don't focus on a certain area of development in the gym, do it all. A lot of people get obsessed with vanity (muscles, looks), but it's more important to think about how those muscles work for your body. Remember to watch your diet, but also remember, everything in moderation. 🌿

Three fun facts about me:

- 1 I was adopted from Romania.
- 2 I'm more introverted than extroverted.
- 3 I've always been interested in music. I play four instruments, played jazz band in high school, sang in choir and almost majored in music in college to become a studio musician.

Interested in our Academy program or Camp? Click below for more information.

