

THE OAKS

INTERNATIONAL JUNIOR GOLF ACADEMY

JANUARY 2018

GRAND OPENING IJGA PERFORMANCE CENTER

IJGA 2017 FALL SEMESTER SUCCESS

STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS

Leo Hernandez

Rekgabile Nyhonyha

STAFF PROFILE

Erin Elliott

VIDEO LINKS TO...

- ▶ Renovated Performance Center
- ▶ Tips with Director of Golf Jonathan Yarwood
- ▶ Benchmarking & Blueprinting



VIDEO TIPS
with Director of Golf
Jonathan Yarwood



IJGA Performance Center Grand Opening

Last month, IJGA opened the doors of the **IJGA Performance Center** to the Old Carolina community and families of students. The revitalization of the Old Carolina Barn into a world class golf training center is ongoing. Stay tuned for completed interior photos! 🌲



Performance Center Video



HERE ARE SOME FUN FACTS:

- Volume of the barn is 1.5X the Goodyear Blimp
- Over one half acre of floor space
- Sixty golf balls per minute can be struck from the Power Tee hitting bays
- Putting area is the equivalent to the size of the 18th green at Harbour Town Links
- 600 sq. ft. Performance Studio powered by Swing Catalyst

Minami Levonowich

(IJGA Class of 2011) is starting the year off right in the TLPGA Tour.

Levonowich started 2018 playing for the Taiwan Ladies Professional Golf Association (TLPGA) at the Hitachi Ladies Classic in Taiwan on January 12-14. She scored a 73 in her first round, a 76 in her second round and a 77 in her third round.

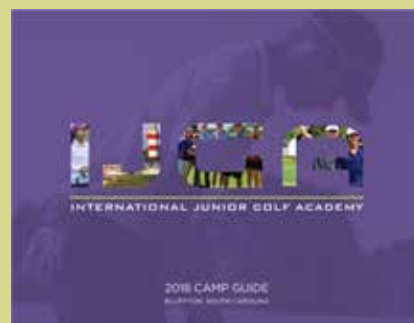
Because of her outstanding accomplishments on the course, Levonowich will be flying to Kuala Lumpur to participate in the Korean Golf Channel's TV reality show/golf challenge *Finding Cinderella of 2018 KLPGA Tour*.

Levonowich is one of 12 female pro golfers to participate in this unique show broadcast on Korean television and in other countries across Asia for the first time. The top two contestants of the show will earn the privilege to play in 10 Korean Ladies Professional Golf Association (KLPGA) events in 2018.

We look forward to hearing more great things to come from our awesome alum Minami, and we wish her the best of luck on her TLPGA journey. 🌳



Interested in our Academy program or Camp?
Click on the Admissions and Camp Guides below.



IJGA 2017 Fall Semester Success

2017 was a great year for IJGA. The changes were vast and profound. Structurally, our Old Carolina facilities are nearing completion. The buzz of saws continues to hum even now as we write this from our new IJGA offices. Soon enough the construction crews with their hammers and nails will be replaced by students in the new IJGA Performance Center with golf clubs and balls - all eager to become better every day. Athletically, our energetic and committed Golf Coaching Team has revitalized the training development program. Personally, our passionate and dedicated Student Life Team recently initiated the final touches on a character, leadership and engagement program.

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Welcoming Director of Golf **Jonathan Yarwood**, and his years of professional and junior golf experience, was the most significant change for students. Jonathan added new coaches to the existing team to enhance the golf program, incorporating fact-based fundamentals with the latest technology to give our

students the best available knowledge to help them improve their game. The new, comprehensive program goes much deeper than standard training. The results the students saw and the pace at which they improved made the hard work all worthwhile to them.



The hard work has clearly paid off with the following tournament wins as proof:

- 1) Florida Junior at Falcons Fire won by **Luis Martinez**
- 2) Faldo Series South Carolina Championship at Parris Island won by **Fabienne Van Kleef**
- 3) Central Florida Classic at Lake Buena Vista won by **Chase Phillips**
- 4) Island Open at Dolphin Head Golf Club won by **Kotaro Murata**

To go along with these wins, IJGA students also finished the semester with **eight 2nd place finishes** and **nine 3rd place finishes**.



Paired with the new program, we made some tremendous structural improvements around the campus starting with a complete renovation of the old barn. The Bluffton Barn started its life as an equine facility, before changing into a golf pro shop for the old Traditions golf course. Projected to be completed in the first quarter of 2018, this beautiful former barn will once again transform into the IJGA Performance Center, our state-of-the-art indoor training facility. The “revitalization” started with the old pro shop being converted into the new office space, but the more important aspect of the renovation has been taking place in the back half starting with a indoor putting/chipping green the size of the 18th green at Harbour Town Golf Links. Along with the green, we have installed individual hitting bays, taking advantage of the new Power Tee system; these tee’s automatically feed up to 60 golf balls per minute, enabling students to really focus on locking in new swing changes. Potentially the most important enhancement will be the 600-square foot IJGA Performance Studio that will house the Swing Catalyst force plate system, making us one of the only indoor facilities to have this system available for junior golfers. At our home course, Pinecrest, the renovations continue.

We are remodeling the practice facility at the course to accommodate the extensive new golf program; expanding the hitting area on the driving range, as well as adding new bunkers and an improved putting green will give our students a wider array of training situations, and therefore the upper hand going into tournaments.

We are committed to building on the foundations laid over the course of the school year’s first five months and will continue to strive for excellence in golf, in academics and in life.

While a robust golf program and supportive facilities are paramount to success in the game, IJGA takes pride in our focus on the development of the individual as well, understanding that positive character traits are important in life and in the game of golf. With this focus, fall semester saw the introduction of the Captain Program, inspiring student leaders within their peer groups to create positive change at the Academy. In addition, our Student Life and Mental Performance programs work in tandem to host character-building events, such as “Waves”, to encourage students to think about their strengths and how those strengths can be utilized both personally and on the golf course. In the spring semester, IJGA students will begin a leadership development program called Habitudes. Used within many university athletic programs, Habitudes will challenge students to develop leadership skills - preparing them to be as sound in character as they are in golf ability.

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WHAT DRIVES YOU?

Leo Hernandez

My parents drive me to succeed. Without their support I definitely wouldn't be where I am today. I'm grateful for all of the sacrifices they have made for me.

from New Jersey, USA

grade Senior

why did you choose IJGA?

I wanted to improve as much as I could so I could have the chance to go play golf in college.

best part of your game?

Driver, I always feel like I can keep it in play off the tee.

favorite golfer?

Luke Donald

favorite golf course?

North Berwick West Links in North Berwick, UK

goals for golf?

Play on the PGA Tour

VIDEO TIPS

Benchmarking and Blueprinting



It is so exciting to enter the new semester here at IJGA. As you may know, our individual coaching program is guided by gathering facts on each player and creating a fact-based roadmap of improvement. At the start of first semester we conducted a week long Benchmarking and Blueprinting study. We have done the same thing at the start of this semester to measure improvement and to provide the current location on the developmental map of each student.

During the benchmarking process, the students go through a battery of tests using the science and art side of the game. The science side includes Trackman, 3D, BodiTrak, SAM PuttLab and Video.

From this technology we can make an informed choice rather than an opinionated guess as to what the player needs to do. It also has the advantage of allowing us to measure progress. We measure the art side, although this data is less quantitative and more qualitative. We test putting skills, pre-shot routines, shaping shots, different lies, mental awareness as well as hold a two-day tournament. Along with a robust physical screening in the gym, we have a comprehensive approach which encompasses all the skills and disciplines in this complicated game.



BENCHMARKING

Benchmarking video

The roadmap we create we call a blueprint. It is delivered in a round table format by the coaching staff and specialists involved during the testing. Each student has a consultation slot and listens to the

evidence as well as the solutions to what they do. It is as enlightening for the coaches as it is for the students, and creates team collaboration which is what makes IJGA so special.

Blueprinting video

Then we begin to implement each individual's blueprinting plan. We are currently undertaking two weeks of technical training. This is where we make the changes and adjustments to the nuts and bolts to gain a more reliable technique which can work under pressure. What follows is a period known as blending, in which we then trust the new mechanics and start to use them in earnest.

It has been a well planned and well received process so far and we look forward to the continued improvement of our students.

*Director of Golf
Jonathan Yarwood*



BLUEPRINTING



Rekgabile Nyhonyha

My dad drives me to be the best I can be. I hope someday I can be like him; he's been with me since day one and he is my role model. I am so grateful to both of my parents for sacrificing so much for me and allowing me to pursue my dreams.

from Johannesburg, South Africa

grade Junior

why did you choose IJGA?

The coaches here work so hard to make you better. The facilities are also very impressive and it's cool to be able to use the latest technology to improve my golf game.

best part of your game?

My short game.

favorite golfer?

Dustin Johnson

favorite golf course?

Bethpage State Park Black Course in Farmingdale, New York

goals for golf?

To get my scoring average under 75. Ultimately play in college and then on tour.

Erin Elliott

Erin has been with IJGA for six years and we couldn't be prouder to have her as our Director of Student Life as well as Admissions and Academics. Student development is one of the highest priorities so having a strong student life team is paramount to achieve this and Erin has been vital in building that team. Aside from all the work Erin tackles in the office, let's get to know a little more about Erin outside of work.



Describe your role at IJGA? I support students from start to finish. To begin, I help welcome all students through the admissions process - ensuring accurate record keeping of all paperwork. Once here, I oversee all student life operations - housing, transportation, dining/nutrition, activities, and student developmental programming. I also liase with Heritage to ensure students' academic success. Ideally, as students finish their time at IJGA, we are looking forward to the year end senior celebrations as they march towards graduation.

What's your favorite part about your job? The students, learning about them and from them. A close second is the people I work with - they are amazing! IJGA family is real and alive!

What's the best piece of advice you have ever received? My college advisor was really good at getting me - always reminded me to not take things personally. It took me awhile to understand that and use it, but it's stuck with me ever since.

Favorite sport besides golf? I love to watch football - my dad and I still watch all the Colts games together - even though we live so far from one another.

What is your favorite home-cooked meal? My grandma's chili!

What is always stocked in your refrigerator? Water and Brussel sprouts. No joke.

If you could live anywhere in the world, where would it be and why? I can't think of just one place. For me it's all about the people around me. Wherever my family and friends are - take me there.

Is there anything you are addicted to? Or can't live without? My bike (road not motor). I cannot get enough miles in ever.

What movie do you watch again and again? Finding Forrester.

What are three things we DON'T know about you?

- 1 I am a writer. My friends are constantly asking when the book will be finished.
- 2 I am an introvert through and through (most people don't believe this because I can and will be extroverted for work). But my shoes off personality is introverted.
- 3 One of my life goals is to ride my bike across the USA - coast to coast.



Special Junior Golf Offer!

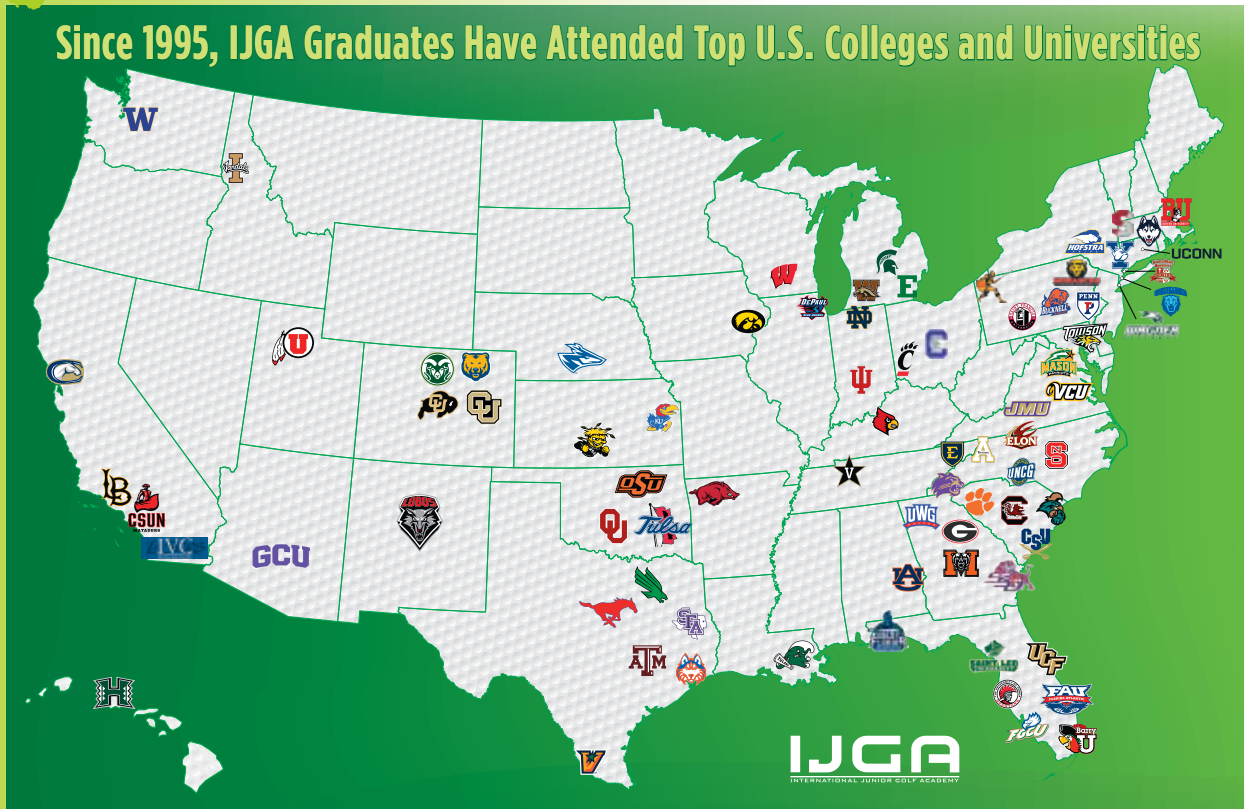
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Don't miss a minute of the action - Junior Golf is the must have magazine for anyone serious about succeeding in the world of junior golf!

The IJGA Legacy

We get results. Our students go to Yale, they go to Oklahoma State, they go to Duke, but they also go to The Masters and The Olympic Games.



IJGA Colleges Attended



100% COLLEGE PLACEMENT 2017!

- 19 Graduates
- 19 Accepted To College
- 10 Scholarships
- 8 Division 1
- 2 Division 2

