



I am originally from Honolulu Hawaii. I have lived in Arizona for the last 37 years where I started golfing in 1974. I immediately loved the game and the challenge on that first day. Golf is the only sport that challenges your inner self. It is the only game that a novice and a pro can go out and play together.

In 1985 I joined the LPGA Teaching and Club Pro Division. Only then did I learn that I didn't know much about this game or about teaching the game. And I'm sure I still have a lot to learn. But I have learned a lot about the golf swing and the mental side of golf, allowing me to help others become better players through the teachings of the LPGA.

During my golfing years, I have won championships and many tournaments as an amateur. But none of them compare to teaching others and seeing the excitement of someone else's delight at their success.

One of my greatest accomplishments was coaching 6 beginning high school girls and seeing them place 2nd in the Western Arizona Divisional Championship their very first year and winning the Divisional title the next year. One of the girls is going to college with a full ride scholarship.

I have been involved in teaching Jr. Golfers for over 20 years. To my amazement, every once in a while I will meet a young adult and they will tell me that they went through my Jr. program and they are still golfing and enjoying the game. I have had quite a few second generation Jr. golfers in recent years. I get great deal of satisfaction knowing that I was a positive influence in their lives. I believe that golf is the best sport for young people to play. They learn the importance of respect and integrity in everyday life.

Not everyone will become golf professionals or end up with golf scholarships, but it is a game that families can play together. And a game you can play throughout your life. My philosophy of this game is that there is a purpose and a goal. The purpose is to enjoy the company you are with, have fun, and enjoy the beauty of the area. The goal is to be more consistent, shoot lower scores etc. But no matter how bad the game gets, the purpose of being there can never be taken away. So no matter how disappointed you might be on that particular day, it still had to be great day.

Berni Stump

LPGA Life Member