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Issue
TWO

Growing the game of golf, one child at a time.



NEWSLETTER



Letter from the Barry County Jr. Golf Association Board of Directors

Our mission is to impact lives of young people by providing learning facilities and educational programs that promote character-development and life-enhancing values through the game of golf. Using the game of golf as a tool, our goal is to teach youth the values of confidence, integrity, perseverance, sportsmanship, and teamwork.

Established in 2020, our Association has raised funds through donations from the community and the hard work of volunteers. To build on that success and to create perpetual support we created an endowment fund with the Barry Community Foundation. Donations provided to the Barry County Jr. Golf Association will primarily support the PGA Jr. League at The Legacy at Hastings and other youth golf associated programs in Barry County. We very much appreciate your support in growing this entity. In that spirit, we are including a donation envelope. Please give what you can. We certainly appreciate all support from our community partners.

We could not accomplish our goals without the help of The Legacy at Hastings. In the last three years the golf course has donated more than \$50,000.00 in greens fees, equipment, services, and driving range time to children who participate in our programs. In return, we hope you support The Legacy when you are choosing a place to golf or host a function. If you have questions or concerns about The Legacy, we encourage you to contact their General Manager, Grant Hansen at (269) 953-6038 or gm@legacyathastings.com.

Meet the Board

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Ronald J. Kloosterman

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Lynn Janson

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Lynn Janson



Jock Hopkins



Meet the Coaches

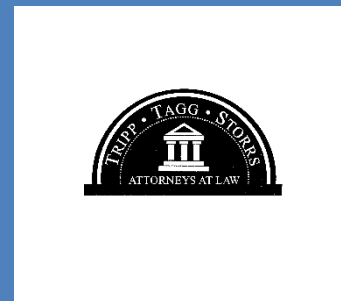
2023 PGA Jr. League

For the 2023 PGA Jr. season we were extremely fortunate to again have program founder and Michigan Golf Hall of Famer, Lynn Janson, back to lead the PGA Jr. League at The Legacy at Hastings. Coaches Janson and Hopkins provided exceptional instruction to the children and taught them valuable lessons for life and the game of golf.

Due to the immense support from our donors we were able to offer private lessons and a Youth on Course Membership (www.youthoncourse.org) to each of the children who participated in the program. In addition, the Barry County Jr. Golf Association reached an agreement with Coach Hopkins and Coach Janson to provide individual lessons to all our PGA Jr. Members at a reduced rate, paid for entirely by our Foundation. We were able to provide more than 100 lessons to the children. The value of those lessons were immense. We saw the results on the golf course and in the children's confidence levels.

Coach Janson and Coach Hopkins not only reduced their typical rate to make the lessons possible, but they also donated considerable time to the PGA Jr. Program as a whole. They were there for each practice and match throughout the season. Thankfully, they have both agreed to return for the Summer of 2024 to continue watching the children and program grow.

In addition to our coaches, our 2023 season would not have been possible without the support of our team sponsors, Cedar Creek Machinists Training, Kloosterman's Sports Tap, Tripp, Tagg & Storrs, Attorneys at Law and Hastings Fiberglass who sponsored the Hotsticks Team. We are very thankful for their financial support and investment in the youth of Barry County and our PGA Jr. League.



2023 YMCA Golf

The 2023 YMCA Golf at The Legacy at Hastings was a great success. Many children participated in the program and with the help of Coaches Josh Alderson and Nate Jansema and their staff, many of those children were introduced to the game of golf. The YMCA Golf League is not meant to be as competitive as PGA Jr. League. It's goal is to teach the children the basics of golf and proper etiquette. The children learned that and more. The amount of fun the children had could be heard by not only the coaches but also anyone living within earshot of the golf course. We are looking forward to an exciting 2024 season of partnering with the YMCA.

2023 TEAM ROSTERS

<i>Tripp, Tagg & Storrs</i>	<i>Hastings Hotsticks</i>
Landon Bowman, Kenzie McKeough, Kylie McKeough, Flynn O'Connor, Elyana Pohja, Sophie Pohja, Grey Smith, Jackson Storrs, Will Storrs, Stella Storrs, Dawson Tagg, Hudson Tagg, Tyson Tagg, Colin VanEyck	Owen Elliott, Aelyn Hendrick, Deklan Hendrick, Graeden Hendrick, Dominic Hughes, Keigyn Johnson, Graham Matteson, Mason Slaughter, Anthony Sue, Evelyn Webb, Louis Webb, Luke Webb, Willis Welch
<i>Cedar Creek Machinist Training</i>	<i>Kloosterman's Sports Tap</i>
Leone Barber, Greyson DeVries, Jada Madden, George Martin, Grant Martin, Lucas Monday, Penn Phillips, Greyson Ramin, Davis Wattles, Addington Workman, Pierson Workman, Watts Workman	Dakota Cole, Graham Darragh, Cora Edger, Liam Edger, Kellen Jansens, James Janson, Ainslee Mattice, Charlie Mattice, Millie Mattice, Ava Mead, Eli Newth, Daylen Sybesma, Gage Warner

The feedback received from participants, parents and volunteers was very clear, the 2023 PGA Jr. season was a success. This summer we implemented a number of changes to make the league more enjoyable for participants, parents, and coaches. Those changes were well received and included consistent practices every Tuesday and matches on Fridays and Sundays with the field divided in half to make golf carts more available and tee times less confusing. The final regular league standings were as follows:

Tripp, Tagg & Storrs	36.5 points
Hastings Hotsticks	31.0 points
Kloosterman's Sports Tap	29.5 points
Cedar Creek Machinist Training	23.0 points

In the first round of playoffs Tripp, Tagg & Storrs defeated CCMT and Kloosterman's Sports Tap defeated Hastings Hotsticks. That led to the third place match being played between Hastings Hotsticks and CCMT. Hastings Hotsticks was victorious and proudly finished third place in the league. The championship match between Tripp, Tagg & Storrs and Kloosterman's Sports Tap was a closely contested match with Tripp, Tagg & Storrs coming out on top. Below is a picture of the winning team and sponsors!



The Foundation, with the assistance of The Legacy, added to the fun by providing popcorn and snow cones at the end of each match and practice! We are confident the kids enjoyed golfing, but we suspect many of the children enjoyed the snow cones, popcorn and playing with their friends after matches just as much, if not more!

The Foundation was also able to use donated funds to host league parties at the beginning and end of the year. The parties were held at The Legacy's tent area which included a massive blow up slide purchased specifically for the PGA Jr. program and numerous other golf related, child focused, games. While not specifically golf related, things like the slide, popcorn, and snow cones certainly made the children excited to come to the golf course.



LPGA



The Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA) is an organization for female golfers founded in 1950. It's best known for running the LPGA Tour, a series of weekly golf tournaments for elite women professional golfers from all around the world. The LPGA is one of the longest-running women's professional sports associations in the world.

Due to Coach Janson's connections and our amazing donors, we were able to take our PGA Jr. League members to watch the Meijer LPGA Classic on June 15, 2023! 142 of the best women golfers in the world were competing for \$2,500,000.00. The Meijer LPGA Classic was a big hit for our PGA Jr. League Members! Mason Slaughter and Hudson Tagg were asked by Maranda from *Where You Live*, "What's the best part of being out here on the golf course?" The boys replied, "Seeing these professional golfers golf."

It was a beautiful day to spectate while spending time with family and friends. They also enjoyed all the snacks and the chance to play mini golf with Maranda!



Remembering our 2022
PGA Jr. League Champions
Liam Edger, Lilli Edger,
Ainslee Mattice, Charlie Mattice,
Greyson Rambin, Jackson Storrs,
Will Storrs, Dawson Tagg, Hudson
Tagg, Tyson Tagg, Addington
Workman, Pierson Workman





Hudson Tagg & Jackson Storrs



Penn Phillips & Charlie Mattice



Keigyn Johnson & Daylen Sybesma



Owen Elliott & Deklan Hendrick

Thanks to the hard work of our players and coaches, our PGA Jr. League qualified two All-Star teams to the PGA Jr. League National Championship Tournament. This year the regional tournament was held at Binder Park Golf Course in Battle Creek. As many of you may remember, our 2021 All Star team won the regional championship and ended up finishing as the fourth best PGA Jr. League team in the State of Michigan. Keigyn Johnson & Daylen Sybesma paced our 2023 All-Stars by shooting a one under round of 35. Unfortunately, it was not enough and our team did not qualify to move on to state finals. However, the kids had just as much fun participating and gained valuable experience for future events.

The PGA Jr. League is for players thirteen and under. Because of the age limit, four players, Dakota Cole, Charlie Mattice, Penn Phillips, and Pender Workman played their final year of PGA Jr. in 2023. We believe their futures are bright and hope that when you see them, you join with us in encouraging them to continue playing golf. Players must be at least ten years old to play in All-Star Matches and our PGA Jr. League has several nine-year old players who are working hard to fill those four spots and make next year's event.



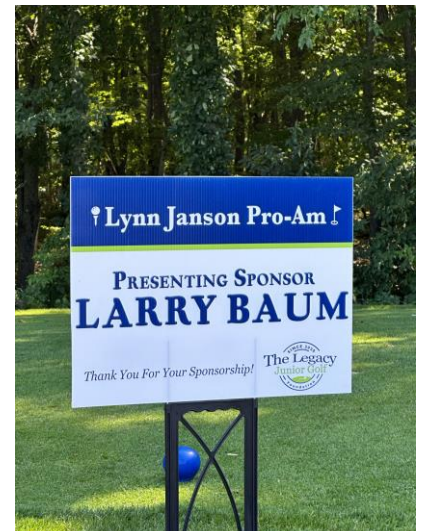
Elyana Pohja, Jada Madden, Grant Martin, Liam Edger, James Jansen
Not Pictured: Luke Webb, David Wattles, Willis Welch



Fundraising

The 2023 Lynn Janson Pro Am is our largest fundraiser of the year and this year's event was a smashing success. We were very fortunate, due largely to Mr. Janson's efforts and reputation, to draw 23 professionals to The Legacy at Hastings to participate in the fundraiser. We would also like to acknowledge Mr. Joshua Alderson, former General Manager at The Legacy at Hastings, for all the effort he put into the Pro Am.

Nearly 100 golfers played in the 2023 Lynn Janson Pro Am on September 1, 2023, at The Legacy at Hastings. The 2023 Champion was Mr. Jeff Bronkema who shot an exceptional round of 65 to leave with the prize money. The team led by PGA Professional Zach Robbins, including one of our PGA Jr. League Alumni, Tyler Hausserman, took home the low gross prize with a 126. The team led by PGA Professional Jeff Bronkema, which included Amelia Hopiks (Coach Hopkins' wife), won the low net division with a 125. Many of the professionals who attended the event have already agreed to return next summer, on August 31, 2024 to support the Barry County Junior Golf Association.



SPONSORS

This newsletter would not be complete unless we gave a special thank you to Mr. and Mrs. Larry and Earlene Baum for their continued support of our Foundation. Mr. and Mrs. Baum have gone above and beyond to support our efforts and we would not have been able to accomplish what we have without their generosity.

PRESENTING SPONSOR: **LARRY BAUM**



We would also like to thank the sponsors of the 2023 Pro Am:

STIFEL



highpoint
COMMUNITY BANK



Hastings
Hotsticks



Edward Jones
INVESTMENTS
Andrew R. Cove AAMS



THE COLEMAN FAMILY

THE STORRS FAMILY



Jack Horning



BARRY COUNTY
BAR ASSOCIATION

THE VANAMAN
FAMILY

Alumni Spotlight-Ailana Leos

We are very proud of all the Legacy's PGA Jr. League Alumni and what they've accomplished on and off the golf course. We are especially proud of Ailana Leos, Thornapple Kellogg class of 2025. Ailana has been golfing since she could walk! She played in the PGA Jr. League when our team consisted of only 12 players and had to travel to other courses for their events back in 2020. Thanks to all our donors, we now consist of **53** players and have our own league at The Legacy.

Since graduating from our PGA Jr. League team, Ailana has continued to excel in golf. It all started when her dad would bring her to golf in her car seat. She first started competing in golf events around 2017 with our PGA Jr. Team when she was only 10. The Drive, Chip and Putt competition gave her experience but was not nearly as competitive as PGA Jr. Something that motivates her is looking back at her younger self. Ailana was the kid who would ask to go to the driving range with her dad instead of asking to go to the park. Her motivation is about making her family proud as well as her community. She loves showcasing her school and her hometown, it brings her a great sense of pride. Ailana's favorite part of golf is that it's never the same thing. It's the different courses you get to play on and the change in scenery too. Ailana mentioned this sport is mentally challenging which she likes because she can self-reflect all while enjoying the nature around her. Ailana's love of golf ranges from high school golf events to competitive golf events - every event is her favorite; no specific event comes to mind. Ailana's dream is to play collegiate golf, either D1 or D2. She then hopes to be able to participate in the Symetra or Epson tour and then ultimately making it to the LPGA.



Q: What is one piece of golf equipment that you think every golfer should have?

A: A Ball Marker!

"My favorite memory is from 2020 and making the winning putt for the team (to win by a stroke) to move on to the final four in the state! It was the satisfaction of knowing I put the work in and everything I'd done up to that point, and not letting the team down."



2023 PGA JR. LEAGUE AWARD WINNERS

Best Attitude

Liam Edger,
Jada Madden,
Jackson Storrs,
(Not Pictured
Evelyn Webb)



Most Improved

Leo Barber,
Deklan Hendrick,
Charlie Mattice,
Hudson Tagg



Hardest Workers

George Martin,
Eli Newth,
Sophie Pohja,
Mason Slaughter



Rookies

Cora Edger,
Flynn O'Connor
(Not Pictured
Louis Webb &
Lucas Monday)



Dedication Award Winners

Leone Barber, Landon Bowman, Cora Edger,
Liam Edger, Owen Elliott, Dominic Hughes,
Kellen Jansens, Keigyn Johnson, Jada Madden,
Eli Newth, Penn Phillips, Elyana Pohja,
Sophie Pohja, Greyson Rambin,
Mason Slaughter, Grey Smith, Jackson Storrs,
Stella Storrs, Will Storrs,
Hudson Tagg, Tyson Tagg,
Addington Workman, Pierson Workman, Davis Wattles



Most Flags Won for the Team

Owen Elliot, Deklan Hendrick,
Keigyn Johnson,
Eli Newth, Jackson Storrs,
(Not Pictured Watts Workman)



GRADUATES



Penn Phillips & Charlie Mattice
(Not Pictured Dakota Cole & Pender Workman)

2023 Season



2023 Season





We would like to, again, extend our sincere appreciation to The Legacy at Hastings for all they do for our programs. Since 1921, golfers have been challenging themselves on The Legacy at Hastings, a classic West Michigan premier golf course. The Legacy features long fairways with smooth and fast greens, surrounded by towering stands of hardwoods, and beautiful panoramic views. Where golf is fun and everyone is welcome, the course is a mildly challenging par 72, at 5,219 yards from the forward tees to as long as 6,477 yards from the championship tees.



The Legacy at Hastings
1550 North Broadway
Hastings, MI 49058
(269) 945-2756
www.legacyathastings.com

If you would like to provide financial support to the Barry County Junior Golf Association, please scan the QR Code below or contact Nathan Tagg at golf@legacyathastings.com

