



PGA

Pacific Northwest Section

PLAYER DEVELOPMENT BEST PRACTICE REPORT

Program Contact:	Patrick Oropallo, Certified PGA
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Facility Name:	Oak Knoll Golf Course
Location:	Independence, OR
Name of Program:	SORCC Veterans Golf Clinics
Type of Program:	Other
Dates of Program:	April 3 – October 16, 2019

SORCC Veterans Golf Clinics is designed to introduce golf to Veteran patients of the White City VA Rehabilitation Center & Clinics. Experience levels vary from class to class, however, most of the participants are new to the game of golf. I spend an hour working with the participants once a week for 5 weeks. We cover the basic fundamentals of putting, chipping, pitching, woods and golf play. Etiquette, rules and golf stories/legends are part of the fun of this class. In my experience, golf for these participants is mental and physical therapy. These clinics are powerful and I am thankful to be able to share my golf knowledge with these men and women veterans.

The recipients of this grant are men and women veterans ages 18+ who are patients of the White City VA Rehabilitation Center & Clinics. The patients are driven over from White City to Ashland by the Southern Oregon Rehabilitation Center and Clinic (SORCC) staff. This program begins April 3 and runs consecutively for 20 weeks until October 16th with the entire month of June off due to scheduling conflicts with the golf course. This program impacted 40 veteran patients over the course of 200+ hours of complimentary instruction by myself.

Golf is more than a game. For the military veterans in our “SORCC Veterans Golf Clinics,” golf is therapeutic and aids in their journey to recovery and improved self-management. Being able to provide these honorable men and women with complimentary instruction has fulfilled me as a golf professional and makes me feel like I am doing “important” work. The veteran patients in this class are always thanking me for providing instruction and a much needed respite from their daily routine at White City VA Rehabilitation Center & Clinics.

The best practice here is to make a difference in your community and in the lives of the people that live in it. Not only will the community benefit, you will enrich your life and career in the process.

Without the aid of the Yamaha Player Development Grant, I would not have been able to see this program through. The funds allowed me to pay for range balls so that we could apply the learned golf instruction techniques on the range. I thank you and so do the 40+ participants of this very important program.



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Clinic 1 - April	DATE:	3-Apr	10-Apr	16-Apr	24-Apr	1-May	NOTES 1) Clinic on Monday all week 2) Measure for shirt sizes on first day 3) Due to time required for lesson 5: Play meals will be provided
	DAY:	Wednesday	Wednesday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Wednesday	
	Time:	4-5 PM	4-5 PM	4-5 PM	4-5 PM	4-5 PM	
	Lesson:	Putting	Chipping	Irons	Drivers	Play	
Clinic 2 - May	DATE:	30-Apr	8-May	15-May	22-May	29-May	1) Clinic on Wednesday all week 2) Measure for shirt sizes on first day 3) Due to time required for lesson 5: Play meals will be provided
	DAY:	Tuesday	Wednesday	Wednesday	Wednesday	Wednesday	
	Time:	4-5 PM	4-5 PM	4-5 PM	4-5 PM	4-5 PM	
	Lesson:	Putting	Chipping	Irons	Drivers	Play	
Clinic 3 - July	DATE:	10-Jul	17-Jul	24-Jul	30-Jul	7-Aug	1) Clinic on Wednesday - 17 July 2) Measure for shirt sizes on first day 3) Due to time required for lesson 5: Play meals will be provided
	DAY:	Wednesday	Wednesday	Wednesday	Tuesday	Wednesday	
	Time:	4-5 PM	4-5 PM	4-5 PM	4-5 PM	4-5 PM	
	Lesson:	Putting	Chipping	Irons	Drivers	Play	
Clinic 4 - August	DATE:	14-Aug	21-Aug	28-Aug	4-Sep	11-Sep	1) Clinic on Wednesday - 28 August 2) Measure for shirt sizes on first day 3) Due to time required for lesson 5: Play meals will be provided
	DAY:	Wednesday	Wednesday	Wednesday	Wednesday	Wednesday	
	Time:	4-5 PM	4-5 PM	4-5 PM	4-5 PM	4-5 PM	
	Lesson:	Putting	Chipping	Irons	Drivers	Play	
Clinic 5 - Sept	DATE:	18-Sep	25-Sep	2-Oct	9-Oct	16-Oct	1) Clinic on Monday all week 2) Measure for shirt sizes on first day 3) Due to time required for lesson 5: Play meals will be provided
	DAY:	Wednesday	Wednesday	Wednesday	Wednesday	Wednesday	
	Time:	4-5 PM	4-5 PM	4-5 PM	4-5 PM	4-5 PM	
	Lesson:	Putting	Chipping	Irons	Drivers	Play	

News Story: <https://www.kdrv.com/content/news/Veterans-using-golf-as-therapy-527074611.html?fbclid=IwAR1J8Dhu3k90MfDnZKVMWKeo4IcNmp3ZEsTXFWThDKKToT6LR8W4CgWr6MO>