



Delivery of IGF Technical Course for Coaches in Colombia – April 2017 - by the IGF Development & Sport for All Committee

As part of its governance structure, the IGF works together with its Members and Delivery Partners - the PGA of America (PGAA), PGA Great Britain & Ireland (PGA GB&I), R&A and the PGAs of Europe – who form part of the IGF Development & Sport for All Committee*, coordinating the resources provided by these golf professional bodies to deliver a unified global golf coach training platform that aims to drive global golf participation and growth.

Following the publication of the International Golf Coaching Framework (IGCF) which outlines a common language and set of unified criteria to inform the development and qualification of golf coaches, the IGF, in collaboration with its Delivery Partners, launched the first pilot edition of its Technical Course for Coaches in Colombia.



It was the IGF's intention to maximise the value for the participants and to ensure that the specific needs in Colombia were met. As part of the Course preparation, the IGF conducted an onsite assessment at the end of 2016, with representatives from the Colombian Golf Federation, the Colombian National Olympic Committee, the Coldeportes (National Government Department of Sport, Recreation and Physical Activity), the PGA of Colombia and Country Club of Bogota, to assess golf instruction/coaching needs in Colombia and relatedly the country's infrastructure to support golf participation and player development. Following this assessment, it was outlined necessary to:

- Establish a golf instruction training programme directed at current Colombian golf professionals to enhance the competences and knowledge required to work with golfers and deliver sustainable player development programming within the country.
- Establish a mechanism whereby initial training provided through the IGF can be expanded to reach Colombian golf professionals across the country and across the Federation's golf professional instructor levels.

The IGF assessment identified the need to pitch the course at between Levels 1 and 2.



The course aimed to deliver golf instruction training specific to “Participation Coaching” as defined in the International Golf Coaching Framework. This focuses on those who pursue the game through involvement and enjoyment as a leisure activity across the age spectrum and also on professional knowledge that is golf-specific with related content and instruction how to teach it.



Working closely with the Colombian Golf Federation for the organisation of the event, a Level 1 Technical Course for Coaches was delivered in April 2017, engaging 44 Coaches from clubs from all over the country, who were united for the first time with the Colombian National Federation, to take part in this initiative.



Delivery of this kind of course in golf had been unprecedented in Colombia and, overall, it exceeded the expectations of the 44 Coaches and of all those involved.



The two days of the workshop were carefully planned and delivered by the highly knowledgeable and experienced IGF Coach Educators and overall brought together a good blend of theory and practice. The facilities provided by the Federation were excellent and the coaches were all very involved and engaged well throughout the interactive sessions, where the coach delegates were encouraged to ask questions throughout. The outdoor sessions brought the theory to life and were structured in such a way that all of the delegates were involved all of the time, with an emphasis on active learning.

It is expected that this Course will have a direct impact on the development of golf coaching knowledge, leaving a lasting legacy for the growth of golf in Colombia. Moving forward, the IGF will monitor and enhance this learning through future IGF programmes and will build on the success of this Course in order to extend the same opportunity to other National Golf Federations around the world.



* As part of the governance structure of the IGF, the IGF Development and Sport for All Committee was established to oversee and advise on all IGF Coaching and Development programmes, leveraging the educational resources and golf professional expertise of leading PGAs and the IGF membership, to deliver a unified global golf coach training platform in collaboration with the IGF and its national federation members (NFs) that can drive global golf participation and growth.

The IGF recognises that golf coaches play a central role in promoting golf participation and in enhancing the performance of players and teams. Coaches contribute to the development of golfers as people, teams as cohesive units and communities with a shared interest. Coaching also can contribute to social aims by promoting activity and health; coalescing citizens behind a common entity; and generating economic activity through employment, education, purchase of equipment, use of facilities and attendance at events.