



# Media Release

For Immediate Release

## MICHIGAN WOMEN'S GOLF ASSOCIATION

*A nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization*

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**CHIP and SIP - Forest Akers West, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI**

**Tuesday, June 9, 2015**

*By Janina Parrott Jacobs*

*International Golf and Travel Writer, Editor*

**June 19, 2015, East Lansing, Mich.** Over two dozen Michigan women legislators and capitol lobbyists now know the allure of golf and what the game can do for their careers, after attending the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual 'Chip and Sip' Women Legislators Day on Tuesday, June 9, 2015 at Forest Akers West Golf Course, Michigan State University, in East Lansing.

'Chip and Sip' was created through a non-partisan committee formed by State Representative Sarah Roberts (18<sup>th</sup> House District, St. Clair Shores) and supported by eight lobbyists who are advocates for women's issues. Often it is tough to get legislators and lobbyists to agree on much, but in this case, golf was the unifier. Located in Lansing just blocks away from the Capitol, the Michigan Golf Course Owners Association (MGCOA) stepped up and brought in the Michigan Women's Golf Association (MWGA) to help with hosting duties. As the women legislators learned some golf fundamentals and tips while sharing food, wine, and friendship, representatives from each organization also spoke of their own experiences in the golf arena. The informal gathering truly fostered the message from the recent Michigan Women's Golf Summit keynote address given by Nancy Lopez Golf Adventures Co-Founder and LPGA Professional Theresa Zamboni, who urged women to play 'Happy Golf' and not get caught up in worrying so much about how one plays or scores. The premise is that women who are given a proper and stress-free introduction into what can often be an intimidating game, will embrace golf and stay with the game for a long time.

Current training methods dictate teaching beginning golf from the putting green on out, which allows new players the opportunity to experience 'little victories' more quickly than with full swing instruction. Providing their expertise in the short game artistry of chipping and putting were two local women golf professionals: MSU Assistant Women's Golf Coach Aimee Neff and 2<sup>nd</sup> year SYMETRA Tour member Caroline Powers, who finished tied for 16<sup>th</sup> place in the Firekeepers Casino Hotel Championship in Battle Creek, conducted June 5-7, 2015.

**The Michigan Women's Golf Association (MWGA), a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, was established in 1986 to promote the game of golf, foster amateur golf competitions and provide educational clinics for Michigan female amateur golfers. Participation and membership in the MWGA is open to female golfers of all skill levels.**



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*A Driving Force for Women's Golf!*

*Chip and Sip*, which has been in development since 2014, was very popular with the legislators, who plan to tell their colleagues why they should attend next year's event, for which, according to organizer, MWGA Rules Director and Golf Association of Michigan (GAM) Vice President Sara Wold, "Plans are already in progress!"

In addition to Wold, MGCOA Executive Director Kate Moore, MWGA President Francine Pegues, and GAM Governor and MWGA Adviser Janina Parrott Jacobs, were also on hand to lend support and words of wisdom to the new golfers.

For additional information about the event, contact Janina Parrott Jacobs at [Jjacobs2456@gmail.com](mailto:Jjacobs2456@gmail.com). For additional information, about MWGA visit [www.mwgolf.org](http://www.mwgolf.org).

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*Attached photos:*

MI Legislators practicing

L-R: Senator Margaret O'Brien, District 20; Lobbyist Dusty Fancher, Midwest Strategy Group;

Representative Amanda Price, District 89

Aimee Neff giving pointers

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