



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**EAGLE RIDGE RESORT & SPA HIGHLIGHTS 2011  
JUNIOR GOLF PROGRAM AND JUNIOR GOLF ACADEMY**

**GALENA, ILL.** - With the 2011 golf season now in full swing, Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa has added even more exciting attributes to their 63-holes of award winning golf: their Junior Golf Program and Junior Golf Academy.

Known for their four championship golf courses, consisting of the North, South, General, and East, Eagle Ridge's award winning courses are deemed junior friendly, *especially* the 9-hole East Course. The East Course is home to the resort's PGA Family Course program which helps make golf more enjoyable for players that are new to the game and provides a simple transition as each player's ability increases. The program also enables players of varying abilities to shoot similar scores and encourages parents and kids to come to the course together.

Eagle Ridge has partnered its East Course with the PGA and US Kid's Club to promote and encourage more junior golfers to visit. The East course is shorter in length compared to their 18-hole courses at the North, South, and General courses.

"The East Course is a course within a course for juniors with two sets of junior tee markers on each hole," says Matt Romer, Eagle Ridge's PGA Head Golf Professional.

Junior golfers, under the age of 18, play for free on the resort's East Course Monday through Thursday when they have a paying adult with them. They are also welcomed Friday through Sunday at a discounted rate ranging from \$15 to \$40 depending on the course.

While the East Course is designed with junior golfers in mind, Eagle Ridge also sponsors a Junior Golf Academy every Saturday morning starting June 11 through August 6, 2011. The Junior Golf Academy consists of clinics, lessons, and tournaments designed specifically for golf enthusiast ages 9-17. The clinic sessions last 90 minutes and will encompass specific aspects of the golf game.

The fee is \$20 per session/per student and includes instruction, range balls, and course play. The clinic schedule is listed below.

- June 11 lesson focus is the intro to etiquette and putting. Session one is from 8:30-10 a.m. for ages 12-17; and session two is from 10-11:30 a.m. for ages 7-11.
- June 18 lesson focus is on chipping and pitching. Session one is from 8:30-10 a.m. for ages 12-17; and session two is from 10-11:30 a.m. for ages 7-11.
- June 25 lesson focus is on full swing range. Session one is from 8:30-10 a.m. for ages 12-17; and session two is from 10-11:30 a.m. for ages 7-11.
- July 2 lesson focus is on wood golf clubs. Session one is from 8:30-10 a.m. for ages 12-17; and session two is from 10-11:30 a.m. for ages 7-11.
- July 9 lesson focus is on bunker play. Session one is from 8:30-10 a.m. for ages 12-17; and session two is from 10-11:30 a.m. for ages 7-11.
- July 16 lesson focus is on range work. Session one is from 8:30-10 a.m. for ages 12-17; and session two is from 10-11:30 a.m. for ages 7-11.
- July 23 lesson focus is on course management. Session one is from 8:30-10 a.m. for ages 12-17; and session two is from 10-11:30 a.m. for ages 7-11.
- July 30 lesson focus is on range work. Session one is from 8:30-10 a.m. for ages 12-17; and session two is from 10-11:30 a.m. for ages 7-11.
- August 6 is a play day and tournament for all ages on the East Course from 8:30-10 a.m.

The clinics are organized and taught by Michael Stewart, Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa's Head Teaching Professional. Michael has taught royalty around the world and will be bringing his extensive international teaching experience and background to Eagle Ridge's Junior Golf Academy. He has managed clubs and taught students for over 25 years, in fifteen different countries, and has had the opportunity to meet, teach, and play with some of the world's most influential leaders; including Former United States President George Bush Sr., Former Philippine President Ramos, Former President of Indonesia Soeharto, Spanish movie star Alfonso Garcia, and many other dignitaries. Michael has also worked with some of the top golf course designers and PGA Tour players including, Tom Weiskopf, Nick Faldo, and Phil Scott.

In addition to the Junior Golf Academy clinics, Michael offers individual and group lessons, as well as clinics for adult men and women. [For more information, or to enroll call \(815\)776-5251.](tel:(815)776-5251)

### **About Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa**

Located on 6,800 acres amid the rolling hills of northwestern Illinois, **Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa** in Galena, Illinois, is a full-spectrum resort complex located 150 miles west of Chicago. The property showcases superior golf with 63 holes on four acclaimed courses which include the North Course; the South Course; the East Course (9-holes); and the resort's crowning achievement, The General, an 18-hole, par 72 course with over 250 feet of elevation changes throughout.

Lodging accommodations at Eagle Ridge are delightfully unique with 80 quaint Inn rooms and over 250 villas and distinctive homes to choose from throughout the property. For the resort's corporate clients Eagle Ridge boasts 15,000 square feet of state-of-the-art meeting space, in addition to beautiful conference homes for small, elegant meetings. The entire facility is also the perfect venue for banquets, weddings and theme parties. Eagle Ridge offers three distinctive restaurants that include award-winning Woodlands Restaurant, along with Spikes Bar & Grill and Paisanos. Other amenities include the tranquil Stonedrift Spa, providing ten treatment rooms for a complete sensory experience, and a state-of-the-art fitness center with a beautiful indoor/outdoor pool, sauna and steam room.

The resort lays claim to numerous industry awards and recognition:

- In 2010, ***Golf Magazine*** listed The General as the #4 "Best in Illinois" course to play alongside the "Top 100 Courses You Can Play" ranking.
- In 2000, 2008 and 2010, ***Golf Magazine*** listed The General among the "Top 100 Courses You Can Play" in the magazine's ranking.
- For three straight years ***Golfweek*** named The General one of the best resort courses in the annual *Golfweek's Best Resort Courses* listing in 2009, 2010 and 2011.
- In 2009, ***Golf Digest*** named The General one of the best golf courses in the state of Illinois for *The World's Greatest Golf* rankings, 2009-2010. The General was named #24 in the state of Illinois. The rankings were put out as a supplement to the May 2009 issue of Golf Digest.
- In 2009, ***Golfweek*** named The General second in the state of Illinois for *Golfweek's Best Courses You Can Play* listing, published July 2009.
- In 2011, ***Successful Meetings*** honored Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa with the "Pinnacle Award" as voted by readers in the Hotels & Resorts category.
- In 2009, ***Zagat*** ranked Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa's The General, North and South courses in the 2009 America's Top Golf Courses, sixth edition as ranked and reviewed by players.

The property is the perfect backdrop to an incredible selection of outdoor activities including miles of biking, hiking and horseback riding trails, as well as tennis, hot air balloon rides, boating and fishing on the picturesque 220-acre Lake Galena. For reservations or additional information, call (800) 892-2269 or visit [www.eagleridge.com](http://www.eagleridge.com).