



## **PLAYER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (PDP)**

University of Maryland Eastern Shore PGA Golf Management students who have not passed the Playing Ability Test (PAT) and all incoming Freshmen are required to participate in the Player Development Program. It also develops and includes 2024-2025 students that have not passed the PAT through personal instruction and PGMSA tournaments. The Player Development Program will be devoted to PAT preparation and strategies, and is designed to prepare students to pass the PAT as early in the program as possible. The program will be offered with both classroom instruction and coordinated practice and playing as outlined below (refer to Table 12).

This program will be conducted by a PGA member of the PGA Golf Management staff, and it will be required of all PGA Golf Management Program students who have not passed the PAT. As the UMES PGA Golf Management program continues to grow, the University will consider using golf professionals in the area to support this function. Once a PGA Golf Management Program student has passed the PAT, they will no longer be required to participate in the Player Development Program. Each student's golf swing will be analyzed a minimum of twice each semester with recommendations given by a PGA Professional. A practice routine will be developed to address the student's specific weaknesses.

Students enrolled in the PDP will also be required to participate in at least two PGMSA tournaments per semester. Students who have begun the fourth year of the program and have not passed the PAT will be counseled and advised by the PGA Golf Management Director. It is a condition of graduation to pass the Playing Ability Test (PAT). UMES PGA Golf Management students must participate in a PAT a minimum of one time in year one, two times per year thereafter, with encouragement to participate in a third PAT until the PAT test is passed.

Students who do not complete the required amount of PAT's or participate in the Player Development Program (two individual lessons per semester and participation in at least two PGMSA tournaments) will be removed from the roster by the PGA of America. Note: Students not completing PDP requirements for one semester will be placed on program probation. Students not completing PDP requirements for one full academic year will be dropped from the roster by the PGA of America.

## **PLAYER DEVELOPMENT PROCEDURE**

1. During the fall semester of Year 1, students receive a swing analysis and recommendations from the PGA Golf Management staff. Equipment will also be evaluated along with a fitting session. Going forward, each student's golf swing will be analyzed a minimum of two times each semester with recommendations given by a PGA Professional. A practice routine will be developed to address the student's specific weaknesses.
2. The Player Development Plan will be recommended during the fall semester of Year 1 for the Player. The Player will work on one, two, or three areas of their game:
  - a. Full Swing
  - b. Short Game
  - c. Game Management Strategy
3. The Player will take the plan with them and, while on the driving range or golf course, work on noted recommendations. Reading materials geared to the specific areas of weakness will also be recommended.
4. The Player will attempt the Playing Ability Test at least one time per semester until it has been passed. Any student missing the PAT cut score by 15 or more strokes is required to meet with the PGA Golf Management Director to discuss future PAT's.
5. The Player will continue to be enrolled each semester in the Player Development Program until the Playing Ability Test is passed.

## **TOURNAMENT PARTICIPATION**

1. All students, **regardless of PAT status, must participate in at least two of the PGMSA tournaments** every semester.

**Table 11: UMES PGA Golf Management Player Development Procedure**