

## LeAnn Finger

Facebook: [Arizona Golf Association](#)

Linkedin:

[http://www.linkedin.com/profile/view?id=35470192&trk=nav\\_responsive\\_tab\\_profile](http://www.linkedin.com/profile/view?id=35470192&trk=nav_responsive_tab_profile)

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/#!/LFingerPGA>

Director of Tournaments and Player Development AGA.

Certified PGA and LPGA Professional at the Arizona Golf Association in Scottsdale, Arizona.

President of the Women in Golf Industry Association

Serves on Women's Task Force Planning Committee of Golf 2020

In Celebration on Women's Golf Day upcoming on Tuesday, June 4, the [California Golf Course Owners Association](#), [Nevada Golf Course Owners Association](#), and [NGCOA Arizona](#) will profile a series of inspirational women with deep roots in golf.

When growing up playing golf as a child, LeAnn Finger never dreamed that she would one day have a professional career in golf. Thirty years later, she has the pleasure of helping grow the game of golf for women, men, and students.

While serving as the head women's and men's golf coach at her alma mater, St. Olaf College, she had the opportunity to mentor students, using the core values that the PGA of America professionals use: pride, honor, passion, integrity, and sportsmanship. LeAnn instilled her dedication to the game in her students and enjoyed welcoming new people interested in learning.

Now, LeAnn serves as the Director of Tournament and Player Development at Arizona Golf Association where she manages the Build A Team program. This program creates girls' golf teams at underserved high schools in Arizona. Since the program's commencement in 2012, 51 high schools have established teams with more than 300 students participating. Some girls join the team with no knowledge of the sport, and because of this program, many girls have gone on to play collegiate golf. The program is funded by the Arizona's Women Golf Association (AWGA) Foundation, which is supported by members through various activities and events throughout the year.

LeAnn encourages women who are interested in learning golf to grab a buddy and head out to the course. Golf is a very social sport and it can be beneficial to learn how to play with a friend. Learn together and then play together. After learning

the basic instruction, have a next step plan in place for getting out on the course and playing. One of the biggest pitfalls LeAnn sees is that facilities don't offer a retention plan for keeping those new golfers out there playing a full game.

"The game of golf might look easy, but it is challenging. Seek a LPGA or PGA professional to teach you. Not a spouse. Don't be hard on yourself as the goal is to have fun. Golf can be a lifetime sport at any age or ability!" LeAnn advises.

LeAnn serves on the *We Are Golf* Women's Task Force (Golf 20/20) committee with a primary focus on increasing participation in the game among women through creating a culture of inclusion and strengthening access to the game for women and girls. In addition, LeAnn is also the President of the Women in the Golf Industry Association where the purpose is to network, support, and encourage women in the golfing community.

