

Debbie Waitkus

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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.

Debbie Waitkus knows no boundaries when it comes to the game of golf! President and founder of Golf for Cause LLC, she is passionate about helping others turn “Golf into Gold” by enriching lives through the game of golf both personally and professionally.

A successful businesswoman who was a latecomer to the sport, Debbie quickly recognized how perfect business and golf fit together. Debbie credits the success of her business to golf events by addressing and delivering what the customers want. A true advocate of the sport, she is a co-founder and a managing partner of the National Women's Golf Alliance - which evaluates and certifies golf facilities on how well they “roll out the green carpet™” for women - and is a former president of Women in the Golf Industry.

Roll Out the Green Carpet™ is a certification program that assesses golf facilities on standards and best practices that make the facility welcoming and inviting to women. Almost like a secret shopper, Debbie and her team play at the course and evaluate the facility amenities and programs on their customer service and customer relations, playability on the course, signage, Golf shop selection, and the clubhouse menu offerings. Debbie then provides a report on best practices, easy fixes, and recommendations. A second visit is scheduled to the facility, where Debbie sees the improvements that the facility made on welcoming new audience participation.

Debbie also organizes a “Nine to Wine” golf event for women where participants of all levels play nine holes of golf in teams of three. A mentor for each team is provided to guide and offer learning opportunities. The participants gather for wine after the game where they share resources and their experiences out on the

course. This event is the perfect introduction to golf that is all-inclusive in a non-threatening environment.

Debbie has also written a book *Get Your Golf On! Your Guide to Getting in the Game*, which is geared towards new golfers, beginners, and those looking to improve their personal or business relationships through golf.

A portion of the proceeds from each book goes to the Marilyn Smith Scholarship Fund that provides an opportunity for young women to continue playing golf competitively in college.

