

June 15, 2026

Excellence on the Green

Quarterly Newsletter



IN THIS ISSUE

1

President's Message

2

Member Spotlight: Renée Allain-Stockton

3

Decoding the Scorecard: Golf Skills for Beginners

4

TWIG Kidz: A Legacy 25 Years in the Making

A Message from Our President: Season Updates & What's Ahead

By Cheryl Rowe-Rendleman

As we move into the heart of our 2026 season, I want to share several important updates and opportunities for every member of Triangle Women in Golf.

This year marks the 25th anniversary of TWIG Kidz, a milestone that reflects the dedication of our volunteers and the impact this program has had on girls across the Triangle. We are grateful to the Carolinas Golf Association, whose accreditation elevates our organization and whose Foundation awarded TWIG \$7,500 this year toward TWIG Kidz programming. To honor this legacy, we are creating a 25th Anniversary Memory Book. We'll be gathering interviews from every past TWIG Kidz Committee Chair and as many alumnae as possible, and we'll need member support — both with content collection and with navigating Canva as we assemble this special keepsake.

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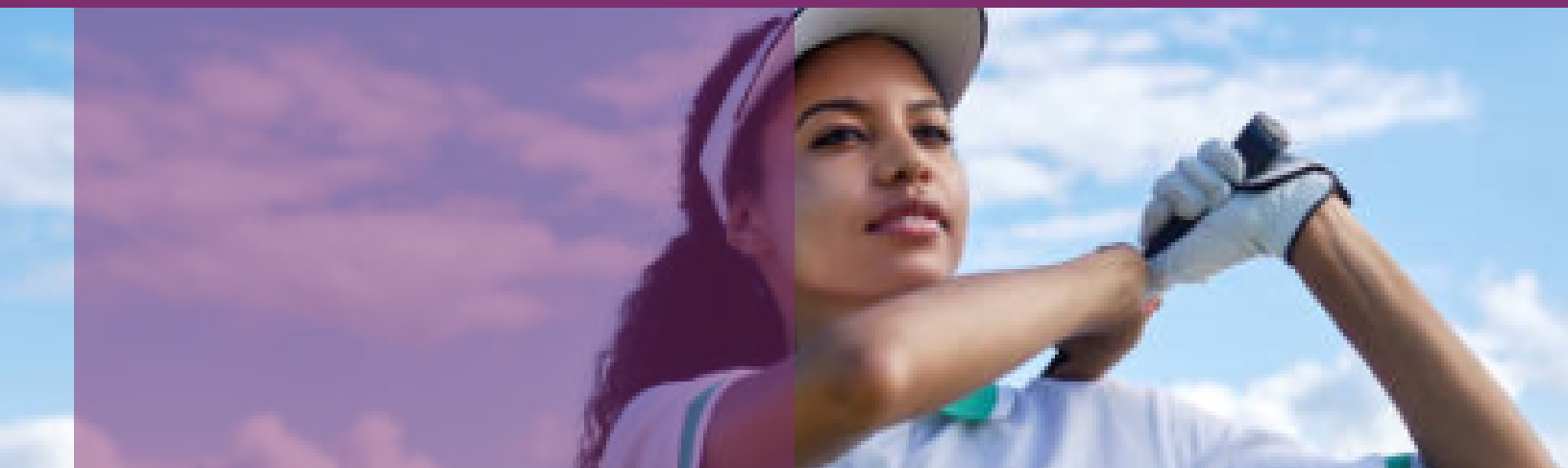
Communication Update: Join the TWIG GroupMe

By Darcel Walker

Summer is in full swing, and so is TWIG! This quarter we're celebrating the sisterhood, sharing golf knowledge built for beginners, shining a spotlight on a new member, and giving you a peek into the incredible work happening through TWIG Kidz. Whether you're a seasoned player or still learning which end of the club to hold, this newsletter is for you.

Join Our GroupMe!

The TWIG GroupMe is our official communications channel, and several members still aren't signed up. [Click this link](#) or reach out to any board member for the invite link so you don't miss a thing.



continued from page 1

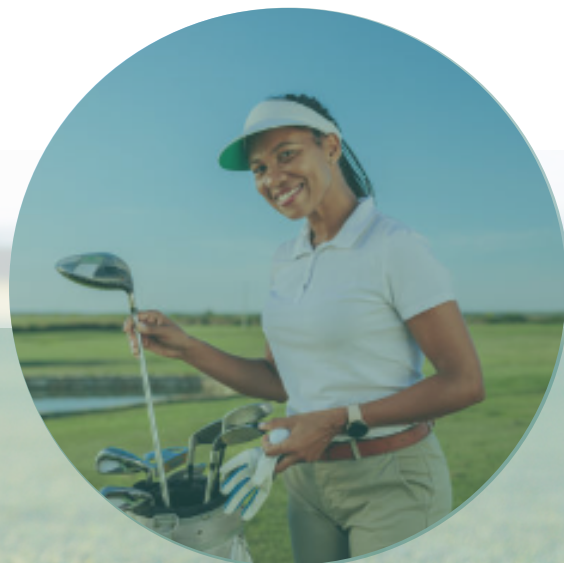
To strengthen our sisterhood, we are planning a series of non-golf "Get to Know Your Sister in TWIG" events this summer and fall. Our goal is to host four gatherings between now and November to make sure every member feels connected and welcomed.

We are also seeking a Chair for the 2026 Nominating Committee to help develop a slate of candidates for President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and six Foundation member seats, with terms beginning in 2027. Job descriptions will run in the next few newsletters so we can hold elections on schedule, and I encourage anyone interested in an officer or officer-elect role to shadow a current officer this year.

On July 1, we proudly roll out the Shirley Cook Scholarship, honoring a beloved past president who passed away from cancer. The scholarship was initially made possible through a bequest from her husband, Dr. Robert Cook, and is funded in part by proceeds from the TWIG Invitational. This year it will award \$2,500 to a graduating senior headed to college, plus \$1,500 each in two additional categories.

Finally, planning for the one and only TWIG Invitational begins the week of July 1 — any member is welcome to join a planning committee. Every member is expected to participate, whether by serving on a committee, playing or volunteering at the event, or contributing financially. Together, we will make this year's Invitational our strongest yet.

I look forward to all we will accomplish as a united TWIG sisterhood.





Member Spotlight: Renée Allain-Stockton

By Renee Allain-Stockton and Darcel Walker

Renee's golf story begins not on a fairway, but in a conference room. As a CPA in public accounting in Atlanta, she noticed that conversations between partners and clients had a way of drifting to the golf course — and she didn't want to be left out. So in 1989, she signed up for lessons at Alfred "Tup" Holmes Memorial Golf Course, named for the man who led the desegregation of Atlanta's public golf courses in 1955.

"I have been playing golf since 1989 — longer than I like to admit based on my handicap!"

Her path to TWIG began with a chance encounter. After relocating from Fairfield, Connecticut to Raleigh in 1998, Renee met TWIG member Prenessa Lowery at an open house at St. Raphael Elementary School. She'd largely set golf aside while her two daughters were young, and TWIG gave her the perfect reason to pick it back up.

Nearly 40 years of playing means no shortage of standout moments: breaking 100 with Loretta Hicks before the family moved to Europe, then discovering in Zurich that she needed an official handicap to play there. TWIG's ability to issue handicaps meant she avoided a golf knowledge test in German. Back in Raleigh, she broke 90 for the first time at Wil-Mar in 2012, again with Hicks by her side. She's also proud of the work she did with Peketa Long to secure 501(c)(3) status for the TWIG Foundation in 2017, and of her foursome's flight win at the Ladies Prestonian Tournament in 2025.

For Renee, the heart of TWIG is its sisterhood and its commitment to paying the game forward — giving young girls access to golf far earlier than she had it herself. Her advice to anyone hesitating at the door? "Take a few lessons first, then join." She was a beginner when she showed up for her first TWIG round, and her playing partners were warm and encouraging — even as they gently suggested she pick up her ball after a certain number of strokes. That welcome, it turns out, is exactly what TWIG is for.

Decoding the Scorecard: Golf Skills for Beginners

“Every number on that scorecard is trying to tell you something. Let's learn how to listen.”

You've picked up your scorecard at the first tee, glanced at it, and thought, what does any of this mean? If that sounds familiar, you are in excellent company. The golf scorecard is packed with information that can feel overwhelming at first, but once you crack the code, it becomes one of your most powerful tools on the course. In this issue we're breaking it all down scoring terms so that the next time you tee it up, you know exactly what you're looking at.

What Is Par?

Let's start at the very beginning. Par is the number of strokes an expert golfer is expected to need to complete a hole, or the entire round. Every hole on the course is assigned a par value, typically 3, 4, or 5, based on the hole's length and difficulty.

When you hear someone say they “played to par” or “shot even,” it means their total score matched the par for the round. For most beginners, scoring above par is completely normal — and nothing to be embarrassed about. The goal is simply to improve over time.

The Scoring Language of Golf

Golf has its own vocabulary for how many strokes you took relative to par on a given hole. Once you know these terms, you'll feel right at home following along with any TWIG round.

Scoring Terms Every Golfer Should Know

Eagle — 2 strokes UNDER par on a hole (rare and exciting!)

Birdie — 1 stroke UNDER par on a hole

Par — Equal to par. (3, 4 or 5) Well played!

Bogey — 1 stroke OVER par

Double Bogey — 2 strokes over par

Triple Bogey — 3 strokes over par

TWIG tip: Depending on the rrules, pick up your ball at double par (2x the hole's par).
Some games require that you to pick up at Double Bogey.
It keeps pace of play moving and is the max that counts for handicap purposes anyway.

As a beginner, bogeys and double bogeys are your best friends — they mean you finished the hole and are making progress. Celebrate every par like the win it is, and don't let a rough hole shake your confidence heading to the next tee.

Golf is a game of information as much as it is a game of skill. The more you understand the scorecard, the more confident and connected you'll feel every time you step onto the course with your TWIG sisters.

Questions about scoring or the scorecard? Bring them to any TWIG event — we love a good golf conversation.



23rd Annual TWIG Invitational Golf Tournament

Join us for the 23rd Annual TWIG Invitational Golf Tournament on Monday, September 21, at Lochmere Golf Club in Cary. Proceeds support our TWIG KIDZ program, with a fundraising goal of \$30,000 this year.

Here are a few ways you can help:

- Play in the tournament: Register on [Eventzilla](#) for one of the remaining twosome or foursome spots. Each player receives two mulligans.
- Sponsor the tournament: If you can't play, consider a \$100 hole sponsorship, \$125 TWIG Kid sponsorship, or \$250 driving range sponsorship.
- Recruit sponsors: Ask friends or businesses you work with to support the tournament. Sponsorships range from \$100 to \$1,800 for a TWIG KIDZ Clinic Sponsor supporting three seasons.
- Volunteer: We need help with the beverage cart, photography, contest-hole spotters and dinner servers. If you aren't playing and can volunteer, please contact Rose Foster.

Our **2026 TWIG Sponsorship Package** is available on our website and attached to this email.

Together, we can make this year's tournament a success and help TWIG KIDZ continue making a difference in our community!



Earn Your Pin

Members who shoot below 100 in a regulation round, chip in, make a birdie or eagle, or record a hole-in-one earn special recognition and a souvenir pin from Membership Chair Kim Rehberg. Let her know when you hit one of these milestones!

Tuesday Night Play is Heating Up

At least eight TWIG members have been turning out for Tuesday evening play — and the highlight of the season so far belongs to Sandra Thomas, who recently scored a hole-in-one at Knights Play. Congratulations, Sandra!

Now Seeking: 2026 Nominating Committee Chair

TWIG needs a member to step up and chair the 2026 Nominating Committee, helping build a slate of candidates for President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and six Foundation member seats for terms beginning in 2027. Job descriptions for each role will run in upcoming issues, and anyone considering an officer or officer-elect position is encouraged to shadow a current officer this year to see what the role involves.



Introducing the Shirley A. Cook Scholarship

On July 1, TWIG proudly launches the Shirley A. Cook, Triangle Women in Golf Foundation Scholarship, named in honor of a beloved past president who passed away from cancer. The scholarship was initially made possible through a bequest from her husband, Dr. Robert Cook, and is funded in part by proceeds from the TWIG Invitational.

For 2026, the scholarship will award:

- \$2,500 to a graduating high school senior headed to college
- \$1,500 to a recipient in a non-traditional college entrant category
- \$1,500 to a recipient pursuing post-secondary or vocational study

All candidates must maintain a minimum 3.0 GPA. Applications open July 1 and are due August 15, with awards announced in September.

This scholarship carries forward a legacy of mentorship and sisterhood, helping the next generation of women channel their passion into opportunity.

TWIG Kidz: A Legacy 25 Years in the Making

By Vanessa Walker, TWIG Foundation

This year, TWIG Kidz celebrates a milestone that fills every member of our organization with pride: 25 years of mentoring young women through the game of golf. Since 2001, TWIG has provided free weekly golf instruction, course management coaching, and life skills to young girls in the Triangle area, most of whom would never have had access to the sport without our program.

To date, TWIG Kidz has:

- Mentored and supported over 142 young ladies
- Funded over 450 series of golf lessons
- Hosted multiple tournaments and etiquette workshops
- Produced collegiate golfers and community leaders

This anniversary season is not just a celebration — it's a call to action. As we look toward TWIG Kidz Year 25 and beyond, we're asking every TWIG member to help us spread the word, invite donors, and show up for our girls. Spring 2026 Kickoff

The Spring program launched with 18 registered students and the incredible coaching team of Tyla McAffity, Dave Hinton and Dylan Burger at Tri Golf and Falls Village. Advanced TWIG Kidz participants will have the opportunity to play alongside TWIG adults in a joint round — a tradition that brings our generations together on the course.

25th Anniversary Memory Book — We Need You

TWIG Kidz turns 25 this year, and we're creating a curated, story-driven Memory Book to celebrate a quarter-century of the program. We're looking for:

- Story Collectors — to interview past TWIG Kidz Committee Chairs, coaches, parents, and as many alumnae as possible
- Timeline Builders — to map out 25 years of milestones and “firsts”
- Canva Help — volunteers comfortable (or willing to learn!) navigating Canva to help assemble the book

Interested in helping? Reach out to Vanessa Walker for more information.

