



Christmas TWIG group

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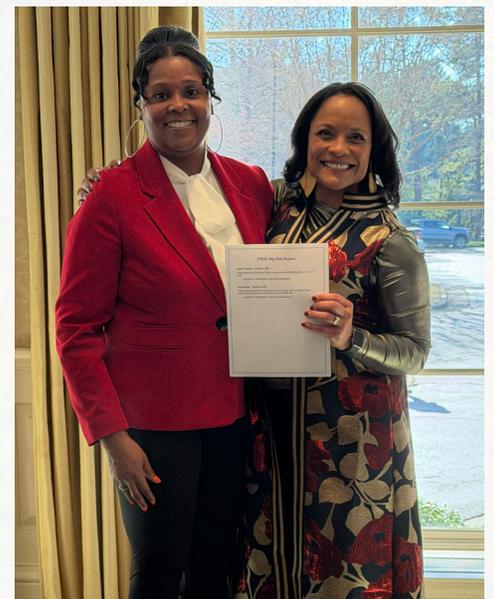
TWIG 2026 Membership Drive: A New Season of Connection, Confidence & Community in Golf

By Kim Rehberg

Triangle Women in Golf is stepping into 2026 with purpose, joy, and a full calendar designed to welcome new faces and re-energize our longtime members. Whether you're just discovering TWIG or returning to a community that already feels like home, this is the perfect moment to join us for a season of growth—on and off the course.

From January Through March, we're opening our doors with a series of engaging "Start Up" activities. From skill-building and social sessions at Metrics Indoor Golf, a fun evening at Top Golf, Golf lessons with our pros. Invited guests and members can ease into the season with laughter, learning, and low-pressure play. On Thursday, February 12, we gathered for *Galentine's dinner and Games* at University Club—an evening of sisterhood and reflection that always leaves our hearts a little fuller.

But the real excitement begins once the membership drive closes at midnight on March 27. Members will step into April with our Monday, Thursday and Saturday leagues. Our official TWIG Kickoff Meeting and 9-hole Tournament will be held on April 25—your chance to reconnect, meet new members, and set the tone for a vibrant season ahead.



From there, the calendar blossoms with opportunities to sharpen your game and deepen your connections:

- **Adult Golf Lessons** at Falls Village (April Series) and Tri-Golf (May Series)
- **Monday 9/18-Hole League** beginning April 6
- **Tuesday** Evening 9-Hole League starting May 5
- **Thursday** 18-Hole Leagues starting April 9
- **Saturday** 18-Hole Leagues starting April 18

These **member-only events** are crafted to meet you where you are—whether you're building confidence, expanding your skills, or simply craving community with women who love the game as much as you do.

If you've been thinking about joining—or returning—now is the moment.

Secure your TWIG membership by **March 31** to enjoy full access to all 2025 programs, leagues, lessons, and special events. Together, we'll make this season one of joy, growth, and unforgettable fairway moments.



Spotlight On New Members



Ikee Gardner

- **Hometown:** Chicago, IL
- **Current City:** Apex, NC
- **Occupation:** Lawyer
- **College alma mater(s):** Duke (undergrad), UNC (JD)
- **How long you've been a golfer:** Just this year! I started lessons 3 months ago. My dad put me in lessons as a child but I was not a fan. As an adult I am enjoying it now!
- **Where you play golf most often:** Knights Play Golf Center (Apex)
- **What you most enjoy about golf:** A chance to shut everything out and focus, while being outside in nature.
- **What you most want to get out of the TWIG sisterhood:** Excited to be part of a community of professionally and personally excellent Black women in the Triangle area.

Celebrating Improvement: Why Tracking Your Handicap Matters

By Andrea Hardy, Handicap Chair

At the heart of golf is progress and few measures capture that progress better than a player's handicap. During the recent TWIG Holiday gathering, members celebrated one of the most meaningful achievements in the game: **handicap improvement**. The presentation of TWIG's Biggest Loser: 2025's Most Improved Player highlighted not only standout performances, but also the importance of consistently tracking your handicap.

The results, displayed during the event, recognized the top 10 players who made the most significant improvements over the year. Each name represented hours of practice, persistence, and commitment to growth.

HONORING THE TOP HANDICAP IMPROVERS

Taking the top spot was **Linda Brinson**, who earned first place with an impressive reduction in her handicap—from 29.6 to 23.1. Her improvement of **6.5 strokes**, a nearly **22% decrease**, set her apart as TWIG's most improved player for 2025.

Close behind were several other remarkable performances:

- **Linda Taylor** moved from 19.4 to 16.3, showing steady and consistent improvement
- **Emma Battle** reduced her handicap from 23.5 to 19.8, a strong reflection of dedication and skill development
- **Andréa Hardy** and **Alice Huryk** also posted notable gains, underscoring how progress can come from focused effort at every level of play

From newer golfers to seasoned players, the list demonstrated that improvement is always possible—and worth celebrating.



WHY TRACKING YOUR HANDICAP IS SO IMPORTANT

A golf handicap is more than just a number. It is a tool that:

- **Measures progress objectively**, showing how your game evolves over time
- **Creates fair competition**, allowing golfers of different skill levels to compete equitably
- **Motivates improvement**, giving players clear goals to work toward
- **Builds confidence**, as tangible improvement reinforces effort and practice

By tracking handicaps consistently, golfers can identify strengths, address weaknesses, and celebrate milestones—just like those recognized at this event.

MORE THAN A SCORECARD

The visual presentation of these results, as seen in the attached image, brought the data to life—turning numbers into stories of growth and achievement. Applause from the room reflected what these improvements truly represent: perseverance, learning, and community support.

TWIG's recognition of handicap improvement reinforces an important message for all golfers: **your journey matters**. Whether your goal is to break a personal barrier or simply enjoy the game more, tracking your handicap keeps you engaged, accountable, and inspired.

As these winners showed, improvement isn't just about lowering scores—it's about embracing the process and celebrating progress every step of the way.



Fall Golf Retreat

TWIG Fall Retreat

By Dale Singletary

TWIG members enjoyed an unforgettable Fall Golf Retreat to beautiful Pawleys Island, South Carolina, where sisterhood, sport, and relaxation came together for a memorable long weekend. The retreat is said to be the first of its kind for TWIG. The program committee was organized and hosted by Dale Singletary, Kaja Heater-Lee, Grace Thompson, Tencil Coffee, Linda Brinson and our new member Susan Dunn of NYC. From October 2–5, golfers stayed at Litchfield Beach and Golf Resort and took advantage of the area's outstanding amenities, including scenic courses, comfortable accommodations, and coastal charm.

The trip officially kicked off Thursday evening with a mandatory gathering, where welcome packets, great golf goodie bags and an icebreaker Meet & Greet set the tone for an organized and exciting weekend. Golfers hit the links on Friday at River Club Golf Course and again on Saturday at Willbrook Plantation Golf Course, both with early morning tee times that allowed for smooth play, great camaraderie, organized teams of four for different games of play, sufficient amount of down-time for self-care and relaxation with their suite mates and other sisters. Team Winners received trophies and cash award recognitions for 1st place, longest drive and closest to the pin for both games.

In addition to golf, members enjoyed shared meals and fellowship, including the Friday TWIG Luncheon at Rustic Table and the much-anticipated TWIG Awards and dinner on Saturday evening at the private Litchfield Beachhouse. The Saturday night celebration doubled with Boots on the Ground instructions and dancing, a festive photo opportunity, lots of fun and games (Left-Right-Center and the new "Twerk-Pong" competition plus a paint and sip!

Beyond the fairways, the weekend reflected TWIG's spirit of unity, professionalism, and fun. Whether on the course, at meals, or relaxing on the resort, members represented TWIG with style and grace while strengthening connections that made this retreat a highlight of the year. Cheers to another successful Fall Golf Trip and heartfelt thanks to the Fall Retreat Planning Committee for making it all happen! [Click here to see more photos](#) of our awesome trip!

TWIG Team Represents at LPGA Amateurs Champions Cup

By Cheryl Rowe-Rendleman



The team—left to right: Kaja Heater-Lee, Cheryl Rowe-Rendleman, Angela Allen, and Jackie McClamb—proudly represented central North Carolina (Triangle region) at the LPGA Amateurs Champions Cup, held October 24–25 at the Sandestin Resort’s Raven and Links courses in Florida.

Invited to compete after placing just below the cut in their two-day Match Play qualifier in North Carolina, the team joined a field of 200 women in this prestigious event. Notably, they were only the second all-Black women’s team in the tournament lineup—a powerful moment of representation and pride.

Each member trained independently for many weeks leading up to the competition, balancing personal schedules and travel to prepare for the challenge ahead.

On Day 1, the team split into pairs for 4-ball matches against two other teams, finishing 22nd out of 50 doubles teams.

On Day 2, each member played a singles match-play against competitors from four other teams. Their collective performance earned them a six-way tie for second place out of 100 singles pairs—a remarkable showing!

While they didn’t bring home a trophy this time, they gained something just as valuable: new friendships, LPGA Amateur swag, and the respect of coaches and trainers who believe in their potential.

With heart, grit, and undeniable talent, this team made history and left a lasting impression. Next year’s Champions Cup? Let’s just say—they’ve got unfinished business. Onward and upward!

TWIG Kidz: Where Are They Now?

One of the most rewarding parts of the TWIG Kidz program is watching our participants grow, thrive, and carry the lessons they’ve learned well beyond the program. From time to time, we pause to celebrate the inspiring journeys of our TWIG alumni.

We are also proud to highlight **Genesis Lewis**, whose progress we continue to follow as a TWIG Kidz alumna. Though no longer active in the program, Genesis remains part of the TWIG family. She has been accepted to Coppin State University, where she will continue her golf career at the collegiate level. Most recently, Genesis competed in the NC State Championship, tying for second place at the state competition—an impressive achievement that speaks to her dedication and talent.

Another TWIG Kidz success story is **Sophie Lauture**, who now resides in Charlotte and competes on the UNC Greensboro women’s golf team.

Forever TWIG Kidz

These stories remind us that TWIG Kidz is more than a program—it’s a lifelong community. Whether excelling in collegiate athletics or pursuing new paths, our alumni continue to inspire us. We look forward to what’s next and always welcome our TWIG Kidz back home.



TWIG Kidz alumna, Genesis Lewis