

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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Towns County Youth Football gearing up for another exciting season

Towns County Youth Football League signups begin June 4, from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. at the Towns County Recreation and Conference Center.

Signups will continue at the Rec Center on June 11, from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m., and on June 25, from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m.

July 9 will be the Annual Youth Football Camp at the High School Practice Field, starting at 8 a.m. until noon that Saturday.

Football camp will be free of charge, and will feature drills put on by all the youth football coaches, the

new Towns County Indians Head Football Coach John Cornett, as well as the Towns County Indians players themselves.

TCYFL Director Jimmy Smith will be signing up youth football players after the camp on July 9, and signups will continue for two weeks after the football camp.

Required at time of signup will be \$90 to play for the season, which covers the game jersey, insurance and a trophy at the end of the season.

Also, kids new to youth football will need to bring a

copy – not the original – of their birth certificates. If youth athletes played last year, they will not need to bring a copy of their birth certificates.

"I'm looking forward to an exciting year," said Director Smith, now in his 20th year directing youth football. "We had a great year last year, but this year is going to be even better."

"I've been waiting for this since last season came to an end. We're looking for a lot of kids to come out and play the great game of football in Towns County."



NASCAR 2016

By Gerald Hodges/the Racing Reporter

Larson Gets Rain-Shortened Xfinity Race

POCONO, PA. -- Kyle Larson won his fourth career series Xfinity Series race after rain forced NASCAR to call Saturday's 100-lap race after 53 laps.

The caution flag flew for the fifth time on Lap 52, when a storm cell flooded the entire track. Another shower followed and then a steady rain, forcing NASCAR to shorten the race.

Larson, who was leading at the time, welcomed the downpour.

"I'm happy with it," Larson said. "Now that the race is over and we got the win, it can clear out so we can race (on Sunday) for the (NASCAR Sprint) Cup race... I had kept a gap on him (Jones) for about four laps when he was in second."

"The rain was coming, and it was starting to sprinkle on his windshield. We weren't quite to halfway yet (when a race becomes official), so I wasn't really saying much on the radio, but once we did get to halfway, it started coming down a lot harder. We were going to be racing a lot harder in the next lap or half a lap maybe, so I'm happy that it started down pouring when it did."

Erik Jones was second, followed by Ty Dillon, Kyle Busch, Joey Logano, Elliott Sadler, Paul Menard, Brandon Jones, Daniel Suarez, and Alex Bowman.

Top-10 leaders after 12 of 33: 1. Suarez-408, 2. Sadler-397, 3. T. Dillon-390, 4. Gaughan-363, 5. E. Jones-359, 6. B. Jones-357, 7. Allgaier-355, 8. Poole-348, 9. Wallace Jr.-308, 10. Reed-274.

NASCAR GOING AFTER NEW FANS

After seeing a decline in track attendance and television viewership, NASCAR and their tracks are pulling out all plugs in an effort to reach new fans.

The period between 1995 and 2005 was the pinnacle of NASCAR racing, as far as fan attendance was concerned. From that period until today, it has declined a little bit each year.

"You promoted your event and did things to attract crowds and then it got to the point where I think a lot of us were guilty of slacking off because things were going really well," Clay Campbell of Martinsville Speedway told the Associated Press. "Now we're back in that day where we do things to entice people to come to our events."

great for fans who show up to find free concerts and other amenities. But the enthusiasm hasn't led to packed houses. Many tracks have removed sections of grandstands, and they still don't look full on race day, and there has been a drop in television ratings, too. Still, the Coca-Cola 600 was the third-most watched sporting event last weekend.

Some wonder if NASCAR's day in the sun has passed. Track officials instead see a changing, younger fan base that needs to be enticed to watch live racing – and spend money.

Dover International Speedway President Mike Tatroian said the trend is not as alarming as one might think.

"I think it's hard to pinpoint one thing that's caused this attendance decline," Tatroian said. "I don't think it was realistic for everyone to think it was going to continue on that meteoric rise or stay at that level. I always say our level of wellness has just been adjusting."

General manager Jerry Caldwell of Bristol Motor Speedway said NASCAR crowds may be down but are still huge.

The Tennessee track, which once drew about 150,000 fans to races in the premier series, once had a sellout streak of 55 races. It does not release attendance figures, but was about half full for its Spring race, despite sunny, 72-degree weather.

Caldwell suggested it might be time to stop looking at attendance figures from the pre-recession heyday and remember that other sporting events also struggle with empty seats. He expects Bristol's late race on Saturday night, Aug. 20, to be well attended.

The Martinsville track used to make seats on its backstretch available on race day, and had people camping out overnight to be in line to buy them. Since pit stalls were moved and a garage was built, those seats are no longer of much value and the track drapes the backstretch seating in advertising banners.

"There for a while, crowds were much larger than they are now, but now we can focus on providing the people here a great experience," Campbell continued. "I think in the long run, it's working out. It's not what we were used to in

Chatuge Shores Ladies Golf Association is in full swing

The kickoff and opening day play began on May 3, followed by a luncheon as members and guests became reacquainted after a hiatus during winter months. Many of the returning summer residents were also on hand – and more will be coming shortly.

The officers for the 2016 playing season are Barbara Boswell, president; Glenda Geddings, Vice-president; Sandy Jersey, treasurer; Kay McLeod, Secretary; and Judy Schmitt, tournament chair. The CSLGA committees are also very active and contribute immensely to the success and fun enjoyed by the players. Cathy Clements and Karen Whittaker are serving as membership and yearbook co-chairs. Glenda Geddings has taken on the responsibilities for the association's constitution, hole in one, and sunshine committees. The social chair is Claudia Rinaldo, while Judy Schmitt serves as the organizer for handicaps, ace of the month, and chips and putts. Desna Jarrett is the publicity chair and Linda MacDonald and Donna Workman serve as the rules committee co-chairs.

On Tuesday, May 31, the CSLGA welcomed three

new members – Kathy Stewart, Diane Palmer, and Vickie Hunt. The active membership is now at 33 players, with some rejoining after a year or two off and others yet to come from their winter homes. New players are always welcome, regardless of skill level.

The game on Tuesday was low gross/low net. In the A flight the low gross winner was Kathy Stewart and the low net was Barbara Boswell. In the B flight the low gross winner was Karen Whittaker with the low net going to Lorene Avery. Judy Wright was the low gross winner and Star Glock the low net winner in Flight C. In the D flight Janet Woodruff took low gross honors and Sandy Jersey won low net.

In addition to the game winners, Janet Woodruff and Barbara Boswell tied for low putts, while Nancy Outlaw and Diane Palmer tied for chip-ins.

A Board meeting followed the play on Tuesday, with discussions about tournament planning, amendments to the constitution and bylaws, and a look at local rules including relief from tree roots and casual water. Plans for



CSLGA welcomes new members. The monthly association and meeting and luncheon on June 7 were also discussed. Luncheons are held on the first week of every month following play and provide a great opportunity for members and guests to socialize while enjoying a special meal prepared by Claudia Rinaldo.

The CSLGA invites any interested ladies to visit, try us out, and see what a fun time we have playing golf. Any questions about membership or play are welcomed by President Barbara Boswell who can be reached at 828-389-0919.

VFW Golf League

Last week's event at Chatuge Shores Golf Course was won by Norvel Hasley, Frontz Goring, Keith Jason and Bill Bongiovanna. They returned to the clubhouse with a score of 64 which is 8 strokes under par. Great playing guys!

This week's event at Chatuge Shores Golf Course was won by Ray Ide, Norvel Hasley, Barrett Brown and Charley Logan. They returned to the clubhouse with a score of 63 which is 9 strokes under par. Great playing guys!

Rec Department Summer Day Camp

This summer The Recreation Department will offer day camp for 3 sessions, each session being two weeks, running Monday thru Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sessions will be as follows: Session I June 6th thru June 17th; Session II June 20th thru July 1st; Session III July 11th thru July 22nd.

Day Camp offers children sports game activities, social game activities, field trips, nature hikes and much more. You may send your child to any or all of the sessions. Campers will be provided free breakfast at drop off (Monday-Thursday, Friday drop off at Towns County Beach-no breakfast served).

Based on the day's activities, campers need to bring a swimsuit, towel, sprayable sunscreen, sack lunch, and flotation device (if needed). The Recreation Department will furnish ice water for the campers.

Registration will be the first Monday of each session at the middle/high school entrance of Towns County Schools. The fee for the two week session is \$120 or \$60 per week (additional discounts for more than one child in immediate family). The fee is payable to Towns County Recreation Department. For more information please call the Recreation Department at 706-896-2600. T(Jun8,FI)SH



Mountain High Hikers schedule two hikes every Tuesday, one long and one shorter, as well as occasional specialty hikes. Weekly trail maintenance trips are scheduled every Thursday. Come enjoy the beautiful mountains and waterfalls we have here. Check the website www.mountainhighhikers.org for schedule and contact numbers.



Kyle Larson the late '80s and early '90s, but we're still drawing, and many of those fans are brand new."

2017 NASCAR HOF INDUCTEES ANNOUNCED

Five new members will be inducted into NASCAR's Hall of Fame in the Spring of 2017. The talents, eras and levels may differ, but all share a common thread by helping shape NASCAR.

They include: Richard Childress, 11-time car owner champion in NASCAR's three national series; Rick Hendrick, 14-time car owner champion in NASCAR's three national series; Mark Martin, 96-time race winner in NASCAR national series competition; Raymond Parks, NASCAR's first champion car owner, and Benny Parsons, 1973 NASCAR premier series champion.

Weekend Racing: The Trucks will race at the 1.5-mile Texas Motor speedway, while the Cup and Xfinity teams will be at the 2.0-mile Michigan International Speedway.

Fri., June 10, Truck Series race 7 of 23; Starting time: 9 p.m. ET; TV: Foxsports1.

Sat., June 11, Xfinity Series race 13 of 33; Starting time: 1:30 p.m. ET; TV: Foxsports1.

Sun., June 12, Sprint Cup race 15 of 36; Starting time: 1 p.m. ET; TV: Foxsports1.

Racing Trivia Question: The Wood Brothers team won the first NASCAR race held at Michigan in 1969. Who was the driver?

Last Week's Question? What year did Bobby Allison win the NASCAR championship? Answer: It was 1983.

You may contact the Racing Reporter by e-mail at: hodges@race500.com.

Towns County Touchdown Club Bass Tournament
Lake Chatuge June 18, 2016
6:30 PM - Midnight
Georgia Mountain Fairground Boat Ramp
1st, 2nd, 3rd and Big Fish!
Entry fee \$60 per boat
50/50 payout!
Rules: Posted at sign up
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Trout stocking sites week of May 30 - June 3

FANNIN: Toccoa River, Toccoa River Tailwaters of Lake Blue Ridge, and Rock Creek.
LUMPKIN: Etowah River and Niblewill Creek.
MURRAY: Holly Creek.
UNION: Cooper Creek.
***NOTE: Information is subject to change. Please call the hatchery at 706-838-4723 for questions. The hatchery also provides trout for the state. Please contact Georgia DNR for information on sites stocked by the state. N(Jun8,Z4)gg



MGC's Sofia Swartz



Lola Patton and Avery Frechette



MGC Level 2