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Young Rebels Golf Team Ready To Step Up, Compete



Kelsey Buchholz
Sports Writer

inexperienced team and will look to experienced varsity players Justin Eck and Brayden Johnson for leadership with their play and practice habits,” stated Coach Whitchurch.

One of the most wonderful aspects of golf is that while scores may be posted in competition of one golfer against another or one team against another, the individual is in ultimate control of their own score, unaffected by the play of others. This allows for opportunities for strides in improvement over the course of the season or even within a round.

This falls right into Coach Whitchurch’s goal for the season: “We want to improve both team and individual scores and post good numbers at our subsection tournament.”

The solo play of golf also evens the playing field as age may serve as a benefit, but it is not unheard of for young golfers to make waves among a field of more experience. Whitchurch sees potential for Okeson to not just have a successful inaugural year but “shows promise as a regular in the DGF Rebels lineup for years to come.”

But first the Rebels need to get on the course and see how the golfers handle the pressure of being in a meet and playing with people from other schools.

“Our schedule is limited to



The DGF boys golf team members are, left to right, front row-Sam Thuen, Max Kohler, Chase Peterson, Jaden Argall, Chase Bauck, Levi Klungtvedt; back row-Kale Okeson, Justin Eck, Brayden Johnson, Jacob Schoenborn, Mason LePard, Zachary McFarland and Shawn Misialek.

conference and section opponents,” said Whitchurch.

But the DGF golf program is finding ways to stay connected with each other as well as the community. Whitchurch notes, “We have held some team meetings virtually and will be doing live scoring for

tournaments on the iWannamaker app.”

This is needed as spectators as well as the number of participants are limited despite the contests being held outdoors.

Even with changes, restrictions, and limited play, “Our young team

is ready to improve, gain confidence, and compete,” noted Whitchurch.

And after losing the season last year due to COVID-19 precautions, the DGF Rebels are excited and ready to get this season underway.

DGF Optimistic, Taking Season One Stroke At A Time



Kelsey Buchholz
Sports Writer

our kids,” noted Endreson. “I’m excited to see some of our younger grades getting out and seeing what golf is all about. And they seem excited to learn and grow, too.”

In previous years, Coach Endreson has stressed the importance of the short game: chipping and putting; and while this year may be different than others, the effect of that part of the game on the golfers’ score hasn’t changed. Half of their strokes are supposed to come on the green if they play par, so giving it the proper attention is needed.

There is stiff competition in the Heart O’Lakes as the Yellowjackets continue to be a top tier program.

“Perham is always tough and will have a strong returning team,” Endreson said.

DGF is scheduled to open their season in Barnesville and follow it up with a challenging Wildflower Course in Detroit Lakes.

Endreson returns for his 14th year at the helm of the Lady Rebels golf program. He will once again be assisted by Josh Argall, who is back for his fifth year with the program.

Under the direction of Endreson and Argall, focusing on the small aspects of the game is going to make a big difference for the Lady Rebels. Keeping attention to the area of the course where the majority of strokes are accumulated may be the difference in making the proper adjustments to achieve their goals of continual improvement.



The DGF girls golf team members are, left to right, front row-Savanna Johnson, Ava Johnson, Grace Hawk, Graci Devier, Lauren Revier, McKenzie Finstrom; back row-Addie Ehrichs, Bella Johnson, Maggie O’Hara, Olivia Boyd and Alyvia Couchman.

Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton girls coach Matt Endreson has seen a lot in his almost 15 years instructing golfers, but nothing matches to the challenges brought on last season. And even a whole year later, the team is still working, managing, and adjusting to find what works best every day.

Much of the lessons everyone is currently experiencing transfer to the golf course: patience, being flexible, assessing the situation, and finding new ways to address familiar scenarios.

Patience will be needed as the DGF girls team will look much different than it did two years ago when it last played. Then their roster was chock-full of talented seniors and juniors. However, graduation took those ladies out of the equation, leaving this year’s squad with just as much excitement but not as much experience.

However, there are many eager faces on the DGF golf team this year. “We have 15 girls out this year, which is awesome to see the program growing and gaining traction with

Coach Endreson and the Rebel ladies will also need to be flexible going into this season. Just like any other spring, the weather has so much impact on practices and meets. Flexibility will also be key as rosters get figured out for each meet this season. And with such a young squad, many golfers will get a chance to prove themselves sometime throughout the season.

But the Rebel golfers aren’t all completely new to the game.

“We have some seniors returning that will continue to be our leaders during practices and golf meets,” said Endreson, knowing how valuable that veteran presence can be.

Assessing the situation and finding new ways to address it are other keys that the golfers will need to have. Time on the course will be crucial for the novice squad. The more they practice and play, the more they will know how to handle difficulties in ball placement, club choice, and overall approach. But ultimately the ladies are just happy for the opportunity to play this spring and will continue to take it one day at a time, as we all do.

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