

# **Wasatch Golf Association of the Deaf**

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The Wasatch Golf Association of the Deaf (WGAD) was organized on September 13, 1980 at Schneiter's Riverside Golf Course in Ogden, Utah. One day, George Wilding suggested to his friends, Robert DeSpain, Dennis Platt, and Fred Bass, "Why don't we have deaf club for golf?" They all agreed with that immediately.

The purpose of establishing this organization was to draw golf interest in the deaf people of the state of Utah. The monthly golfing meets were at many different golf courses in parts of northern Utah, Salt Lake areas and in Eagle Mountain.

Robert DeSpain Memorial Tournament is named in honor of Robert G. DeSpain, one of the co-founders of the WGAD. Anyone can join WGAD to play for fun, but to qualify for the Robert Despain Memorial Tournament the players must have 5 rounds played with a WGAD member.

The tournaments are set up by WGAD and players have even participated in the DeafNation Golf Classic competition to win a prize.

## **Note**

George Wilding, interview by Jodi B. Kinner, "Wasatch Golf Association of the Deaf," October 29, 2008.