

UNCG Names Sargent Women's Golf Coach

Written by Matt McColleston
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Sarah Sargent, a former LPGA Tour and Duramed Futures Tour member, has been named head women's golf coach at UNCG, Director of Athletics Kim Record announced Wednesday. Sargent spent six years on the Futures Tour

and two years on the LPGA Tour before heading into collegiate coaching at Furman and Coastal Carolina.

"We are excited to welcome Sarah Sargent to UNCG," Record said. "Having played on the LPGA Tour and the Futures Tour, she brings a wealth of knowledge to our program. Her collegiate playing success and experience as a professional golfer will help our student-athletes immensely on the course. Additionally, she gained valuable experience as a successful collegiate assistant coach and will help continue the growth of our golf program here at UNCG." Sargent was a standout student-athlete at Furman University for Hall of Fame head coach Mic Potter, earning National Golf Coaches Association All-America honors and the Southern Conference Player of the Year award in the 2003-04 season. She also was named the Furman Female Athlete of the Year in 2004. She led the Paladins to four SoCon titles and four NCAA Regional appearances, including a berth in the NCAA Championships as a senior as Furman placed sixth in the regional.

"I am very excited for the opportunity to work at UNCG," Sargent said. "The women's golf team is coming off an excellent year and I hope to build on the progress they have made. I believe this team has the drive and talent to win the Southern Conference and make it to the NCAA tournament. Hard work, along with caliber of the returning players, should push UNCG to a new level."

Sargent spent 2004-2006 and 2008-2010 on the Duramed Futures Tour where she posted three second place finishes and 10 Top 10 finishes. She finished 14th in scoring average on the Futures Tour in 2004, while placing in the Top 20 on the money list in 2006. She also appeared on The Golf Channel's Big Break VI: Trump National series in 2006.

Sargent earned her LPGA Tour card after placing 10th in the LPGA Qualifying Tournament and was a member of the LPGA Tour in 2007 and 2008. Her top tour finish came in 2007, tying for 25th, while also participating in the U.S. Open in 2007 and 2010.

"I am really excited Sarah has received the opportunity to be a head coach at UNCG," former Furman head coach and current Alabama head coach Mic Potter said. "I had the privilege of watching her develop as a player coming to Furman as a walk-on and leaving as an All-American. Now I am seeing her develop as a coach too, starting at Furman and working her way through the ranks. She has shown the ability to adapt and an eagerness to learn, which we don't see very often these days. She has a good feel on the pulse of the recruiting scene and I have no doubt she will do a fantastic job at UNCG."

Sargent spent from 2010-2012 on staff at Coastal Carolina as an assistant coach and an associate head coach. She helped the Chanticleers place fourth in the NCAA East Regionals to advance to the NCAA Championships for the first time in program history. Coastal Carolina, the Big South Champions, finished the 2010-11 season ranked No. 24 in the NCAA.

Prior to Coastal Carolina, Sargent spent a year as an assistant coach at her alma mater, Furman, for the 2009-10 season. She helped the Paladins earn an at-large berth in the NCAA

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East Regional after placing fifth in the Southern Conference Tournament where they placed 16th.

Sargent was also an associate golf professional at Farmington Country Club in Charlottesville, Va., in 2012. She earned her bachelor's degree in political science from Furman in 2004. She is married to Herbie Sargent, a former PGA of American professional and a professional caddy on the LPGA Tour for Meaghan Francella. Additionally, her father Ralph Johnston played on the PGA Tour from 1971-78.

Photo Courtesy: Sarah Sargent, UNCG Athletics