

**The United States Blind Golf Association
is proud to recognize and induct
Rotary Club International
into its 2008 class of the Hall of Fame.
The plate on the Hall of Fame trophy very appropriately reads:
“Friend of the USBGA”**



The United States Blind Golf Association has been fortunate to have Rotary Club International play a part in its history. Numerous times Rotarians volunteered to host and run the Blind Golf National Championship. They helped the USBGA continue its tradition of annually providing a golf tournament for its membership to decide the best blind golfers.

The Rotary Club was established in 1905 and derived its name from rotating meetings between member's offices. Within 20 years it had expanded worldwide and adopted the name Rotary International. In order to promote international educational and cultural exchanges it formed UNESCO in 1942 and went on to serve in the United Nations Charter conference. Today Rotary International addresses new challenges such as environmental degradation, illiteracy, world hunger, and children at risk.

Rotarians have a code of ethics which was developed in 1943. Two of the phrases in the code were exemplified when Rotarians took part in the USBGA National Championship. Their code challenged them to answer questions about their service. 1: Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS? And 2: Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned? Of course, the answer to these questions is a resounding yes. The service to the USBGA resulted in additionally benefitting many other people and causes supported by the events. Funds raised through Rotarian support of the Blind Golf National Championship helped other non-profit organizations as well as local Rotary Club projects.

During the 1970s, 80s, and beyond locations from Louisiana to Pennsylvania and from Florida to California national tournaments were supported by Rotarians. On two occasions major international match play events were successfully held because of a Rotary Club's commitment to blind golfers. Through the years Rotarians certainly answered the questions about how well their involvement benefitted all and how it developed good will and friendship.

Rotary International's motto "service above self," has made a significant difference in the lives of many blind and vision impaired golfers. The United States Blind Golf Association is proud to recognize and induct Rotary International into its 2008 class of the Hall of Fame. The plate on the Hall of Fame trophy very appropriately reads: "Friend of the USBGA".