

# GATOR BOWL CHARITIES SPORTS PANEL:

### THE JOURNEY TO A CAREER IN SPORTS

# THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 2022

NAME:





## TIMELINE

Welcome DuPont Middle School Remarks Gator Bowl Charities Remarks Florida Lottery Video Panelist Intro Panel Discussion Questions Lunch provided by Chick-fil-A Jacksonville





## **TODAY'S SPEAKERS**



### Lauren Brooks, 1010XL (Moderator)

Lauren is a graduate of Bishop Kenny High School and was a four-year starter for the soccer team. Following high school, she headed down to the University of Florida to study marketing and received her bachelor's degree in 2004. Lauren's career began with an eight-year tenure as a Director of Financial Aid. She then followed her passion for sports and joined 1010XL. She has experience as a host of the country's first-ever all-female sports talk radio show, Helmets & Heels, high school and college football sideline reporter, NFL pre-game host, sports talk radio host on The Frangie Show in afternoon drive, and has been a host on sports television shows and River City Live.

### Dee Brown, Jacksonville University



Dee is the Executive Director of University and Athletic Relations at Jacksonville University. His sports career began on the court at Bolles high school followed by a collegiate career at Jacksonville University where he studied Math & Computer Science. Dee was selected by the Boston Celtics with the 19th overall pick in the 1990 NBA Draft and had a 12-year career in the NBA with Boston, Toronto and Orlando. After retirement, he began coaching in the WNBA. His career in sports has included stops as Director of Player Development for the Orlando Magic and Sacramento Kings, assistant coach for the Detroit Pistons and Denver Nuggets, and Vice President of Integrated Development & G League Operations for the LA Clippers. In July of 2021, he returned to his alma mater to join their athletics staff. In his position at JU, he will act as a coach's liaison to the Athletics Director. In addition, he will serve as the primary sports administrator for multiple sports and act as the Chief Culture Officer within the athletics department as well as serve as the senior administrative liaison to the Student Athlete Advisory Committee.



### Gabby Krajniak, Philadelphia Flyers

Gabby is a graduate of the University of Florida with both a Bachelor's and Master's degree in Sport Management. Her first jump into sports as a career was in college when she served as an intern for the Florida High School Athletic Association in Gainesville. In 2019, Gabby interned with the TaxSlayer Gator Bowl where she assisted with membership, corporate development and team operations for the SEC team. She currently works for the Philadelphia Flyers as an account executive where she is focused on relationship building with clients and assists with ticket sales activities. Prior to this promotion, she served as an Inside Sales Representative for the Flyers completing outbound calls with a focus on generating new ticket revenue.

### Dr. Mark Clifford, Position Sports DREAM Program



Dr. Clifford is a Retired Air Force Lieutenant Colonel who earned a bachelor's degree in General Sciences at the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1997, a Master's degree in Human Resource Management from The University of Maryland, University College in 2002, and earned his PhD in Sport Administration from the University of New Mexico in 2007. Aside from his education, he spent 20 years in the Air Force as a Logistics Readiness Officer who has served in a variety of positions. Dr. Clifford worked for Air Force Academy's Division I Athletic Department as an assistant coach and administrator. Upon retiring from the Air Force, he became a professor at Grand Canyon University where he led the Sport Management program and also served as an Assistant Dean for the Colangelo College of Business. He now serves as the executive director of Position Sports DREAM Program where he collaborates with multiple HBCUs to enroll students into their virtual DREAM program within the sports industry.



### Sydney Jackson, Wake Forest Football

Sydney is a recent graduate of Hampton University with a Bachelor's degree in Finance and Financial Management Services. She is a former student-athlete having played Division 1 soccer and is just beginning her career in the sports industry. During college, she became active in Position Sports DREAM program where she was able to complete multiple internships within the sports industry including a month-long internship with the Las Vegas Motor Speedway working with their marketing team on signage and sponsor fulfillment. She also served as a game week intern for the TaxSlayer Gator Bowl this past December here in Jacksonville. She most recently secured an internship at Wake Forest University with their football team after networking with their staff during her TaxSlayer Gator Bowl internship.



### Leigh Ann Russell, PGA TOUR

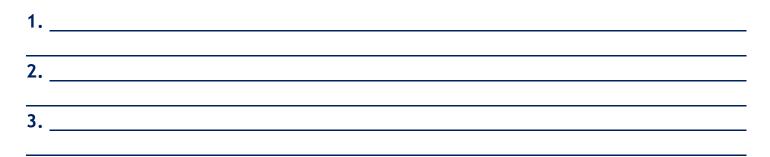
Leigh Ann is currently the Senior Manager of Tournament Business Affairs Operations and Fan Engagement for the PGA Tour. She attended West Virginia University to study Public Relations and Dance and actively completed multiple internships during her time in school. After college, she interned with the American Junior Golf Association before securing a job with the Greater Hickory Kia Classic, a PGA Tour event on the Champion's tour. In 2016, she moved to Ponte Vedra Beach to begin working in the PGA TOUR's headquarters. While there she has been in multiple roles including Public Relations and Community Outreach Coordinator, Manager of Tournament Business Affairs Operations and Fan Engagement.





# NOTES

#### 3 FUN FACTS I LEARNED ABOUT CAREERS IN SPORTS ARE...



#### A SPORTS CAREER THAT INTERESTS ME IS: \_\_\_\_\_

NOTES: \_\_\_\_\_





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