



**Alejandro (Alex) Alvarez-Compean (Known simply as Alex Alvarez)**  
**College/University: Texas A&I**  
**Year Turned Pro: 1976 (in Mexico City; Became a PGA member in 1986)**  
**Facility and Job Title: Fox Run Golf Course; Head Golf Professional**

**What was your motivation to become a PGA Professional?**

I wanted to become the best I could be at the career of golf. As I mentioned before, Mr. Jack Mann encouraged me to come to the USA, and once here, it was like I was part of a family. Every pro, assistant and head professional, made me feel part of something special. I wanted to be like them.

**What is your specialty in the golf business?**

Teaching, Tournaments and Club Fitting

**What was your greatest moment in golf?**

Personally I have none, unless I count a 61 I shot at my course in 1999, but I do not consider it the greatest moment, just a very fun and lucky day. I have many "greatest" moments, most of them with my daughters. I'll mention one that inspired me and that I will never forget: My youngest, Anya, by far the best player ever in our family, and who now plays for the University of Washington, won the 12-14 year PGA Junior Flight when she was 11. The month before she did, she broke 40 for the first time ever and did so from the men's tees with me. A month later, in the tournament held in Santa Fe; she started badly and scored a 94, she was 11 shots back of first place, a "rival" all year long. In the afternoon after the first round, she wanted to go practice. We did. Then she said, "dad, do you think if I shoot in the 70's tomorrow I can win?" I thought 11 shots was too much, but at that age, who knows, but not wanting to sound negative I said "sure!" In the morning, during breakfast she said, "Dad, I dreamt that I beat Jeannel in a playoff, but I hope I don't need it" To make a long story short, she shot 82 and Jeannel shot 93 and won on the second playoff hole by scoring two consecutive pars. Never underestimate the power of dreams.

**What or who has had the greatest impact on your career?**

First "Mama Cuy" (my mother). She is the one who forced me to skip a soccer game to go see Jack Nicklaus and Arnold Palmer in 1967. Though at that time I already played golf, what I saw made me try harder. Then, my brother Javier, who went into the golf course construction business (still is) and with whom I had a good rivalry. Once I started, Jack Mann of course... and then, once in the USA, Fred Atkins and Bull Durham. I could never repay either one of the ones mentioned here!

**Besides golf, what else do you enjoy?**

Whenever possible, I enjoy playing with family or friends more than anything else. Especially my daughters. Classical Music; I read a lot, everything, novels, history, drama (I don't like horror stuff); I do not consider myself a good writer but I enjoy writing (I guess it beats talking, because I do not have an accent in writing... just kidding!), whether in my journal or stories about golf; I enjoy keeping up with the blog... and enjoy designing databases that help with gathering information (I'm sort of a math freak).

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**If you could play any golf course in the world, which one would it be and who would complete your foursome?**

Augusta National, hands down!! Could I have two fivesomes, even if I have to play only nine holes with each group? One with Anya, Paola (my two daughters), Ramona (wife) & Arnold Palmer; another one with Billy Harvey (Sun Country PGA) and my three brothers, Javier, Armando and Manuel. If they don't allow fivesomes, I'll just watch each foursome and enjoy their day from the outside. Maybe caddy for one of the players.

**If you could give lessons to anyone in the world who would it be and what advice would you give?**

I do not keep up with "celebrities" if that is what you are asking, but if I could have a round with President George W. Bush and his dad, George H.W. Bush (Mr. 41<sup>st</sup>), I would help the elder with his putting. Then, I would ask hundreds of questions. This is the USA's Royal Golf Family.

**What is your favorite golf instruction tip?**

I am a "Harvey Penick" guy. I like to keep it simple: KISS. The only thing that matters is impact. That's it. So, I make my students mimic an impact position and then ask them to swing to that position (without a ball first, just a tee) over and over and continue to a balanced finish. After a while, I let them hit the ball. You'd be amazed how that simple tip helps golfers of all levels.

**What is your career low?**

Not having played Augusta National or Pebble Beach or with Arnie!

**If you have a personal website about your services please list the URL here:**

<http://www.golfingallup.blogspot.com>

**What are your goals for the future?**

Good question: Promote the game and it's life lessons with as many people as possible... then play with as many as I can.

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