



Everything's chipper . . . Mark Gibson watches Ben Glachan practise yesterday. *Picture: JEFF HERBERT*

Ben goes one on one with PGA coach

BEN Glachan is one of the most promising young golfers in the region and yesterday he had the opportunity to learn from one of the nation's top-flight coaches.

Gold Coast-based Mark Gibson, a top PGA coach and dual winner of the PGA Australian Teacher of the Year, has been a guest coach at the Central Coast Academy of Sport since its start in 2004.

Glachan, who has been in the academy for the past three years, won last year's A-Grade championship at the Wyong Club and

plays off a handicap of two.

"Ben has the self-discipline and willingness to do the work to improve his game," CCAS executive director Ian Robilliard said of the 16-year-old.

"He's the shining light of our golf program and one of a handful of athletes in their third year in the academy."

Glachan has the long-term goal of turning professional but in the short term needs to take two strokes off his handicap.

"I need to keep playing well and get my handicap down to

scratch," the Northlakes High student said before a one-on-one session with Gibson at the Tuggerah Lakes course.

"I want to get into the Brisbane Water district squad and win a few junior tournaments.

"The state age championships is on my immediate list."

Gibson is on the Coast this week to help the academy's athletes reduce their handicaps and improve their game and is concentrating on individual skills assessment, pre-shot routine and on-course management.