

**JOHN E. BODA, SR.**  
NEW ENGLAND  
PROFESSIONAL GOLFERS' ASSOCIATION  
HALL OF FAME  
1997

*The late John E. Boda was born in 1911 in the town of Lawrence, Massachusetts. His golfing career began as a caddie at Merrimack Valley Country Club in Methuen. He worked in the pro shop until 1933 when he took the head professional position at Haverhill Country Club. When the Great Depression hit the New England area, Boda was forced to seek more profitable business ventures in order to support his family. It was eight long years until he could return to his chosen career as head golf professional at Merrimack Valley. Boda remained at Merrimack until 1946, when he was appointed to the head professional position at Andover Country Club, where he stayed for the next 26 years.*

*Mr. Boda was a dedicated leader of the New England PGA who served the section in several major roles. From 1953-1970, he served as tournament director, secretary-treasurer and president. From 1963 to 1971, Mr. Boda was also chairman of the PGA of American Winter Tournament Program in Florida, and he was a member of the PGA National Rules Committee. Between 1969 and 1971, Mr. Boda served as National vice president of the PGA. He earned the NEPGA's highest award, Professional of the Year in 1969. Mr. Boda was one of the most influential PGA professionals in America, and was the driving force of the New England PGA throughout the 50's and 60's and until his passing in 1971. Mr. Boda is truly an icon of golf and the PGA of America is grateful for his talents and unselfish willingness to spend countless hours on behalf of the Association.*