



PGA
New England Section

Full Swing
Official News Magazine of the New England PGA APRIL 2018

Spring Ahead



FEATURING:

NEPGA Spring Meeting

Tournaments on the horizon

Featured Award winners

CONTENTS

President's Message...3	Award Winners Spotlight.....18-19	Membership Updates...36
Executive Director's Message...4	PGA News.....21	Social Media Corner...37
Spring Meeting Recap...6-7	Junior News.....22-23	Bulletin Board...38
Tournament Previews...10-11	Growing the Game Opportunities...24	
PGA Hope Initiative.....12	Chapter & Assn. News...25-35	
NEPGA University.....14	Awards Banquet Invitation...30	

FRONT COVER:

Top: Vice President Allan Belden, PGA presides over the meeting as the NEPGA Officers look on. Bottom Left: New Members Alec Vozzella, PGA (Marshfield CC), Matt Lombard, PGA (Winchester CC) & Alex Hoyos, PGA (Essex CC) with NEPGA President Ron Bibeau, PGA. Bottom Right: Rich Berberian, Jr., PGA receives his 2017 OMEGA Wogan Player of the Year Award.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: Ron Bibeau, PGA



The Spring Meeting at Andover was a great way to connect with everybody again after a long winter and I wanted to share with you again what my goals as your President will be during my term:

- Promote our PGA Professionals and all the good you do
- “Keep our Brand Strong”
- Focus on Employment and keeping NEPGA members employed
- Develop new business and enhance our current partnerships and relationships we have with our sponsors
- Grow the Foundation and create fundraising opportunities to ensure NEPGA Professionals are receiving grants
- “Grow the Game” through our foundation programs and existing programs offered

Goals are important to move forward and create success but we should also look at five of our recent accomplishments:

1. Our Foundation is rolling and we are accepting grant requests. Honorary President Jarvis should be congratulated on his effort and passion for the Foundation
2. We have started The NEPGA University, which will put all of our education under one umbrella and news will be announced soon as to the depth of education and a plan moving forward. Thank you to the education committee members and chairs for your work on this great initiative
3. Our member directory has gone digital, so if you are still using a flip phone or even better a dial phone you will need to upgrade!!
4. The Assistant's Association will be taking the reins of The Growth of The Game Committee, who better than our assistant's to take this on.
5. We are developing an NEPGA Ambassador Program. We will select 6-10 members per year to orientate on what we are doing so they can have the information to share with our membership with the hope of creating future leaders

As our season gets closer and spring is in the air I am reminded of how and why I got into the game of golf and eventually decided to make it my career.

I was introduced to the game by my father at the age of 8 mainly because I was too young to play little league baseball (as I stated at the Spring Meeting) and a life-long passion for the game began. I remember my mom would drop me off in the morning at the golf course near our

home and I would stay there all day, 36-54 holes was the norm. I was there so much the owner put me to work picking the range and helping out with anything that needed to be done at the course and that is when I realized I wanted to work in the golf business. Well life always gets in the way and I got married young and played amateur golf.

Until the early 90's when I met my mentor and future boss Bob Darling, he offered me an Assistant's position and I accepted and my career in the golf business began. I have worked at Private, Public, and Municipal and was The Executive Director at The First Tee of Maine. All of these jobs have given me the tools I need to successfully operate any facility today and also gives me the knowledge of what our members go through on a daily basis and allows me the incite to make the decisions needed to ensure all members of The NEPGA concerns are met.

My message at the spring meeting was “What is your Why” and I would like to elaborate on that message.

What is your why?

Why do we do what we do? Why do we give so much time away from our families? Why do we care so much about our members and the guests that play at our clubs? Why do we teach? Why do I get involved?

Everyone gets the idea!!

The obvious answer is we make a living at it and support our families with the paychecks we receive.

But I want to know your why!

My why is you; I do what I do as your President and as an officer over the last five years because of the entire membership of The NEPGA. I am passionate about the decisions that will make a difference in your careers and promise to leave our association better than what it was when I began my journey first as a Director from Maine and then as an officer and now as your President.

I hope everyone has a successful 2018 season and let's all think of our WHY the next time we have a bad day or something does not go our way, I know I do!!!

Respectfully Submitted

Ron Bibeau, PGA

NEPGA President

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE: *Mike Higgins*



Easter weekend 2018 I was excited to watch the Drive, Chip and Putt National Finals that were played at the Augusta National Golf Club. I was fortunate enough to work the event on two separate

occasions, and the experience created for the junior golfers and their families is second to none. While watching this year's event I loved the personal segments on the juniors and the wonderful stories of their "journey to Augusta." An observation I made during the telecast was how many times juniors and their families mentioned that golf has allowed them to spend more time with one another. Sons made comments that playing golf has allowed them to spend more time with their dad, or fathers saying that I taught my daughter how to play golf and now we have something in common that we do together.

This game creates a wonderful opportunity for fathers to play with sons, mothers to play with daughters, husbands to play with wives, and entire families to play together. There are not many sports that afford this opportunity for togetherness, and I hope that many of our facilities pay attention to this fact. If golf can bring families together, golf should also be able to bring families to our facilities right? Our facilities need to be sure that the programs and opportunities available to golfers are inclusive and open to a "family friendly" atmosphere. My father and I had a bond unique to only the two of us because of the game of golf. Up until the time he became too sick to play golf any longer, I treasured my time with my dad on the golf course. Now I treasure my golf memories of playing with my dad, and I look forward to making memories with my own daughter; who told me following the Drive, Chip and Putt that she wants to play more golf this year!

It is very important that our facilities pay attention to the family demographic, but it is also very important not to neglect the other demographics at our facilities.

The game of golf itself is being pushed and pulled in different directions by individuals and clubs around the world. Many are trying to determine whether or not to uphold the formal/traditional collared shirt side of golf, or welcome the less informal, music blaring during the round side of golf. We even see this tug of war inside many clubhouses as well. There are clubs holding on to the white tablecloths and jackets only in the dining room, while others are favoring the jeans attire and quick turn-around service.

It is so important for each facility (members & staff) to know their clubs demographic. One marketing phrase that seems to be appearing in the marketing material at private clubs, resorts and all places in between is "we are a family friendly club." While you create the "family inclusive" atmosphere at your club, it may be wise to constantly examine all the active demographics that support your facility. I think each PGA Professional should conduct an experiment at your club to analyze who is playing golf, and how often are they doing so.

Before you focus all of your attention on rolling out a program targeting a certain demographic, be sure to not neglect your core customer in the process. In my research I was surprised to review some of the statistics the NGF provides, and I wonder if they hold true at your facility.

The National Golf Foundation produced statistics to correlate the number of rounds being played by the age of the golfer.

Age: 40-49 - average 16 rounds per year

Age: 50-59 - average 19 rounds per year

Age: 60-69 - average 32 rounds per year

Age: 70+ - average 47 rounds per year

This is not rocket science and shouldn't be a surprise to any of us. As children leave the nest, their parents have more free time to enjoy their own hobbies and passions. Also, golf is a game of a life time, and we don't have to

hang up our golf clubs at 60 years old like we do with our basketball sneakers or football helmet.

It's also not a surprise to learn that the median age of a private club member is 56. With the average age of marriage for women in the US at 26, and average age for marriage at 28 for men, the median age of a private club member coincidentally coincides with right about the time their children would be self-sufficient and out on their own.

If you notice that your club demographics are similar to these statistics, or even if they are completely different, I encourage you to review them with your leadership team. Be sure that as you roll out programs, you are delivering what your members need and want. If your focus is to grow in an area that may be lacking, you want to be sure you are not sacrificing programs that could impact other areas. Always keep your facility's membership mission in mind with all decisions. If the younger 35 year old couple is the core of your membership or if it's the 65 year old recently retired couple, be sure your focus to grow one demographic doesn't alienate those who spend a lot of time and money at your facility.

I sincerely hope that your facility is family friendly, and your members can enjoy creating the same terrific memories that I created playing golf with my dad, but I also hope that your facility continues to evolve as your membership evolves.

The New England golf season is finally here, and I hope that you have a very successful 2018!

As always, please reach out to either myself or any of our talented NEPGA Staff if we can ever be of assistance.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J. Higgins

Success at the Seaport

New England PGA raises almost \$3500 for NEPGA Foundation.



SIMULATORS
aboutGolf®



The New England PGA had a great presence at the National Golf Expo once again in 2018. Thanks to partners AboutGolf Simulators and Turkish Airlines, the NEPGA Booth was one of the most popular attractions at the Seaport World Trade Center.

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The Boston Golf Expo was at the Seaport World Trade Center from March 2-4, 2018. The excitement for the golf season was palpable. Even a Nor'easter that came in on the opening day couldn't dampen the spirits of the golf-dedicated in the room.

The NEPGA station spanned nearly the entire length of the room. A main feature of the weekend was the instructional area. Volunteer PGA Professionals gave ten minute tune-up lessons to patrons who wanted to shake the winter rust. The \$10 fee participants paid for the lesson was donated to the New England PGA Foundation.

The Drive, Chip and Putt Competition at the Expo did not disappoint, and was

consistently busy throughout the weekend. The AboutGolf Simulator used for the driving portion of the contest was the newest element and attracted much attention with its detailed stat and shot tracking. Attendees would move from the driving station, to chipping, and finally on to putting on a customized Turkish Airlines Birdie Ball putting green.

The DCP Contest had over 500 attendees, and all were entered into a raffle to win free round-trip tickets to any destination courtesy of Turkish Airlines. First, second, and third place finishers in each of the men's, women's and juniors divisions were also awarded. First place winners received a membership to the Junior Tour or New England Series, second place received a NEPGA Prize Package, and third place won a set of 12 golf balls.

Overall, the proceeds from the Drive, Chip, and Putt contest and the tune-up lessons totaled an almost \$3500 donation to the New England PGA Foundation.

Thank you to all of the PGA Professionals who volunteered throughout the weekend and to partners AboutGolf and Turkish Airlines for their support!

RESULTS

High Score: Brad McCluskey—1594pts

Women's high score: Vanessa Varrati—1402pts

Junior High Score: Casey Leonard— 1465 pts

Turkish airlines raffle winner: Zach Dunne

[Click Here for Turkish Airlines Raffle Announcement Video!](#)

Spring has Sprung

New England PGA's Spring Meeting reconnects PGA Professionals and Partners

The New England PGA held its annual Spring Meeting on Tuesday at Andover Country Club. It was a great day for New England PGA Professionals to reconnect with the Section and their peers.

The meeting day began at Andover at 7:30am with a partner appreciation breakfast. NEPGA Partner Representatives set up tables and displays for their products and spoke with PGA Professionals in attendance. A new feature was introduced for this year's meeting to drive more traffic to our partners, as Professionals were offered the chance to fill out a "Partner Scorecard" during the breakfast, and by obtaining 9 different representative signatures would be eligible for a chance at a \$250 or \$500 prize



NEPGA OMEGA-Wogan Player of the Year Award during the meeting. He is coming off of a second consecutive PGA Professional Player of the Year Award winning season as well.

Thank you to all of those PGA Professionals and representatives who came out to the meeting, and thank you to Andover Country Club for hosting!

The meeting began at 9am and NEPGA President Ron Bibeau, PGA led the discussion throughout the day. He, along with the board of directors and NEPGA Staff presented updates on the New England PGA Section and its status.

Following the meeting, there were two break-out sessions: a new member luncheon and a panel conversation featuring past and current winners of the NEPGA Merchandiser of the Year and Professional of the Year Awards. The focus of the new member lunch was for the NEPGA Board of Directors to get to know some newly elected PGA Members as well as new members to the section. It also helped to grow the bonds between these new members. The educational panel helped to provide insight on best practices and policies that award-winning NEPGA Members use in their jobs.

Rich Berberian Jr, PGA was in attendance and received his 2017



Weren't able to make the Meeting? Check out the full video below!



Click Here for the Spring Meeting Video,
Part 1



Click Here for the Spring Meeting Video,
Part 2

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Carr Golf Receives Third Consecutive Editors' Choice Award from Golf Digest

Carr Golf – Ireland and Scotland's premier provider of unforgettable golf vacations – has received the prestigious "Editors' Choice Award" from Golf Digest in the "Best Golf Tour Operators" category for the third consecutive year.

Now in its third year, the Golf Digest "Editors' Choice Awards" annually honors the "best of the best" in 38 industry categories. Carr Golf was one of just five tour operators to receive the coveted accolade. The news is featured in the just-released May issue.

"We're thrilled to once again be honored by Golf Digest for our ongoing commitment to providing extraordinary golf vacations that generate memories to last a lifetime," says Marty Carr, executive chairman of Carr Golf. "We pride ourselves on our impeccable customer care from the moment a client contacts us with an inquiry

to when they're back home after enjoying one of our incredible getaways."

Carr Golf has also received three prestigious World Golf Award nominations: Ireland's Best Inbound Golf Tour Operator 2018, Ireland's Best Outbound Golf Tour Operator 2018 and Europe's Best Golf Tour Operator 2018. The World Golf Awards celebrate and reward excellence in golf tourism, world-class courses and golf destinations around the globe. The voting for the awards closes on Sept. 20. Winners will be announced at a gala ceremony at Spain's La Manga Club in November.

Carr Golf also showcases a wide array of unique events including the 29th Annual World Invitational Father & Son Tournament (Aug. 8 – 12) and 11th Annual World Invitational Father & Daughter Tournament (July 23 – 26), both held on Ireland's Waterville Golf Links. The Father

& Son event is sold out. A few team spots remain available for this year's Father & Daughter tournament.

The nearly 30-year-old company has been experiencing unprecedented demand for itineraries featuring the great links courses of Ireland and Scotland. Clients can still enjoy guaranteed access for the 2018 season on world-class layouts Old Head Golf Links, Portmarnock Golf Club, Ballybunion and Royal Portrush Golf Club, host venue of the upcoming 2019 Open Championship. Furthermore, exclusive play on Open Championship rota courses Muirfield Golf Club, Carnoustie Golf Links and Royal Troon Golf Club remains.

For more information on Carr Golf: www.carrgolf.com, 1.855.617.5701 (U.S. toll free) or +353.1.822 6662.

About Carr Golf Travel

For nearly three decades, Ireland-based Carr Golf Travel has built its impeccable reputation on creating the ultimate golf escapes to exceptional courses in Ireland and Scotland like Ballybunion, Royal County Down, Royal Portrush, Waterville, The Old Course at St. Andrews, and Turnberry. Deeply passionate about the game's history and traditions, the family-owned company creates, plans and implements customized and unique itineraries that include tee times, luxury accommodations, transportation, sightseeing, fine dining, caddies and anything else needed

for stress-free, unforgettable golf vacations and memories.

Joe Carr, the company's late founder, was one of Ireland's greatest golf heroes with over 40 championship victories including three British Amateur titles. He was the recipient of the Bobby Jones Award (1961), Walter Hagen Award (1967), and played in three Masters Tournaments at Augusta National. In 1991 he was the first Irishman to be honored with Captaincy of the Royal & Ancient and in 2007 he was the first Irishman to be inducted into the World Golf Hall of Fame.

Today, Joe's son, Marty, operates the business

as executive chairman. His brother Roddy is also actively involved. Named winner of Golf Digest's Editors' Choice Award for "Best Tour Operator" in 2016, 2017 and 2018, Carr Golf Travel hosts numerous prestigious annual events including the World Invitational Father & Son and World Invitational Father & Daughter tournaments in Southwest Ireland as well as the Donald Ross Invitational in the Scottish Highlands. Moreover, the company is at the forefront of corporate event implementation, as well as developing itineraries built around the Open Championship, Ryder Cup, Solheim Cup, College football and NFL games in London.

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The Doctor is in...

*Thoughts from Tournament Director,
Max Doctoroff, PGA*



April Tournament News

Now that we're mere weeks away from the beginning of the tournament season, we hope that you're as excited for the new season as we are! As always, we have a great schedule throughout the spring, featuring our traditional Spring Pro-Am Series, the Pro-Pro Match Play Championship, and more! Some highlights below:

Spring Pro-Ams

Once again, we'll be taking our Spring Pro-Am Series to Thorny Lea Golf Club (April 17th) and Portsmouth Country Club (May 7th). We're also excited to add Olde Barnstable Fairgrounds to our Pro-Am rotation on April 30th! These events offer a great chance to bring some of your favorite members out to fantastic golf courses, and treat them to a day of great golf, food, and camaraderie away from your home club. These Pro-Ams fill up fast, so be sure to sign up soon before it's too late! Thanks to Host Professionals Tim Watroba, Merry Holway, and Bill Andrews for their hospitality.



Olde Barnstable Fairgrounds GC



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Pro-Pro Match Play Championship: April 23-25

The Pro-Pro Match Play Championship returns to LeBaron Hills Country Club in 2018, and is sure to provide great competition and fun throughout the three days. Invite a friend, and pair up to vie for this year's title at the season's first NEPGA Major! Open to Class A Professionals only, this event begins with a qualifying round on Monday morning, followed by the match play rounds on Monday afternoon, Tuesday, and Wednesday. We're pleased to bring back the consolation shootout on Monday afternoon for all teams who don't qualify for match play, so everyone can get in on the excitement! Many thanks to Lou Katsos and Tom Rooney for hosting this great event once again.



Troy Pare, PGA and Jeff Martin, PGA
2017 Pro-Pro MPC Champions



Stroke Play Series Begins at Shelter Harbor



Shelter Harbor GC

The first event of the 2018 Stroke Play Series is right around the corner, at Shelter Harbor Golf Club on May 15th! These five SPS events (at Shelter Harbor GC, Blue Hill CC, Manchester CC, Purpoodock Club, and Granite Links GC) will all count towards the season-long OMEGA-Wogan Player of the Year and Avidia Cup points races. The Series will

culminate in the Avidia Cup Finals in the fall. We hope to see you out there on the Stroke Play circuit! Thank you to season-long Stroke Play Series Partners: Ahead, Cutter and Buck, Bushnell, Avidia Bank, SCNS Sports Foods and PGA Tour!



Rules News

Please be aware that the NEPGA Hard Card (Local Rules and Conditions of Competition) has been updated for the 2018 season. The most substantial changes are the additions of two new Local Rules: The accidental movement of a ball or ball-marker on the putting green will no longer carry a penalty, and there will no longer be an *additional* two stroke penalty under Rule 6-6d if a player returns an incorrect scorecard due to penalties the player was unaware they had incurred. All tournament players are encouraged to read the full text of the new Hard Card at nepga.com. Please reach out to Max Doctoroff at mdoctoroff@pgahq.com with any questions regarding the Hard Card.

Important Dates

April 19

Massachusetts Chapter Spring Meeting at Four Oaks Club

April 23-25

Pro-Pro Match Play Championship at LeBaron Hills CC

April 27

Senior Association Spring Meeting at Middleton GC

April 30

VT Chapter Meeting at Rutland CC
NEPGA Pro-Am Olde Barnstable Fairgrounds

May 3

Assistants Association Spring Meeting at Marshfield CC

May 7

NEPGA Pro-Am Portsmouth CC



PGA HOPE- Red, White and YOU!

NEPGA Foundation to Focus on Veterans in Golf in 2018



The New England PGA Foundation has announced its first major project for the 2018. PGA Hope is the PGA of America and New England PGA's commitment to helping military veterans through introducing them to the game of golf.

The program would run for 6 weeks at a host facility. PGA Professionals would be hosting one 2-hour session each week, plus lunch. The clinic would host about 30-40 Veterans, but small group sizes divided by skill level makes for a better learning experience. The groups will be Alpha (Expert), Bravo (intermediate players), and Charlie (beginners). There can even be an opportunity for graduates of the clinic to participate in a post graduate league on the course.



The most basic mission of the New England PGA Foundation is to improve lives through the game of golf. Even if the veterans aren't experts in the game of golf after completing the program, they will still walk away with a great experience, and a set of golf clubs!

PGA HOPE
HELPING OUR PATRIOTS EVERYWHERE
NEW ENGLAND SECTION

The NEPGA is looking for host facilities and PGA Professionals to get involved with this program this season! PGA professionals can partner together to host clinics through the program at alternating clubs, or can collaboratively teach. We can provide marketing materials on the program so you can promote it at your facility, and a guide to running the program. All we need is YOU! Email Dave McAdams at dmcadams@pgahq.com or NEPGA Foundation President Rob Jarvis, PGA at rjarvis@pga.com for more information and how to begin your program!

CONNECT- —————>



NEPGA.com



What is it?

Drive, Chip & Putt is a free, nationwide junior golf program for boys and girls ages 7-15 that focuses on the three fundamental skills of the game — DRIVING, CHIPPING and PUTTING.



How does it work?

Drive, Chip & Putt is conducted in four stages:

LOCAL QUALIFYING — 288 host sites in all 50 states • **SUBREGIONAL QUALIFYING** — 57 host sites in 31 states

REGIONAL QUALIFYING — 10 sites, featuring many PGA and USGA championship venues

NATIONAL FINALS — 80 junior golfers competing at Augusta National Golf Club the Sunday before the Masters Tournament and broadcast live on Golf Channel



How do we get started?

A parent or guardian should register each child for one local competition at DriveChipandPutt.com.

Have fun learning and practicing golf skills.

Tell your friends to join.



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IT'S PLAYTIME

EDUCATION

UPCOMING SEMINARS

Education opportunities are open to all NEPGA members.

New England PGA Clubfitting Conference

DATE/TIME: Wednesday, May 9th 8am-3pm

LOCATION: Kirkbrae Country Club, 197 Old River Rd, Lincoln, RI 02865

COST: \$50

MSR HOURS: 6 MSRS

OVERVIEW: Join this informative workshop on how to better fit your students and golfers at your clubs with the proper golf clubs! See some of the newest in golf technologies and how they can assist in clubfitting.

Register Here!

EDUCATION News!

You can now access NEPGA University by going to two new websites! Find us on the web at www.NEPGAU.com or at www.nepga.university!

You can always find us under the education tab on www.nepga.com too!

For the Full List of all Education opportunities and details, please [click here](#)



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PGA

New England Section
Spring Meeting

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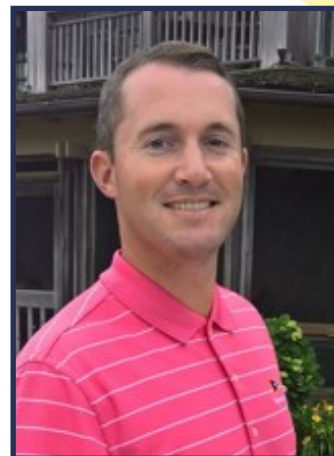
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Spotlight: 2018 Awards Winners

Each month we're highlighting some of our 2018 Special Awards winners and getting to know more about them before the Special Awards Dinner on May 19th at Kirkbrae CC!

Brendon Ray, PGA Assistant PGA Professional of the Year



Q: When did you decide to become a PGA Professional and why?

BR: I had always taken lessons from PGA Professionals and had become close friends with many PGA Professionals at these events. I also had a close childhood friend, Todd Anzlovar, who was an Assistant at Wellesley Country Club at the time, mention to me about becoming a PGA member. I had been around country clubs my whole life. I had played this great game for as long as I could remember and I already had great relationships with fellow professionals and vendors in the region. My strong passion for the game and the constant quest for knowledge fueled my curiosity and from that point on I was on my journey of becoming a PGA Professional.

Q: Who inspired or mentored you?

BR: My parents have always inspired and mentored me throughout my life. Their hard work and determination to give me the best opportunities possible have been the greatest gift they could ever give me. It is through them that I try and live my life day to day. On a professional level I was very fortunate to start my PGA career with Jim DiMarino, PGA. Jimmy offered me my first job at Warwick Country Club in 2010. Ever since the moment I walked into the Professional Shop that April he has been a tremendous mentor and friend. He has taught me not only the business side of the profession but also how to be a true professional to your members, staff and family. Without his guidance and wisdom this award would not have been possible.

Q: Of all the courses that you have played, which one is your favorite?

BR: I have been very fortunate to have played numerous courses around the country. It is a close tie between Newport Country Club and National Golf Links. Both courses have a tremendous history in the landscape of golf in the United States and offer the player a tremendous test of their game.

Q: What would you like to leave as your legacy to the game?

BR: To leave a positive mark on the people I interact with daily. To have people hear my name and say what a true professional and gentleman he was. I was brought up to treat people with respect, to listen and always smile. If you can make someone's day a little better anytime you see them, then you are making the world a better place. We as PGA Professionals are the face of our organization and our respective clubs. Our members come to us for guidance and advice and if you can take that notion and make it a positive encounter for each person then you are representing the shield with pride and grace.

Stephen Clancy, PGA

Merchandiser of the Year– Public



Q: Who inspired or mentored you?

SC: PGA Professionals: Ken Campbell, Bob Beach and Bob Travers all attributed to teaching me the game. But Bob Travers, PGA was my first supervising professional in the apprentice program. Fortunately, there are a numerous colleagues that I trust for great advice.

Q: When did you decide to become a PGA Professional and why?

SC: I decided to become a PGA Professional immediately after graduating college. I had worked at golf clubs from an early age. I thought it would be a great career path to stay involved in golf. Thirty-two years later, it is still great to have a summer job on a golf course.

Q: What other interests do you have besides the game of golf?

SC: I enjoy spending time with family and playing with my kids. I also enjoy fishing and watching sports.

Q: What would you like to leave as your legacy to the game?

SC: It is too early to discuss legacy.

Matthew Closter, PGA

Merchandiser of the Year– Resort

Q: When did you decide to become a PGA Professional and why?

MC: I decided to become a PGA Professional upon returning from college. I always knew that I wanted to make a career in golf and had great mentors at Madison Country Club, where I kept a junior membership. As a junior golfer, I always looked up to these local professionals and admired what they stood for in the community. At age 21, I began my

career as an apprentice assistant at the Black Hall Club in Old Lyme, CT.

Q: Who inspired or mentored you?

MC: My family will always be a driving inspiration for me. The life lessons in kindness and patience that I learned from my parents and sisters growing up have had a profound impact on my life. Today, I find inspiration from a number of my friends and “heroes”, but none more than my wife, Mary, and dog, Biscuit!

Prior to coming to Woodstock, I was an Assistant under Adam Hemeon at Weston Golf Club. The seven years I spent with Adam could not have better prepared me for the next step in my career. The list of PGA mentors who have assisted me along the way is long and I’m forever grateful for Andrew Campbell, Rob Barbeau, Frank Carta and Mickey Hawkes for their encouragement as an apprentice in the CT Section.

Q: Of all the courses that you have played, which one is your favorite?

MC: The Fishers Island Club holds a special place in my heart as I grew up nearby. I’ve yet to find a more remarkable layout and until I do, Fishers will always be my favorite.





Your View From the Fairway

April MEMBERSHIP NOTES: Joan Stuart

MSR Credits

The current MSR Period ends on June 15, 2018. Please visit our NEPGA U page under Education on the website

www.nepga.com to view the educational opportunities in April. If you have not met the requirements of this period by June 15, you will be reclassified as "F" and will lose all privileges until time of successful completion. There are many opportunities to earn your MSR hours. Please view both the education and meetings that are still available during April and May.

If you need PGA Education MSR credits, PGA.org offers the opportunity to watch video recorded at the Member Business Center during the 2017 and 2018 PGA Merchandise Shows.

All you need to do is watch a video and successfully complete an assessment at its conclusion. Receive two (2) PGA Required MSR Credits per video watched and assessment completed.

The PGA Town Hall videos are worth one PGA Meeting MSR credit.

[Access the 2018 PGA Merchandise Show video](#)

[Access the 2017 PGA Merchandise Show video](#) - the 2017 MBC

Complimentary videos will be available through close of business on Fri., April 13, 2018.



If you have any questions please call the Section Office 508.869.0000 or email Joan Stuart at jstuart@pgahq.com.

LOOKING FOR AN ASSISTANT PROFESSIONAL?



All NEPGA Professionals who would like to list an Assistant Professional or Teaching Professional opening for 2018

on www.nepga.com can email the information on those openings to Joan Stuart and it will be posted under our website's Employment Tab until that position is filled. Please include a brief description of the position, the deadline for resumes, the dates of employment, and contact information. It is always recommended that these positions are also posted on www.pga.org. Also, if you need help for outside operations or are looking for a position for yourself, we can also list those for you. If you are interested or have any questions, please call the NEPGA office. Please be sure to email jstuart@pgahq.com when your posted position is filled.

Also, if you are interested in obtaining a position or a new position, we do also offer this service on our website. Please email Joan Stuart if you would like to use this service.

Please [click here](#) to view the Assistant/Teaching Positions that are still on www.nepga.com.

ACH PAYMENTS FOR WINNINGS

Before the 2018 Tournament Season, again a reminder about the advantages of receiving your purse winnings as a direct deposit either into your checking or savings account.

- Why wait to receive your money?
- Why risk the possibility that the check may get lost in the mail?
- Why wait for the check to be sent or forwarded to a new address?
- Why have a stop payment fee deducted from your check when the Section has to stop payment because you never received the check?

The simple solution is to have the money deposited directly into your account. Please [click here](#) for the ACH Payment Form and follow the instructions on the form. If you need any guidance, please call the Section office or email jstuart@pgahq.com.



Ryder Cup Set to Return to Hazeltine National in 2028



John Shuster was an unrecognizable face in a sea of 250,000 fans who swarmed Hazeltine National Golf Club in Chaska for the 2016 Ryder Cup.

At Tuesday's presentation for the Ryder Cup's 2028 return to the Twin Cities' south suburban course, Shuster, the now-famous skip of the gold medal-winning U.S. Olympic men's curling team, was on stage and shared his views.

"The enormity of the crowd and the spirit that gathered behind the players, it was just a phenomenal environment," said Shuster, who continued a national media blitz with his teammates and coach. "And honestly, I'm not sure how you got so many people onto those grounds so quickly."

Soon after the 2016 Ryder Cup, the process moved rapidly for Hazeltine to become the first U.S. course to host the biennial tournament twice.

"In the back of our mind, we knew we had one of the most successful Ryder Cups ever — not just from the victorious American team (17-11 over Europe) — but from the standpoint of hospitality, the way the community supported it, the way Hazeltine supports it," said Paul Levy, president of the PGA of America. "... It has the space to do one, so we started talks not much past that event."

When Hazeltine opened in 1962, the mission was to draw championship-level events, but setting history was not on its radar.

[Click here to read more!](#)

PGA Facility Operations Scorecard

The PGA Facility Operations Scorecard (formerly known as the PGA Annual Operations Survey) to help provide our PGA Professionals with **key statistics and benchmarking capabilities to support management** of golf and club operations. This email is intended to seek your help in recruiting PGA Professional participation so that we in turn can provide comprehensive facility data that is reflective of the marketplace.

Sporting a **new, streamlined design**, the scorecard is geared towards making data more efficient and relevant to each PGA Professional filling out the scorecard, where questions are **more aligned with revenue and expense topics that are important** to PGA Professionals and their facility.

The scorecard is live to those members that have already completed the 2018 PGA Compensation Survey. We ask that that you please complete this survey [before June 4th](#).

New this year, PGA Professionals have the opportunity to **earn up to three (3) MSR credits** depending on the level of detail they wish to provide by completing the scorecard with valid, usable data by the deadline. **MSR credit is automatically applied** upon completion of the scorecard.

The scorecard is **currently available for the highest-ranked PGA Professional** at each facility. Please direct PGA Professionals to the following page at PGA.org to participate: <http://apps.pga.org/professionals/apps/memberinfo/performancecetrak/facops.cfm>

For review prior to completing the scorecard online, there is a **downloadable version** on the Facility Operations Scorecard landing page. As a reminder, **all survey responses are treated confidentially** with results continuing to be shared in an aggregated format and not by an individual facility.

District 1 Director Report:

Noel Gebauer, PGA

[Click here](#) to view the PGA of America Highlight Summary for the month of April featuring the new Facility Operations scorecard and the latest in news from the PGA of America



NEWS FROM THE JUNIOR TOUR: *Jacy Settles*

NEPGA Junior Tour presented by



Avidia Bank



JUNIOR GOLF HUB



PRECISIONPRO®



2018 NEPGA Junior Tour: Grow the Game

Dear NEPGA Professionals,

The Jr. Tour has become one of the top regional junior tours in the country, but we need your help to ensure that the tour continues to grow. If you have junior golf members or customers at your facility, please help us spread the word! Please see the information below or visit www.nepgajuniortour.com to learn more. We encourage you to:

- Send out an email blast to your membership, customers and students (see wording below)
- Showcase the Jr. Tour on your club or personal website that includes a link to the new NEPGA Jr Tour site, <http://www.nepgajuniortour.com/>
- Highlight the Jr. Tour's benefits in your monthly newsletter
- Enthusiastically talk to parents and junior golfers about the Jr. Tour

We also ask that you encourage your more experienced and advanced junior golfers to participate in the NEPGA Elite Tour/2 day events. The tour is designed to provide junior golfers (ages 12-18) in New England top-level competition in a local setting. All of our Elite Tour & two day events are submitted to National Junior Golf Scoreboard. This allows participating junior golfers the chance to accumulate points, earn national recognition and provides them with the resources and experience needed to continue competitive golf beyond the junior years.

The Jr. Tour wouldn't be possible without your support. We thank all those who host an event, volunteer to be a rules official and encourage your junior golfers to play in tournaments. The NEPGA staff has put in countless hours to create a fun and competitive environment for juniors of all ages and abilities. Please help us promote the 2018 season by spreading the word!

Tour Description (feel free to include in newsletters, email blasts & websites):

The New England PGA Junior Tour is the place for fun junior golf competition on a local level. The New England PGA (NEPGA) Junior Tour consists of over 100 tournaments for juniors 9-21 years old. NEPGA Junior Tour competition ranges from the Elite Tour which is geared towards low handicappers looking to play collegiate golf, to the one day events which encompasses nearly all skill levels. Whether you are looking to play in college, make the high school golf team or a youngster looking to make new friends in a tournament setting, the NEPGA Junior tour has it all. The NEPGA Junior Tour provides a place for all juniors and there's always room to play. Membership is \$130 and includes a membership package and access to all events. For more information, visit www.nepgajuniortour.com or call 508-869-0000.

Thank You,
Jacy Settles
NEPGA Director of Junior Golf

Junior Golf Alliance

New England PGA Junior Tour joins Maine State and Vermont Juniors

The New England PGA, Maine State Golf Association, and Vermont Golf Association are very excited to announce an alliance in the states of Maine and Vermont. Recently established, this collaboration will serve as a vehicle to promote junior golf throughout the states in New England by streamlining the junior golf process, creating competition for junior golfers, and growing the game of golf.

The New England PGA Junior Tour, founded in 1995, established a goal to help develop younger golfers as well as provide outstanding competitions on a local level. In addition, this program strives to foster sportsmanship and integrity among its members. The growth of the program has been phenomenal, and today the program consists of over 800 junior golfers and a schedule of more than 100 junior tournaments per season.

The MSGA's mission is to promote and serve the best interests of golf in the state of Maine, and for the past 20 years they have enjoyed a very active and well attended junior golf program with a full tournament schedule starting in June and continuing into August.

"The New England PGA is very excited to work together with the Maine State Golf Association to expand Junior Golf in Maine," said NEPGA President Ron Bibeau, PGA. "We feel that together our two organizations will be able to promote all of the opportunities to junior golfers throughout the state, and with our combined efforts we can grow junior tournaments by expanding the schedule and increasing participation," said MSGA Executive Director, Nancy Storey.

The alliance will allow juniors from Maine to continue to participate in a dedicated local schedule, but members will have the opportunity to participate in additional NEPGA Junior Tour events throughout New England. The alliance will be looking for ways to expand and improve



upon the program the MSGA started by looking at spring and fall opportunities to host local events.

The Vermont Golf Association is dedicated to growing the game of golf by offering a selection of free and low cost clinics, seminars, and competitions for the beginner, intermediate and advanced junior golfers. Most of our member clubs present junior golf programs, hosted by the club PGA Professional.

Both Vermont and Maine Junior programs have individual homepage and registration pages on the NEPGA Junior Tour website. At www.nepgajuniortour.com.

For more information, or to join the junior tour, please visit nepgajuniortour.com or junorgolfmaine.com.

VGA THE VERMONT GOLF ASSOCIATION





Growth of the Game Opportunities

From Bob Beach, PGA

Clinics for Veterans and wounded Vets at the Brockton VA

Fridays 1:00 pm until 2:30 pm

April 6th, 13th, 20th, and 27th; May 4th, 11th, and 18th; June 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th

Putting For Autism Clinics at the Braintree Municipal Golf Course

Mondays 5:30 pm until 7:00 pm

April 23rd, and 30th; May 7th, 14th, and 21st; and June 4th, and 11th

ARC of the South Shore Clinic at the Braintree Municipal Golf Course

Thursday, May 17th 10:30 am until 12:00 pm

Perkins School for the Blind Clinic at MGA Links in Norton, MA

Tuesday May 29th from 10:00 am until 1:00 pm

National Amputee Golf Association First Swing Clinic at the Braintree Municipal Golf Course

Sunday June 2nd from 1:00 pm until 5:00 pm

Helping Hands Field Day Golf Clinic at the Bridge Center

470 Pine Street, Bridgewater, MA 02324

Saturday July 14th from 11:00 am until 4:00 pm

Jimmy Fund Family Picnic at Nobel Greenough School, Dedham, MA

Sunday July 22nd 1200 pm until 5:00 pm

PGA Professionals and assistant professionals are needed to give free golf instruction to young cancer patients and their families

Carroll Center for the Blind Clinic at MGA Links in Norton, MA

Tuesday July 24th from 10:00 am until 1:00 pm

Special Olympics State Golf Tournament

Saturday August 25th from 1:00 pm until 5:00 pm

NEPGA Golf Professionals run the Skills Competition at the State Games

Eighty Plus Club Veterans Clinics at the Braintree Municipal Golf Course

Sundays 11:00 am until noon

April 22nd, and 29th; May 6th, 13th, 20th, and 27th; and June 3rd, and 10th.



To volunteer for these Growth of the Game opportunities or for more information please contact Bob Beach, PGA at bbeach@braintreema.gov or 781.853.7258.

Both PGA Professionals and apprentices are welcome to bring your expertise to help teach the game of golf to these golfers with different abilities.



CAPE COD CHAPTER NEWS

Submitted by Cape Chapter President Eric Steindel, PGA

Spring Pro-Am Preview



Welcome to the 2018 Cape Cod Chapter – NEPGA – golfing season! We are excited about offering five superb Pro-3Am venues for you and your members this Spring.



(Pictured left) The Chapter tournament schedule begins this Spring at Cummaquid GC on April 19th. The Pro-3Am season follows at Pocasset GC/ April 26th, The Golf Club at Sacconnesset/ May 10th, CC of Halifax/ May 24th & Miacomet GC on June 6th!



Chapter Supports NEPGA Foundation



In the space of just one week, the CCPGA Board of Directors have acquired nearly two dozen GOLF 4-SOME certificates in support of the section-wide Foundation fundraising project. Please let your friends and members know how they can access the auction site via the nepga.com site. It should be extremely interesting to monitor how many fortunate bidders end up 'winning' some fantastic golf while at the same time helping our Foundation!

(left to right) Don Cox, Coordinator of CAPE COD MILITARY BASE SUPPORT, INC., Mickey Herron, PGA, Jeff Halunen, PGA, Ryan Payne, PGA & Eric Steindel, PGA . The Cape Chapter presented a check on behalf of the Foundation in December 2016 to help those displaced by a fire at the military barracks before the holidays .



CAPE COD CHAPTER NEWS Continued...

Submitted by Cape Chapter President Eric Steindel, PGA

2018 CAPE SCHEDULE RELEASED

Highlighted by the return to the renovated Sankaty Head GC for the Island Classic, the Cape Cod Chapter of the NEPGA has released its official tournament schedule for 2018. Miacomet GC, (**Phil Truono – PGA**) - arguably the finest public facility in the state has hosted the Island Classic the past two years and will resume co-hosting this venerable Pro-Am in 2019. Sankaty Head GC (**Mark Heartfield – PGA**) will host both rounds this coming Fall (Oct. 10-11)



Cape Cod Bowling League Crowns Champs

2018 CAPE COD PGA BOWLING CHAMPS – named Cape Cod Golf Carts- captured the 5th Annual Championship in late March after 10 weeks of tremendous competition at The Lanes Bowl & Bistro (owned by longtime Chapter sponsor Jeff Moore).



Pictured (l to r): Robert Foster (Pocasset PGA Assistant), Dave Fischer, Jeff Halunen (Pocasset PGA Head Pro), Holly Hall, and Rick Baptist, (White Cliffs PGA Head Pro). They beat a host of superb teams sprinkled with 14 Chapter members, including – Jesse Schectman, Mike Vidal, Tony Day, Tim Watroba, Steve Spencer, Matt Baran, Tom Rourke, Sean Edmonds, Roman Greer and CCPGA Junior Association Director Mike Serijan. Halunen, Vidal, Baptist, Edmonds and Serijan all averaged over 150 during the winter league season!

SENIORS' ASSOCIATION NEWS

Submitted by Senior Association President Joe Carr, PGA



Save The Date

Friday, April 27th the Senior Association will kick-off the 2018 Tournament Season with their Spring Meeting at Middleton Golf Course at 9:00 am followed by a Pro-Pro at the conclusion of the meeting. Come join the Association and reconnect with your peers and catch up with them on how they spent this past winter.

2018 Seniors Tentative Schedule

April 27	Middleton Golf Course Spring Meeting 9:00 am with Pro/Pro after
May 9	Gannon GC Pro 3 Am
June 19	George Wright GC Pro 3 Am
July 30 & 31	NEPGA Senior Championship Okemo Valley GC
August 6	Tatnuck CC Pro 3 Am
September 13	Bass Rocks GC Pro 3 Am
September 26	Needham GC Pro 3 Am
October 17	Mt. Pleasant GC Pro 1 Am
October	Pleasant Valley CC (date to be announced)
TBD	Senior Fall Meeting and Senior Association Championship

Come join the NEPGA Seniors' Association! If you are turning 50 years of age in 2018, you are invited to become a member of the Association and play in the Senior Association Events. Membership Dues are \$25 and the Senior Association is open to any PGA Professional in good standing who are 50 or older or who will turn 50 years of age in 2018. For more information, please contact Joe Carr, PGA 508.873.7768 or Dennis Selvitella, PGA 508.410.4984.

To pay your 2018 Senior Membership Dues, please [click here](#).

MA CHAPTER NEWS

Submitted by MA Chapter President, Chris Young, PGA

Although, a Nor'easter hit during The Boston Golf Expo, we had strong attendance and Thank you to all MA Chapter PGA Professionals who volunteered their time giving lessons.



Below is the updated MA Chapter Schedule for 2018. The MA Chapter Pro+3 am has been moved from May 9 to Monday Oct 1.

The MA Chapter and Cyprian Keyes GC will be hosting a clinic for the Why Me?/Sherry's House on Wednesday April 18. The MA Chapter will donate \$1,000 to Why Me? /Sherry's House to help support families affected by childhood cancer.

Thank you to all the MA Chapters who donated foursomes for the NEPGA "Foundation Foursomes" initiative.

The 2018 Massachusetts Chapter Schedule is complete and is as follows:

April 9 – TPC Boston – 6,6,6

April 19– Myopia – Spring Mtg & Pro-Pro

Oct 1– Foxborough CC – MA Chapter Pro+3Am

Oct 4. Chapter Championship- Indian Ridge CC

Oct 23- The Haven CC - Fall meeting & Pro Pro

Nov 5 – Thomson CC – Individual Stableford

Nov 12 – Blue Hill CC – Pro- Pro

MAINE CHAPTER NEWS

Submitted by ME Chapter President Tony Decker, PGA

The Maine Chapter is gearing up for our Spring Meeting which will be held Tuesday, April 17th at The Woodlands Club. The meeting will run from 9:00-12:00pm.

Representatives of the Travis Mills Foundation will be in attendance and will be presented a \$1,000 check from the NEPGA Foundation. Following the meeting there will be a 2-Hour - State of the Industry – Round Table Discussion educational seminar. More information on the seminar will be available on our website soon.

The Spring Meeting is also when we salute our annual Chapter Award winners. We recognize those individuals, nominated by their peers, who have distinguished themselves in various categories.

The 2018 recipients are:

Professional of the Year – Brian Bickford

Assistant Professional – Todd Lytle

Bill Strausbaugh – Ron Bibeau



Youth Development – Peiter DeVos

Merchandise of the Year

Private – Chris Twombly

Public – Rob Jarvis

Resort – Gary Soule

Teacher of the Year – Scott Mann

Patriot Award – Don Roberts

Please congratulate each and every one of them, as they receive the accolades they so rightly deserve.

MAINE CHAPTER NEWS (Cont.)

Hopefully Mother Nature has dealt her last blow and some courses are soon to open. At the 2017 Fall Meeting, a survey of the membership was taken and a "Wish List" was created outlining ideas to help improve the Chapter, one of which being, adding more variety to the tournament schedule. To that end, Tournament Committee Chair, Peiter DeVos, has put together a mix of individual, team and quota formats for 2018. Also added was a 2-Man Team BB Match Play Championship, which will be contested throughout the season. See the Maine Chapter website for details. The chapter's board has designated the Prouts Neck Pro-Am in May and the Pro-Am Championship at Portland CC in September, to be Scholarship Foundation events. A \$10 stipend will be added to the standard registration fee and over \$2,000 is expected to be realized.

Here is a list of our first few events of the season. Registration went live on April 1st.

May 8th Pro-Am #1 at Dunegrass Golf Club

Webhannet GC— Host of ME Pro-Pro Stroke Play Championship

May 14th Pro-Pro Stroke Play Championship Webhannet Golf Club

May 22nd Pro-Am #2 at Prouts Neck Country club

June 11th Pro-Am #3 at Waterville CC



NEW HAMPSHIRE CHAPTER NEWS

Submitted by New Hampshire Chapter President Tim Loch, PGA

The New Hampshire Chapter will hold its annual Spring Meeting of Members at Intervale CC on Thursday, April 12, 2018 beginning at 9:00 a.m.

In response to a request to provide complimentary foursomes to support a NEPGA auction to benefit the section's foundation, chapter members have offered at least ten gift certificates with more expected. The "Foundation Foursomes Auction" will take the place of Pro Am Tournaments of last year which was a revenue producer for the section's foundation.



Intervale CC

The first Pro Am of the 2018 season will kick off at The Oaks GL in Somersworth with a Best Ball of Foursome Format. Thank you to head professional Craig McLaughlin for hosting the event and to Don Groft of Yamaha for being our tournament partner. The April calendar will conclude with a pro am at the Manchester CC.





PGA

New England Section

2018 Special Awards Dinner

Kirkbrae Country Club | Saturday May 19th

You are cordially invited to attend the New England PGA Awards Dinner on May 19th at Kirkbrae Country Club in Lincoln, Rhode Island.

Please join us as we celebrate the 2018 New England PGA Award Winners and recognize their achievements.

The festivities begin at 5:30 pm with a cash bar and passed hors d'oeuvres. Dinner and Award Presentations will begin at 6:30 pm. Attire is dressy outfits for women and sport coat, shirt, and tie for men.

Tickets are \$75 for each adult guest and \$25 for each child under the age of 12. The dinner entrée for adults is a Filet Mignon with port wine demi glaze (with a vegetarian option of Eggplant Rollatini) and a chicken entrée for children. We will accommodate any special dietary requests (vegetarian, gluten-free, nut allergy, etc.).

If you are attending in the honor of one of the Award Recipients, please indicate this during the registration process. Every effort will be made to seat the honorees' guests at the same table.

All guests must preregister by Saturday May 5th.

Thank You



To register yourself and additional guests, please [**click here.**](#)

If you have any questions, please call Joan Stuart at the NEPGA Section Office 508.869.0000 or email jstuart@pgahq.com.

KIRKBRAE
COUNTRY CLUB





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NEW HAMPSHIRE CHAPTER NEWS

Submitted by New Hampshire Chapter President Tim Loch, PGA

The chapter would like to acknowledge Mark Finnerty and Greg Ludes of Titleist for providing Titleist Pro V's to be awarded to participating amateurs for closest to the pins on every par three during the pro am season. Thank you Mark and Greg for your sponsorship and generosity and for making Titleist the "Official Ball of the NHC."



This year, in addition to the regular "skins game" for professionals, the chapter will offer closest to the pin winners on two par-threes at pro-ams.

RHODE ISLAND CHAPTER NEWS

Submitted by Rhode Island Chapter President, Tony DiGiorgio, PGA

Spring Forward, Not Roll Back

We are creeping further away from the Master's and the start to golf here in New England! There's a lot to be excited about this year with all that promises to be a great year in golf! I am not sure about the entire population of Professionals, but for me, I was very pleased to hear about the results of the Distance Survey pertaining to the golf ball and growth of the game.

Question 1 – **68% DO NOT** believe that increases in distance are detrimental to the health of the game.

Question 2 – **81%** believe that advances in golf ball technology have been **BENEFICIAL** to our efforts to grow the game.

Question 3 – **70%** would **OPPOSE** a rollback of the golf ball.

The growth of the game is not solely held on the standard of the golf ball for amateurs or professionals. There are plenty of golf rules that confuse most players already and the game is hard enough for most of the population. No need to make it tougher with two sets of standards or ideas. Hey Golf is a sport, if you want to hit it longer then hit the gym or exercise or if you want to play better then you'll need to get lessons or practice more effectively. Let's spring forward and not roll back!

2018 Foundation Foursomes

...Within seconds of broadcasting an email to the Rhode Island Chapter Professionals looking for donations, we've received a many members of the Chapter looking to help out! Thank you for the quick response and your generosity!

with all Chapters within the Section teaming up to achieve even greater heights and do more good. Thanks to you and your club for being a participating facility by donating a foursome so the Chapter can set out to meet or beat the amount raised last year!

Auction Timeline...

Now through March 27, 2018 – Collecting of foursome donations.

April 17, 2018 - Auction will go live after Patriot's Day

May 28, 2018 - Auctions close on Memorial Day

We are accepting round donations all throughout the month of April!

Many Thanks to:

2018 Foundation Foursome Auction

Acoaxet Club – Brent Amaral, PGA

Kirkbrae CC – Mike Bradshaw, PGA

This year, as a collaborative effort

RHODE ISLAND CHAPTER NEWS



Pawtucket CC– May 8, 2018

Point Judith CC – Dave Marcotte, PGA

Crystal Lake GC – Tony DiGiorgio, PGA

Pawtucket CC – Mike Gelians, PGA

Weekapaugh GC – Jack Tosone, PGA

Segregansett CC – Rob Baxter, PGA

Foster CC – Brian Benson, PGA

Ready for the 2018 Golf Season

Thank you to all of the following host professionals and their clubs for graciously opening their clubs for the 2018 Rhode Island Chapter events:

2018 Schedule:

May 8, 2018 RI PRO AM – PAWTUCKET

MAY 15, 2018 NEPGA STROKE PLAY #1 – SHELTER HARBOR

JUNE 5, 2018 RI PRO AM – METACOMET

JUNE 18, 2018 NEPGA PRO SENIOR – CARNEGIE ABBEY

JUNE 19, 2018 RI PRO PRO – FALL RIVER

AUGUST 6, 2018 RI PRO AM – QUIDNESSETT

AUGUST 20-22, 2018 NEPGA CHAMPIONSHIP –
QUIDNESSETT & WARWICK

SEPTEMBER 20, 2018 RI PRO OFFICER – KIRKBRAE

OCTOBER 1, 2018 RI CHAPTER CHAMPIONSHIP –
CARNEGIE ABBEY

OCTOBER 9, 2018 NEPGA PRO SUPERINTENDENT –
AGAWAM HUNT

OCTOBER 16, 2018 THE HAVERSHAM PRO AM – SHELTER
HARBOR



Carnegie Abbey-- October 1, 2018

VERMONT CHAPTER NEWS

Submitted by VT Chapter President Brian Gara, PGA



Vermont Golf Day

Vermont Golf Day is set for Thursday April 19, 2018. It will once again be hosted on the state house lawn (weather permitting), followed by a reception in the state house from 4:00pm to 6:00pm. The primary goal is to educate legislators on the positive impact golf has on both the economy and the environment. A special thanks to Senator Dave Soucy for organizing such a successful event year after year.



Rutland CC

Vermont Chapter Spring Meeting

As a reminder, the Vermont Chapter spring meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 30, 2018 at Rutland CC. Registration begins at 8:00am followed by the meeting at 9:00am. Our traditional spring Pro-Pro and sponsor appreciation lunch and golf will take place following the adjournment of the meeting.

Upcoming Chapter Schedule

The upcoming Vermont Chapter Pro-Am schedule is located below:

April 30, 2018- Spring meeting and Pro-Pro @ Rutland CC
May 7, 2018- Pro Senior-Junior @ Quechee (Lakeland) CC
May 14, 2018- Pro-Am @ Neshobe GC
May 21, 2018- Pro-Am @ Williston GC
May 29, 2018- Pro-Am @ CC of Vermont
June 4, 2018- Pro-Am @ Manchester CC



Williston GC



ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION NEWS

Submitted by Assistants' Association President Brendon Ray, PGA

Another golf season is fast approaching. We hope that you all enjoyed some time off this winter or had a great season down south during your winter employment. Your NEAA Board has been hard at work this off season to prepare for a successful 2018 campaign. Over the course of the past few months we have had a few changes on the board level.

Ben Egan, former Vice President, has accepted the title as Head Golf Professional at the Bay Club at Mattapoisett. Joe Merlin, former Tournament Chair, has accepted the First Assistant position at Inverness Club in Toledo, Ohio. We want to thank them for their time and efforts on the board and wish them the best of luck going forward. With that came two openings on the Board; these positions have since



Marshfield CC

been filled. The 2018 NEAA Board and contact information is listed below:

President – Brendon Ray, PGA – Point Judith Country Club (508.333.1863)

Vice President – Jo-Anna Krupa – Charles River Country Club (860.306.0965)

Secretary – Mark Kitchen – Broken Tee Virtual (508.542.0119)

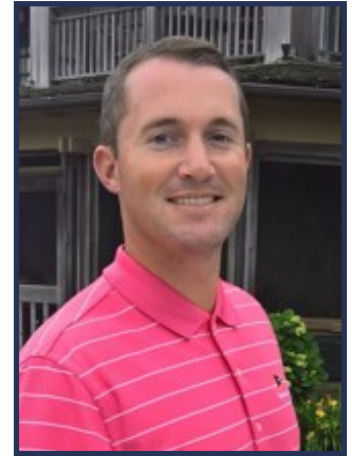
Past President – Ryan Kesten – Concord Country Club (508.776.4705)

Tournament Chair – Jeff Atkinson – Belmont Country Club (603.631.2662)

Office at Large – Ed Doherty – Oak Hill Country Club (603.661.9256)

The 2018 NEAA Annual Spring Meeting & Golf Event is set and scheduled for Thursday, May 3rd at Marshfield Country Club. The day will start with a shotgun at 8:30 am. The format for the event is Individual Stableford coupled with a Blind Draw Two-Person Team Stableford done that day.

After golf, the Spring Meeting and lunch will begin at approximately 1:00 pm to discuss the upcoming season. Lunch will be included in your entry fee. If you can join us please mark this day on your calendar as this is a great way to network and kick off the 2018 season!



Following the meeting your NEAA Secretary, Mark Kitchen, will be holding an educational opportunity. Join us for an informative seminar, 'Doing The Right Thing': Ethics In Our Role. Mark will share his experience and insight from an 18 year career, leveraging best practices from the AMS inventory of intellectual property to create a thought provoking session with real life examples.

Lastly we invite all players to stay for a great chance to meet one another at the 2018 Individual Match Play Draw Party. We will choose the 32 seeds at this time to set up our always exciting yearlong Match Play Championship! We hope to see everyone May 3rd for a day filled with golf, camaraderie and friendship.

The 2018 NEAA Schedule is close to being finalized. Please see below for the most up to date schedule:

Season Long – Individual Match Play Championship – limited to the first 32 players to enter

May 3rd – NEAA Annual Spring Meeting & Golf Event @ Marshfield CC – 8:30 am (Shotgun)

May 17th – Hudson Cup @ Duxbury Yacht Club – 7:30 am (Tee Times)

May 31st – Spring Championship @ Valley CC – AM Tee Times

September 17th – 18th – NEPGA Assistant's Championship @ Renaissance – 7:30 am (Tee Times)

October 4th – NEAA Fall Event @ Quechee Club – TBA (TBD)

October 11th – NEAA Annual Fall Meeting & Golf Event @ TBA – TBA (Shotgun)

We look forward to seeing everyone this spring and wish all a successful and productive remainder to their winter season.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

Changes reported between

NEW ASSOCIATES

Name	Class	Facility
Austin W. Brown	B-8	Portsmouth Country Club
Gary R. Chevalier	B-8	Blue Rock Golf Course
Joseph D. Delorey Jr.	B-8	Concord Country Club
Zachary A. Temple	B-8	Hanover Country Club At Dartmouth

NEW MEMBERS

Name	Class	Facility
Bryan M. Hunt, PGA	A-8	Belmont Country Club
Cory C. Yudkin, PGA	A-20	Srixon/Cleveland Golf
James B. LeClair, PGA	A-8	Lake Morey Country Club
Kevin J. Leskouski, PGA	A-8	Wellesley Country Club
Matthew S. Lombard, PGA	A-8	Winchester Country Club

NEW QUARTER CENTURY MEMBERS

Name	Class	Facility
Barry Churchill, PGA	A-6	Cedar Knoll Country Club
John Stacey, PGA	LM	

NEW CPP CERTIFICATIONS

Name	Certification Area
Evan Force, PGA	Golf Operations
Jim Chojnowski, PGA	Teaching and Coaching

CLASSIFICATION CHANGES

Name	Class	Facility
Peter D. Finnegan, PGA	A-8	Bellevue Golf Club
John F. Sullivan Jr., PGA	A-8	Bass Rocks Golf Club
Jim Falco, PGA	A-1	Black Swan Country Club
John R. Hickson, PGA	A-1	Bath Country Club
Edward T. Kirby, PGA	A-1	Carnegie Abbey Club
David P. Melody, PGA	A-13	Oak Hill Country Club
John A. Cleanthes, PGA	A-13	The Hermitage Golf Club
Kevin M. Altham	B-1	Norton Country Club
Brian R. Damon, PGA	A-1	Waverly Oaks Golf Club
Peter C. Bracey, PGA	A-1	Woburn Country Club
Shawn D. Welock, PGA	A-6	The Links At Outlook
Vincent S. Forte, PGA	A-8	Wannamoisett Country Club
Andrew J. Broderick, PGA	A-20	ISG A/S Trackman
Michael C. Sullivan Jr., PGA	A-8	Oyster Harbors Club
Kevin C. Bennison, PGA	A-1	Manchester Country Club
Naomi B. Nesenoff, PGA	A-4	Alpine Country Club
Dillon J. Malcolmson, PGA	A-8	Candia Woods Golf Links
Jeffrey V. Ferzoco, PGA	A-8	Weston Golf Club
Ralph R. Migliaccio	B-1	Laurel Lane Country Club
Matthew S. Lombard, PGA	A-8	Winchester Country Club
James B. LeClair, PGA	A-8	Lake Morey Country Club
Bryan M. Hunt, PGA	A-8	Belmont Country Club
Kevin J. Leskouski, PGA	A-8	Wellesley Country Club
Cory C. Yudkin, PGA	A-20	Srixon/Cleveland Golf
Michael J. Abate	B-8	Vineyard Golf Club
Michael J Chase	B-8	Point Judith Country Club
Jared C. McSoley	B-6	GolfTEC-Needham
Evan P James	B-8	Kernwood Country Club



#What'sTrending

Social Media Updates from the New England PGA's Kristen Garrone



#BackontheCourse



@Us!



You can tag users in your posts across Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, and you absolutely should! Big or small followings, celebrities or regular people, feel free to tag them all! Why? It helps build engagement. Patrick Reed might not have seen our tweet to him, but people searching him online will have seen it, and might like or reply to our post and join our following!

#Mattsters



Leading up to the Masters, you might have seen the hashtag #Mattsters on our posts and on posts from our friends over at @PlayMassGolf (The Massachusetts Golf Association). What does it mean? We were promoting Brockton firefighter Matt Parziale as he competed in the Masters Tournament! Matt was one of Six amateurs in the field and got to play practice rounds with Tiger and Rory McIlroy.

Hashtags are a great way to connect people and ideas to each other on social media! Try searching one or creating your own





PGA

New England Section

Want to Post something
to the NEPGA Bulletin
Board?

Email Joan Stuart at
jstuart@pgahq.com
Or Kristen Garrone at
kgarrone@pgahq.com!

MARKETPLACE

For Sale:

- K-Vest & K-Player
- Range Balls
- GC2 Launch Monitors (2)
 - Custom Club Rack
- Set of 6 Shop Fixtures
- Full Swing Golf Simulators

Looking to Buy:

- Range Ball Washer
- Pro Shop Fixtures

[Click here to see details
on all items!](#)

Looking for new job
postings? An
Assistant PGA
Professional
[Click Here](#) for
employment
opportunities!

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