

NEPGA Newsletter

February 2015

NEPGA Junior Golf SUMMIT



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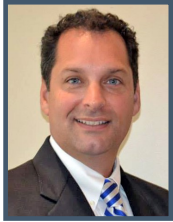


**Site of the NEPGA Casa de Campo Pro Am in
the Dominican Republic... *Details on page 5***





PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: *Larry Kelley, PGA*



Now that was EASY! I am sure every PGA Member in the New England Section was glued to the television as Tom Brady led our TEAM to victory over the Seahawks! It is fun to be connected in some small way to a storied franchise like the Patriots and be part of the Boston and New England sports team fan base and history. Gronk said it best! Patriot Nation!!

Employment – If you are one of the many Golf Professionals looking for a new position or looking to improve your position please keep in mind we have a large number of resources at your fingertips. They include, but are not limited to:

1. Mike Higgins – Executive Director and Michael Packard, PGA Career & Employment Specialist
2. Employment Committee Co-Chaired by Adam Hemeon, PGA & Zack Wyman, PGA
3. Career Links Data Base – please update your profile and tweak it if you are not getting info
4. NEPGA website has an employment tab for ALL jobs and positions. Get used to checking it.
5. A vast number of PGA Mentors who are waiting to help YOU.

Don't bury your head in the sand and ask why you never get an interview or miss out on an opportunity. If you are an assistant professional please seek out a mentor. If you are an older professional who is behind the curve please educate yourself and stay up on new and exciting developments in our field. You must be motivated to find your next position or improve the job you have. If you are looking for a job, make it your job! Find out why others are getting jobs and you are not. There is a reason. If you have an opportunity or a position opens up you should apply for that position even if it may not be exactly what you think you want. Don't always believe what you read or hear. Find out as much as you can about each opportunity. If you are younger and can move or change paths don't be afraid as it is the best time in your life to explore. Don't get STUCK!

Player Development – I want to let everyone know that Todd Cook, PGA from Milton Hoosic was nominated and won an award for excellence for his role in coaching two teams in the PGA Jr Golf League in 2014! This is a national award and it was my pleasure to see Todd on the PGA Show main stage to talk to us and his peers about what made him successful as well as the impact the program can have on your club, members, and elevate your position at your club! Congratulations, Todd!

Brian Bain has been doing a fantastic job in promoting this initiative and as a Section we doubled the number of teams from 2013 to 2014. Our Section goal is to double again and we will need your help! Ask why being involved in this program can make you a better and more successful PGA Member!

Lastly, I want to let everyone know that the PGA Show was another well attended event and a great place to educate and connect with PGA Members from all over the country. If someone is looking for a high margin item to place in your golf shop this year I think I found just the item at the Show. Give me a call, email, or text and I will tell you about a can't miss item that most shops should carry. Hint... they are a new NEPGA Sponsor for 2015! I want to hear from you!

Larry Kelley, PGA
President New England PGA



PGA

New England Section

Casa de Campo

Pro - Am

Dominican Republic - March 2-7, 2015

**5 Nights
Unlimited Food,
Golf & Drinks**

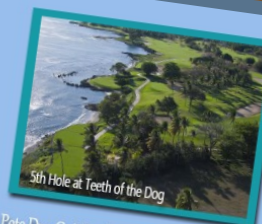
Click Here for Event Details on
NEPGA.com/travelproams

Amateur Entry Fee

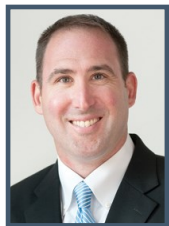
\$3209

Includes

- Accommodation for 5 nights at the beautiful Pete Dye Golf Lodge
 - Daily breakfast, lunch and dinner included
 - Unlimited drinks in all hotel bars and restaurants
 - Unlimited drinks on the golf courses for the practice rounds and tournament rounds
 - Non-golfers will receive two complimentary massage in Spa
 - Unlimited green fees, carts, range balls, club storage
 - Complimentary Transfer from La Romana, Santo Domingo or Punta Cana Airport
- All rates listed are based on double occupancy
Single Occupancy, Extra Nights and Non-Golfing Guest Packages are offered
Practice Rounds also available



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE: Michael Higgins



Every fall, as we come off the golf course on a Sunday afternoon we either gear up for the Red Sox post season, or in a year like 2014, we completely switch to football season. We then cheer on our Patriots right up until hopefully February where we hope for an outcome just like this year!

About four years ago I attended a meeting at Gillette Stadium. As a huge Patriots fan I found myself looking out the window at the field. When a few of the players came out and started running drills, my attention span to the presentation dwindled just a bit. On my way out of that meeting and running behind schedule to another meeting back at the NEPGA Section office, I got a little turned around as to which parking lot my car was in. I ended up walking by the entrance to the stadium for the players and coaches.

I noticed a sign that stopped me in my tracks and I had to take a picture of it. It read:

When you come here:

- *Do your job*
- *Work hard*
- *Be attentive*
- *Put the team first*

My original thought was to discuss it at the next staff meeting. Then I thought this might be a great topic for a leadership seminar. Over the last several weeks I've been reminded over and over again of the words on that sign, as "Do your job" has become the Patriots' and their fans' battle cry on their road to the Super Bowl.

"Do your job." It's a simple imperative, but often not simple to achieve, which is why I believe the other three directives are on that sign as well. Doing your job requires hard work. It requires skill. It requires being attentive to detail. If you work with others, it requires putting the team's needs ahead of your own. To do it really well, it requires passion and commitment. You have to go beyond "good enough." Is anyone thinking about a PGA Professional right now?

I often think about the challenges new apprentices or PGM Students will face in their futures. I think about the PGA Member that has been at their current position for 20+ years. I think about the assistant that has been in the same role for 5 years and wonders why his or her career has stalled. It has always been clear to me that "good enough" will not work to help get that first head professional position, or the overdue contract negotiation. We, and they, need to do our jobs better than we ever have, because if we don't do it, there will be PGA Members lining up to step into our role. As your Executive Director I assure you that the New England Section team is up to the challenge, because I see examples of hard work, skill, attention, and teamwork every day in our operation.

Unlike the Patriots, the New England PGA does not have a regular season that leads up to a championship contest - there is no Super Bowl of the NEPGA. There certainly are many measures of a PGA Professional's success where we must challenge ourselves to succeed. If we do our jobs well, we will provide the opportunity for job security or even career advancement. We also provide the opportunity for our members/students to win when it comes to reaching their potential. Not many NFL Pro-Bowlers have the ability to impact lives like a PGA Professional.

So, if you are a quarter century member who has your dream job; a level one apprentice who works hard every day towards membership; an instructor that introduces the game to juniors; a player trying to make it to the next level; a Section staff member who provides great support; or a PGM student who is giving your best effort to learn: **Thank You** for doing your job. You inspire me to do the best I can at mine.

Respectfully,

Michael Higgins
Executive Director
New England PGA

Introducing the Inaugural NEPGA Junior Golf Summit



On March 3rd, the inaugural NEPGA Junior Golf Summit will take place at Andover Country Club in Andover, MA. The goal of the Summit is to bring together the best in junior golf development throughout our Section for an interactive educational experience. This will be a great opportunity to learn from the top junior golf leaders in the country as we share success stories from different facilities around New England. There will be guest speakers as well as panel discussions on multiple

junior golf topics that will encourage healthy discussion and interaction.

The program will run from 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., with registration beginning at 8 a.m. All NEPGA Professionals will receive 7 PGA Education MSR Hours (required category) by attending the entire day. The cost to attend is \$50 (lunch included) and a portion of your registration fee will be allocated towards the NEPGA Jr. Tour Scholarship Program.

[Click Here to Register!](#)

Volunteer at National Golf Expo Boston!



PGA Professionals and apprentices are needed as volunteers to give 10 minute tune-up lessons at this year's [National Golf Expo Boston](#) being held at the Seaport World Trade Center. PGA Professionals will earn 1 MSR hour under Growth of the Game Category for every hour you are able to volunteer. The Expo will open on Friday, February 27th at noon and end at 5 pm on Sunday, March 1st. Please [click here to volunteer](#) and be sure to indicate your shift preference(s) and shirt size.

The shifts are as follows:

Friday, February 27 - noon to 4 pm	Saturday, February 28 - 10 am to 2 pm	Sunday, March 1 - 10 am to 1 pm
Friday, February 27 - 4 pm to 7 pm	Saturday, February 28 - 2 pm to 7 pm	Sunday, March 1 - 1 pm to 5 pm

NEPGA Junior Golf Internship



The NEPGA Junior Golf Tour is a series of 100+ events at some of the finest facilities in the region. The tour requires nine (9) interns to operate this incredibly busy schedule which begins in June and ends in late August. Considering this, we need to have the best interns to run the NEPGA Junior Golf Tour. We're looking for someone who has the following qualities: golf experience, strong work ethic, and strong organizational skills. [Click here to view the job description/requirements.](#)

If you know anyone of interest or someone who you would recommend to join the NEPGA Junior Golf staff as an intern, please have him/her email their cover letter and resume to:

Mr. Jacy Settles, Director of Junior Golf Operations
New England PGA
P.O. BOX 743
67A Shrewsbury St.
Boylston, MA 01505
508-869-0000 ext. 204
jsettles@pgahq.com

NEPGA Section & JLG Captain Todd Cook Honored at PGA Merchandise Show



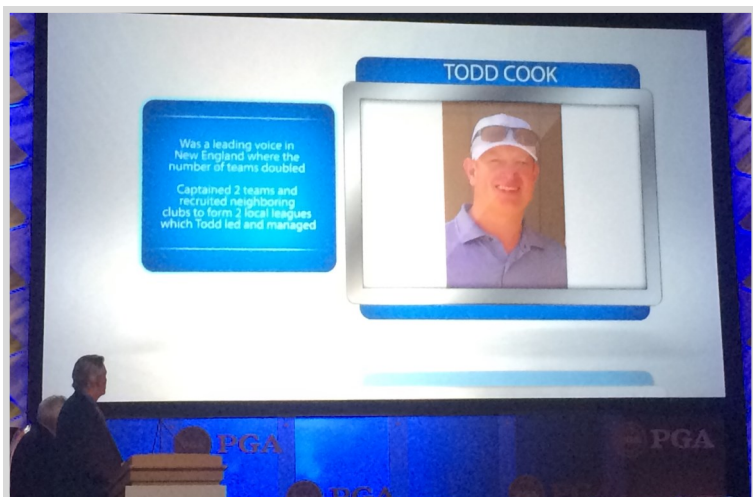
Todd Cook, NEPGA Professional from Milton Hoosic Club in Canton, Mass., and the New England PGA were among the eight regional PGA Junior League Golf Captains and PGA Sections of the Year honored by The PGA of America and League Golf for their successful 2014 seasons during the 62nd PGA Merchandise Show.



"Our Professionals and PGA Section honorees have truly put in the time, energy and passion to cultivate PGA Junior League Golf participants across the country," said PGA of America President Derek Sprague. "Thanks to their efforts, boys and girls nationwide are being introduced to golf and ensuring the future of the game."

Cook was a leader within New England, where the number of teams doubled in 2014. He captained two teams and recruited neighboring clubs to form two local leagues he led and managed.

The regional Captains of the Year were selected based upon various criteria, including player participation, recruitment of PGA Professional Captains, parental involvement and other administrative duties associated with running their leagues. The regional PGA Sections of the Year honorees were selected based on the total number of teams, percentage increase in teams from 2013, percentage of PGA facilities participating and their overall involvement in PGA Junior League Golf promotion, recruitment, league assignments and communication. In 2014, the NEPGA sent out 85 teams, a 74% increase from the previous year.



History of the NEPGA

The New England Section is one of the founding Sections of the PGA of America. To mark the centennial of our Section from 1916, we have commissioned golf author/historian Gary Larrabee to produce a historical document covering the first 100 years of the New England PGA. He is currently interviewing, researching, organizing and seeking materials that might be considered for inclusion in the final product. If you have any images, files, materials of any kind that we might wish to include, please contact Joan Stuart (jstuart@pgahq.com) at NEPGA headquarters. These could include articles written about your facility for hosting an NEPGA event or even pictures of an early Head PGA Professional that served as an NEPGA President. We are excited to discover what is out there and look forward to seeing what is sent in. Thank you for your help.

Blue Hill Assistants Capture First Event of 2015!



NEPGA Winter Pro-Pro Champions Lucas Langelier, PGA (L) and Patrick Hohman, PGA (R), both from Blue Hill CC, pose with longtime NEPGA and Winter Pro-Pro sponsor Terry Frechette of RJ Shepherd.

The week of the PGA Merchandise Show starts with New England Section PGA Professionals arriving in Orlando, Florida to see what's new in the golf industry, place their orders for the upcoming season, attend some educational opportunities, and it ends with the NEPGA Winter Pro-Pro.

Twenty-two teams of two competed at the Reunion Resorts Palmer Course on Saturday, January 24th on what started out as a cloudy, wet morning, but ended with blue skies and the temperature in the high 60's. The high 60's was also the score needed to finish in the money, with teams having to shoot 69 or better to finish in the money.

The duo consisting of PGA Professionals Rusty Gunnarson and Bob Giusti posted an early round 66, which would hold the lead for most of the day. The team almost didn't play when Gunnarson's original partner, past NEPGA Section Champion Chip Johnson, withdrew due to an injury. A quick call to the bullpen and Giusti was in! Four birdies later and Gunnarson was happy with his partner's performance.

Coming out with six birdies on the front nine to post a six under par 30 had the team off and running. Two more birdies on holes 14 & 15 were canceled out by their only two bogeys of the day on holes 13 & 17. "We were disappointed with our score on the back nine", said Giusti, "but we were on a roll for a little while on the front side. All in all it was a great day and a fun tournament."

One of the final pairings of the day featured the two assistant professionals from Blue Hill CC in Canton, MA, Lucas Langelier, PGA and Patrick Hohman, PGA. Langelier and Hohman are both spending the winter months in sunny Florida working on their game, and it certainly showed. A bogey on the first hole was quickly erased by birdies on holes 2 & 3. The double bogey five on the 170 yard 5th hole quickly put the team in the black numbers, but birdies on holes 7, 8 and an eagle on 9 got the young golf professionals off and running.

Five more birdies on the back side and only one bogey allowed Langelier and Hohman to post a seven under par round of 65. This edged out the team of Gunnarson and Giusti by one shot and earned them the title of 2015 NEPGA Winter Pro-Pro Champions.

A special thanks to all the PGA Professionals that participated in this terrific event and a special thank you to NEPGA Sponsor and friend Terry Frechette. Terry has sponsored this event since its inception over a decade ago. We couldn't do it without you Terry. Thank you for all that you do!

thank you!

January Sponsor



R.J. Shepherd Co.

2011 GOLF ACCESSORIES

Assistant Professional Positions Listed on NEPGA.com

There is a growing list of available Assistant Golf Professional positions available on NEPGA.com. If interested, please visit [Assistant Job Opportunities webpage](#) found under the Employment tab. Check back frequently for job updates!

Current Assistant Golf Professional Listings:

Candia Woods Golf Links
Cohasset Golf Club
Country Club of Barre
Crestwood CC

Eastman Golf Links
Olde Barnstable Fairgrounds &
Hyannis Golf Course
Oyster Harbors Club

Pheasant Ridge GC
Renaissance GC
Shining Rock GC
Wentworth By The Sea CC



SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT: E-Z-GO Honored at PGA Show



Pictured is Kevin Holleran (President E-Z-GO) Matt McDonald (Five Star Golf Cars) & Sandy Baggianno (Distributor VP E-Z-GO).

E-Z-GO announces top company award winners at 2015 PGA Show! Five Star Golf Cars & Utility Vehicles based in New England distinguished themselves and earned a top distributor award from E-Z-GO & Textron based in Providence, Rhode Island. Accepting the award on behalf of Five Star Golf Cars was Matt McDonald (President-Five Star Golf Cars).

When asked what the award meant to Five Star Golf Cars, Mr. McDonald stated, "E-Z-GO has best in class vehicles for golf and personal transport and I am really proud of the Five Star Golf team that we have serving the New England golf market. This award shows that we are an industry leader in our region and we look forward to 2015 for more growth and continued strong relationships in the local golf market."

2015 Section Short Game Challenge Results

Thank you to our NEPGA members who participated in this year's Section Short Game Challenge held at the PGA Show. The New England PGA placed second on Friday, January 23rd's Challenge, earning the Section \$1,500.

LEADERS	SCORE
MICHIGAN	96"
NEW ENGLAND	97"
NORTH FLORIDA	101"
LEADERS	SCORE
PENN STATE UNIV	73"

Complete the PGA Compensation Survey

The 2015 PGA Golf Professional Compensation Survey is now available for members to complete. Your participation is the key to ensuring that our Section's compensation information is valid and meaningful. Your support of this important PGA initiative is greatly appreciated.

PGA members who complete the survey by March 23, 2015, can receive up to two (2) Member Service Requirement (MSR) credits. MSR credit is not automatically applied with submission of this survey, but will be posted no later than the conclusion of the survey in March. [Click here to begin the survey.](#)

PGA Financial Assistance Fund Scholarship Application

The PGA Financial Assistance Scholarship application is live on PGALinks.com with a submission deadline of Monday, March 16th. Graduating high school seniors and college students who are the children or grandchildren of PGA members are encouraged to apply. Click [here](#) to view more information and begin the application process.

Scholarship Resources:

[View Scholarship Search Tips](#)

~

[View Additional Scholarships](#)

New England PGA Sponsor and Travel Partner Celtic Golf will be running their 20th Annual Father-Son Championship in June of 2015. Click the link below to read more about this tremendous opportunity to visit one of the finest pieces of property in the world, Old Head Golf Links!



Celtic Golf
Distinctive Travel Experiences

20th Annual Father & Son

June 24-26, 2015

Old Head Golf Links

Ireland

Click for more information!

Sign Up for Direct Deposit of Tournament Winnings

If you are a NEPGA member or apprentice who plays in Chapter and/or Section events, please consider going green by receiving your tournament winnings through an ACH transfer to your checking or savings account.

Every year there are instances of paper checks getting lost in the mail. When this happens, we have to notify our bank to stop payment on the lost check (and there is a fee involved) and have a new check re-issued. This process can delay your payment for about two weeks! **The section has paid the stop payment fee in the past but this fee is now passed on to the professional.**

To avoid this happening to you, please [click here to download the ACH Form](#) from PGALinks.com; it is very easy to fill out. All you need to do is to send it to the office (P O Box 743, Boylston, MA 01505) along with a voided check.

Complimentary Access to the Masters for Members

The Masters will be held on April 6-12, 2015 at Augusta National Golf Club in Augusta, Ga. For ticket information please call 706.667.6700 or visit masters.com. As a courtesy extended by Augusta National, complimentary access is offered to Class A PGA members, Life members and Master Professional members (PGA members only; this offer is not extended to apprentices). No spouse or families (including practice rounds). Must show membership card and photo I.D. each day. Go to Gate 6A off of Berckmans Road then report to Gate C to receive daily ticket. NOTE: Daily tickets are not available to purchase for spouse.

Education

SEMINARS & MEETINGS

New Hampshire Golf Association Rules Clinics

Clinics: 2/7/15 @ Intervale CC 10am to 2pm
3/7/15 @ Eastman GL 10am to 2pm
3/21/15 @ Pease GC 10am to 2pm
4/4/15* @ Beaver Meadow GC 9am to 2:30pm

Cost: \$25 (includes lunch)

MSR Hours: 4 non-PGA Education MSR credits (*The 4/4/15 clinic is worth 5 non-PGA Education MSR credits)

Registration: Contact John Jelley at jjelley@nhgolf.com

NEPGA Junior Golf Summit

Date/Time: Tuesday, March 3, 2015

Location: Andover Country Club, Andover, MA

Details: The goal of the Summit is to bring together the best in junior golf development throughout our Section for an interactive educational experience. Learn more about this inaugural event on page 7 of this newsletter.

Cost: \$50 (includes lunch)

MSR Hours: 7 PGA Required Education MSR Credits

Registration: [Click Here to Register](#)

Spring Meeting Schedule

Meeting	Date	Location
New Hampshire	Thursday, April 2nd	Intervale C.C.
Cape Cod*	Thursday, April 2nd	Sandwich Hollows
Rhode Island	Tuesday, April 7th	Kirkbrae C.C.
NEPGA Section	Tuesday, April 14th <i>Registration begins at 8 AM</i>	Andover C.C.
Maine	Wednesday, April 15th	The Woodlands Club
Massachusetts	Thursday, April 23rd	Myopia Hunt Club
Vermont	Monday, May 4th, 9 AM	Rutland C.C.

** Please note, the Cape Cod Chapter Meeting date has changed to the new date listed*

NEPGA BULLETIN BOARD

Roommate Wanted

Spare bedroom for rent in Milford, MA

[Click here for details](#)

Do you have a birth or wedding announcement you'd like to share with your fellow NEPGA members?

Send us your special announcements for the newsletter! Please send to Joan at JStuart@pgahq.com.

Buy or Sell!

MARKETPLACE

For Sale:

Junior Explanar
Titleist NXT Practice Balls

Looking to Buy:

Range ball inventory

[Click here for more info](#)

To promote your upcoming club event or post an item on the Marketplace, please send the details to Joan Stuart at JStuart@pgahq.com. Ads will run for 1 month.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

Changes reported between 12/19/2014 - 2/5/2015

New Members

Name	Class	Facility
Brandon M. Hoar, PGA	A-8	Shaker Hills CC
Eric T. Ledbetter, PGA	A-8	TPC of Boston
Matthew C. Sheperd, PGA	A-8	Nantucket GC
Zachary M. Sweet, PGA	A-8	Cape Cod National GC
Ben A. Tyler, PGA	A-8	Renaissance GC

New Apprentices

Name	Class	Facility
Frank J Russo, Jr.	B-6	GolfTEC - Rhode Island
Mark-Ryan Mello	B-8	Sakonnet GC

Transfers Into Section

Name	Class	Previous Section
Charlie H. Chi, PGA	A-8	Georgia
Patrick A. Gunning, PGA	A-1	Metropolitan
Brad S. McCluski, PGA	A-1	Western New York
John W Fuller	B-8	Connecticut
Joseph E. Merlin, PGA	A-8	New Jersey

New Half Century Members

Name	Class	Award Date
Stan Baluik, PGA	LM	1/31/2015
Richard W. Dennison Jr., PGA	LM	1/31/2015
Jack Devine, PGA	LM	12/31/2014
Mal C. Strange, PGA	LM	12/31/2014

New Quarter Century Members

Name	Class	Award Date
Toby Ahern, PGA	A-4	12/31/2014
Eric Leith, PGA	A-6	12/31/2014
Michael F. Ryan, PGA	A-1	12/31/2014
Don Small, PGA	LM	12/31/2014

Classification Changes

Name	Class	Facility
Matt D. Arvanitis, PGA	A-12	Southern NH University
Michael E. Brown, PGA	A-1	Turner Hill GC
William D. Cunningham, PGA	A-8	Walpole CC
Julie J. Donlon, PGA	A-4	Farmington CC
John W Fuller	B-4	Laurel Lane GC
Patrick A. Gunning, PGA	A-1	The Kittansett Club
Brian R. Hayes, PGA	A-1	Sharon CC
Nathan R. Hopley, PGA	A-4	Turner Hill GC
Mark S. Kitchen, PGA	A-8	LeBaron Hills CC
Mark P. Mayette, PGA	A-1	Miacomet GC
Brad S. McCluski, PGA	A-1	Wannamoisett CC

Employment Changes

Name	Class	Start	Facility
Matt D. Arvanitis, PGA	A-12	1/16	Southern NH University
William D. Cunningham, PGA	A-8	3/17	Walpole CC
Julie J. Donlon, PGA	A-4	3/2	Farmington CC
John W Fuller	B-4	3/1	Laurel Lane GC
Patrick A. Gunning, PGA	A-1	1/1	The Kittansett Club
Mike M. Harbour, PGA	A-6	1/12	Mike Harbour Indoor Golf Center
Brian R. Hayes, PGA	A-1	12/30	Sharon CC
Mark S. Kitchen, PGA	A-8	1/20	LeBaron Hills CC
Brad S. McCluski, PGA	A-1	1/1	Wannamoisett CC
Joseph E. Merlin, PGA	A-8	3/1	Wannamoisett CC
Tyler B. Reedy, PGA	A-8	1/22	The Country Club
N H Sanderson-Adelson, PGA	A-8	1/10	Warwick CC
John M. Tosone, PGA	A-13	1/19	Weekapaug GC

CAPE COD & RHODE ISLAND CHAPTER NEWS

Submitted by Mickey Herron, PGA, Cape Cod & Rhode Island Chapter Tournament Manager

CONGRATULATIONS

The Rhode Island Chapter of the NEPGA is proud to announce its award winners. Sterling Cut Glass will once again sponsor awards to the following worthy recipients at the RIPGA Spring Meeting at Kirkbrae CC on April 1, 2015.

Golf Professional of the Year: Shawn Campbell – Potowomut GC
Teacher of the Year: Rob Baxter – Segregansett GC
Merchandiser of the Year: Mike Bradshaw – Kirkbrae CC
Junior Golf Leader: Dan Gaughan – Button Hole GC
Assistant Professional of the Year: Kevin Christofaro – Carnegie Abbey Club
Partner/Sponsor of the Year: Peter Guild – Callaway Golf
Les Kennedy Player of the Year: Eddie Kirby – Alpine CC
(Presented by Titleist & David Moynihan, PGA)

The Cape Cod Chapter of the NEPGA is proud to announce the following award winners. Special plaques will be presented to all at the CCPGA Spring Meeting at Sandwich Hollows GC, tentatively scheduled for April 2nd (note: date change is being finalized due to conflict).

Gary Philbrick Golf Professional of the Year: David Moore – Squirrel Run GC
Teacher of the Year: Jill Phillips – Woods Hole GC
Youth Development/Junior Golf Leader: Don Daley – Atlantic GC
Assistant Professional of the Year: Matt Baran – Oyster Harbors CC
Dutch Wessner Player of the Year: Greg Yeomans – The Bay Club
(Presented by 15thgolfclub.com & Brad Sherman, PGA)



Shawn Campbell
*RIPGA Professional
of the Year*



David Moore
*CCPGA Professional
of the Year*

CAPE PGA PRO HEADLINES PGM SPEAKING PROGRAM

Sankaty Head's PGA Head Professional Mark Heartfield was the featured speaker at Penn State's PGM mid-winter conference in December 2014. Hundreds of current Penn State PGM students, faculty & staff enjoyed mentoring remarks by Heartfield, long-time HP on Nantucket and the 2014 NEPGA Bill Strausbaugh Award Winner.



"EXPERIENCED" DUO ALMOST TAKES TITLE!

126 Years. That's the total combined years of two Cape legends – Bob Giusti (65) & Rusty Gunnarson (61) who came within one shot of winning the opening NEPGA tournament of the 2015 season- (Winter Pro-Pro – sponsored by Terry Frechette) recently in Orlando after the show against 21 section-wide teams. Giusti, PGA HP at CC of Halifax & Gunnarson, PGA HP at Rochester GC parlayed 8 birdies offset by two bogeys enroute to their -6 (66) nipped at the wire by a pair of Blue Hills CC Assistant Professionals, Lucas Langelier & Pat Hohman, whose combined age failed to equal ONE of the runners-up. Other Cape and Rhody teams competing were Sean Edmonds/Matt Baran, John Paesani/Joe Cordani, Shane Druery/Al Vallante, Bob Tramonti/Eddie Kirby, John Rainone/Brian Owens & Skip Guss/Mark Heartfield.

TOURNAMENT ENTRIES BEGIN EARLY MARCH - for Both RHODE ISLAND & CAPE COD CHAPTERS

All PGA Professionals and apprentices are encouraged to log onto BlueGolf in early March (the 4th to be exact) and begin planning your playing season. Presently, please see respective websites for tentative schedules. For further information regarding the 2015 tournament season within each chapter email mherron@pgahq.com or call 508-505-5120. Big thanks to Tournament Chairmen Brent Amaral, PGA HP/Acoaxet GC & Jay Askew, PGA HP/The Ridge Club and all the volunteers from each chapter board for their tireless efforts on your behalf.

DON'T MISS 3RD ANNUAL HARD-GOODS SEMINAR/ROUND TABLE - Kirkbrae CC - March 24

This unique interactive learning model has taken seminars to a new level. Contact Mike Bradshaw (pgapro@kirkbrae.com) for more info.

MASSACHUSETTS CHAPTER NEWS

Submitted by Mark Aldrich, PGA, Massachusetts Chapter President

The 2015 season is shaping up to be a great year for the Massachusetts chapter with exciting news and opportunities. First the chapter would like to congratulate the McAdams family for the birth of their second child David McAdams III, aka the blizzard, he was born during THE STORM of 2015. Second we would like to acknowledge Todd Cook and his participation on the national stage at the PGA show in Orlando, Todd was part of a national panel with junior golf league leaders from around the country.

We have been working on our schedule for 2015...For April the spring meeting will be at Myopia Hunt Club on April 23rd followed by a pro-pro and a match play qualifier. The low 16 individual scores at Myopia will move into a match play format that will run through the summer where each match is made by the opponents, so the traditional pro-pro will also double as an individual match play qualifier as well. Granite Links will be hosting an event as well and the format and exact date will be determined in the next couple of weeks. The chapter is excited to announce we will be hosting a pro-am in June at the Renaissance Golf Club again details to follow.

The PGA show was a great success with plenty of opportunities for MSR credits, product information, and playing opportunities. The section put on a great event at Reunion Resorts and if you have not played in this event while you are in Orlando for the show you should make every effort to participate in it at some point. And lastly we have two new sponsors for 2015, Polar Beverages and Sunice, the chapter is excited to form new and lasting relationships with these two companies.



VERMONT CHAPTER NEWS

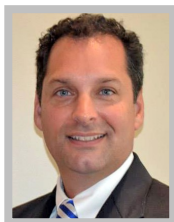
Submitted by Dave Christy, PGA, Vermont Chapter Tournament Manager

The Vermont Chapter Members would like to thank Shari Pfannenstien for her many years of both designing and maintaining our VTPGA website as our webmaster. Shari created our website back in the 90's as the first chapter website in the PGA. We wish Shari all the best with her ever growing business opportunities.

The Vermont Chapter Members would like to congratulate David Jankowski, PGA, Stowe Mountain Club who attained his Class A membership recently.

Please check out the [youtube video](#). Meet Matty DuPlessis, 11 year old die hard golfer and entrepreneur, who is a Vermont Junior Tour Member from the Quechee Club.

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