

STEVE NAPOLI
NEW ENGLAND SECTION
PROFESSIONAL GOLFERS' ASSOCIATION
HALL OF FAME
2013

Steve Napoli has devoted his career to the game and business of golf and became a member of the PGA of America in 1979. During his childhood years at Wanumetonomy Golf Club playing golf with his father and brother, his true passion for the game emerged. And it was PGA Professional Bill Barry who guided him during his teenage years, opened the door to the possibility of a future in the game, and encouraged Steve to turn professional upon earning his degree in Business Administration from the University of Rhode Island. He was heavily influenced early in his career and was trained by three outstanding golf professionals; Bill Girard at Vero Beach Country Club, Fred Bruno at Rhode Island Country Club and Billy Ziobro at Salem Country Club.

Steve served as the Head Professional at Pawtucket Country Club for nine years before becoming the Director of Golf at the historic and famed Wannamoisett Country Club in 1993. He continued in that position for over fifteen years and later was presented with a lifetime honorary membership by the club. He spent four years as Director of Golf at Carnegie Abbey before taking on the role of General Manager and Director of Golf at Liberty National Golf Club in Jersey City, New Jersey. Steve successfully helped Liberty National through its second hosting of The Barclays, the first stop on the PGA TOUR of the FedEx Cup Playoffs.

Steve has been honored by his peers in New England by being named the Junior Golf Leader in 2010, receiving the Bill Strausbaugh Award in 1998, and was recognized as the Professional of the Year in 1992. He received the PGA of America National Bill Strausbaugh Award in 2003 for his role in mentoring fellow PGA Professionals and community service. Recognized as an outstanding instructor and supporter of Junior Golf, several of his juniors played collegiate golf and four played professionally on the PGA Tour. Steve also held every office in both the Rhode Island Chapter and within the New England Section before being elected NEPGA President from 1999 until 2001. He served on numerous PGA of America committees and was appointed to the Board of Control of the PGA of America from 2006-2010. For many years Steve served as a delegate at the PGA Annual Meeting and was instrumental in helping fellow NEPGA Hall of Famer Jim Remy become the 36th President of the PGA of America. His devotion to the game led him to serve on the Board of Directors of the Ouimet Fund, the Golf Foundation of Rhode Island, and also served four terms as President of the John P. Burke Memorial Fund, the second oldest Caddie Scholarship Program in the United States.

On the golf course Steve won the 1988 Rhode Island PGA Championship and the 1999 New England PGA Senior-Junior Championship with Dick LaGrasse. He finished second to Dana Quigley in the 1992 Rhode Island Open. Steve later represented the New England PGA seven times in the Bermuda Cup matches.

Steve has earned the respect and admiration of many in the golf industry and prides himself on upholding the standards and ethics of the game. Those who have had the opportunity to know Steve Napoli cannot deny that his character is that of a true Golf Professional. However, most important to Steve is being a loving husband to Mary Ann, and a proud father of Stephen Jr. and Sarah.