

*Bob Beach was born and raised in Watertown, Massachusetts. He began caddying at Oakley Country Club when he was 12 years old. After graduating from Watertown High School, Bob attended Norwich University on a basketball scholarship. Bob enjoyed his ten years of caddying at Oakley so much that he decided to pursue a career as a golf professional upon earning a degree in American History in 1975. His first job as an assistant professional was at the Braintree Municipal Golf Course under Dick Hanscom PGA in 1976. He worked at Braintree with Dick for several seasons. They teamed to win the NEPGA Pro/Assistant Championship in 1978. Bob began a long relationship with the Jimmy Fund in 1976, when he donated all the proceeds from his junior lessons to this local charity. Bob Beach continues to donate his junior lessons to the Jimmy Fund thirty eight years later. Bob has also provided free golf lessons to young cancer patients at the Jimmy Fund Field Day for over ten years.*

*After taking a short break from the golf business to pursue a career as a probation officer in New York City, where he was an NYC taxi driver, Bob Beach returned to his home in Watertown and his original career goals. He became the teaching professional at Newton Commonwealth Golf Course in 1981. There he worked under Ken Campbell, who became Bob's mentor and role model. During the ten years that Bob worked at Newton Commonwealth, he met and married his wife Cathleen, who is Ken Campbell's daughter. He became a PGA member in 1985 and he also met a blind golfer named Billy Peduto, who became another strong influence in his life and career. Bob and his three Campbell brother-in-laws regularly caddied for this remarkable war hero.*

*In 1991, Bob Beach became the head golf professional at the Braintree Municipal Golf Course. Town officials and golfers remembered Bob from his years there as an assistant pro. He quickly became involved in this community that welcomed him back. He had inherited a thriving junior program from the retiring PGA golf professional Warren Birch. Bob made the program even stronger by going into the schools and by offering golf instruction to groups throughout the community. Bob immediately supported a tournament that raised money for Vietnam Veterans. Soon he was giving free lessons and clinics to veterans and disabled veterans throughout the state.*

*In 1996, Bob Beach started an instructional program for golfers with special needs with the help of his Special Olympian friend, Kevin Riordan. This program has grown and developed into weekly clinics that draw up to eighty participants ranging in age from five to seventy five. Bob's clinics for golfers with different abilities every Monday at Braintree Municipal bring a lot of joy to the parents, golfers and volunteers which include fellow PGA professionals. A natural off-shoot of these clinics is the NEPGA/Special Olympic tournament that Bob began in 2001. It takes place in October and pairs Special Olympians and their coaches with NEPGA professionals for a nine hole scramble. Every year this tournament is a joyous celebration of the Special Olympians hard work throughout the season. Bob is proud of the support that he has received from his peers for this tournament and many NEPGA golf professionals who play claim that it is their favorite round of the season.*

*Over the course of his career, Bob Beach has been awarded nine NEPGA Section awards, including the 2005 Teacher of the Year and the 2008 Golf Professional of the Year. In 2011 and 2012, Bob was named the top teacher in Massachusetts by Golf Digest Magazine. He reached a major career milestone when he was awarded the 2013 PGA of America National Patriot Award.*

*Bob Beach is best known for his generous volunteer work in the New England Section. Bob's philosophy is to volunteer as much as he can, and help as many people as he can. He is an advocate for people with different abilities. Bob believes anyone can play golf and truly enjoys bringing new people into the game.*

*Bob Beach credits his success to the great role models in his life including his parents, the late John Beach and Irene Beach; and the two NEPGA Hall of Famers who he worked with: Dick Hanscom and Ken Campbell. Bob is most grateful for the support that he receives from his wife Cathleen and children, John and Annie. Bob has remained very humble even with all the attention that he has received. Though he is proud of the awards; he is most proud when one of his fellow PGA professionals contacts him looking for guidance to teach a student who is challenged in some way. He believes that all golf professionals can take the next step and successfully teach anyone to play the game he loves.*