MESSAGE FROM NEPGA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Happy New Year! This January marks the start of both The PGA of America and the New England Section’s 97th year of existence. We are only three years away from celebrating our centennial. There is no better time to be a member of the New England Section. We are led by a very dedicated Board of Directors committed to ensuring the New England Section remains one of the leaders in golf in New England. The Staff is continually working hard to stay current, improve programs and communication, create new programs, run quality events and provide dedicated member services.

We have enjoyed a very active and exciting off season so far. The Board of Directors met in December for a Strategic Planning Session. The Planning Session was to look at the long term vision of the New England PGA. Where do we want the Section to be in 3 – 5 years? How can we improve the Section for our members? What programs do we need to sunset and what new programs should we create? The Board of Directors will meet again in January to review the Planning Session and formulate a strategic plan going forward. Be sure to watch for upcoming communication to the membership from your Officers and Board of Directors.

I encourage each of you to take a look at your own facility and operation and think about a strategic plan of sorts at your facility. Where do you see your position, your operation and your programs in the next 3 – 5 years? Encourage your Board of Directors and owners to have the vision and foresight to look at the future of their facility and where they want it to be. My eyes were opened and I became very excited and energized by the discussions formulated at our Planning Session, and I would expect you may have the same experience as well.

If you are heading to the Merchandise Show at the end of this month, or even if you are staying in New England, there are a significant number of educational opportunities for you to attend. Take advantage of these opportunities and use some of our winter “down time” to better yourself and your facility. If you will be in Orlando or playing in our Winter Pro-Pro at the PGA Village, I look forward to seeing you.

I am very excited to start my third year serving as your Executive Director and I am still humbled to have the opportunity. Look for the New England PGA to continue to grow, in an aggressive yet responsible manner, for the ultimate benefit of PGA golf professionals in this region as well as everyone connected to the game.

Respectfully,

Michael Higgins
Executive Director
New England PGA
**2013 GOLFPASS COURSE OFFERINGS**

Thank you to the following facilities and their PGA Head Professionals for their support of the 2013 New England PGA GolfPass by being participating courses:

**Maine:** Bangor Municipal GC, Cape Arundel GC, Rockland GC, Samoset Resort & GC, Spring Meadows*, Traditions Golf & Learning Center* and Val Halle GC

**Massachusetts:** Acushnet River Valley, Chequesset Yacht & GC, Cranberry Valley GC, Golf Club at Yarmouthport*, Groton CC, Hillview GC, Reedy Meadow, Rochester CC*, Sandwich Hollows*, Sassamon Trace GC and Settlers Crossing*

**New Hampshire:** Eagle Mountain House & GC, Hanover CC*, Nippo Lake GC, Plausawa Valley CC* and Rochester CC*

**Rhode Island:** Louisquesset GC and North Kingstown Muni

**Vermont:** Basin Harbor Club, CC of Barre, Monatgue GC, Lake Morey CC, Lake St. Catherine CC*, Ralph Myhre GC, Neshobe GC, Okemo Valley GC*, Sugar Bush GC, Tater Hill GC*, Vermont National CC and Woodstock Inn & CC

*Indicates new for 2013

If you would like to be listed on our GolfPass, please click here for the Agreement Form and return it to the NEPGA office either by Fax 508.869.0009, email jstuart@pgahq.com or mail: P.O. Box 743, Boylston, MA 01505.

**Breaking News:** If you are a participating facility on the 2013 NEPGA GolfPass, the Section has a new program to help your facility fill tomorrow or the next day’s tee sheets. If you want to fill tee times at the last minute with a special pricing lower than the advertised price on our GolfPass, we will be happy to facilitate filling those times with one coupon only redeemable for the day that you choose to each of our 2013 GolfPass members. This new feature should generate more revenue for your club.

**2013 PGA SHOW & SUMMIT**

The 2013 PGA Teaching & Coaching Summit is scheduled for Mon.-Tues., Jan. 21-22 in the Chapin Theater at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando. The Summit is being held the week of the 2013 PGA Merchandise Show. Click here to learn more about this year’s Summit and to register for the event on PGALinks.com.

The 60th PGA Merchandise Show will take place at the Orange Country Convention Center on Thurs.-Sat., Jan. 24-26 with Demo Day & Instructional Workshops being held on Wed., Jan. 23rd. Click here to learn about the new changes in education during Show week. To register for the 2013 PGA Merchandise, click here.

**REGISTER SOON! WINTER PRO-PRO**

Registration is now open for the NEPGA Winter Pro-Pro! The NEPGA will return to the PGA Golf Club - Wanamaker Course in Port St. Lucie for this year’s event. Once again Terry Frechette is proudly sponsoring the event. The date will be Sunday, January 27, 2013, which is the day after the PGA Merchandise Show ends. There will be a mid-morning tee time start.

Entry is $300 per team, which may be comprised of NEPGA Members or Apprentices in good standing - OR - a NEPGA Member or Apprentice in good standing along with a PGA Member or Apprentice in good standing from another Section.

Golf, Cart, Range, Lunch and Purse will be included in the entry fee. Click here to register! The entry deadline is January 22, 2013 at 5PM. We hope to see you in the Florida sun!

**2013 NEPGA AWARD APPLICATIONS**

The 2013 NEPGA Award nominees: Please expect to receive an email within the next two weeks in regards to your acceptance of the nomination along with the award application. Click here to view the final list of nominations.

**DONATIONS CONTINUE FOR NEPGA WEMYSS SCHOLARSHIP FUND!**

Thank you to Ted Murphy, PGA for his donation to the Scholarship Fund in memory of Tom Murphy and Joe Healey and also to the friends of the family and Hall of Fame Member, Bob Gillis who generously donated $470 in his memory after his passing a few weeks ago.

We all are happy to have donations to the Scholarship Fund no matter what time of year it is!

**THANK YOU TO OUR 2013 JANUARY SPONSOR**

Terry Frechette

R.J. Shepherd Co.
2013 Golf Accessories
Preparing for the second half

As you turn the page on the 2012 golf season, hopefully you have had some time to reflect upon the important things in life. The conclusion of the golf season propels our membership into the holiday season, and while you take the time to cherish those things important to you, make sure to not forget about the importance of your employment.

The winter months in New England provide an excellent opportunity to regroup and honestly assess the good, the bad, and the unpleasant decisions we perhaps made in our jobs. And while you may have missed the chance to meet with your direct supervisor to review the 2012 season, now is the time to push forward and aggressively prepare for the second half of the hiring season and set professional goals for 2013.

Over half of the New England Section membership has yet to complete the Membership Survey! The 2013 Membership Survey (the information source for your CareerLinks Profile), has been updated and improved. Make sure you are up to date with your CareerLinks Profile, especially in the areas related to Player Development and GOLF 2.0. During every Facility Relations Committee meeting with employers, conversations undoubtedly turn to “how can a PGA Professional drive revenue at our facility”, and our answer is always with Player Development and customer retention programs. The new Membership Survey captures specific information about success with Player Development, which now allows employers to reach out to candidates through CareerLinks who have a proven track record with growing golfers!

To make sure you receive employment notifications, complete the 2013 PGA CareerLinks Profile Survey. Completing the survey will update your PGA CareerLinks Profile and ensure your continued participation in CareerLinks. Please note:

Upon completion of the survey you could receive 2 MSR credits (maximum of 5 credits per MSR cycle year for completing PGA surveys).

As you start to prepare for 2013, be SMART with your goal planning, setting, and execution.

Specific goals will allow you to break down season long goals. Smaller steps will seem less overwhelming and will be easier to achieve.

Motivate yourself with goals that have meaning to you and your employer. With passion and commitment behind what is needed at your facility, you are more likely to follow through.

Account for each step of the goal setting process. By measuring the beginning, middle, and conclusion of the process you have specific methods of reporting your value to the facility.

Responsible PGA Professionals understand the sport and business of golf is circling back to the foundation of what the game was founded on – teaching & playing. You are best positioned at the club to remind the decision-makers that the better your customer plays, the more fun they have, the more often they will return. Golfers have fun, and play more when they PLAY BETTER.

Tracking results will ultimately allow you to determine whether your goals were successful. In doing so, honestly evaluate your performance finding your areas of strength and weakness. This data, coupled with employer feedback is the information needed to start the Annual Review process for your contributions during the 2013 season.

Michael Packard, PGA
Employment Consultant
New England, Connecticut & Northeastern NY Sections
mpackard@pgahq.com
860.851.9008

UPCOMING EDUCATION SEMINARS

A Cracker Barrel Education Seminar will be held on Thursday, January 10, 2013 at Willow Creek Golf Academy at Atkinson Resort & Country Club from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. The cracker barrel will focus on using 3-D motion capture to fit your teaching style. Kevin Walker, PGA of Willow Creek Golf Academy and Steve Pelletier of K-Vest will be leading this free session. PGA members in attendance will earn 3 PGA Education MSR credits. Click here to register by the deadline of Wednesday, January 9th!

The Massachusetts Chapter is hosting a Teaching Cracker Barrel on Monday, January 14, 2013 at The Harmon Golf & Fitness Club from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. The cost to attend the seminar is $25. The program will be announced shortly. There will be a lunch after the Cracker barrel. PGA members in attendance will earn 3 PGA Education MSR credits. Click here to register by the deadline of Thursday, January 10th!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Free Golf Lessons for Veterans/Disabled Veterans - There will be free indoor golf lessons for veterans and disabled veterans at Cedar Hill Golf Course in Stoughton, Ma. on Tuesday, January 15th from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm, Saturday, January 19th from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm, and Tuesday, January 29th from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm. To volunteer or for more information, please contact Bob Beach at 781-843-6513 or bbeach@braintreema.gov.

Bob Beach, PGA needs your help to provide golf clubs and bags to veterans who have served our country and put their lives on the line. If you are able to donate to this wonderful program (Clubs for Vets) during this Season of Giving, please contact Bob at 781-843-6513 or bbeach@braintreema.gov.

Visit the “Community Outreach” page on NEPGA.com found under “About Us” to view new volunteer opportunities.
MESSAGE FROM NEPGA SECRETARY

Happy New Year Everyone! Where did 2012 go??? A year ago, I wrote the following in the January Mixed Bag.

1. Use the PGA Professional Report which can be found on PGALinks.com. This is a great tool to provide to your employer.

2. Learn more about Golf 2.0 and what this initiative can do not only to grow the game of golf, but also improve your compensation in regard to new golfers and all the items they need ie lessons, clubs, memberships (down the road), etc.

3. Remember to contribute to the George Wemyss Fund, remember some clubs will match your donation.

In closing, set realistic goals for 2012, everyone loves to succeed, so start small, lose 5lbs then try for more, make the time for 10 minutes of practice every other day, then maybe everyday, start exercising 30 minutes, whatever the activity start small and then build. You will see a higher rate of success and staying with the process.

I learned this from a close friend, be the first one to say Hello whether it is jogging past someone on the roads or checking out in line, or getting on a plane, wherever You are, a smile and a hello goes a long way.

I don’t know how many of you may have done any of the above or even read this , but I am trying again and just changing the date to 2013.

We have a great Section, and the best way to get our brand out there and recognized is to do more in our communities. In 2013 try to do something more in your surrounding areas. Teach at your children’s school, local senior center, or volunteer at the local animal shelter, it doesn’t matter. You never know who you will meet or make connections with in those venues. I know our time is at a premium but again all I ask is for you to try.

Some of you may have received the email from the Folds of Honor about the Fitness Commitment; I have requested further information that I will forward to all of you, it could just be the start to a healthier lifestyle. The better we feel, the better all areas of our lives will be. It would fun to have the New England Section have the most participants.

In closing, I wish all of you a great winter, and as I have always said please feel free to contact me with any ideas, thoughts or concerns at csclbond@aol.com.

Sincerely,

Susan Bond, PGA
Secretary, New England PGA

PS- Come on, did you think I would forget??? ROLL TIDE

RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to Bob Beach on being named to GRAA’s List of Top 50 Growth of the Game Teaching Professionals. To read more about Bob’s recent accomplishment, click here.

If any professional in the Section receives recognition or an award, let us know! We would like to share this accomplishment with the entire Section.

H.S. GOLF COACH RULES SEMINAR

The New England PGA will be hosting a High School Golf Coach Rules of Golf Seminar on Saturday, January 19, 2013 from 8:30am – 10:30am at Cyprian Keyes Golf Club in Boylston, MA. Enjoy a complete Rules program by Ron Green, PGA, Director of Rules and Competitions at the New England PGA. This event is only open to High School Golf Coaches—no juniors! The cost to attend is $30. PGA members in attendance will earn 2 PGA Education MSR credits.

Click here to register online today! You may also register by clicking here to download the application and fax it into the Section office at 508-869-0009, or you can call the Section office to sign up at 508-869-0000.

PGA SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

The PGA Financial Assistance Fund Scholarship Program application is now available on the homepage of PGALinks.com. Please note that the applicant must have a cumulative 3.4 grade point average in either high school or college to be eligible to apply. The online application deadline date and receipt of the transcript is March 15, 2013, 5:00 p.m. Click here for more information.

Please keep in mind that for students to be considered for the NEPGA Wemyss Scholarship, they must apply for The PGA of America’s Financial Assistance Scholarship.

In addition, click here to view tips for searching for available scholarships as well as tips for filling out scholarship applications. Click here to view additional web sites to help you with your search for scholarships.

NEPGA & FRIENDS BOWLING GAME

A fun time was had by all!
Matt Walsh, PGA of Warwick CC and wife Jill welcomed Kayla Lucia Walsh on Christmas Day (8lbs 11oz).

NEPGA President Jim Noris, PGA and wife Elaine are the proud grandparents of a baby girl born over the holidays. Madison was born on December 28th and weighed 7 lbs 4 oz at birth.

NEPGA Tournament Director Dave McAdams and wife Katie welcomed Kylie Marie on January 1, 2013 at 5:01am weighing 5lbs 9oz.

CONGRATULATIONS!

OFF-SEASON WINTER WONDERLANDS

Atkinson Resort & CC

Poland Spring CC
THANK YOU
2012 SPONSORS

Terry Frechette

R.J. Shepherd Co.
2012 Golf Accessories
AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Cape Cod PGA Chapter Awards Committee Chairman Rich Iwaszko, PGA Head Professional – Pocasset GC, announced the following golf professionals as 2013 winners:

PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR
BOB CHASE – QUASHNET VALLEY GC

TEACHER OF THE YEAR
TRACY MOUNT – MIACOMET GC

JR. GOLF LEADER
STEVE BROWN – ALLENDALE GC

ASSISTANT PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR
TRACY DJERF – THE BAY CLUB

Congratulations to these outstanding colleagues and best of luck as automatic nominees for Section award consideration this winter season. Many other Cape Cod Chapter members have been nominated for various awards once again highlighting the high level of professionalism on display daily by our fellow pros. Good Luck to all those nominated.

2013 TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE HIGHLIGHTS

Though some sites and dates are still tentative, the Chapter is pleased to announce the following firm dates for 2013: a return to New Seabury for our Chapter Championship, sponsored by Peter Guild/ Callaway Golf, on Wed. Sept. 25th. Our opening Pro-3Am at Eastward Ho! is on April 16th, followed by Pocasset on May 2nd. The Pro-Lady is back at White Cliffs again on June 20 while the Pro-4 Junior returns to Squirrel Run on July 11th. Our pair of summer Pro-Ams will visit TGC on August 12th while a tentative visit to Indian Pond in July is in the works. The annual Pro-Senior revisits Old Barnstable Fairgrounds on Sept. 12th while the Island Classic at the venerable Sankaty Head GC is booked for Oct. 16 & 17. A completed schedule will be posted on the Cape PGA website shortly.

Two combo Chapter events appear on both the Cape Cod and Rhode Island schedules which will attract teams from the entire SE Mass and Rhode Island regions: The PRO 1 JR SCRATCH is scheduled for July 17th at the gorgeous seaside links of Misquamicut and the TRI CHAPTER CHAMPIONSHIP has been booked for CC of Halifax on October 10th.

The Pro 1 Jr Scratch, begun last year to much acclaim, features golf professionals and their best junior competing in a prestigious 4-ball stroke play championship sponsored by Titleist & FootJoy/ David Moynihan and Peter Butt this year. Teams from all over New England are expected this summer as Misquamicut’s prestige and quality will no doubt attract a large field.

NEPGA GOLFPASS

Emails and phone calls have been made to secure additional facilities to participate in the NEPGA GOLFPASS FOR 2013. Printing deadlines are approaching fast so if you would like to renew or begin a new listing, please contact M. Herron or Joan Stuart as soon as possible. Many thanks in advance.

Mickey Herron, PGA
NEPGA Tournament Operations
Cape Cod Chapter
mherron@pgahq.com

VERMONT CHAPTER

The Vermont BOD and Chapter members would like to wish a Happy New Year to our fellow professionals, sponsors and allied associates.

On December 18th, our Chapter held a teaching seminar at Gonzos Indoor Golf. We thank Steve Gonsalves, PGA for his enlightening advice on teaching indoors in the off-season. Our lunch and seminar sponsors were Mark Thompson, TaylorMade-adidas and Chris Garvey, Adams Golf. We were given an exclusive presentation of the newest lines from all three companies. Also, Barry Churchill, PGA spoke about golf specific exercise equipment and various golf related exercise. Chris Poulin, from Poulin Resolutions, spoke briefly about nutrition and hydration as it pertains to the golf game. Twenty-five Chapter members attended and were treated to use of the 8 high resolution hitting areas.

The VT Chapter BOD has completed the 2013 playing schedule. Initial budget figures for the coming year will be presented at the NEPGA BOD meeting on January 15th.

David Christy, PGA
NEPGA Vermont Ch. Operations Manager
802-476-7007
dchristy@pgahq.com
MAINE CHAPTER

The Junior Golf Committee will be meeting later this month to discuss plans for 2013. I am hopeful we will have some exciting news to report to you this time next month.

We are always looking to expand our committees. Do you have three to fours of time over the span of year to help? If so, then we could use you on a committee. Strength is in numbers! Please contact President Nick Glicos, PGA at nglicos@martindalecc.com if you would like to serve on a committee.

SPONSORSHIPS/PARTNERSHIPS

Staff spends the majority of time this time of the year securing sponsors for the season. If you know of someone that might like to form a partnership with us, please let me know. We have three different levels of sponsorships available and they all are of great value. We can customize a package for the any type of business, insurance, banking, energy, healthcare; creativity is our specialty! Please contact Tony Decker with any names or contact information.

CALLING ALL APPRENTICES

If you need any assistance, help is only a phone call or email away. We have dozens of PGA Members that are able and willing to help you through the program. NOW is the time to get the work done. We are here to help, please let us know.

I hope to see you later this month in Orlando at the PGA Show.

Tony Decker, PGA
NEPGA Maine Ch. Tournament Operations Manager

Maine Chapter 2013 Committee Composition

TOURNAMENT
Chair: John Hickson
Casey Cox
Bob Mathews
Chad Hopkins
Jim Fairbanks
Gregg Baker - Board liason

SCHOLARSHIP
Chair: Mike Dugas
Jack Sullivan
Rob Jarvis
Ben Morey - Board liason

AWARDS
Chair: Tom Moffatt
Kirk Kimball
John Hickson
John Bosell - Board liason

JUNIOR GOLF
Chair: Brian Bickford
Mike Dugas
Ron Bibeau - Board liason

GOLF 2.0
Chair: Doug Van Wickler
Matt Blasik - Board liason

NEW HAMPSHIRE CHAPTER

The New Hampshire Chapter (NHC) expresses its condolences to Dan Gillis, PGA and his family for the loss of Dan’s father, Bob, in late December. Bob Gillis, retired in living in Florida, had been the head professional at Intervale Country Club and Bass River.

The NHC will hold its Spring Meeting of members on April 4, 2013 at Intervale CC beginning at 9:00 a.m.

The Chapter’s schedule kicks off in early April with four events to be played before month’s end: April 8 (Green Meadow); April 15 (The Oaks); April 22 (Scottish Highlands) and April 29 (Laconia). Let’s hope for no “April showers that bring May flowers”.

The Chapter is pleased to announce that Martignetti Liquors (Glenfiddich Scotch) will once again be one of the major sponsors of its pro-ams. Many thanks to Chris Conrad, Martignetti Vice President of Sales for his generous sponsorship.

Frank Swierz
NEPGA NH Ch. Tournament Manager
fswierz@comcast.net
Rhode Island PGA Awards Committee Chairman Dave Tiedemann, PGA Head Professional from Shelter Harbor GC announced the following fellow professionals as winners of the following awards:

**PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR**
MIKE BRADSHAW – KIRKBRAE CC

**TEACHER OF THE YEAR**
BOB TRAMONTI – TRIGGS MUNICIPAL GC

**JR GOLF LEADER**
DEVIN BECK – WANNAMOISETT GC

**MERCHANDISER OF THE YEAR**
TROY PARE – WANNAMOISETT GC

**ASSISTANT PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR**
NICK MARESCA – KIRKBRAE CC

**PLAYER OF THE YEAR**
ED KIRBY – ALPINE CC

Congrats to all as they automatically become nominees for their respective awards within the NEPGA.

**2013 TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE HIGHLIGHTS**

Though some sites and dates are still tentative, the Chapter is pleased to announce the following firm dates for 2013: Opening spring Pro-3Am at Alpine is on April 25, site of this year’s Rhode Island Open during the second week in August. Carnegie Abbey Pro-3Am is on May 23rd. Pro 1 Jr Scratch at Misquamicut is on July 17th. The resurrected Pro-Officer is scheduled for Sept. 3rd at Kirkbrae CC. The super Pro-3Am at Pawtucket is on Oct. 7th. A final and completed schedule will be posted shortly on the chapter website.

In addition, the TRI CHAPTER CHAMPIONSHIP will be held at CC of Halifax on Oct. 10th comprising professionals from Mass, Cape Cod and Rhode Island chapters, an event which made its successful debut last year at Marshfield CC.

The Rhode Island Chapter is also pleased to announce the continuation of the Rhode Island PGA Junior Championship – scheduled for July 29th and 30th at Green Valley and Montaup again – a unique event whereby all those who make the cut get paired with a Chapter professional for the final round!

**SECTION CHAMPIONSHIP VISITS RHODE ISLAND**

It is not too early to pencil in the dates for the 2013 NEPGA CHAMPIONSHIP, booked for two of Rhode Island’s most iconic venues: Wannamoisett CC and Ledgemont CC – August 19-21. Our very own Eddie Kirby will be defending his hard-earned title as New England’s best visit the Ocean State for our Section’s most prestigious crown.

**WARWICK CC WELCOMES NEW HEAD PROFESSIONAL**

Matt Walsh, formerly PGA Head Pro at Mt. Pleasant CC has been named the new Head Pro at Warwick CC. Matt and his wife Jillian also welcomed new daughter on Christmas Day, named Kayla Lucia Walsh. Huge congrats on both to the Walsh’s.

**NEPGA GOLFPASS**

Emails and phone calls have been made to secure additional facilities to participate in the NEPGA GOLFPASS FOR 2013. Printing deadlines are approaching fast so if you would like to renew or begin a new listing, please contact M. Herron or Joan Stuart as soon as possible. Many thanks in advance.

Mickey Herron, PGA
NEPGA Tournament Operations
Cape Cod Chapter
mherron@pgahq.com
**New Members**

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Welch, PGA</td>
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**New Quarter Century Members**

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<tr>
<td>Tom Wessner, PGA</td>
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**Classification Changes**

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<td>Carnegie Abbey Club</td>
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<td>Jim Landers, PGA</td>
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<td>Belmont CC</td>
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**Employment Changes**

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<td>Matt Walsh, PGA</td>
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<td>1/1/13</td>
<td>Warwick CC</td>
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These reports reflect changes made between December 4, 2012 and January 7, 2013.

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**NEPGA BULLETIN BOARD**

**MARKETPLACE**

- **For Sale**: Area/Unit Heaters, Switches and Mats
- **For Sale**: 2011 JC Video ARC 20 Video System
- **Need**: Old, graphite-shafted woods (all types)

**Special Offer from Athletic Evolution**

Unlimited classes - $300 Jan., Feb., March

Click here for details.

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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.