



JUNE '12 NEWSLETTER

MESSAGE FROM NEPGA PRESIDENT JIM NORIS, PGA



The New England PGA would not be able to conduct our events at the high level we have become accustomed to if not for the support of our partners and sponsors. At this year's NEPGA Section Spring Meeting we extended an invitation to each of our local sponsors to not only attend the meeting, but to stay and play in a Pro-Am with our PGA Professionals. For those of you that were unable to attend, the Sponsor Appreciation Day was very well received by not only the sponsors, but our Members as well.

The PGA of America has worked hard to create sponsorships on the national level that have significant benefits to our Section and Members. Many of these benefits offer discounts on products and services to PGA Professionals and their facility, including golf retirement plus incentives for PGA Professionals and incentive dollars to the New England Section. I encourage you to review and utilize these member benefits whenever possible. For a complete list of sponsors and the member benefits visit PGAlinks.com.

It is very important for the New England Section to support our National partners whenever possible, especially when they benefit the membership or save the Section money. The Section Staff presented the Board of Directors with a sponsorship proposal from Mercedes Benz of Shrewsbury in Massachusetts that would provide the Section a vehicle for the next 30 months as well as be the supporting sponsor at Section events. This vehicle would be no additional cost to the Section other than gas and normal maintenance, and its usage by the staff will eliminate staff mileage expenses and save the Section significant money each year. I wanted to make the membership aware of this sponsorship for when they see the staff driving around in a Mercedes. The Board of Directors fully supports this sponsorship and if anyone has any questions, please feel free to reach out to me at 781-326-3181.

It is a pleasure to serve as your President, and I wish you all a very healthy and successful season.

Sincerely,

Jimmy Noris, PGA
NEPGA President

SAVE THE DATES!



Friday, October 26th will be the date for the **Fall Meeting** at Kernwood Country Club AND also the **2012 NEPGA Awards Dinner**. The registration for the Fall Meeting will be at 10:00 am with the meeting commencing at 11:00 am. The 2012 Awards Dinner will start at 5:00 pm with a cash bar until 6:00 pm at which time the Dinner and Awards Presentations will begin. More details coming soon!



NEPGA Professional Championship

Kernwood CC & Salem CC
Mon-Wed, Aug 20-22, 2012

Click [HERE](#) to register!

Deadline: *Thurs. July 5, 2012 5PM*



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New England Section

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



Memorial Day marks the unofficial start of summer, or as many of us in the golf industry refer to it; the the 100 day battle. The New England Section was off and running long before May 28th and hopefully there is no stop in sight. Maybe it was the mild winter, or the early arrival of 80 degree weather, but NEPGA Professionals are active and involved in 2012. We saw terrific turnouts at all of

the Chapter Spring Meetings as well as the Section Meeting, we had great attendance at Spring Golf 2.0 and Education Seminars and tournament participation has been terrific.

This is the spring we were hoping for and it is exactly what New England golf needed. As I speak to members from throughout the Section I am hearing that rounds are up at many facilities and people are playing golf. This is a good thing! At the Section level we have seen an increase in tournament participation by almost 20% from this point last year, and we actually had to utilize a waitlist for one of our events for the first time in a few years.

Over the last 18 months we have been paying close attention to the needs, requests and suggestions of our membership. We hear what you are saying and we are committed to elevating the New England Section to be the best in the country. It is easy to recognize the major changes, but there has been a significant focus put on the "little things." We have introduced subtle changes to the website, the Mixed Bag, the Newsletter, Facebook & Twitter and especially at tournaments. The entire staff has been working very hard and it shows. I commend each and every one of them for their efforts. New England has a great team!

The next few months I plan on making the rounds throughout the Section and attend Chapter events. I look forward to seeing many of you this summer and I welcome your comments and ideas. I know things at many of your facilities are off and running, but don't forget about the "little things." They do matter, and people notice.

Remember to play golf with your members, help grow the game, and spend as much time as you can with your family. Please reach out to me if there is ever anything I can do, and I hope to see you soon.

Let's all have a great season!

Respectfully yours,
Michael Higgins
Executive Director
New England PGA

2012 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



The New England PGA wishes to congratulate Drew Haxton on being selected as this year's Ted O'Rourke Scholarship recipient. This special scholarship is given by the family of Edward F. O'Rourke, Sr., in his memory.

The Section also congratulates Victoria Baluik on being awarded the 2012 Tom Murphy Scholarship. This special scholarship is given by the family of Thomas O. Murphy, in his memory.

In addition, The PGA of America recently announced the 2012 PGA Financial Assistance Fund Scholarship recipients for each Section. Congratulations to:

Incoming Freshman

- Colin Hamilton, son of Brian Hamilton, PGA Head Professional at Eastward Ho! Country Club: \$2,000
- Terrance O'Mara, son of Jim O'Mara, PGA Head Professional at Charles River Country Club: \$2,000

College Division

- Stephanie Katsos, daughter of Lou Katsos, PGA Head Professional at Blue Hill Country Club: \$5,000 from the John Cox Endowment (only eight given each year)
- Joanna Katsos, daughter of Lou Katsos, PGA Head Professional at Blue Hill Country Club: \$2,000
- Natalie Falco, daughter of Jim Falco, PGA Professional at Dick's Sporting Goods in North Attleboro: \$2,000
- Jared Ghioto, son of Fred Ghioto, PGA Head Professional at Bass River Golf Course: \$2,000

CREATING NEW GOLFERS SEMINAR

Braintree Municipal Golf Course will host a "Creating New Golfers Seminar" on Friday, June 8th from 3:00pm to 6:00pm. The cost is \$20. This will be worth 3 education MSR hours. Please note: Segments of this seminar will take place outside, weather permitting. To register, please click [here](#). Guest speakers include:

- Brian Bain, PGA and Bob Beach, PGA: "How to Start a Golf Program for our Veterans and Disabled Veterans"
- Susan Bond, PGA: "How to Get More Women Playing Golf"
- Fred Corcoran, Executive Director, Northeast Accessible Golf, "Golf For All"

THANK YOU TO OUR
2012 JUNE SPONSORS



NEPGA TOURNAMENT NEWS



When will I learn? Didn't I open last month with the fact that we needed some precipitation? Well, truthfully, we did, but I should know better. I'm back to being that guy with the cloud hovering over his head, releasing moisture whenever we have an event scheduled. However, it hasn't stopped us, just made us a little uncomfortable at times. Nothing better than a soaked through rainsuit and a nice wet pair of shoes when you're trying to win a golf tournament or set-up a golf course and do some officiating. At least I feel like we are all in this together.

Our first Championship at LeBaron Hills, had its schedule messed with a bit, but we finally got it finished, and on time. Special thanks to Host Professional Tom Rooney, PGA and Mark Klimm, Superintendent and crew for adjusting on the fly and making it happen.

After an eleven team playoff to decide the final seven teams who would qualify for match play, followed by one of the worst weather days in years on day two, we finally whittled the field down to the final two. The Kernwood Country Club duo of Frank Dully, PGA and Steve Bramlett, PGA versus one of the odds on favorites every year, Wannamoisett's Troy Pare, PGA and Norton Country Club's Jeff Martin, PGA. Dully and Bramlett applied some early pressure jumping out to a two up lead but Pare and Martin showed why they have won this Championship on multiple occasions. Grinding away, each contributing to the cause, they would eventually win the match on the 16th hole, 3 & 2. Thanks to Adams Golf and Matt Howard, the presenting sponsor for this event and to SkyGolf & Golf Max the supporting sponsors.

The season long, AHEAD Stroke Play Series got underway, in a big way. A field of 101 players took on the Donald Ross designed Charles River Country Club on Monday, May 14, and one of New England's finest courses more than held its own allowing just eight sub par rounds. Kirk Hanefeld, PGA and Rich Berberian paced the strong field, firing solid four under par 68's, besting Marc Spencer, PGA by one shot. On the Pro-Pro side of the event, Steve Bramlett, PGA partnered with Hanefeld for a seven under par 65, besting four other teams by a single stroke. Host PGA Professionals, Jim O'Mara, Terry Crimmins and Jacob Leech went above and beyond as did Superintendent Paul Blanus and crew to make it all possible. Huge thanks to Terry Frechette and AHEAD as well as Cary Gordon and Golf Buddy for their continued support of these events.

This year's venues may be the best ever assembled for the AHEAD Series and they are a huge part of the NEPGA schedule in July. Why not take a look at your schedule and see if the dates in Rhode Island at Metacomet, New Hampshire at Montcalm and/or Vermont at Green Mountain National, work for you? Remember, online entries are currently available for all Section & Chapter events on the 2012 NEPGA schedule.

The Hudson Cup, an event that honors our former Executive Director Susan Hudson, and is a Major Championship on the New England Assistants' schedule made its usual stop at the beautiful Duxbury Yacht Club. Finally, some sunshine and warmer temperatures greeted the players and Superintendent Peter Lanman and his Assistant Scott Godfrey and crew had the golf course in pristine condition. Duxbury Yacht Club and PGA Professional Randy Grills have been long time supporters and hosts of the Hudson Cup and Dan Dwyer, PGA should be thankful. Dwyer has a good thing going with this venue; a multiple winner of the event, Dan did it again in 2012, posting an early round of three under par 69 that held off all challengers, including Patrick Pelletier who finished just one stroke back.

The Championships continued with a great turnout for the Acushnet Golf Sponsored Pro-Assistant Championship at Bay Club at Mattapoisett. The day started a bit murky and the afternoon featured a "refreshing shower" (yeah it rained again, pretty hard for a few minutes) but it couldn't deter the host professionals, Greg Yeomans, PGA, Tracy Djerf, PGA and John Paesani, PGA from treating a large group of their members, who braved the elements and followed every shot, to some great golf. Yeomans and Djerf would eventually finish as Co-Champions (or is it Quad-Champions?) with three other teams. Marshfield Country Club's James Antonelli, PGA and Ken Keefe joined two teams from the Milton Hoosic Club with Head PGA Professional Todd Cook, PGA teaming with assistants Greg Dobbins and Jordan Knickerbocker to all shoot rounds of six under par, 65.

Yeomans and Paesani would finish in a tie for fifth at five under par with the team from Nonesuch River (ME) Jim Fairbanks, PGA and Shawn Warren. As usual, the Reps from Titleist and Foot-Joy went above and beyond to make the day special from start to finish, their continued support of this event is greatly appreciated. Special thanks go to Jon O'Connor, the Superintendent at Bay Club, who had the golf course in its usual impeccable condition, in spite of the elements.

Last, but not least, the NEPGA Pro-Am Championship closed out May at the beautiful and challenging Pine Hills Golf Course. PGA Professionals paired with many of the best amateurs from clubs all over New England playing thirty-six holes of four-ball stroke play over the Nicklaus & Jones courses. Scott Hickey, PGA & Dan Falucci from Cyprian Keyes Golf Club won the 2011 event. We will report the results from this year's event in next month's Tournament News.

After a month of May filled with NEPGA Championships, we take a step back in June while several of the New England states conduct their Open Championships. The Massachusetts Open, conducted by our friends at the Massachusetts Golf Association, will be played at Walpole Country Club, June 5-7. The next week it's the Vermont Open at Lake Morey Resort and the following week the Maine Golf Association conducts the Charlie's Maine Open at Augusta Country Club. At the end of the month, June 28-29, the 8th Annual Massachusetts Senior Open will be played at Holden Hills Country Club.

Continued on pg. 5...

CHAPTER EDUCATION SEMINARS

The Section is pleased to announce a schedule of Education Opportunities sponsored by the Chapters under your Education Chair, Brendan Walsh, PGA and his committee members. As we receive the schedules, they will be listed in the Mixed Bag, Newsletter, and posted on the web site under the main navigation: Programs.

The following seminars are all being held at The Country Club and worth 2 MSR Career Specific Education Hours. They are now available for registration sponsored by the MA Chapter. Click [here](#) to view the list of seminars.

Upcoming Seminar **Titleist Performance Institute Seminar**

Where: Kirkbrae CC Gym/Ballroom, Dress in Gym attire

When: June 12th, 2012 - 5:30 pm – 7:30pm (Dinner will follow this seminar, bring a change of clothes.)

Who: Troy Pare, PGA - Wannamoisett, assisted by Devin Beck, PGA - Wannamoisett

What: Troy Pare, (TPI Level 3) will conduct an informative seminar that will hit on all areas of fitness relative to the golf swing. The fitness side of golf has really taken off in the past 10 years and this is a great opportunity to broaden your understanding of the biomechanics of the golf swing. All professionals in attendance will receive 2 MSR credits. We strongly encourage you to invite your members, family, or friends; however space is limited so please sign up early. The cost for all attendees will be \$25, which will include dinner off the Kirkbrae menu. To register, please click [here](#).

TPI Background - The Titleist Performance Institute is a three level course designed to teach individuals how to identify and overcome any physical restrictions that are limiting their potential. Each workshop features the latest in golf specific health and fitness, from the golf swing biomechanics, to physical screening techniques, to exercise prescriptions, to the most recent research and development in the field of golf swing analysis.



DID YOU KNOW?



We are currently displaying our Section's newly elected members on NEPGA.com. To view our list of new members, click on the icon (pictured left) found on the homepage sidebar.

Click [here](#) to learn more about newly elected member, Michael Sullivan, Jr. PGA from Charles River Country Club. All of our new member questionnaires and new member archive (coming soon!) will be featured on the Newly Elected Members page found under Directories on the top navigation bar. Be sure to congratulate your fellow PGA Professionals!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Special Needs Clinics

Braintree Municipal GC will host a special needs clinic every Monday night from 5:30-7:30 until the NEPGA/Special Olympic Tournament on October 14th. In addition, Putting for Autism clinics will be held on alternating Mondays. Volunteers are needed to help with the instruction. PGA members who volunteer from 5:30-7:30 will earn 2 MSR credits. Bob Beach will be available to help train and guide any volunteers in working with people with different abilities. To volunteer or for more information, please contact Bob Beach at 781-843-6513 or email bbeach@braintreema.gov.

First Swing Clinic for People with Different Abilities

Volunteers are needed for a First Swing/ Learn to Golf clinic for individuals with disabilities at the Braintree Municipal Golf Course on Sunday June 3rd from 1:00 to 4:00. PGA Professionals and physical therapists will help physically challenged golfers with their golf swing. An adaptive golf cart will be available for instruction. This will be worth 3 MSR hours for PGA Professionals who volunteer their time. To volunteer or for more information, please contact Bob Beach at 781.843.6513 x2 or bbeach@braintreema.gov.

Special Olympics MA Golf Coach Seminar

The Golf Coaches Training & Athlete Development Seminar will be held on Saturday, June 23rd. The seminar is open to all Special Olympics MA Golf Coaches, athletes and Unified Partners. Athletes and Partners will receive hands on golf instruction from professional instructors, club fitting and regripping. Click [here](#) to view the schedule of events.

PGA Professionals are needed to help with training and coaching, club fitting and club repair portions of this event. If you are interested, please contact Klete Squires at 508-485-0986 x 232 or email Klete.Squires@SpecialOlympicsMA.org.

Veterans Clinic

There will be a free Veterans Clinic for veterans and their families on Thursday, June 7th from 5:30 to 7:30 at Braintree Municipal Golf Course. Each clinic is worth 2 MSR hours for PGA Professionals. If you would like to host one of these clinics at your golf course or driving range, or volunteer to give free instruction to veterans please contact Bob Beach, PGA at bbeach@braintreema.gov or by phone at 781.843.6513 x2.

JR TOUR MEMBERSHIP OFFER



PGA
New England Section
Junior Tour

New to the 2012 NEPGA Jr. Tour – **FREE MEMBERSHIP!** We are offering a **FREE** membership to children ages 9-21) of PGA Professionals. To receive the free membership, please click [here](#) to complete the application for each child and mail or fax it to the section office.



PGA

Official Card of PGA Professionals

NEW DATES FOR RI OPEN

The Rhode Island Open will be held at Ledgemont CC on August 7-9. There has been a change in the format to a three-day, 54-hole stroke play with a cut after the 2nd round. Included in the entry is range and cart fees. NEPGA Professionals pay \$325. Click [here](#) to register.

TOURNAMENT NEWS *Continued...*

Meanwhile the lucky few who managed to qualify through their finish at last year's New England Section Professional Championship at Pinehills will be heading to the west coast to take on the spectacular and demanding Bayonet and Black Horse courses overlooking the famed Monterey Peninsula. The rest of us will be able to follow the action on the Golf Channel; all four rounds will be televised June 24-27.

Despite all that, we are still offering up some playing opportunities for you. The first is the rescheduled Thorny Lea Pro-Am (Thanks again Peter Norton and Thorny Lea members) that is now scheduled for June 11.

A new venue for the Section, the Indian Pond Country Club in Kingston, MA, will host a Pro + one Amateur event, with both gross and net prizes awarded on Tuesday, June 19. Thanks to Mike Mitchell, PGA for hosting.

Finally, we have one very special treat on the June schedule. The Vineyard Club on the island of Martha's Vineyard will host the NEPGA Pro-Officer sponsored by Country Club Enterprises on Thursday, June 14. Teams must be comprised of a New England PGA Professional and a current officer from his facility. Please note: This is a walking only facility and event. Teams are responsible for booking travel to and from Martha's Vineyard and transportation on the island. Taxis are available from ferry docks in Oak Bluffs and Vineyard Haven to Vineyard Golf Club. See the NEPGA website to register and for additional details and schedules.

That's the immediate future in the New England Section, as we move into June start watching for communications from The PGA of America containing entry information/ deadlines for the PNC, Senior Professional Championship and Assistants Championship. Remember, you **MUST** enter these events through The PGA of America and if you miss the deadline, we cannot help you. My suggestion, if you know you are going to participate, enter sooner, rather than later. There's always a couple of unhappy people who call the Section office the day after the deadline passes for one of these events, and like I said we'd like to help, but we can't!

Keep an eye on the weekly "Mixed Bag" emails and the NEPGA website for updates and more information on all things tournaments and we'll be back with more Tournament News next month.

Greenie
rgreen@pgahq.com

NEPGA HOLE IN ONE POOL

What are the odds of making money in a New England PGA event for making a hole in one?

Answer: Zero, if you do not enter the NEPGA Hole in One Pool. Click [here](#) to get in the Hole in One Pool for 2012.

Hole in One statistics

The odds of making a hole-in-one vary somewhat, depending on the source and the numbers used for calculating the odds. One problem is that nobody knows the true number of aces made every year. There are numerous organizations that track holes-in-one, but not every ace that is made is reported. And, as we all know, not every ace that is reported was actually made!

In 1999, Golf Digest reported, "One insurance company puts a PGA Tour pro's chances at 1 in 3,756 and an amateur's at 1 in 12,750." That same issue reported that the "odds of an amateur making two holes-in-one in a round are 9,222,500 to 1."

Ireland's National Hole in One Club puts the odds a little longer for one ace: "The estimated odds of acing a hole with any given swing are one in 33,000."

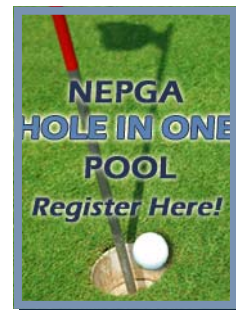
And an article in the magazine Navy Newsstand, citing Sports Illustrated as its source, put the odds at 45,000 to 1 for "scoring a hole-in-one on a typical par-3 golf hole."

What about the insurance companies that sell "hole-in-one insurance" to tournament promoters? They must know the odds, right? One such company, SCA Promotions, says the odds of a golfer holing out from 150 yards is somewhere from 10,000 to 15,000 to 1.

But as close to an official source as exists on this topic is Golf Digest. That publication has provided "acer odds" since the 1950's, and in the year 2000 hired Francis Scheid, Ph.D., the retired chairman of the math department at Boston University, to calculate the odds using the latest and best information available at that time. The odds Scheid came up with were lower than any others cited above: 5,000 to 1 for a "low-handicapper," 12,000 to 1 for an "average player." If you are a low-handicapper and play 1,000 rounds in your life, according to Scheid, you have a 20-percent chance of recording an ace. If you play 5,000 rounds, your odds are 1:1.

The Golf Digest study provided many great nuggets of information, even breaking the odds down by quality of play: Tour player making an ace: 3,000 to 1; Low-handicapper making an ace: 5,000 to 1; Average player making an ace: 12,000 to 1

Some other highlights from Scheid's calculations: Average player acing a 200-yard hole: 150,000 to 1; Two players from the same foursome acing the same hole: 17 million to 1; One player making two holes-in-one in the same round: 67 million to 1



GOLF 2.0 MESSAGE



GOLF 2.0

GROWING THE GAME
Friends, Family, Fun!

Player Development = Your Future It's Personal

Out of all the steps outlined in the Golf 2.0 Player Development Playbook, marketing is the sole means of driving golfers to your facility and filling your classes and programs. The golf professional can use their creativity to their advantage in effectively promoting the programs. Efficiently selling your product will directly impact the facilities bottom line. In prior decades the idea of mainstream marketing included building a site, opening the doors and allow for the growth to occur. Times are different and now it is the personal responsibility of the professional to get the local community actively engaged in golf.

This should come naturally to all golf professionals. You are marketing a product that you like and are familiar. Three simple words should be at the core of your message. These include "friends, family, and fun". Assess your facility from an outside perspective and see how it would appeal to a non-golfer. Create a welcoming environment for you intended market and make sure it is equally as fun. It is very important to incorporate the ideas of a socially welcoming activity to draw your perspective market to your facility and or program. Alternatively the intended market needs to know that golf has numerous health benefits. This is especially true if you are creating senior player development programs. The non-golfing community will have many misconceptions about golf. The quicker your marketing assesses the pain points of affordability, time constraints, and non-welcoming atmosphere, the more successful your marketing approach will be.

The Golf professional has a wide array of channels and means in which they can pursue. The National Golf Foundation has conducted surveys that find on an average approximately six thousand golfers are willing to play golf outside of each golf

property. Types of marketing and suggestions can be found below.

Community Marketing: Direct connection to the local environment surrounding your facility. Contact the HR department of local businesses to find out if they have a health and wellness program and have them enroll their employees in your Get Golf Ready programs. Alternatively seek out the local school district and provide free lessons to the students and teachers. At the end allow the school to have a field trip to your facility and welcome thousands of potential golfers.

Special Events: Hosting large scale events although might seem difficult can have tremendous impact on reaching a large quantity of consumers. Examples include pairing up with other golf courses in the area and host a Welcome to Golf Day while providing free ten minute lessons. After the completion and scattered throughout the even have promotional material and signups for your player development programs.

Direct Email / Mail/ Digital Campaigning: Cost efficient and an instant way to communicate. Email, text messaging, and even certificates via Groupon have become very popular. In one month a Florida golf course received 240 Get Golf Ready applicants.

On-Site: There are multiple assets at your current facility that you can utilize to your advantage. In addition to the traditional flyers, brochures, and signage in the golf shop, make sure you're existing and core golfers are aware of these promotions. Word of mouth is a very powerful and effective form of marketing the can have a significant impact on the size of your programs. This is especially true if they have friends and family members who are not active golfers.

Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions as I am here to help us as a Section and you at your facility become more effective. Let's start letting our employers know that the PGA Professional is the one that can really make a difference!

Brian Bain, PGA
PGA Player Development Regional Manager ~ Boston

2012 AWARD WINNER SPOTLIGHT



2012 NEPGA Bill Strausbaugh Award Winner: Susan Bond, PGA of Weekapaug Golf Club

At what age did you begin to play golf? I started playing at 8 years old at Pine Oaks in Easton MA.

Who taught you the game? My brother PGA Professional Ray Ladd.

Where did you go to school? I attended and graduated with a BA from the University of Alabama

When did you decide to become a PGA Professional and why? My dream was to play on the tour, right out of college but I was involved in a drunk driving accident, and did not play for 2 years, I tried to play again, made it to the finals of LPGA Q

School but missed the cut. I knew I wanted to be involved with the game so became a PGA apprentice in 1988, and the rest, as they say, is history.

Of all the courses that you have played, which one is your favorite? That's not fair, it's like saying which is your favorite child, I do know a couple courses I would like to play, Pebble Beach and Augusta.

What other interests do you have besides the game of golf? I love to shop, to travel, and to train and run in marathons.

What would you like to leave as your legacy to the game? To use the line from my campaign, "It's not what you Get, It Is What You Give". I have been given so much during my life and career, that it is important to me, that I give my time to others. I am very honored to receive this award and I congratulate all the other 2012 Award Winners.

CHAPTER & ASSOCIATION NEWS

CAPE COD CHAPTER



HOME GAME FOR BAY CLUB'S TRIUMPHANT TRIO!

We all know how challenging it can be to host a championship competition AND attempt to compete in same. Well...extra kudos then to The Bay Club's PGA Professionals – Greg Yeomans & Tracy Djerf who shared top honors with three other teams in the recent NEPGA Pro-Assistant Championship, sponsored by Titleist & FootJoy, while Yeomans and legendary partner John Paesani checked in T-5, just one stroke in arrears. Greg (3) & Tracy (4) parlayed six birdies (both birdied #12) into a stellar 65 during intermittent rain showers all day as over 80 teams from the Section

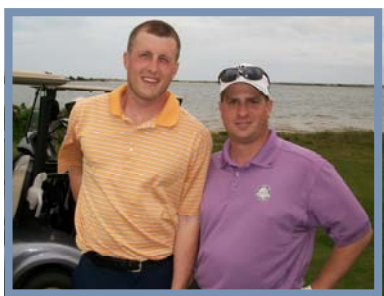


Jim Antonelli (Marshfield) looks longing-ly at Greg & Tracy's crystal...in this 4-way tie for the championship!

visited our Chapter once again – but, for the first time – an 18-hole met-style affair. A total of 14 teams from the Cape competed. Congratulations to all three Bay Club PGA representatives for all their hard work preparing for & playing superbly in this event!

FARM NECK PROVIDES STERN TEST FOR CHAPTER PRO-1AM CHAMPIONSHIP

The magnificent Farm Neck GC on Martha's Vineyard showed its teeth by the sea in mid-May as the Chapter ferried to the island for the annual Pro-1Am Championship – giving up just 2 rounds under par from the entire field. Prevailing at -4 (68) were the duo from Old Sandwich GC, PGA Assistant Professional Chris Doherty and his former NHL goal-tending partner Mike Dunham. Cool, cloudy conditions with light rain did not deter the winning twosome with a three shot victory over the Hyannis PGA Teaching Professional Dave Donnellan/ Mike Kelly team. T-3 teams at level par 72 were PGA Head Professional from Old Sandwich, Jay Wick & Mike Marooney along with the Sandwich Hollows team of PGA Head Professional Jesse Schechtman & Peter Hartmann.



Peter Hartmann and Jesse Schechtman



Jeff Halunen, Mike Haberl, Mike Berube and Peter Adams



John Macurdy, Eric Roberts, Dave Magdalenski and Doug Errhalt

NEWS & NOTES:

Good Luck to Chapter pros Brad Wheatley and Bob Travers – both exempt for this month's Mass Open at Walpole...The Chapter needs two more teams to enter the inaugural NEPGA Round Robin tournament which has recently gotten underway in neighboring Chapters...Congrats to Assistants Chris Doherty and Wheatley (Cape Cod National) for placing T-9 at the prestigious Hudson Cup held in mid-May. Both fired 74's...While Oyster Harbors' Matt Baran (current Chapter champion) fired a 72 (T-9) at Charles River in the first Ahead Series event which attracted over 100 competitors...Rusty Gunnarson and Joe Cordani each shot 73 putting them T-17.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Pro-Pro at Willowbend (6-12)...Pro-Lady at White Cliffs (6-21)...Pro-4Jr at Squirrel Run (7-12)...all these events are open to any Chapter professional – register now! ...and, finally, the Rhode Island Chapter invites all section pros to bring their BEST JUNIOR (18 or under) to a fantastic new event sponsored by Titleist & FootJoy called the Pro-I Jr Scratch to be held at Segregansett, Taunton, MA on August 15th...should be a fun event.

Cape Cod PGA Pro-4 Junior - Squirrel Run – sponsors: TITLEIST & FOOTJOY - Dave Moynihan, PGA & Dave Woods.
Rhode Island PGA Pro-I Junior Scratch - Segregansett - sponsors: TITLEIST & FOOTJOY - Dave Moynihan & Peter Butt.



Mickey Herron, PGA
NEPGA Cape Cod Ch. Tournament Operations Manager
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CHAPTER & ASSOCIATION NEWS *Continued...*

MAINE CHAPTER



Paul Piveronas, PGA Teaching Professional at The Woodlands Club and his wife Angela are proud to announce the birth of their second child. Thomas Matthew Piveronas was born on May 7th via C-section and weighed 9lbs and was 22 inches long. He has some small wisps of reddish hair and has big blue eyes. Mom and baby are doing well at home. His older sister Katherine Anne is a proud big sister and will be a great help to Mom and Dad as he grows up.

SENIOR JUNIOR CHAMPIONS...



Congratulations to Bob Darling, Jr. & John Hickson for winning the Senior-Junior Championship at Spring Meadows GC in play-off over Mike Baker & Jace Pearson. John's birdie from four feet on the second play-

off hole secured the title. The Chapter would like to thank our partners at Callaway Golf for their support and contribution to the event.

PRO-AM NEWS...

Dodging rain drops, hole-in-ones and good scores are the highlights to the Pro-Am season thus far. Somehow we have managed to conduct three pro-ams, when the weather radar has looked rather ominous.

Ron Kelton, PGA Apprentice at Dunegrass made a hole-in-one on #15 at Biddeford-Saco CC during the first pro-am of the year. Dave Grygiel, PGA Teaching Professional at Tee N' Tee made his first ever hole-on-one at Prouts Neck dunking a 5 iron from 175 yards on the tenth hole.



Pictured left—Callaway Golf Representatives Joe Tierney and Pete Gambardella - supporters of the Maine Chapter Pro-Am at Prouts Neck.

The Pro-Senior Championship title will reside at Nonesuch River GC for 2012. Shawn Warren, PGA Apprentice and his team posted a gross score of 133 to win the title at Purpoodock. The Chapter wishes to thank Tim



Miller and our partners at Cobra for sponsoring the event.

Best of luck to Bob Darling, Jr. and John Hickson as they head to California later this month to compete in the PGA Professional National Championship.

Tony Decker, PGA
NEPGA Maine Ch. Tournament Operations Manager
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ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION



PGA

New England Section
Assistants' Association

The New England Assistants Association Spring Series is off to a great start. We started with our Spring Meeting and individual stableford com-

petition at Oyster Harbors Club On April 19. Congratulations to host PGA Assistant Golf Professional Matthew Baran on his 3 point victory, accumulating 43 points. Special thanks to Host PGA Head Professional Sean Edmonds for hosting and for Jeff DiBona and Kirk and Matz for their sponsorship.

The following week, we travelled a little further down the Cape to Eastward Ho! Country Club for our first stroke play event with Assistant Professional Rich Berberian from Hoodcroft Country Club shooting 1 under par 70 for a 3 stroke victory. Thanks to PGA Professional Brian Hamilton and the members of Eastward Ho! for once again hosting a spring series tournament.

On May 3, we made a stop at a new venue for us, New Seabury Country Club Dunes course. Sean McEternan, Assistant Professional at Brae Burn Country Club, shot a spectacular 2 under par 68 for a 2 shot victory over Brian Owens, PGA Assistant Professional at North Kingstown Golf Course. Thanks to PGA Professional Brendan Reilly for allowing us to make a new stop on our tournament schedule.

After a week off, we returned to the perennial host of the Hudson Cup, Duxbury Yacht Club. Dan Dwyer, PGA Assistant Golf Professional from Ipswich Country Club, shot an impressive 3 under par 69, to take a one shot victory over Patrick Pelletier, Assistant Golf Professional at Lake Morey Inn & Country Club. This is the third time Dan Dwyer has won the first major of the year at Duxbury.

At Marshfield on May 24, Greg Dobbins, Apprentice Professional from Milton Hoosic Club and Brad Wheatley, PGA Assistant Golf Professional from Cape Code National Golf Club, tied for medalist honors with 2 under par 68's. Thanks to Host PGA Professional James Antonelli for hosting us again for this year. Our final Spring Series event is at Black Rock Country Club on Thursday May 31, 2012.

Steve Bramlett, PGA
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CHAPTER & ASSOCIATION NEWS *Continued...*

RHODE ISLAND CHAPTER



TIEDEMANN & BALUIK TOP PROS AT WARWICK PRO-AM

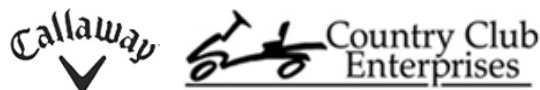
May 22: Shelter Harbors' PGA Head Professional Dave Tiedemann and Gloucester's PGA Head Professional Dave Baluik both checked in with 70's at the manicured Warwick CC links under severe weather conditions to capture low pro honors in the Chapters' second event of the spring sponsored by Callaway Golf and CCE.



Playing at Warwick were Potowomut's Seth Force along with Callaway's Greg Sutcliffe – and partners Brian Keough & Mike Quinn

The rainy conditions did not deter fellow pros from posting other great rounds as three individuals fired 71's – Norton's PGA Head Professional Jeff Martin, Swansea's PGA Head Professional Shane Drury and Sandwich

Hollows' PGA Head Professional Jesse Schechtman – all shared third place. Drury led his team to gross honors with a 6-under 63 while Triggs' PGA Head Professional Bob Tramonti's team garnered low net team with an impressive 60. In all, a total of 22 teams were welcomed by the outstanding PGA staff at Warwick led by NEPGA Professional of the Year Jim DiMarino.



Special thanks to Callaway's Greg Sutcliffe for his incredibly generous support of this event and two others this season – and to CCE's Keith Tortorella, also a multiple event sponsor for 2012.

FIVE RHODE ISLAND PGA TEAMS SHINE AT BAY CLUB

After the recently played NEPGA Pro-Assistant Championship held at The Bay Club – five Chapter teams placed in the money – led by two teams who tied for 7th with a team score of 68 (-4). Misquamicut's PGA Professionals Jim Corrigan & Matt Doyle and Warwick's DiMarino and Brendon Ray both fared well while N. Kingstown's PGA Professionals Brian Owens/John Rainone team placed T-14 on 69. Rounding out the chapters' leading teams were Wannamoisett's PGA Professionals Troy Pare/Eric McBane and Acoaxet's PGA Professionals Brent Amaral/Lowell Letivier – checking in with solid 70's good for T-17th.

Special mention to five Rhode Islanders who fared well at the Ahead Series event at Charles River: Ray 71/ T-6, Owens 73/ T-17 & Amaral 74 – Pare 74 – Valley's PGA Head Profession-

al Chad Spencer 74/ T-23 as over 100 pros teed it up in the first Ahead tournament of the season.

NEWS & NOTES:

Four Chapter pros will tee it up in the upcoming Mass Open at Walpole in mid-June. Exempt players – Alpine's PGA Head Professional Ed Kirby & Troy Pare will be joined by qualifiers Bob Tramonti and Bill Maguire. Tramonti had to win his spot in a playoff of epic proportions... 10 players for ONE SPOT at Mt. Pleasant while Maguire's 74 at The Ridge Club claimed his spot in a playoff as well, but albeit less stressful – 6 players for 4 spots. Good Luck, Men!

MOHEGAN SUN PRO-AM at PAWTUCKET

RE-SCHEDULED: September 11th...sign up on Blue Golf now...winning foursome invited to Columbus Day tourney at Mohegan!



PRO-1 AM CHAMPIONSHIP INVITED TO PLAY

AGAWAM HUNT: June 28th...sign up now... sponsored by Callaway Golf/ Greg Sutcliffe...4-Ball Stroke Play/ added money to purse.



ROUND ROBIN UNDERWAY: The Rhode Island PGA's six teams in the section's inaugural Round Robin team tournament have begun their matches. Results should be emailed to M. Herron where they then can be viewed on the Tournament Info Page / Blue Golf.

CHAPTERS' PRO-PRO AT KIRKBRÆ INVITES ALL SECTION

TEAMS: June 7th's Pro-Pro, sponsored by Nike Golf/ Mike Daron to the tune of \$1,000 added money needs players! Please sign up via Blue Golf or call Tournament Director Mick Herron – 508-505-5120.

The Rhode Island chapter would also like to extend an invitation to all Section members to a brand new event scheduled for August 15th. The Pro-I Jr. Scratch tournament will pit teams of two from around the region in a simple 4-ball stroke play event to determine the best Pro-Junior tandem. Sponsored by Titleist & FootJoy (Dave Moynihan & Peter Butt) this event looks to be a great way to honor your club's best junior golfer (18 yrs or younger).



Warwick's PGA Head Professional Jim DiMarino (L) with apprentice Mike Roy – who it is rumored to have gone 1-under par around Amen Corner last week on a trip to Augusta with Shelter Harbor's Jacob Hoffer!

Mickey Herron, PGA
NEPGA Rhode Island Ch. Tournament Operations Manager
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CHAPTER & ASSOCIATION NEWS *Continued...*

VERMONT CHAPTER



The Vermont Chapter NEPGA Section held their Spring Meeting on May 2, 2011 at Rutland CC hosted by Greg Nelson, PGA and sponsored by Jim Mayo, Imperial Headwear and Haas Jordan umbrellas.

Vermont Chapter Board of President Josh Olney, PGA, conducted the proceedings and Chapter Directors provided committee reports and discussed Chapter business, playing opportunities, activities, and initiatives. Zack Wyman, PGA, Vermont District Director spoke about Section activities and plans. Jim Gunnare, PGA Awards Committee chair presented our PGA special awards. Playing Awards for 2011 were presented to deserving winners by Chapter Directors Roger King, PGA and Rodney Bicknell, PGA. We also heard from Mike Higgins- Executive Director NEPGA, Mike Packard, PGA, PGA Employment Consultant and Brian Bain, PGA, regional 2.0 Director. After lunch the Chapter Members joined our allied associates and sales reps to form teams for a round of golf.

TOURNAMENT RESULTS:

Our first VT Chapter Pro Am was held at Neshobe GC on May 7th with Rodney Bicknell, PGA as our host. We thank our sponsors Jeff Kelley-Titleist and Chris Catapane—Maui Jim, Sterling Cut Glass, and Under Armour for their generous support.

Gross team winners for the second year in a row were host professional Rodney Bicknell and his Neshobe team with a score of 61. Net team winners were Jim Dayton, PGA and his Ralph Myhre GC team with a score of 57. Winning Professional scores included Rodney Bicknell 69, RJ Ziats, PGA, Sugarbush GC 71, and Zack Wyman, PGA, of VT National CC 73.

The VT Chapter conducted a Pro Am at Manchester GC on May 14th with Bob Stearns, PGA as our host. We thank our sponsors John Carey and Srixon-Cleveland Golf for donation

of golf ball tee gifts and wedges for the proximity contests. John also added \$500 to our Pro pool purse. Net team winners were Jim Dayton, PGA, and his Ralph Myhre GC team with a score of 61. Gross team winners were host professional Tyson Briggs and his Manchester CC team with a score of 69. Winning Professional scores included RJ Ziats, PGA, Sugarbush GC 76, and five others tied at 78. Play was conducted under less than favorable conditions with steady showers through most of the day.

On Monday, May 21st, the Vermont Chapter held the first major of the year, our Pro Lady Championship at Green Mountain National GC with Dave Soucy, PGA as host professional. Gross team winners were Pat Pelletier and his team of ladies from Lake Morey CC with a 2 best ball score of 141. First place net winners with a score of 126 was the team led by Jim Dayton, PGA and the ladies from Ralph Myhre GC. Winning Professional scores included Dave Soucy and John Goodchild, Williston GC with 72's, followed by Jim Cruickshank, PGA, Okemo Valley GC with 74, and Todd Trono, PGA, Williston GC with 75.

The Vermont Chapter has enjoyed a 20% increase in playing event participation over the first month of the season. We thank all our professionals and amateur partners for helping 2012 start on a positive note.

VERMONT FACEBOOK & WWW.VERMONTPGA.COM:

Please check out all our pictures from our Spring Meeting. Also, May is First Tee Month for the Vermont Chapter. On Facebook, you will find all the pictures and articles. Be sure to catch the CC of Vermont First Tee field trip where 300 students joined Josh Olney, PGA and the facility staff for an interesting visit to one of our Central Vermont facilities.

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NEPGA Vermont Ch. Operations Manager
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SENIORS' ASSOCIATION



508.410.4984.

Don't forget to sign up for the Senior Championship at Okemo Valley GC on August 1st and 2nd. Thank you to Jim Remy, PGA for hosting our Championship event again this year. If you are only registering for the Senior Championship, please sign up through Blue Golf. If you also want to try to qualify for the PGA National Sr PNC, please sign up through www.pgalinks.com or by calling the PGA Membership Department 800.474.2776. Registration links will be available on www.nepga.com shortly for both.

Be sure to sign up for the June 14th Pro 3 Am at Whitinsville GC! Please call Dennis Selvitella, PGA to register your team:

Get well wishes are going out to Joe The Pro. I am sure that he would appreciate hearing from you. Joe's email address is jtpatrock@aol.com and we wish him a speedy recovery!

Congratulations to our May Pro Am winners! At Tesesco CC on May 2nd: Individual Pro: Bob Green, PGA Tedesco CC; Team Gross: Bob Green, PGA and Mike Geaney; and Team Net: Harry Rose, PGA Needham Golf Club with Curt Vanah. At Milton Hoosic Club on May 24th: Individual Pro Gross: Art Carlson, PGA Ponkapoag; Individual Pro Net: John Theo, PGA Far Corner CC; Team Gross: Mike McBroom, PGA Furnace Brook GC with Jake Doyle, Bob Connolly, and John Murphy; and Team Net: John Theo, PGA with Tim Desmond, Dave Currier, and Fred Frithzen.

CHAPTER & ASSOCIATION NEWS *Continued...*

NEW HAMPSHIRE CHAPTER



Rich Berberian, Jr., Assistant Professional at Hoodcroft CC, will be one of 74 players vying for a slot in the U.S. Open Championship sectional qualifying round at Canoe Brook Country Club in New Jersey on June 4th. Berberian shot a 69

in an Open qualifier at Pine Hills Golf Club in Plymouth, MA. The U.S. Open is scheduled for June 14-17 at the Olympic Club in San Francisco. Berberian, a two-time NHCPGA champion, has entered the PGA Tour Qualifying Tournament the last two years, missing by a stroke in 2010 of advancing past the first of three qualifying stages.



SECTION NEWS *Continued...*

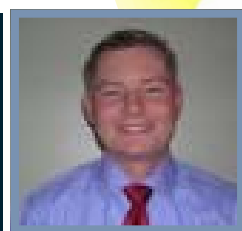
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PUTTING GREEN CEREMONY



Glenn Kelly performing a marriage ceremony on the putting green on April 7th, 2012 at the Woods Hole Golf Club. Members John Bearce and Kathryn Webb Bearce. "He cures slices and unites souls!"

WELCOME, CHASE!



PGA Head Professional Jason Dufresne at Haverhill Country Club and wife, Christina, welcomed Chase Richard on May 30, 2012 at 7:38pm weighing 6' 15oz.



The New Hampshire Chapter held its very popular ProLadies Championship at Wentworth By The Sea CC on May 28 with 28 teams of professionals and female amateurs competing. Co-champions were declared as the winning teams from Portsmouth

CC and Crotched Mountain Golf Course both shot 6-under par scores of 64. Portsmouth was led by head pro Bill Andrews who shot a 68 and was low professional for the day as well. Crotched Mountain was led by pro Ken Hamel who shot a 74. The event was sponsored by Rob Hardy of Hardy Golf Sales and is the first of the Chapter's four championships of which Hardy will be the title sponsor.

June will be a very busy month for the Chapter as pro-ams are scheduled for Beaver Meadow GC, Cochecho CC, Keene CC and the Pro-Senior Championship at Pheasant Ridge CC will culminate the month.

The Chapter's Player of the Year standings continue to go back and forth as Rich Berberian, Jr. of Hoodcroft has made his way back to the top with 67.50 points. Next in order are: Dan Gillis of Londonderry CC at 59.00, Bill Andrews, Portsmouth CC 58.00, Matt Arvanitis, Concord CC 57.25 and Paul Tessier of Bald Peak CC with 51.75 points.

Frank Swierz
NEPGA NH Ch. Tournament Manager
fswierz@comcast.net



New Members

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Class</u> | <u>Facility</u> |
|---------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| Brandon Hitti, PGA | A-15 | Dick's Sporting Goods |
| Adam Kaplan, PGA | A-8 | Oak Hill CC |
| Bill Schmedes III, PGA | A-6 | GolfTEC - RI |
| Brett Smestad, PGA | A-8 | The Oaks Golf Links |
| Michael Sullivan Jr., PGA | A-8 | Charles River CC |

New Apprentices

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Class</u> | <u>Facility</u> |
|------------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| Christopher Antonellis | B-8 | Winthrop GC |
| Jeffrey Hilton | B-8 | Nonesuch River GC |
| James Latraverse | B-8 | Hopkinton CC |

Classification Changes

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Class</u> | <u>Facility</u> |
|------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| James Bombard, PGA | A-6 | E. Coast Golf Practice Ctr |
| Jon Buddenhagen, PGA | A-8 | The Country Club |
| Brian Gara, PGA | A-1 | Vermont National CC |
| Don Groft III, PGA | A-8 | Wollaston GC |
| Jack Sullivan Jr., PGA | A-13 | Sanford GC |
| Zachary A. Wyman, PGA | A-4 | Vermont National CC |

Employment Changes

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Class</u> | <u>Start</u> | <u>Facility</u> |
|--------------------------|--------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| Drew Anderson, PGA | A-8 | 5/1 | Sankaty Head GC |
| James Bombard, PGA | A-6 | 5/8 | E. Coast Golf Practice Ctr |
| Jon Buddenhagen, PGA | A-8 | 5/5 | The Country Club |
| Christopher Carrier, PGA | A-8 | 5/1 | The Shelter Harbor GC |
| Ryan Carroll, PGA | A-8 | 5/6 | Newport CC |
| Don Groft III, PGA | A-8 | 5/1 | Wollaston GC |
| Richard Packish Jr., PGA | A-8 | 5/1 | Willowbend Golf & CC |
| Jake Pleczkowski, PGA | A-8 | 5/1 | Sankaty Head GC |
| John A. Stacy, PGA | A-6 | 5/10 | Rockingham CC |
| Jack Sullivan Jr., PGA | A-13 | 5/14 | Sanford GC |

New Transfers into Section

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Class</u> | <u>Previous Section</u> |
|--------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| Christopher Carrier, PGA | A-8 | South Florida |
| Ryan Carroll, PGA | A-8 | Minnesota |
| Richard Packish Jr., PGA | A-8 | South Florida |
| Jake Pleczkowski, PGA | A-8 | Southern California |

New Quarter Century Members

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Class</u> | <u>Facility</u> | <u>Date</u> |
|-------------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Donnie Lyons, PGA | A-13 | Reedy Meadow GC | 5/31 |

*These reports reflect changes made between May 1st and May 31st.

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