



# PGA

New England Section

# Full Swing

Official News Magazine of the New England PGA June 2017



## FEATURING

"Driving for Donations" NEPGA  
Foundation News

PGA Scholarship Winners

New England PGA  
**"Drives for Donations"**

## JUNE 20, 2017

See page 18 to learn more...

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## FRONT COVER:

On June 20th, a team of players will set out to play 99 holes of golf in ONE day, across the FIVE STATES that make up the NEPGA to raise funds for the NEPGA Foundation. Learn more on page 18.

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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: Rob Jarvis, PGA



Greetings NEPGA Professionals,

June is here and hopefully it brings some good weather with it. We have certainly had a spring for the record books. I have always said that only the strongest

golf professionals can carry the golf industry in New England and these past weeks have definitely tested even the most seasoned and hearty professionals. My hopes are that this month instead of breaking rainfall records, we will crush the year's prior sales for sunscreen!

## Communicate, Communicate, Communicate

Some areas throughout the Section have received more rainfall than others, but we have all had significant hits to our revenue stream that's for sure. I have always been a believer that good communication is an absolute necessity in business and there is no better time than now to make sure you are on top of your game. Most of us are a long ways away from planning our next budget year. In some respects that is good, but in others it is not so good.

Unless you own your facility, or are employed by a single owner, you probably answer to either a club BOD or like me a City Council. Some of the people on those committees may not even play golf or utilize the facility at all. It is certainly not fun to discuss the impact of this ridiculous weather pattern, but if you don't, you may be very sorry that you didn't.

Mother Nature herself must have had enough of this weather already and I am sure she will change the tides for us. Once we do begin to see some temperatures, the play will pick up and we will soon have this mess of spring in the rear view mirror. That is the problem. People have short memories.

When it comes time to prepare our budgets and begin to analyze the data from years prior, it is easy to forget that we have lost almost 6 weeks of the season. You do not want to be addressing this for the first time when your initial budget meetings begin. I am certainly not advocating pushing the panic button, but being proactive is always a good thing. People like surprises when they involve cake and ice cream, not when their in-

come statement is down thousands of dollars.

and patrons say "Don't worry Pro...you'll make it up later in the season." Tee

**Being a PGA Professional means being part of something much bigger than one person. We are a huge network of knowledge and friendship.**

Just putting together a simple revenue report and including the impact of the recent weather will show your committees that you have your eye on the prize. Most committees and BOD's will skip right by the detail and head for the bottom line. From that point they will have no choice but to judge the season based on one or two numbers. For many of us, those numbers might not be as good as last year. Not only are we having a tough spring, but we are following one of the best weather seasons on record. Sadly, even if out of your control, a season in which your club sustains significant financial losses could impact your position. Please don't let this happen to you. Be proactive and communicate, communicate, communicate. You will be glad you did.

## Grow the Game

Now that we have beaten the gloom and doom to death, let's talk about potential success stories that may come out of this difficult start. There is no better time in your career to try new things at your facility than now. Have you been sitting on a programming idea? Are there things that may be a little outside of the box and you have not dared try them yet? Now is the time. The best thing a golf professional can do in a time like this, in my opinion, is to be creative. There is no more effective way to grow the game than through programming. Just look at what PGA Junior League has done for the sport. The worst thing a golf professional can do in times like this is dwell on the negative and try and create revenue through fee increases or even decreases. Programming creates an attraction to the game like nothing else and spreads a vibe of positivity throughout the club and community. Good quality playing and instruction opportunities create golfers. Price fluctuation creates confusion.

You have probably heard your members

times are a perishable item. Once that time is left vacant, it is lost. I liken it to skipping lunch at your favorite deli. If you don't stop for lunch on Monday, do you visit twice on Tuesday? Maybe if it is taco Tuesday. That is just too good to pass up. All kidding aside, there is a light at the end of this. We may not fill those rained out tee times, but programming additions can produce more rounds and revenue than we might have had the year prior. Maybe have a PGA Junior League Family Night or a Wine and Nine. Some courses around the country have even had success with Quick Round programs. As PGA Professionals we have many resources at our disposal. There are always nice articles in PGA Magazine on player development so make sure to check those out. We also have Brian Bain, PGA here to help. As our Player Development Regional Manager he probably knows more NEPGA Professionals than anyone in our Section and is intimately aware of what has worked at different types of facilities. Being a PGA Professional means being part of something much bigger than one person. We are a huge network of knowledge and friendship. Don't be afraid to tap into that knowledge and call some of your peers. I guarantee they will be happy to offer any advice.

Even if 2017 has not gotten off to the best of starts, I still have faith that all of my fellow NEPGA Professionals can make this a great season for golfers throughout New England. You are a talented group and I know for a fact that nothing can keep a New Englander down! Keep pushing forward and do what you do best...Grow the Game! For now, I look forward to sunny skies and not seeing our NEPGA Professionals wearing snow caps at our tournaments.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rob Jarvis, PGA  
New England PGA President

# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE: Mike Higgins



It certainly does not feel like summer yet, but June is "supposedly" the start of the summer season. It will be here soon I promise! The summer season also signifies the end of many academic carriers. Over the

last few weeks many of you have probably attended High School or College graduations ceremonies and witnessed bright eyed and eager graduates ready to head out into the world to conquer it. I love listening to commencement speakers or valedictorian speeches because they are typically so uplifting and carry with them a solid message. I recently listened to Will Ferrell sing "I will Always Love You" at the University of Southern California's graduation and though that didn't carry a solid message, it was quite humorous. A quote by Michael Dell to the students at the University of Texas was one that really stuck with me. "As you start your journey, the first thing you should do is throw away that store-bought map and begin to draw your own."

I started to think about that message and

quickly realized the New England PGA is currently doing just that. Not only are we drawing our own map, but we are charting areas that our Section and our PGA Professionals have never been before. Our map is providing opportunities that are making NEPGA Professionals leaders in our industry and we are creating a map that other Sections and organizations will undoubtedly follow. I can assure you that the New England Section is very well respected on a national level and you should be very proud of that.

On a personal level you should take a moment and think about the map that you are currently following. Are you following one that was handed to you by the PGA Professional you replaced at your facility? Are you following a map that was handed to you by a board of directors? Are you following a map that you haven't even looked at in a while, or are you following a map that you have personally charted? I am certainly not saying that you need to reinvent the wheel, but constantly improving yourself, or consistently trying to make your operation better are ways to draw your own map.

This month our map will take us west where we will cheer on 15 NEPGA Professionals at the Professional National Cham-

pionship on June 18-21 at Sunriver (Ore.) Resort. We are proud once again to have the largest Section representation in the country and hopefully the 2017 PGA Professional Champion will be again from the New England Section! No pressure guys! This month we will also map our way throughout New England to cheer on NEPGA Professionals, Staff and friends of the NEPGA who will be playing 99 holes of golf in 5 states in 1 day. Be sure to [click here](#) to learn more about our New England PGA Foundations first fundraiser, the Interstate 99, and help us reach our fundraising goals.

This month's newsletter is packed with great information about upcoming events, our sponsors, the great work being done by our NEPGA Professionals and stories from throughout the New England Section. We hope you enjoy it, and we are always looking for content and ideas, so be sure to share your thoughts!

Have a successful June and I personally hope that your map is guiding you everywhere you want to go and beyond!

Respectfully,

Michael Higgins  
New England PGA Executive Director



June 18-21 | Sunriver Resort, Sunriver, Oregon

## 2017 PGA PROFESSIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Good luck to the following NEPGA Professionals playing in the 50th PGA Professional Championship. The top 20 finishers will qualify for the 2017 PGA Championship at Quail Hollow Club in Charlotte, North Carolina in August.



Robert Bruso, PGA  
Essex CC



Eric Barlow, PGA  
Winchester CC



Dan Venezio, PGA  
Portland CC



Shawn Warren, PGA  
Falmouth CC



Rico Riciputi, PGA  
Wentworth By The Sea



Ron Philo, PGA  
Stowe Mountain



Michael Menery, PGA  
Sarkisian Farms/  
Driving Range



Kirk Hanefeld, PGA  
Salem CC



Steven Daly, PGA  
Black Rock CC



Jeff Martin, PGA  
Norton CC



Jeff Seavey, PGA  
Samoset Resort CC



Kevin Rhoads, PGA  
The Country Club



Matt Zdon, PGA  
Belmont CC



Matt Doyle, PGA  
The Misquamicut Club



Rich Berberian, Jr, PGA  
Vesper CC





# NEPGA Las Vegas Pro-Am

November 12-15, 2017

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*Secure your spot,  
register by July 1st!*

[View Entry Form](#)



# Running Wild PHOTOS / RESULTS

## Berberian Jr. Takes Home First Pro-Am Championship

Rich Berberian, PGA and Chris Ruggerio (a) shot 14-under par through 36 holes for a total of 130 at the Pro-Am Championship at Pinehills Golf Club in Plymouth, MA held on Tuesday, May 30. The pair combined for 13 birdies, one bogey, and one eagle on the day.

Berberian and Ruggerio started the day on the tougher 18, the Jones Course, but by the way they played, you'd never know it. On the front, they came out strong, making back-to-back birdies on one, two, and nine. If that wasn't impressive enough, they excelled on the back nine. After making a birdie on 12, they added a successful string of 4 more, from 15 through 18.

On Nicklaus, they had their only slip-up of the day, making a bogey on the third hole. They quickly corrected and birdied both the seventh and ninth. On the back nine, they built on their lead with a birdie on the 10th and an eagle on the 11th. The duo followed with two more birdies to finish the 36-hole event at 14-under par, 130.

"Teamwork really helped us out today, when I birdied four holes, he birdied four more holes," said Berberian. "We helped each other out a lot and it really helped us to be successful and go really low."

A possible reason for their great success in teamwork can be attributed

to their caddy/ player relationship. Ruggerio is Berberian's longtime caddy and has helped him win both NEPGA Section Championships and last year's PGA Professional Championship at Turning Stone Resort in Verona, NY.

Shawn Warren, PGA and Shawn Mccurdy (a) also went low in their rounds on Tuesday. The Falmouth CC team carded an impressive 12 birdies on the day with one eagle and two bogeys. They finished behind Berberian and Ruggerio in sole possession of second place at 12-under-par, 132.

Brian Keiser, PGA and Ben Balter (a) from Weston Golf Club also had an exciting day in Plymouth, sitting atop the leaderboard for much of the day. In their opening round on Pinehills' Nicklaus Course, they made two eagles, one of which was a hole-out on the 14th. They went into the second 18 holes with a strong score of nine-under-par 63.

However, Jones would not be as forgiving. They had a strong round, with two birdies and one bogey to finish at 70. But, with the talented field that Tuesday displayed it was not enough. They finished tied for third on the day, at eleven-under, 133.

Thank you to Pinehills Golf Club and head PGA Professional John Tuffin, PGA for their hospitality. Also, thank you to our partners in this event, Cobra-Puma Golf, and Clem Lamarre for great tee gifts.



## TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Pos	Team	Total	R1	R2	Total
1	Rich Berberian Chris Ruggerio (a)	-14	64	66	130
2	Shawn Warren Shawn Mccurdy (a)	-12	66	66	132
T3	Jeffrey Martin Dave Yurek (a)	-11	69	64	133
T3	Jon Ellis Jamie Ferullo (a)	-11	65	68	133
T3	Brian Keiser Ben Balter (a)	-11	63	70	133
T6	Daniel Venezio Jack Wyman (a)	-10	68	66	134
T6	John Paesani Collin Fitzpatrick (a)	-10	69	65	134
T6	Tim Watroba Matt Parziale (a)	-10	71	63	134
T9	Kevin Murphy Nick Maccario (a)	-9	69	66	135



# What's In The Bag?

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## 2017 NEPGA Pro-Assistant Championship

The Bay Club, Mattapoisett, Mass.

**Greg Yeomas, PGA & John Paesani, PGA**

The Bay Club at Mattapoisett



### In Greg's Bag...

Driver: Titleist 917  
Hybrid: Titleist 816  
Fairway Titleist 917 F  
Irons: 4-gap Titleist AP 2  
Wedges: Titleist 54, 56  
SM6 Vokey  
Putter: Scotty Cameron

### In John's Bag...

Driver: Titleist 917 D  
Hybrid: Titleist 816  
Fairway Titleist 917 F  
Irons: Titleist 4-Gap AP 2  
Wedges: Titleist 50, 58  
SM6 Vokey  
Putter Scotty Cameron

## 2017 NEPGA Pro-Am Championship

Pinehills Golf Club, Plymouth, MA

**Rich Berberian Jr., PGA & Chris Ruggeiro**

Vesper CC



### In Rich's Bag...

Driver: Taylormade 2017 M2  
3-Wood: TM M2  
Irons: TM 750  
Wedges: TM Milled Grind  
Putter: Scotty Cameron

### In Chris's Bag...

Driver: 2016 M2 Driver  
3-Wood: Callaway XR  
Hybrid: Ping  
Irons: TaylorMade 770  
Wedges: TM Milled Grind  
Putter: Taylormade Spider



# Floating on the Bay

[PHOTOS](#) / [VIDEO](#) / [RESULTS](#)

*Rain No Match for the Home Team*

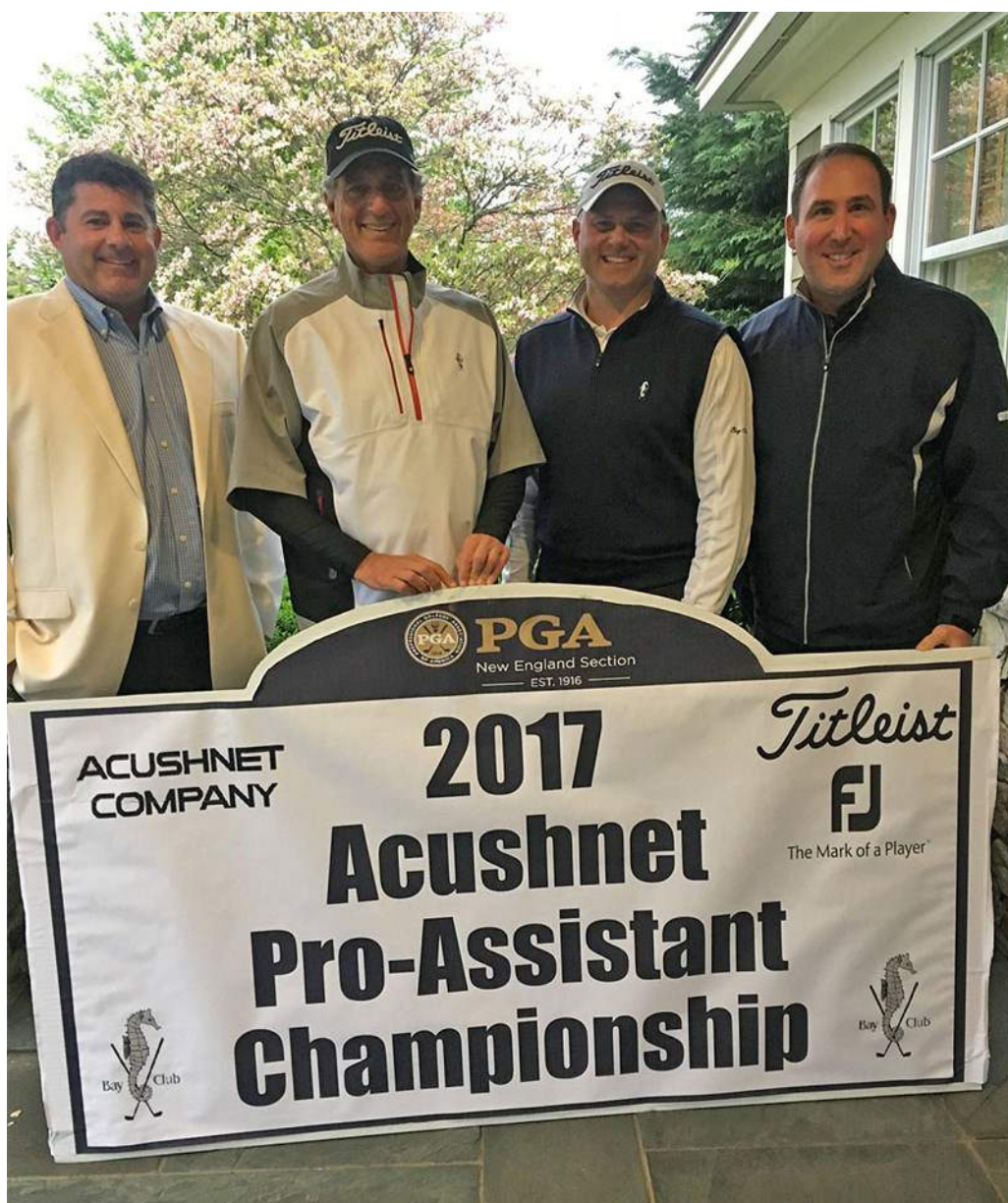
Greg Yeomans, PGA and John Paesani, PGA from the Bay Club shot an impressive eight under par 63 in the Acushnet Pro- Assistant Championship at the Bay Club at Mattapoisett on Tuesday, May 22. The duo was ahead of the rest of the field by a dominating four strokes.

Teeing off in the afternoon wave of golfers, Yeomans and his combined team of assistants took over their home course. Yeomans and Paesani combined for eight total birdies—five of which were made on the back nine. Their clean card was especially impressive considering the rainy, cold conditions faced by the afternoon set. Yeomans and Tracy Djerf, PGA finished T2 at four-under-par 67 with only one bogey on the card. Yeomans and Ben Egan, PGA also finished in the T2 spot at four-under also with just a single bogey.

The next closest teams not from The Bay Club at Mattapoisett were the teams from Falmouth CC of Shawn Warren, PGA and Sean Barrett, PGA and Kernwood CC of Frank Dully, PGA and Steve Bramlett, PGA. Both pairings shot a very respectable three-under-par 68. The lead from the host club proves that some home team advantage can help, especially in tough conditions.

"We've hosted this event for about ten years now, and I've won it before with Tracy, and John and I just won the Pro-Pro at the Haven last year, so we all work really well together. It feels really good to play well, and to play well in front of our members," said Yeomans.

The Bay Club had a throng of members following them in support on the course. Even through the cold, driving rain they toughed it out to show their dedication.



Thank you to title partners from the Acushnet Golf Company, Titleist and FootJoy for their support of the NEPGA, tee gifts for the players, and for being present at the event. Thank you also to the Bay Club for hosting this event for the past 10 years.

## TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Pos	Team	+/-	Total
1	Bay Club (Yeomans/Paesani)	-8	63
T2	Bay Club (Yeomans/Djerf)	-4	67
T2	Bay Club (Yeomans/Egan)	-4	67
T4	Falmouth CC (Warren/Barrett)	-3	68
T4	Kernwood CC (Dully/Bramlett)	-3	68
T4	Lebaron Hills CC (Rooney/Fickert)	-3	68
T4	Portland CC (Venezio/Kowker)	-3	68
T4	Thomson CC (Young/Gillis)	-3	68
T4	Vineyard GC (Seguin/Benko)	-3	68
T10	Belmont CC (Zdon/Atkinson)	-2	69



# Gimme Shelter

PHOTOS / RESULTS

## *Martin Cuts through the Windy Conditions*

Jeff Martin, PGA (Norton CC) shot a three-under-par 68 at Shelter Harbor Golf Club in Charlestown, RI to take the top spot at the opening event in the NEPGA's 2017 Stroke Play Series. He beat out the next lowest competitor by two strokes.

Martin started in the very first group on Tuesday morning, May 16th. Proving it to be more than just beginner's luck, he made four birdies on the front nine with only one bogey on the eighth hole. The birdie he made on the third hole is most impressive as it was playing as the second-hardest hole on the course for the day. Even his bogey on eight is not as bad, as it's rated as one of the 5 hardest holes at Shelter Harbor. On the back 9, Martin made two more bogeys but evened out the side with two birdies as well to finish at three-under-par 68 on the day.

The rest of the field was at least two strokes behind Martin. Greg Farland, PGA (Marlborough CC) finished T2 in Tuesday's Field at one-under-par. A talented NEPGA field joins him at the T2 spot: Kirk Hanefeld, PGA (Salem CC), host PGA Professional Dave Tiedemann (Shelter Harbor GC), and Lou Rivers, PGA (Foxborough CC) all finished at one-under.

The at times blustery winds players faced at Shelter Harbor really tested their skills on Tuesday. With the wind picking up especially later in the day, birdies were not an easy accomplishment on the course. Many players struggled to hit the long ball on some of the par fives, and had to be more conservative with how they played the course. It certainly made for a tough day playing, but a great day to see the intricacies of how the mind of a PGA Professional works.

There are five NEPGA Stroke Play Series events in the 2017 Season, the next of which is at Sterling National Golf Club on June 26th. The other events are as follows: Stroke Play Series #3 on July 11th at George Wright GC, SPS #4 is on August 7th at a location TBD, and SPS #5 is on August 28th at Haverill CC. Points in these events are awarded to finishing position. The top point winners from all of these events will qualify to play in the Avidia Bank Stroke Play Series Finals at the Misquamicut Club on September 26th. For more information and registration for these events, please visit [www.nepga.com](http://www.nepga.com).

Thank you to host PGA Professional Dave Tiedemann, PGA and the staff at Shelter Harbor Golf Club for a wonderful day. Also thank you to partners in these season-long stroke play series events: Ahead, Cutter and Buck, Bushnell, Yamaha, PGA Tour, SCNS Sports Foods, Avidia Bank and Ome-ga.

### TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Pos	Player	+/-	Total
1	Jeffrey Martin	-3	68
T2	Greg Farland	-1	70
T2	Kirk Hanefeld	-1	70
T2	Dave Tiedemann	-1	70
T2	Louis Rivers	-1	70
T6	Brian Owens	E	71
T6	Robert Tramonti	E	71
T6	Rick Karbowski	E	71
T6	Matt Doyle	E	71
T6	Michael Farrell	E	71





# Sailing the Hudson PHOTOS / RESULTS

## Essex's Bruso Takes Home His First Win

Assistant Professionals of the NEPGA returned to Duxbury Yacht Club, perennial host to the Section's Hudson Cup, on May 11th. One of the major events for Assistants in New England, the Hudson Cup is named for long-time NEPGA Executive Director Susan Hudson, who was always a friend to the assistants in the section, and they paid

her a fine tribute once again in 2017.

With Duxbury's golf course in exquisite shape, Robert Bruso of Essex County Club claimed the 2017 title, finishing a commanding four shots ahead of the next closest competitor. While the weather conditions proved very difficult for most of the field, Bruso's aggressive play was rewarded in the end, as he carded five birdies on the day. He was especially dominant on the front nine, where he registered three birdies in a row, on holes two, three, and four, and another on the ninth. He then settled down to a one-under-par 35 on the back nine, making only one bogey on the day to finish with a four-under-par 68.

Bruso was the only competitor to finish under par, with Brian Moskevich of Manchester CC finishing in second place with an even-par 72. The tough conditions, cold wind, and Duxbury's tricky greens all served to keep the rest of the field over par, however there were many great rounds played throughout the day, and there were many birdies made by the field as well.

Thank you to presenting partner Event-Man, and to Martin Golf and Fennec Golf, whose representative Jeff DiBona was on hand to provide tee gifts to all players, and award prizes to closest-to-the-pin winners. Also, thank you to Duxbury Golf Club's Head Professional Randy Grills, and the entire DYC staff for their hospitality.



### TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Pos	Player	+/-	Total
1	Robert Bruso	-4	68
2	Brian Moskevich	E	72
T3	Rick Durocher	+1	73
T3	Michael Baker	+1	73
T3	Brian Owens	+1	73
T3	Michael Farrell	+1	73
T7	Brian Goulart	+2	74
T7	Nicholas Knight	+2	74
T7	Bryan Fitzpatrick	+2	74
T7	Brett Smestad	+2	74



# Surfin' their Turf PHOTOS / RESULTS

## Warwick Uses Local Knowledge to Capture NEPGA ProAm

The third event of an NEPGA Pro-Am spring season marked by wind, cold temperatures, and all-around difficult conditions, the Warwick Pro-Am offered up more of the same. While the blustery conditions produced higher-than-usual scores overall, the Warwick CC team of PGA Professional Matt Walsh, John Sayles, George Gooding, and Gary Pannone posted an exceptional tally of 11-under par 127. Warwick Country Club's classic seaside layout provided players with panoramic ocean views, lightning-fast greens, and varied shot-making opportunities, but it was local knowledge that propelled the Host Pro-

fessional's team to victory. Matt Walsh, PGA of Warwick CC set his team's pace by carding three birdies on his own ball, while his partners contributed three natural birdies of their own, taming the raw and windy conditions admirably.

The Individual Professional competition featured some fine play as well, with Bob Tramonti, PGA of Triggs Memorial Golf Club returning the low score of even-par 69. Tramonti came out of the box hot, making birdie on the first hole, before settling into a groove, never allowing the cold wind to faze him as he played steadily the rest of the way

around. One more birdie on hole #15 helped Tramonti return to the club house, and claim Individual Pro victory, with a one-under-par 34 on the back nine.

Thank you to tournament partners Mohegan Sun, Levelwear, and Levelwear representative Ron Delehanty, who was on site to greet players and provided Levelwear clothing for the winning team and Closest to the Pin winners.



## TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Pos	Team	+/-	Total
1	Matt Walsh Warwick Country Club John Sayles (a) George Gooding (a) Gary Pannone (a)	-11	127
2	Brent Amaral Acoaxet Jeff Forbes (a) Bill Barnes (a) John Carney (a)	-8	130
3	Shawn Warren Falmouth CC Shawn McCurdy (a) Tom Snelders (a) Phil Garbrous (a)	-6	132
4	Nathaniel Adelson Warwick Country Club Matt Vickery (a) Richard Glover (a) Jeffrey Massotti (a)	-4	134
T5	Shane Drury Swansea CC Robert Touchette (a) Mario Dequattro (a) Edward Lee (a)	-2	136
T5	Scott Hickey Cyprian Keyes GC Ed Hickey (a) Bobby Spellane (a) Ed Dumphy (a)	-2	136
T5	Robert Tramonti Triggs Memorial GC Rick Leary (a) Larry Buteau (a) Richard Squizzero (a)	-2	136
T8	Frank Dully Kernwood CC Rick Cohen (a) Jack Nicolas (a) Scott Grossman (a)	-1	137
T8	John Rainone North Kingstown GC Ray Lajoie (a) Steve Smith (a) Tom Bailey (a)	-1	137
10	William Maguire Point Judith CC Teddy Tracy (a) Bryan Couture (a)	+1	139

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# UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

## New England Open, presented by Turkish Airlines

The Quechee Club | Tuesday-Wednesday, June 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>

### CANCELED

Unfortunately, the New England Open scheduled for June 6th and 7th at The Quechee Club in Quechee, Vt has been canceled due to the weather.



## NEPGA Pro-Officer Vineyard Golf Club | Thursday, June 15<sup>th</sup>



The NEPGA is taking the ferry to the Vineyard on June 15th as we gear up for the Pro-Officer Championship at Vineyard Golf Club in Edgartown, Mass. This event teams up PGA Professionals with one or three officers from their clubs for 18 holes. The four-ball stroke play event includes both gross and net prizes.

Thank you to our host facility, the Vineyard Golf Club, and our supporting partners Five Star, Tournament Solutions, Adidas Golf, and E-Z-GO!



[Register Online](#)



## NEPGA Pro + 1 Am The Carnegie Abbey Club | Monday, June 19<sup>th</sup>

We're heading to The Carnegie Abbey Club in Portsmouth, RI on June 19th for the Pro + 1 Amateur Championship. The 18-hole event begins with a 10 a.m. shotgun start. The teams made up of a PGA Professional and one amateur will compete for prizes in four-ball stroke play format.

Thank you to The Carnegie Abbey club for lending the use of their facility and to our partners in the event Turkish Airlines, Prize Possessions, and Levelwear.

[Register Online](#)



## NEPGA Stroke Play Series #2 Sterling National Golf Club | Monday, June 26<sup>th</sup>



We travel to Sterling National Golf Club in Sterling, MA for the second event in our NEPGA Stroke Play Series on June 26th. In addition to the individual 18-hole stroke play format, all players will be entered in a blind-draw Pro-Pro competition.

Each Stroke Play Series event serves as a part of the qualifying component for the Avidia Cup, sponsored by our friends at Avidia Bank. Points earned from the Stroke Play Series, Chapter points list, New England Section Professional Championships and the New England Open will be combined to determine the field for the Avidia Cup Finals on September 26th at the Misquamicut Club.

[Register Online](#)





Renaissance GC



The Golf Club at Turner Hill



Okemo Valley GC



The Bay Club at Mattapoisett

# 2017 Championship Registration

Registration for the 2017 national event qualifiers is now available! Register for the following events on [PGA.org](http://PGA.org) or by calling the PGA at (800) 474-2776. (\*See NEPGA Senior Championship exception) Same as last year, please note that the deadlines are now closer to the actual event dates.

## NEPGA Professional Championship

Renaissance Golf Club, Haverhill, MA &  
The Golf Club at Turner Hill, Ipswich, MA  
August 21-23, 2017

Fee: \$300

Deadline: August 2, 2017

[Register on PGA.org](http://PGA.org)

## NEPGA Senior Professional Championship

Okemo Valley Golf Club, Ludlow, VT  
July 31-August 1, 2017

Fee \$300

Deadline: July 12, 2017

[Register on PGA.org](http://PGA.org)

**\*Please Note:** This is a national event qualifier for the 2017 Senior PGA Professional Championship being held in the fall in Scottsdale, Arizona. Anyone **NOT** attempting to qualify for the national event may [click here](#) to register for the NEPGA Senior Championship and pay the \$160 entry fee.

## NEPGA Assistant Professional Championship

The Bay Club at Mattapoisett, Mattapoisett, MA  
September 11-12, 2017

Fee: \$175

Deadline: August 23, 2017

[Register on PGA.org](http://PGA.org)



# New England PGA Ireland Pro-Am

Oct. 8-14, 2017



**Royal Dublin GC**



**European Club**



**The Island GC**



**Portmarnock GC**



**County Louth**

## \$3,499\*\*

**Includes: Five night stay in 5-star hotel, golf, transportation from golf to hotel, welcome cocktail party, Irish Breakfast each morning and awards and farewell dinner**

**\*\*The above price is Land Only. Celtic Golf will be happy to assist with booking your round-trip airfare. Airfare price may fluctuate and will be determined at time of booking.**

**[View Event Details...](#)**





# Driving for Donations for the NEPGA Foundation

**What would you say if I told you a group of ambitious golfers were going to play 99 holes of golf in one day to raise money for a worthy cause?**

**Pretty cool achievement, right?**

**Now what if I told you those same ambitious golfers were going to play those 99 holes spread out across the 5 New England states of Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, Massachusetts and Rhode Island!?**

**Well that's what is happening on June 20<sup>th</sup> to benefit the New England PGA Foundation and their Jr. Golf, Military and Diversity & Inclusion programs!**

**Click Here to Donate**

A small group of golfers from the New England community will start their trek in Vermont and make their way down to Rhode Island, stopping at five golf courses along the way, one in each state, while playing 99 holes collectively. They will begin with 27 holes at The Quechee Club in Quechee, VT, move on to 18 at Montcalm Golf Club in Enfield, NH, over to The Ledges Golf Club in York, ME for another 18, then down to Renaissance Golf Club in Haverhill, MA for the penultimate round, and finish up at Kirkbrae Country Club in Lincoln, RI with 18 at dusk. In all, the group is hoping to raise at least \$10,000 in the inaugural tour to benefit youth golf programs and scholarships, support military and veteran programs centered on golf, and impact diverse populations such as minorities, women and those with special needs through the game.

The group taking on this monumental challenge all has an affinity with giving back and playing a lot of golf! NEPGA's Director of Operations Dave McAdams is heading up the charge, playing/fundraising in his "at least 8th marathon" for local golf charities, and will now be taking this show on the road. Joining him will be PGA Professional Ryan Kesten from Concord CC (MA), who serves on the NEPGA Board as President of the Assistants' Association. NEPGA Assistant Tournament Director Chris Clayton, a Billerica native in his first year with the NEPGA, and Tommy Austin of Fenway Sports Group

whose father is a PGA Professional in the North Florida Section each will be raising funds for a specific pillar under the NEPGA Foundation. Joining them along the way for a round in their respective state will be NEPGA leaders such as President Rob Jarvis, Honorary President Larry Kelley, RI Chapter Board Member Mike Bradshaw, past NH Chapter President Cory Mansfield and NEPGA Executive Director, Mike Higgins.

The New England PGA Foundation, established in 2016, has a mission to impact lives through the game of golf. Many of the New England PGA's 1100 men and women PGA Professionals are impacting charitable causes every day, whether it be raising money for charity, organizing charitable outings at their courses, volunteering their time to teach the game and many other ways. The charitable arm of the New England PGA aims to grow the impact their PGA Professionals are making on a daily basis by raising funds and enhancing programs throughout New England.

In the coming weeks the golfers will be fundraising through their respective pages on [Crowdrise](#), and on June 19th and 20th they will be documenting their travels throughout New England in partnership with Dirty Water Media. More information will be available at [www.nepga.com](http://www.nepga.com) in the coming weeks.



# Champions Play in Boston

Fred Couples



## U.S. Senior Open Championship

The U.S. Senior Open is returning to Greater Boston for the first time in 16 years. Don't miss your chance to be a part of history.

**Learn more at [2017USSeniorOpen.com](http://2017USSeniorOpen.com)**

**Salem Country Club | Peabody, MA | June 26-July 2**

## 2017 PGA Scholarship Recipients

Congratulations to the following students who have received Scholarships through the PGA of America Financial Assistance Fund Scholarship Program!

### Incoming Freshman:

**Elisabeth Boshka**

*Granddaughter of Charlie Moore, PGA*

**Emily Buchanan**

*Daughter of Bucky Buchanan, PGA*

**Morgan Griffin**

*Daughter of Ted Griffin, PGA*

**Julianne Hester**

*Daughter of Shawn Hester, PGA*

### Current College Students:

**Christopher Decker**

*Son of Tony Decker, PGA*

**Victoria Giffin**

*Daughter of Tom Giffin, PGA*

**Elizabeth Moison**

*Daughter of Matt Moison, PGA*



## Important Dates

**JUNE 15**

NEPGA Pro-Officer  
Vineyard Golf Club

**JUNE 18-21**

50th PGA Professional  
Championship  
Sunriver Resort (Oregon)

**JUNE 19**

NEPGA Pro-1 Am  
Carnegie Abbey Club

**JUNE 20**

NEPGA Interstate 99 Golf  
Marathon

**JUNE 26**

NEPGA Stroke Play #2  
Sterling National Golf Club

**JUNE 30**

PGA Annual Dues Deadline

## NEWS FROM THE JUNIOR TOUR: Jacy Settles

NEPGA Junior Tour presented by



### NEPGA Junior Tour Alumni at Pro-Am Championship

After the Memorial Day weekend, the New England PGA held the Pro-Am Championship at Pinehills Golf Club in Plymouth, MA. It was a great day for the tournament, which was filled with fun and excitement. Rich Berberian, PGA and Chris Ruggerio finished strong at 14

under par which allowed them to take home the hardware at the end of the tournament. We were excited to see some of our New England PGA Junior Tour alumni playing in the tournament as well. Sam Riener (SNHU), Connor Henderson (Bryant University), Matt Maloney (JWU – Miami, FL), Ben Balter (Wake Forest University), Nick Fantasia (JWU – Miami, FL), Jack Wyman

(Endicott College), and Ryan Anderson (Salem St. University) were the alumni at the tournament. These alumni are prime examples of the benefits that the Junior Tour provides. The Junior Tour tournaments prepares juniors for playing golf in college as well as giving them opportunities to stay involved in years after the NEPGA Jr Tour.



## NEPGA Ambassador Dell Technologies Championship

This year has been an exciting year on the PGA Tour with Dustin Johnson winning three early events and is on top of the FedEx Cup Leaderboard, with the first major for Sergio Garcia at The Masters in a sudden death playoff with Justin Rose, and with the emergence of new stars winning their first events. Johnson, along with the other top 100 points leaders in the FedEx Cup Race after the first FedEx Cup Playoff, will be competing at the TPC Boston in Norton to move on to the next Playoff Event.

With the newly named Dell Technologies Championship just about three months away on Thursday, August 31st, we are in need of Ambassadors for both the morning and afternoon waves. There is also available the chance to walk both waves if you are interested. The morning wave is from 7:00 am to 9:00 am. The afternoon wave is from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm.

This is always an enjoyable day to go inside the ropes with PGA Tour Professionals and their amateurs acting as Ambassadors of

the PGA of America and assisting the amateur players with course management and pace of play.

As an Ambassador, you will receive a logo'd golf shirt along with credentials and a parking pass to use at the Pro Am on Thursday, August 31st.

You will receive 1 MSR credit for each hour that you are on the course. This is under the "Growth of the Game" category. If you have any questions, please call the NEPGA office at 508.869.0000.

[Click Here](#) to register for the **AM Wave** from 7am - 9am.

[Click Here](#) to register for the **PM Wave** from 12pm - 2pm.

[Click Here](#) to register for **both the AM and PM Waves**.

[Click Here](#) to register with **no wave preference**.



Brian Bain, PGA with Jason Day



Rory McIlroy with Jack Gale, PGA

## Volunteer Opportunities

For more information or to volunteer for any of the following clinics, please contact Bob Beach PGA at [bbeach@braintreema.gov](mailto:bbeach@braintreema.gov) or 781-843-6513.

### Accessible Golf Clinics - Braintree Municipal GC - Every Monday through October 16th

Accessible golf clinics at the Braintree Municipal Golf Course from 5:00pm until 7:00pm every Monday beginning Monday April 24th through Monday October 16th.

### Veterans Clinics- Braintree Municipal GC - Every Saturday through November 11th

Clinics for veterans and wounded vets at the Braintree Municipal Golf Course from 3:00pm until 5:00pm every Saturday beginning Saturday April 23rd through Saturday November 11th.

### Veterans Clinics- Brockton VA - Every Friday through December 22nd

Clinics for veterans and wounded vets at the Brockton VA from 1:00pm until 2:30pm every Friday beginning Friday

April 14th through Friday December 22nd.

**Helping Hands Golf Clinic** - Bridge Center (Bridgewater), Saturday, June 15th 10:00am to 2:00pm

**Carroll Center Golf Clinic for the Blind** - MGA Links (Norton, MA), Tuesday, July 18th 10:00am to 1:00pm

**Jimmy Fund Field Day** - Noble and Greenough (Dedham), Sunday, July 23rd Noon to 4:00pm

**Special Olympics State Tournament and Skills Competition** - Stowe Acres CC, Saturday, August 26th 1:00pm to 4:00pm

**Seventeenth Annual NEPGA/ Special Olympic Tournament** - Sunday, October 22nd

## Club Drive for Vets

The Clubs for Vets program is in need of sets of irons, drivers, fairway metals, wedges, and putters for men, women, and juniors. Our accessible golf program at Braintree Municipal GC is also looking for two-sided putters for our Monday clinics. Thank you to everyone for all your help and support!

Contact Bob Beach, PGA at [bbeach@braintreema.gov](mailto:bbeach@braintreema.gov) or 781.843.6513 to make delivery arrangements.



## Todd Cook, PGA NEPGA Player Development Award



**At what age did you begin to play golf?**  
I was probably around 6 or 7... as soon as I was old enough to dig a hole on my own and submerge a Maxwell House coffee can in the yard.

**Who taught you the game?**  
My grandfather had the biggest influence

on getting me started in golf.

**Where did you go to school?**  
North Carolina State University

**Who inspired or mentored you?**  
I grew up as a junior at Meadowbrook Country Club in Reading, MA. Ed Whalley was the Head Professional and Rob Hardy was an assistant of his for some years. Both of them had an extremely positive effect on who I am as a Professional today.

**When did you decide to become a PGA Professional and why?**  
After college, I took a PAT simply to test my skills and to embrace some form of competition. I passed and the rest is history.

**Of all the courses that you have played, which one is your favorite?**  
Domestically, it's LA Country Club. I think I could play any links course in Ireland

and call it my favorite.

**Tell us about your family.**  
My wife Kathryn and I have been married for 13+ years. We have two children, Lauren (11) and Drew (5).

**What other interests do you have besides the game of golf?**  
I enjoy skiing, softball, travel, yard work, coaching the kids in other sports and my grill.

**What would you like to leave as your legacy to the game?**  
I enjoy sharing the game with others. It's nice to have a positive effect on all of the individuals that I have a chance to be with, but I really strive to introduce the game to all the people that I possibly can.

## Jim DiMarino, PGA NEPGA Bill Strausbaugh Award



**At what age did you begin to play golf?**  
Age 9

**Who taught you the game?**  
My first teacher was Mike Wortis who taught me to grip the club correctly and then swing as hard as I can, every time!

**Where did you go to school?**  
I went to Catholic Memorial High School and then I attended Bunker Hill Community College and then transferred to St. Thomas University in Miami, FL where I

majored in Hotel & Hospitality Management and played on the golf team.

**Who inspired or mentored you?**  
I have been very lucky to have many great mentors starting with Mike Wortis when I was just a child. My mentors along the way were; Jimmy Dee, Tom Cavicchi, Gil Cavanaugh, Don Callahan, Brad Worthington, Jerry Pittman and Brendan Walsh. But the one person who not only mentored me but also inspired me to be the best I can be is NEPGA Hall of Famer, Donnie Lyons. He is a mentor and a great friend as well.

**When did you decide to become a PGA Professional and why?**  
I truly believe that I decided to make golf my career when I was 11 years old, caddying at the Chestnut Hill CC. Mike Wortis was the Head Professional and he was so larger than life and so well respected by the members that I said to myself, that's what I want to do when I grow up.

**Of all the courses that you have played, which one is your favorite?**  
Hands down, Seminole Golf Club. I have

always been drawn to clubs by the ocean and Seminole possesses all the qualities of a great test of golf hard by the ocean.

**Tell us about your family.**  
I am very lucky to have a great family. My wife Tricia is also a West Roxbury native and a Registered Nurse at Newton-Wellesley Hospital. We have known each other since we were kids and we will be married 25 years this coming October. We have two great kids, Adriana & Declan. They are 13-year-old twins who are into all kinds of sports and activities and they both love golf, which makes Dad very happy.

**What other interests do you have besides the game of golf?**  
I love to read, spend time with my family, collect golf books and memorabilia and I am also a big Boston Bruins fan.

**What would you like to leave as your legacy to the game?**  
That I served my club members and my association well and that I helped my staff and others along the way.



## Mark Heartfield, PGA NEPGA Deacon Palmer Award



**At what age did you begin to play golf?**  
15 years old as a sophomore in High School

**Who taught you the game?**  
Self taught at first, I then had the thrill of taking lessons from New England Legend Paul Harney. Mr. Harney gave me my 1st few lessons and encouraged me to compete and work hard everyday.

**Where did you go to school?**  
I graduated from Tabor Academy in Prep School. In college I graduated with a Business Degree from Stetson University in DeLand FL.

**Who inspired or mentored you?**  
I was lucky to work for some great PGA

Professionals during my Assistant Professional years. They all helped me become the PGA Professional I am today. Tom Hanifan - Plymouth Country Club; Rick Johnson - Hyannisport Club; Bob Ross - Baltusrol Golf Club in Springfield, NJ and Fred Harkness at Jonathan's Landing in Jupiter FL. I thank them all.

**When did you decide to become a PGA Professional and why?**  
I so admired Tom Hanifan when he was an Assistant at Cummaquid and then I worked for him when I was 15 at Iyannough Hills. It was my love for the game, the fun I had playing and competing, and the kind people that surround this great game that led me to want to do this for a profession.

**Of all the courses that you have played, which one is your favorite?**  
My favorite course is Pebble Beach, but my favorite golfing experience was having the incredible pleasure to play Augusta National with Member Jack Welch, Bruins Legend Bobby Orr and Sankaty Member and past Club Champion Jacques Wullschlegler for 2 days.

**Tell us about your family.**  
I am blessed to have two beautiful and healthy daughters Sarah and Molly who both live and work in Boston and love visiting me often on Nantucket. I am

also one of six kids and cherish the time I get to spend with my siblings.

**What other interests do you have besides the game of golf?**  
I enjoy photography and consider myself around a 5 handicap with a lens in my hand. I also love all sports especially watching and cheering for the amazing Boston sports teams. Go Pats! Most importantly I love traveling and spending as much time as I can with my girlfriend Kathryn who has become my best friend.

**What would you like to leave as your legacy to the game?**  
I would like to leave a legacy of being a mentor to so many fine young Assistants. I was always there for them and supported them all as best I could. I tried to improve their futures in the game and in life, even long after they left Sankaty Head. My greatest thrill is seeing a current or past Assistant get his own Head Professional job. I hope the Membership of Sankaty looks at me as a long-tenured Professional who was always honest, worked hard every day, never took his job for granted and tried his best to represent Sankaty Head in the highest regards as their Professional.

## PGA NEWS



### District 1 Director Report:

Noel Gebauer, PGA



[Click here](#) to view the PGA of America Highlight Summary for the month of May featuring recaps from the KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship and PGA Minority Collegiate Golf Championship, Regional JLG Competition sites and PGA Championships news!

### Compensation Survey Results Now Available

The 2017 PGA Golf Professional Compensation Survey results are now live. There were more than 13,500 completed responses from the approximately 22,000 active PGA Professionals. Thank you to everyone who submitted their information this year!

[View Results on PGA.org](#)



## Your View From The Fairway

View from the Fairway of The Vineyard Golf Club, Site of the NEPGA Pro-Officer on June 15<sup>th</sup>

### JUNE MEMBERSHIP NOTES: Joan Stuart

#### Membership Dues – Important!

**Your PGA Annual Dues are due by June 30, 2017 to avoid suspension and late fee assessment. IMPORTANT:**

Payments by check should be mailed to: PO Box 31089, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33420-1089. Although payment by check is acceptable, paying by credit/debit card via [PGA.org](http://PGA.org) is the preferred method.

#### PGA Disaster Relief Fund

The PGA Disaster Relief Fund was created to provide assistance to PGA members who find themselves faced with temporary financial problems due to medical emergencies or natural disasters such as flooding or storms. The PGA Disaster Relief Fund is supported exclusively by donations from PGA Professionals. This program was implemented in July 2000, therefore, no pre-existing conditions prior to July 2000 will be considered.

During annual dues billing, PGA members and apprentices make voluntary contributions to PGA Disaster Relief.

**In FY 2015/2016, roughly 11,000 members and apprentices donated to this fund.**

**Donate Now:** If you would like to donate to PGA Disaster Relief, please access your dues bill or call PGA Membership Services at (800) 474-2776.

**Please Note:** The voluntary contribution to the PGA Disaster Relief Fund is not tax-deductible as a charitable contribution.

#### Apply for Disaster Relief Fund Assistance

To access the PGA Disaster Relief Fund Program Application, please [click here](#).

#### MSR Update

The current MSR period will be ending in about a year from now on June 15, 2018. The New England Section has 772 members who have MSR requirements. As of May 15th only 174 members have fulfilled their requirements. Please log into [www.pga.org](http://www.pga.org) and view your MSR hours. If there are missing MSR hours, you can post them yourself following the instructions below. Look for information on upcoming educational or volunteer opportunities on [www.nepga.com](http://www.nepga.com) during the fall and winter months.

#### Posting Your Own MSR Hours

Have you ever served the Section, Chapter, National PGA or Allied Association by participating in the advancement of the game activities such as **radio shows, TV shows, speeches, golf promotional non-playing events, golf clinics and other volunteer activities, such as non-playing tournament official?**

Have you served as a golf coach or assistant golf coach of a high school/college golf team in a capacity not considered your primary employment?

Have you ever published PGA-approved **news, media, magazine articles or published book?**

Have you provided official **Golf Get Ready** group lessons at your facility?

If you have done any of the above **you can post your own MSR's online** through the following link: <http://apps.pga.org/professionals/apps/membership/msr/>. It is easy and you can post these credits any time of the day at your convenience. If you have any questions on this process, please contact Joan Stuart at [jstuart@pgahq.com](mailto:jstuart@pgahq.com) or call the section office 508.869.0000.





# PGA

New England Section  
EST. 1916

## Social Corner



"Tune in this Thursday at 11am, when we go LIVE with PGA Professional, Skip Guss!"



"Congrats to Rich Berberian and Chris Ruggerio on winning the 2017 Pro-am! Thanks to Pinehills GC for the Hospitality @Cobragolf @pumagolf"



Today's partner representative Clem Lamarre of @cobragolf @pumagolf takes his slot shot for some @puma Disc shoes! #justabitoutside @rickiefowler @lexi





# IT'S PLAYTIME!

## EVENT DETAILS

A free golf skills competition for boys and girls ages 7 to 15, of any ability. The 2018 National Finals will be held at Augusta National Golf Club on the eve of the 2018 Masters.

## NEW ENGLAND QUALIFIERS

**June 3, 2017**

Val Halla Golf & Recreation Center  
Cumberland, ME

**June 17, 2017**

Button Hole Golf Course  
Providence, RI

**June 27, 2017**

The International Golf Club  
Bolton, MA

**July 11, 2017**

The Bay Club at Mattapoisett  
Mattapoisett, MA

**July 16, 2017**

Cyprian Keyes Golf Club  
Boylston, MA

**July 18, 2017**

Windham Country Club  
Windham, NH

**July 26, 2017**

Granite Links Golf Club  
Quincy, MA

**August 2, 2017**

Okemo Valley Golf Club  
Ludlow, VT

**NEW ENG. SUB-REGIONAL QUALIFYING**

**August 13, 2017**

Renaissance Golf Club  
Haverhill, MA

**NEW ENG. SUB-REGIONAL QUALIFYING**

**August 16, 2017**

Pinehills Golf Club  
Plymouth, MA

**NEW ENG. REGIONAL QUALIFYING**

**October 1, 2017**

Winged Foot  
Mamaroneck, NY

**CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL**

**April 1, 2018**

Augusta National Golf Club  
Augusta, GA



# PGA

New England Section

For more information, visit our website:  
[nepgajuniortour.com/drivechipputt](http://nepgajuniortour.com/drivechipputt)

Register on [drivechipandputt.com](http://drivechipandputt.com) today!



# PLAYER DEVELOPMENT NEWS: Brian Bain, PGA



On Tuesday May 16, 2017 Bob Beach, PGA Brian Diamond, PGA Ryan Kesten, PGA Jacy Settles and myself ventured into Boston Children's Hospital to provide golf experiences to some of the children during a not so happy time in their lives. Our goal was very simple to put some smiles on their faces.

This was a first for all of us and we did not know what to expect or how things would turn out. The Boston

Children's Hospital Trust was very welcoming and gracious that the New England PGA Golf Foundation was offering to do this for the children. The mission of Boston Children's Hospital is "Until Every Child Is Well", so hopefully that afternoon some of your peers helped them get a little closer by enriching the lives of some children by having a golf club in their hands for a few minutes.

Here is what everyone thought of the afternoon in their own words:

"Thank you very much for reaching out and asking me to be a part of the day. It was truly a great experience to go there and help make some children smile and forget about their trouble for a few minutes. This is something we all can easily do in the future and make a blueprint for others to make an impact as well.

Volunteering at Boston Children's hospital with my fellow PGA Professionals was a great experience. We were able to connect with several children during our time at the hospital and make them smile and enjoy their afternoon. There was a boy named Connor who just wanted to watch at first but then got engaged rather quickly. We chatted about the great Celtics game seven win and other sports."

**Ryan Kesten, PGA**

Both Bob Beach and I went and visited 5-year-old Ari in his room located in the Cardiac ICU. Ari had asked if some of the Pro's would visit him in his room as he was unable to come down and see us. Ari is 5 and has been in BCH for almost 300 days. After his grandfather showed us a video of Ari swinging a golf club at 3-years-old I asked him who taught him that swing his response was "I was born with that swing inside me". After spending some time and learning about all his PS4 games and favorite Celtic players, Bob and I were leaving and he leaned over his chair and said "see you on the course".

Another patient that visited us had not left his room for two days and came down in his wheelchair and was just going to watch. Ryan Kesten, PGA coaxed him into giving the swing a try and he was out of the chair in no time.

Another young boy that came down with his nurse was still attached to all of his tubes. This patient did not want to do his therapy on his floor so the nurses gave him the option of either doing his therapy or coming down to do golf. Little did he know that the walk down to see us was far more therapeutic than what his therapy would have entailed on his floor.

This was one of the most rewarding days of being a PGA Member! This success would not have been possible without Ryan, Bob, Brian & Jacy helping enrich lives through the game of golf. I am glad to say MISSION ACCOMPLISHED with our goal of putting some smiles on faces at Boston Children's Hospital that May afternoon.

"Visiting Boston Children's Hospital was a life changing experience for me. Talking to the patients and their families makes one have a different perspective on life and how one should live – give back, appreciate all things, and be thankful. Being able to see the smiles on the patients' faces when getting golf lessons is a moment that I will never forget. It is a vivid reminder of the impact golf provides. Lastly and most importantly, I think the patients and their families are an inspiration. My heart and prayers goes out to all of them. Thank you to NEPGA Foundation and Boston Children's Hospital for such an amazing opportunity."

**Jacy Settles**

"I enjoyed working with the different young patients and their parents. The highlight though would be my visit with you to meet 5 year old Ari Schultz in the Cardiac ICU. It was an honor to be one of the PGA golf professionals Ari requested. His love of sports including golf was very cool. I hope and pray that sometime in the future I will see Ari back on the golf course with a big smile on his face."

**Bob Beach, PGA**

**Brian Diamond, PGA**

"Thank you for the opportunity to visit the Boston Children's Hospital yesterday with you, Jacy, Bob and Ryan. It was a wonderful experience to spend some time with a few of the patients there and to see their smiles as they were able to enjoy a few minutes of fun while at the hospital. It was especially rewarding to bring my 13 year old son and I hope that his experience will always give him perspective on what's most important in life."





# CAPE COD CHAPTER NEWS

Submitted by Mickey Herron, PGA, Cape Cod Chapter Tournament Manager



The Cape Cod Chapter is very proud to introduce our new Award Winners (from left to right):

**DUTCH WESSNER AWARD** for Player-of-Year: Matt Baran, PGA, Lead Assistant/Oyster Harbors Club

**ASSISTANT PRO OF YEAR:** Trevor England, PGA, Assistant/TGC at Sacconneset

**JUNIOR GOLF LEADER:** Andy Walkey, PGA, Assistant/Eastward Ho!

**TEACHER OF YEAR:** Bob Quirk, PGA, Instructor/Jane Frost Golf Schools

**GARY PHILBRICK PROFESSIONAL OF YEAR:** Jesse Schechtman, PGA, Head Professional/Hyannis GC



**ISLANDERS VISIT THE HOMELAND – PART ONE!** Competing in the recently played NEPGA Pro -Assistant at the Chapter's Bay Club were this five-some from The Vineyard Club – located in the heart of Martha's Vineyard. (Left to Right) Jason Benko, PGA, Eri Seguin, PGA Head Professional, Adam Lucas, PGA, Nick Delsapio, PGA and Doug Rutherford, PGA.



**ISLANDERS VISIT – PART TWO!** Also visiting The Bay Club were this foursome from Nantucket's grand dame - Sankaty Head GC represented by: (left to right) Dieter Wiedmayer, PGA, Devon Cordell, PGA, PGA Head Professional Mark Heartfield and Eric Smith - Apprentice. The Heartfield & Smith team finished T-8 in a rainy completion of the day-long affair firing 69. Top honors went to all three teams from the host club – comprised of Greg Yeomans, PGA GM, John Paesani, PGA HP, Tracy Djerf, PGA Teaching Professional and new staffer Ben Egan, PGA Assistant.



# CAPE COD CHAPTER NEWS Continued...



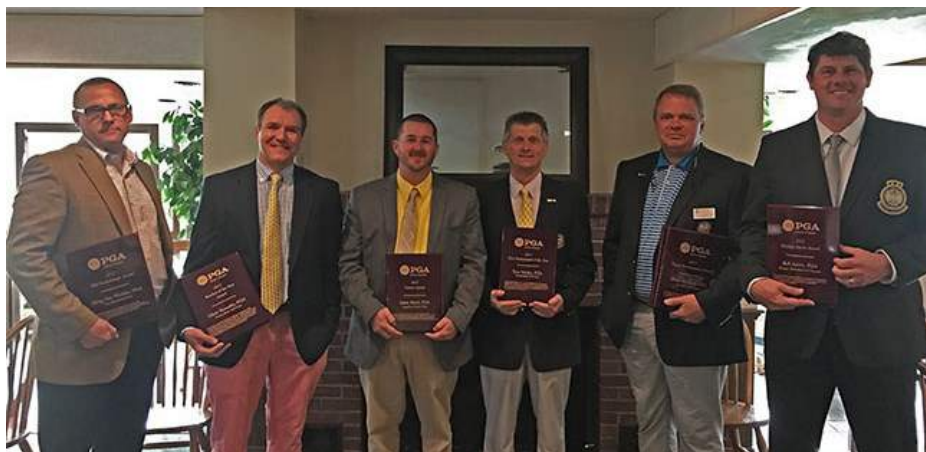
**LEFT:** Greg Yeomans (left) and John Paesani (right) fired -8 under par 63 to capture the 2017 Pro-Assistant at their home course last week. Yeomans' five birdies helped him place 2nd AND 3rd with Tracy and Ben!

**RIGHT:** ISLAND GOLF – 2017: The Chapter will visit Miacomet on June 7th for the 5th Annual Spring Invitational PRO-3Am hosted by Phil Truono, PGA HP and the 22nd Annual Island Classic held at Sankaty Head GC in mid-October, hosted by the aforementioned Mr. Heartfield who is also hosting the Nantucket Boys & Girls Club Pro-Am in early June featuring another tremendous charity effort by the field and a terrific pro purse as well. And, speaking of Island music, 48 golf professionals will enjoy the reggae tunes and lobster sandwiches provided by BAXTER'S BOATHOUSE after the golf wraps up at the June 14th Callaway Pro-Pro at Hyannisport.

## MAINE CHAPTER NEWS

Submitted by Maine Chapter President Jason Hurd, PGA

We have had a wonderful month of May with our tournament season kicking off. Even though we are repetitively getting poured on our event dates have been lucky, and have missed the rain! Hopefully as the season goes on we can keep up that trend. While we are in the midst of a little break in tournament action, hopefully our members are using the time to get caught up and get ahead on the late start to the season. Our schedule will resume on the 13th of June at Kebo Valley for our 3rd Pro-Am of the season! On our website you can find the summaries of our events up to date!



Maine Chapter Awards Winners: (L to R) Doug Van Wickler - Bill Strausbaugh Award, Chris Twombly - Teacher of the Year, Jason Hurd - Patriot Award, Tony Decker - Professional of the Year, Brian Bickford—Merchandise of the Year Public, Rob Jarvis - Horton Smith Award

## MA CHAPTER NEWS

Submitted by Jacy Settles, Massachusetts Chapter Tournament Manager

The Massachusetts Chapter NEPGA Foundation Pro- 3 Am will take place on Wednesday, June 7 at Foxborough Country Club. It is a Mohegan Sun Pro-Am qualifier. More news to follow after the event!





# NEW HAMPSHIRE CHAPTER NEWS

Submitted by New Hampshire Chapter President Tim Loch, PGA

The Oaks GL kicked off the 2017 NHC ProAm schedule in April under sunny but cool skies. The low professionals of the day were Nashua CC Head Professional Justin Lawson and Keene CC Assistant Professional C.J. Konkowski with rounds of 72. They were followed by Ken Hamel, Stonebridge CC Head Professional at 73. There was a three-way tie for low gross in the best ball of four format between teams from Candia Woods (Pro Craig McLaughlin), Rochester (Pro Jon Ellis) and Derryfield (Pro Mike Ryan). The net division also saw a three-way tie including teams from Montcalm (Pro Cory Mansfield), Nabnasset Lake (Pro Dan Gillis) and Nashua (Pro Justin Lawson).

**1.** The Oaks foursome on the first tee ready to start the official 2017 NHC schedule with host pro Shaun Bishop (2nd from left).



**2.** Yamaha was on hand as a sponsor for The Oaks ProAm. Shown here are Don Groft (right) Yamaha rep and his brother Harvin (left) and his dad, Don Groft Sr. (c)



**3.** The 4th hole at the beautiful Wentworth By The Sea CC proved to be challenging for the 32 teams participating in a raw damp and windy ProAm. Low pro for the day was Rich Berberian of Vesper CC with a 4-under par round of 66. In second place was Windham CC professional Marc Spencer at 68. Berberian and his amateur partners easily snagged low gross team honors with a 9-under score of 61. Not to be outshined, Spencer led his foursome to a 14-under par net score of 14. Thank you to Larry Kelley of Five Star Golf cars for his sponsorship and generous gifts to all the professionals.

**4.** On another picture perfect day for golf...48 degrees, rain and wind, 27 teams braved the elements at Scottish Highlands ProAm. Low Professional for the day was Marc Spencer of Windham CC with an even round score of 71. Tied for second place with 72's were Ken Hamel, Stonebridge CC, Matthew Bradbury, Crotched Mountain, and Dan Wilkins, Laconia CC. Low gross honors were shared by teams from Stonebridge (Hamel), Montcalm (Pro Cory Mansfield) and Apple Hill (Pro Steve Lundquist).

Phil Davis (pictured right), Beaver Meadow GC Head Professional, practicing his putting stroke at Scottish Highlands.

In the NHC Player of the Year standings, Marc Spencer (Windham CC) leads the way with 40 points. He is followed by Todd Rollins (Laconia CC) with 33.88 points. Rounding out the top five are: Ken Hamel (Stonebridge CC) 31, Jon Ellis (Rochester CC) 27 and Matthew Bradbury (Crotched Mountain GC) 25.83.





# RHODE ISLAND CHAPTER NEWS

Submitted by Sean Duong, Rhode Island Chapter Operations Manager

## Rhodies on the Road

Good weather is hard to find here in New England to kick off the 2017 golf season. With that said, many of the Rhode Island Chapter Professionals have taken their game on the road to play in tournaments executed by the New England PGA Team. In a field of 32 players playing in the Spring Assistants' Championship hosted at Ledgemont Country Club, there were four Rhode Island Chapter Professionals competing. After a rain and lightning delay, scorecards attested, and the sun shining again, Brian Owens, PGA placed second with an even par round 71. Congratulations on a solid performance!

## Foundation Fundraiser

The RI Chapter is proud to announce that we will be launching a Charity Auction benefitting the NEPGA Foundation. The Foundation Charity Auction will be held online auctioning off donated four-some rounds from some of the area's finest golf courses. The golf courses for auctioning off rounds include Kirkbrae Country Club and The Acoaxet Club. If you are interested in donating a four-some round to a great cause, please feel free to reach out to Mr. Mike Bradshaw, PGA at (401) 333-1300 or via email at [PGApr@Kirkbrae.com](mailto:PGApr@Kirkbrae.com). Please be on the lookout for an email with the link to the RI Chapter Foundation auction.

## Upcoming Events

Registration is open to RI Chapter Professionals – [Register Today!](#)

**June 19, 2017 - NEPGA Pro-1 Am**  
hosted at Carnegie Abbey Club

**June 21, 2017 - RI Pro-Pro**  
hosted at The Acoaxet Club

**August 29, 2017 - RI Pro-Officer**  
hosted at Kirkbrae Country Club

For more information on registering or supporting any of the RI Chapter events please feel free to reach out to Sean Duong - RI Chapter OPS Manager at [sduong@pgahq.com](mailto:sduong@pgahq.com).

# VERMONT CHAPTER NEWS

Submitted by VT Chapter President Roger A. King, PGA



The Vermont Chapter would like to thank Dave and Tom Swenson from NorthStar Fireworks for their generous support of Chapter events. NorthStar sponsors our Player of the Year pool, Senior Junior Pro Pro, weekly \$50 gift card raffle at all events, and the Sugar-bush GC Pro Am. Another long time sponsor is Farrell Distributing, a Budweiser distributor, who adds money to both the Rutland Pro Am and our Vermont Stroke Play Championship. Along with all our golf companies, we are so appreciative of all their help in adding value to our playing events.

## Tournament Results

Our first VT Chapter Pro Am was held at Neshobe GC on May 1st with Rodney Bicknell, PGA as our host. We thank our sponsors Jeff Kelley-Titleist and Chris Catapane-Sterling Cut Glass, and Under Armour and Paul Jones and Club Car for their generous support providing tee gifts, winning team gifts, and Pro Pro purse money. Todd Trono, PGA and Golf ValueBook added money to the Pro purse. Gross team winners ended in a 2 way tie led by Jim Remy, PGA and his Okemo Valley GC team and Rodney Bicknell, PGA, and the Neshobe GC team both with a score of 134 in the 2bb of 4

format. Coming in third with a score of 135 was the Ekwonok CC team led by Tom Mackey, PGA. Winning Professional was Tom Mackey, PGA with a score of 71. Next saw Patrick Berry, PGA, Dorset Field Club and Zack Wyman, PGA, Vermont National CC tied with scores of 74.

On May 8th, the Vermont Chapter held its first ever Pro Senior Junior modified shamble at Lake Morey CC. Our host professionals included Bill Ross, PGA, Justin Bonnett, PGA, and Jim LeClair. Dave Swenson and Northstar Fireworks sponsored the cart fees and lunches while Todd Trono, PGA, and Golf Value-Book added money to the team purse. The winning team of Paul Politano, PGA, Ralph Myhre GC and Patrick Berry, PGA, Dorset Field Club had a score of 65. One shot behind with a 66 was the team of Jim Remy, PGA, Okemo Valley GC and David Bennett, PGA, CC of Vermont.

On Monday, May 15th, the Vermont Chapter held our Pro Senior Championship at Woodstock CC with Matt Closter, PGA as host professional. Jeff Schroeder, Sun Mountain, Pukka Headwear, and Cutter and Buck were our sponsors. Our gross team winner was led by Rodney Bicknell, PGA, and his team from Neshobe GC with a score of 140 in the



Pro-Senior Champs

2BB of 4 format. The net winning team was led by John Goodchild, PGA, and his team from CC of Barre with a score of 135. David Bennett, PGA, CC of Vermont was low professional with 70 followed by David Jankowski, PGA, Hermitage Club with a score of 72.

## Upcoming Events

**June 12:** Burlington CC Pro Am

**June 19-21:** VT Open, Lake Morey CC

**June 26:** CC of Barre Pro Am

**July 6:** Pro Lady Championship, Stowe Mountain Club

# ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION NEWS

Submitted by Assistants' Association President Ryan Kesten, PGA

## Fickert Captures New England Assistants' Association Spring Championship

Josh Fickert of LeBaron Hills Country Club fired a one-under-par 70 at Ledge-mont Country Club on Thursday morning, finishing at the top of the pack in the 2017 NEPGA Assistants' Association Spring Championship. With Brian Owens close behind, who himself posted an impressive score of 71, Fickert stayed steady under the pressure as he made some opportune birdies throughout his day. Despite starting his day out with a bogey on the opening hole, Fickert never

lost his focus, as he followed the opening bogey up with a birdie on hole #2. Making the turn at even par, Fickert turned up the heat on the back nine, returning to the clubhouse with a one-under par 34.

Despite a 45 minute postponement of play for thunderstorms in the later part of the day, players enjoyed the exquisite conditions of the Ledgemont Country Club's tricky par 71 track, which provid-

ed distinct challenges, elevation changes, and deceptive greens.

The NEPGA and NEAA would like to thank PGA Head Professional Troy Pare for providing a great day of golf for all participants, and Grounds Superintendent William Sherman for his hard work in keeping the golf course in such great shape.

## SENIORS' ASSOCIATION NEWS

Submitted by Joan Stuart

The Seniors' Association will be visiting the historic George Wright Golf Course in Dorchester, MA on June 20th with a Pro-3 Am. If you would like to register your team, please call Dennis Selvitella, PGA at 508.410.4984.

If you would like to become a member of the Seniors' Association, dues are only \$25 and this enables you to play in the Seniors' Association events. Please visit [www.nepga.com/seniorassociation](http://www.nepga.com/seniorassociation) for more information on this year's schedule of events, results, and membership.

On May 18th Indian Ridge Country Club hosted the Seniors' Association in a Pro-3 Am. Dan Gillis, PGA from Nabnasset Lake CC won the Individual Pro Gross contest shooting a 74. The Individual Pro Net contest was won by Billy Lodge, PGA Life Member, with a 74. Rich Hasenfus, PGA, Needham Golf Club, with his amateur members W. Kent, B. Downer, and S. Potter won the Team Gross with a 72. The Team Net was won by Joe Carr, PGA, Bedrock Golf Course, with his amateur members L. Tower, T. Fabrizio, and M. Paakkonen with a 63.

Don't forget to register for the Senior PNC Qualifier and Senior Championship at Okemo Valley GC on July 31st and August 1! Please [click here](#) to register for the national event qualifier on PGA.org, and [click here](#) to register for the Section event. Both deadlines are July 12th.



George Wright GC, site of June 20<sup>th</sup> Pro-3 am



The team from Bedrock GC with Joe Carr, PGA



The team from Needham GC with Rich Hasenfus, PGA



# MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

Changes reported between 5/11/2017–6/6/2017

## NEW APPRENTICES

Name	Class	Facility
Gregory W MacKay	B-8	Wollaston Golf Club

## NEW MEMBERS

Name	Class	Facility
Matthew C. Baron, PGA	A-8	Wollaston Golf Club
Andrew M. Zimmerman, PGA	A-8	The Kittansett Club

## FIRST TIME TRANSFERS INTO SECTION

Name	Class	Facility	From
David A. Blankenship, PGA	A-1	Dublin Lake Club	Carolinas
David W. Brasington	B-8	Granite Links GC/ Quarry Hills	North Florida
Amanda S. Bruski, PGA	A-8	Essex County Club	South Florida
Craig M. Jasinski, PGA	A-8		Connecticut
Victoria N. Newbury, PGA	A-8	Nantucket Golf Club	South Florida
Dieter M. Wiedmayer, PGA	A-8	Sankaty Head Golf Club	Tri-State

## NEW QUARTER CENTURY MEMBERS

Name	Class	Award Date
John P. Fields, PGA	A-4	5/31/2017
Rick Finlayson, PGA	A-8	5/31/2017
Michael A. SantaMaria, PGA	A-1	5/31/2017

## NEW CPP CERTIFICATIONS

Name	Class	Facility	Area
Stephen W. Sheridan, PGA	A-1	Meadow Brook Golf Club	Player Development
Ryan Kesten, PGA	A-8	Concord Country Club	Golf Operations

## EMPLOYMENT CHANGES

Name	Class	Facility	Start
David A. Blankenship, PGA	A-1	Dublin Lake Club	5/25
David W. Brasington	B-8	Granite Links GC/Quarry Hills	5/15
Amanda S. Bruski, PGA	A-8	Essex County Club	5/26
Richard L. Decarolis, PGA	A-8	Sankaty Head Golf Club	5/17
James J. Durfee, PGA	A-8	The Ridge Club	5/17
David C. Finethy, PGA	A-4	New Seabury Cape Cod	5/17
Curtis D. Goldsberry	B-8	The Quechee Club	5/11
Victoria N. Newbury, PGA	A-8	Nantucket Golf Club	5/22
Chris S. Trout, PGA	A-8	The Shelter Harbor Golf Club	6/3
Charles E. White, PGA	A-8	Willowbend Golf & CC	5/13
Dieter M. Wiedmayer, PGA	A-8	Sankaty Head Golf Club	5/15
Lucas M. Williams, PGA	A-8	Nantucket Golf Club	5/26

## CLASSIFICATION CHANGES

Name	Class	Facility
David A. Blankenship, PGA	A-1	Dublin Lake Club
Amanda S. Bruski, PGA	A-8	Essex County Club
James J. Durfee, PGA	A-8	The Ridge Club
David C. Finethy, PGA	A-4	New Seabury Cape Cod

*In our next issue...*

*Recap from the Driving for  
Donations golf marathon!*



# PGA

New England Section

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