



# PGA

New England Section

## NEPGA NEWS MAGAZINE

March 2015

### WHAT'S INSIDE

CEO Pete Bevacqua attending  
NEPGA Spring Meeting

Massachusetts Golf Day

New England PGA Master Card

Spring Meeting Schedule

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**FRONT COVER:** A scene from The Country Club – the first tee. **PHOTO CREDIT:** Tyler Gosselin, PGA

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: *Larry Kelley, PGA*



**W**inter is over! Well, we all know that may be a little stretch but if our "golf attitude" continues to remain on the high side we should be out playing soon. I know the subject of most conversations has been the over / under on how many times we have shoveled, chipped, and pounded ice or snow off our roof but if the turnout at the inaugural Junior Golf Summit or the Boston Golf Show is an indicator of spring then it is very close by.

The Boston Golf Show seems to be a strong measurement of the public's excitement and pent up golf energy. This year showed strong turnout by vendors, exhibiting clubs, and the general golfing public. The NEPGA had a strong show of support from many of our PGA Members who donated time out of their weekend to help support the event. We had PGA Members come from up to four (4) hours away to help the cause and we are very thankful for that support. Many free junior lessons and 10 minute lessons were given by over 40 PGA Members with all donations going towards the work of the NEPGA Foundation. Our Section staff also put in a very strong effort to make this happen on our behalf so I wanted to offer a big thank you to all that participated to make this event a great one!

While many Section Members are promoting golf in our region or attending educational seminars, the leadership in the Section, Chapter, and our Staff gathered to work on 2015 planning at Andover Country Club. We were

joined by Darrell Crall, COO of the PGA of America as our planning moderator. By all accounts, we had the most successful planning session ever as the whole leadership group left the two-day summit with a greater understanding of our issues as a diverse and growing Section. Some interesting items that led the conversation were wrapped around our growing foundation work, employment, home site discussion, and how we as a Section are going to tackle all the opportunities that we have in front of us. I would like to thank Darrell Crall for leading us and his exceptional work in getting so many (25) members on the same page and focused on moving in one direction together.

Lastly, I want to let everyone know we have a great Spring Meeting planned with Peter Bevacqua, CEO of the PGA of America, speaking and explaining his vision from the national perspective. We are excited to welcome him as our guest and show Peter why our Section continues to lead and be recognized as one of the best sections out of the 41! Please come out and support the meeting, play in the sponsor appreciation golf tournament, meet new members, and re-connect with your old friends.

I want to hear from you! Let me know how we can do a better job for you.

Larry Kelley, PGA  
President  
New England PGA

## VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: *Susan Bond, PGA*



**W**here did February go? It was a busy month for all of us shoveling snow but even busier for the Section officers and board members.

We had our annual planning session with Darrell Crall coming up from the national office to moderate the session. I have been attending these sessions for many years and this was the best one we have had. We now have set the priorities of the Section. Mike Higgins has a clear picture of what the board feels needs to be enhanced and created in the next year or two to keep the Section as one of the best in the country.

From the planning session we moved in to the Golf Expo, it was very well attended on the weekend from the buzz of all the patrons, once this snow melts all our golf courses should be very busy. It was a great weekend for the professionals in attendance to see one another, to be

there to do something they love to do, grow the game of golf, whether it was a quick tune up or actually starting someone from the start. That is what being a golf professional is all about: teaching, playing, sharing our expertise and experiences in the game with the masses.

From there the Section had seven teams head to the Dominican for the Casa De Campo Pro Am. Let's just say it will be hard to leave. The courses and the weather can't be beat. All the teams had fun and represented the Section well. I would highly recommend putting this event on your calendar for next season.

It is a pleasure to serve all of you as your Vice President.

Susan Ladd-Bond, PGA  
Vice President  
New England PGA

*See Susan's pictures  
from the Pro Am on  
page 13...*



## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE: *Michael Higgins*



**G**roundhog Day!

When Groundhog Day is mentioned some will immediately think of Punxsutawney Phil and his yearly prediction. This year he predicted 6 more weeks of winter and I have to give credit to the little guy, because I think he was right! The other thought that can come to mind when Groundhog Day is mentioned is the 1990's comedy classic starring Bill Murray. In the movie Phil (Bill Murray) is a weatherman that gets caught in a blizzard he didn't predict and finds himself trapped in a time warp reliving the same day over and over again until he gets it right.

Many facilities and PGA Professionals can find themselves experiencing their own "Groundhog Day" year after year. Conducting the same programs and not improving certain events because if it is not broken why fix it? Some may become hesitant to try something new out of fear of failure or a resistance to change.

Then there are PGA Professionals that treat each year as though it was open season for Groundhogs! Keeping programs fresh, attending off season seminars to help introduce new ideas to their facility and produce products that are new and current in the industry. And these changes can be small but impactful. Something as simple as introducing PGA Junior League to your facility. Host an event to bring some exposure to your facility. Come up with winter programming that keeps you on the radar of your members, or keeps them coming to the facility in the off season.

The NEPGA Staff makes it a point to be sure every year your Section events do not feel like Groundhog Day, and this year is no exception. If you read the two messages from President Kelley and Vice President Bond you know about our successful Section Planning Session. The Planning Session has rejuvenated your Section & Chapter leaders and the Staff. There is so much excitement, energy and change going on at the NEPGA you just can't help to want to be a part of it!

The New England PGA Foundation is here! This was the number one focus for the leadership coming out of the Planning Session. Improving lives of individuals through the game of golf. You will begin to see programming and fundraising efforts throughout the season. The Section is committed to securing a new home site for the New England PGA, we have hired a new Tournament Operations Manager, are in the process of hiring a new Communications Manager and potentially someone to help launch the Foundation. The Section has launched a credit card that has significant benefits for PGA Professionals and their families as well as generate revenue for our Foundation. You will be hearing about a new online tee time system that will combat the online discount sites and drive revenue to our Section facilities, and we have created new partnerships that will add some more excitement to our tournament program, and our educational opportunities have been terrific.

If you think it is Groundhog Day at the NEPGA I can tell you it is anything but. If you think it might be starting to feel a little like Groundhog Day at your facility, it is never too late to try something new.

The season will be here before we know it. I wish you all the best as you make your way back to your facilities to stock your golf shops and open your doors for 2015. I am happy to discuss any of the exciting programs I mentioned, or to help with some new ideas at your own facilities. Your Section Staff is here to help.

I look forward to seeing you all at our Chapter and Section Spring meetings!

Respectfully,

Michael Higgins  
Executive Director  
New England PGA

## SECTION NEWS

### PGA CEO Peter Bevacqua to Speak at 2015 NEPGA Spring Meeting Andover CC | April 14th



The Section is excited to announce that PGA of America CEO Peter Bevacqua will be joining us at this year's NEPGA Spring Meeting being held at Andover Country Club on Tuesday, April 14th.

[Click here](#) to learn more about our special guest speaker.

In addition, [click here](#) to read a featured

article on Pete from the latest Golf Plus section of Sports Illustrated.

Our annual Spring Meeting will begin at 9 am, with registration starting at 8 am. Please make plans to join us!

The complete Chapter and Association Spring Meeting schedule can be found on page 10.

### Congratulations to Atkinson Resort & CC: NCGOA 2015 Course of the Year

The National Golf Course Owners Association (NGCOA) has named Atkinson Resort & Country Club in Atkinson, NH as its 2015 National Golf Course of the Year. The club was honored on February 26th at the association's Annual Conference, held in conjunction with the Golf Industry Show.

The award is predicated on four factors:

- Quality of golf course
- Quality of ownership and management
- Outstanding contributions to the local community
- Significant contributions to the game of golf

"We had a lot of very strong entries again for course of the year," said Mike Hughes, NGCOA's Chief Executive Officer. "But when you step back and consider all factors, none were stronger than Atkinson Resort & Country Club."

[Click here](#) to read the complete announcement.



PGA Director of Golf Peter Doherty accepts the NCGOA National Golf Course of the Year Award on behalf of Atkinson Resort & CC.

### Celebrate Massachusetts Golf Day on March 20th!



Mark your calendars and plan to attend the Massachusetts Golf Day on Friday, March 20th from 9:30am-12:00pm at the Massachusetts State House. A festive and informative day is planned as members from the Massachusetts Golf Industry meet with our state Senators and members of the House of Representatives in recognition of the positive impact the game and business of golf have on the Commonwealth.

[Click here](#) to read all about the day's activities. *Be sure to reserve your spot!*



[Click Here!](#)

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4-2015



## TOURNAMENT NEWS: Ron Green, PGA

After a very reasonable start to the winter of 2014-15...

What the heck happened over the last six weeks or so...

Suddenly it is the winter of all winters, we are setting records with every new flake that floats down here in Massachusetts.

The good news is, it will eventually all melt away (I think) and we will be embarking on another tournament season.

At this point, with the present conditions being what they are, I don't think anyone can accurately predict when courses in New England will be ready for play. We hold out hope that our schedule won't be affected, but only Mother Nature knows the answer.

That said, registration will open on our website at [nepga.com](http://nepga.com) for the 2015 New England PGA Section

schedule on March 16.

Please go online and check out the dates and times and start formulating your schedules and filing entries.

We will be back next month with updates on our upcoming events.

Here's hoping you can make some time in your busy schedules to join us as we look forward to another great tournament season here in New England

See you down the road.

Ron Green, PGA (Greenie)  
Director of Rules & Championships  
New England PGA

## 2015 MGA Open Championship Registration

2015 MGA Open Championship Registration is now live. This year's Championship Proper will be held on June 8-10 at Black Rock Country Club. Sign up soon for a your preferred qualifying site/date as they are starting to fill up quickly. [Click here](#) for more information and to register.



New England PGA Sponsor and Travel Partner Celtic Golf will be running their 20th Annual Father-Son Championship in June of 2015. Click the link below to read more about this tremendous opportunity to visit one of the finest pieces of property in the world, Old Head Golf Links!



**Celtic Golf**  
Distinctive Travel Experiences

**20th Annual Father & Son**  
**June 24-26, 2015**  
**Old Head Golf Links**  
**Ireland**

**Click for more information!**



# BlueGolf How To

## *A Refresher Before the Season Begins*

Over the past 10 seasons the NEPGA has adopted BlueGolf for our tournament registration and communications needs. Below you will find a quick tutorial on some frequently asked BlueGolf questions. To begin each of these tutorials, members will need to first login to BlueGolf. This can be done on [NEPGA.com](http://NEPGA.com).

### **How Do I Update My Profile Picture?**

For those of you who would like to update your picture, once you have logged in to your account, simply click on your image or the silhouette next to your name. Once you click the image, you can upload any image of yourself that you want and BlueGolf will automatically resize it and add it to your profile. It is really as easy as attaching an image to an email.

### **How Do I Add My Social Media Profile?**

Adding your social media profiles to BlueGolf enables NEPGA staff to feature you on those platforms. Once you have logged in to your profile, simply click on the pencil tool to the right of your name and contact information and at the bottom. Once there, scroll to the bottom of the Contact Information form and paste in your Facebook, Twitter, or Google+ Page url.

### **How Do I Print a Receipt?**

Once a member has logged into their account, viewing and printing a receipt is just a few clicks away. Under the navigation button "Tournaments", members can find the "Transactions" button. By clicking on this button and the date of the event, members can access a receipt for their payment.

There are two important notes to remember. First, if your transaction was refunded, you can only view the transaction, not print a receipt that reflects the refund. Second, all transactions are listed under the name of the member who was registered, regardless who the card belongs to.

### **How Registration Works**

Registration for all of our NEPGA Section tournaments runs from the opening date, this year Monday, March 16, 2015, until seven days prior to an event. Depending on the number of registrants for an event, registration extensions may be granted and will typically run through three days prior to an event.

The field size for each event is mutually agreed upon by the Section and the host facility. The field size is set to maximize participation while making sure that the course is not overloaded with competitors. The field size can be found on the registration page for event.

A wait list for each event is set to a maximum of 10 regis-

trants to give late registrants the option of adding their name while also providing realistic expectations as to whether entry into an event is possible.

### **How Do Entry Fees Work?**

Events are typically setup so that your credit card is not charged until the deadline which is generally 7 days before the event. By doing this, you can sign up for all of your events at once without the charge going through until the particular deadline for that event.

### **When Can I Cancel?**

Members can cancel from an event at any time prior to the registration deadline and incur no cancellation fee because your credit card has not been charged. If a member must cancel after the deadline has closed but before three days (72 hours) prior to the event, they are charged \$25. Any cancellation after the balance of the entry has been charged will result in no refund. The refund and cancellation policy is different for the National Championships.

### **How Do I Update My Team?**

Members can update their teams at any time prior to the deadline by clicking on the "Upcoming" button under "Tournaments." They can then click "My Team" and make any changes they need to.

Teams however cannot be updated once the registration deadline has closed. Staff begins working on the event and needs to be notified of any changes from that point moving forward.

### **What web browser can I use?**

Firefox is the only officially supported browser for BlueGolf.

## Spring Meeting Schedule

Rhode Island	Wednesday, April 1st	Kirkbrae C.C	6 pm
New Hampshire	Thursday, April 2nd	Intervale C.C.	9 am
Assistants' Assoc.	Thursday, April 9th	Oyster Harbors Club	8 am
NEPGA Section	Tuesday, April 14th	Andover C.C.	9 am with 8 am registration
Maine	Wednesday, April 15th	The Woodlands Club	9 am
Cape Cod	Thursday, April 16th	Sandwich Hollows	9:30 am
Massachusetts	Thursday, April 23rd	Myopia Hunt Club	10 am
Seniors' Assoc.	Friday, April 24th	Middleton Golf Course	10 am
Vermont	Monday, May 4th	Rutland C.C.	9 am

## Complimentary Access to the Masters for Members

The Masters will be held on April 6-12, 2015 at Augusta National Golf Club in Augusta, Ga. For ticket information please call 706.667.6700 or visit [masters.com](http://masters.com). As a courtesy extended by Augusta National, complimentary access is offered to Class A PGA members, Life members and Master Professional members (PGA members only; this offer is not extended to apprentices). No spouse or fami-

lies (including practice rounds). Must show membership card and photo I.D. each day. Go to Gate 6A off of Berckmans Road then report to Gate C to receive daily ticket. NOTE: Daily tickets are not available to purchase for spouse.

## R.A.G.S Show (Rep Apparel Golf Sales)

*It's where you can do it all!*

**WHO:** All of your major apparel & golf accessory suppliers in New England. [Click here](#) to view the list of participating vendors.

**WHAT:** R.A.G.S Rep Apparel Golf Sales

**WHEN:** March 16th - (8am-6pm), 17th - (8am-6pm) & 18th - (8am-1pm)

**WHERE:** Embassy Suites, 550 Winter St. Waltham, MA 02451

**WHY:** Pre-booking for Summer & Fall 2015

For Buyers and Head Pros who may need a room reservation at the Embassy Suites, Waltham, please call Jeanne MacGilvray/ Event Services @ 781-487-4240. You must identify yourself as part of the R.A.G.S Show. Special rate is good until March 1st: Special RAGS room rate \$167 with complimentary full breakfast & nightly Manager's Reception. A special luncheon buffet from 11:30am-1:30pm is being provided by the R.A.G.S. Reps at the same mezzanine level of the showrooms on Tuesday.

*Appointments are recommended. This is not an open space type of venue.*

## PGA Scholarship Reminder

The PGA Financial Assistance Scholarship application is live on [PGALinks.com](http://PGALinks.com) with a submission deadline of Monday, March 16th. Graduating high school seniors and college students who are the children or grandchildren of PGA members are encouraged to apply. Click [here](#) to view more information and begin the application process.

## PGA Compensation Survey

The 2015 PGA Golf Professional Compensation Survey is now available for members to complete. PGA members who complete the survey by March 23, 2015, can receive up to 2 MSR credits. Your support of this important PGA initiative is greatly appreciated. [Click here to begin the survey.](#)





## Members Embrace the Inaugural NEPGA Junior Golf Summit

The inaugural NEPGA Junior Golf Summit was held at Andover Country Club on March 3rd and was a success with over 100 attendees. Many amazing ideas were shared, connections were made, and challenges were set for the future of youth golf. The overlying theme of the summit was set by PGA Director of Youth Golf Development Bob Baldassari, PGA who asked for all attendees to be FEARLESS. Take your great idea for a youth golf program and run with it.

Thanks to the fearless vision of NEPGA Jr. Golf Committee Chairman Jim Salinetti, PGA, the NEPGA Junior Golf Summit was a huge success and will become an annual event. The summit featured such presenters like Bob Baldassari, PGA (Director, Youth Golf Development, PGA of America); Scott Kmiec (Sr. Director, PGA Foundation) and John Bryan (VP, U.S. Kids Golf Foundation). Mr. Salinetti also welcomed some familiar faces who are stars in the youth development arena like Chris Carpenter, PGA; Graham Cunningham, PGA; Joanne Flynn, PGA; Ron Bibeau, PGA; Brian Bain, PGA; Tom Cavicchi, PGA; and Mickey Herron, PGA.

Those in attendance not only absorbed knowledge from the presenters, but also engaged in active discussions and are now better equipped to plan, promote, and prosper their youth golf programs.

Jacy Settles  
Director of Junior Golf & Player Development  
New England PGA





# Growing the Game at National Golf Expo—Boston

## *Thank you to our volunteers!*

The Section wishes to thank those NEPGA members who volunteered their time giving lessons at this year's National Golf Expo—Boston. We appreciate your commitment and enthusiasm to growing the game!



Richard Allen, PGA  
Robert J. Austin, PGA  
Michael J. Baker, PGA  
Harold E. Balboni, PGA  
Matthew P. Baran, PGA  
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Ronald P. Bibeau, PGA  
Susan L. Bond, PGA  
Robert J. Bradley, PGA  
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Matthew R. Cunningham, PGA  
William D. Cunningham, PGA  
David F. Donnellan, PGA  
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James B. Fairbanks, PGA  
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Jeffrey W. Friel, PGA  
Thomas R. Gillis, PGA  
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Brian K. Golden, PGA

John D. Gordon, PGA  
John H. Grimley, PGA  
Matthew J. Havers, PGA  
Richard Johnson, PGA  
Ian P. Kelley  
Lawrence C. Kelley, PGA  
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Dennis J. Medeiros  
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Richard V. Molesky, PGA  
Joseph S. Rocha, PGA  
Harry K. Rose, PGA  
Robert D. Rundlett, PGA  
David J. Soucy, PGA  
Matthew A. Stein, PGA  
Eric D. Zadorian, PGA





## EMPLOYMENT NEWS: Michael Packard, PGA

### 2015 Compensation Survey

Your *Compensation Information* is confidential, secure, and needed by your fellow PGA Professionals.

#### Calling all Chapter members!

Your Chapter needs all active Members and Apprentices to participate, so if you have not completed the 2015 Survey, please do your part in helping to create the most complete database of compensation information. You can access the survey from the PGALinks Employment homepage, or follow the link below:

Please [click here](#) to complete your Compensation Survey

Deadline to participate and receive valuable MSR is **Monday, March 23rd**.

624 PGA Professionals representing the New England Section have NOT completed this year's survey. At this time last year, the number was 501 and 431 the year before, The New England Section is CLEARLY moving in the wrong direction!

There is still time for you to help your Chapter:

Massachusetts Chapter	270 PGA Professionals
Cape Cod Chapter	88 PGA Professionals
New Hampshire Chapter	87 PGA Professionals
Maine Chapter	72 PGA Professionals
Rhode Island Chapter	51 PGA Professionals
Vermont Chapter	56 PGA Professionals

#### Did you know?

According to two other golf industry Compensation Reporting surveys, average Head Golf Professional compensation should be between 9% and 12% LESS than that of the PGA of America Compensation Tool! Even though our participation rate among those polled is significantly higher!

The reality is, your owner or operator plans on getting market information impacting your personal livelihood from somewhere, it should be from a source like your Compensation Reporting Tool, with over a 70% participation rate.

Please be assured that the compensation information you provide in the survey is completely anonymous and confidential, and no one sees or has access to your personal information. Also, if you are the lead PGA Professional at your facility, please make sure that all PGA Members and Apprentices on your staff complete the survey as well. PGA Members who complete the survey by mid-March will receive 2 MSR credits (maximum 5 survey credits per MSR cycle year).

Your information is invaluable to the Facility Relations Committee and more importantly your fellow PGA Professionals.

Michael Packard, PGA  
Employment Consultant serving:  
Central New York, Connecticut, Metropolitan, New England, New Jersey & Northeastern NY Sections  
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860.851.9008

### NEPGA Casa de Campo Pro-Am

*A look at those who escaped to the cold to play in our Travel Pro-Am*



# Calling All PGA Junior League Golf Teams!

Team registration for the 2015 PGA Junior League Golf Season will open on Tuesday, March 10th. All Captains can register on at [PGAJrLeagueGolf.com](http://PGAJrLeagueGolf.com).

Background checks, paid for by the PGA of America in 2015, are seamlessly integrated into the registration process as a part of the PGA Youth Safety Program.

The PGA of America is excited about the acquisition of PGA Junior League Golf and the future it holds for PGA Members, Sections and the game of golf. Over the coming months, a new PGA Junior League Golf website will be unveiled that enhances existing functionality and adds new tools to empower Captains. This updated registration process is just the first phase of these planned improvements.

Create a team and join us for an exciting 2015 season!



## Drive, Chip & Putt Registration is Open!

For more information visit [www.nepga.com/chipandputt](http://www.nepga.com/chipandputt)

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



### NEPGA New England Sites

DATE	SITE	LOCATION
Sunday, May 31st	Val Halla Golf Club	Cumberland, Maine
Friday, June 26th	Button Hole Golf Club	Providence, Rhode Island
Sunday, June 28th	Cyprian Keyes Golf Club	Boylston, Massachusetts
Tuesday, June 30th	Renaissance Golf Club	Haverhill, Massachusetts
Thursday, July 2nd	Links at Lang Farm	Essex Junction, Vermont
Wednesday, July 8th	Ferncroft Country Club	Middleton, MA
Tuesday, July 14th	The Bay Club at Mattapoisett	Mattapoisett, Massachusetts
Tuesday, July 21st	Windham Country Club	Windham, New Hampshire
Thursday, July 23rd	LeBaron Hills Country Club	Lakeville, Massachusetts
Wednesday, July 29th	Granite Links Golf Club	Quincy, Massachusetts



# *Snapshots* from around the Section

## Digging out of New England



It's a snowy scene at Windham CC in NH. We prefer Danny Caverly, PGA's view of the sea in Hawaii this winter!

## Vets Take to the Course



Julian is holding a Titleist club part of a set that was donated through the Clubs for Vets Program. It was donated by Cathi Donahoo, PGA from Team Titleist in California.

## Welcome, DJ McAdams!



Congratulations to NEPGA Tournament Director Dave McAdams and his wife Kate on the birth of their son David J. "DJ" McAdams, III, born 1/27/15 at 12:30pm, 4lb 8oz and 17.5" long. DJ is pictured here with big sister Kylie.

# Education

## UPCOMING SEMINARS

Education opportunities are open to all NEPGA members.

### Maine Chapter Seminar: Player Development Seminar with Brian Bain, PGA

**Date/Time:** Tuesday, March 10, 2015 10am-12pm with lunch to follow

**Location:** Woodlands Club, 39 Woods Rd, Falmouth, Maine 04105

**Cost:** \$25

**MSR Hours:** 2 PGA Required Education MSR Credits

**Registration:** [Click Here to Register](#)

### Cape Cod Chapter Seminar: Player Development Workshop with Brian Bain, PGA

**Date/Time:** Thursday, March 12, 2015 12pm-4pm

**Location:** The Bay Club

**Cost:** \$20 (includes lunch)

**MSR Hours:** 4 PGA Required Education MSR Credits

**Registration:** [Click Here to Register](#)

### Cape Cod Chapter Seminar: Rules Seminar with Ron Green, PGA & Charlie Lanzetta, PGA

**Date/Time:** Wednesday, March 18, 2015 11am-1pm

**Location:** Country Club of Halifax

**Cost:** \$20 (includes lunch)

**MSR Hours:** 2 PGA Required Education MSR Credits

**Registration:** [Click Here to Register](#)

### New Hampshire Golf Association Rules Clinics

**Clinics:** 3/21/15 @ Pease GC 10am to 2pm  
4/4/15\* @ Beaver Meadow GC 9am to 2:30pm

**Cost:** \$25 (includes lunch)

**MSR Hours:** 4 non-PGA Education MSR credits (\*The 4/4/15 clinic is worth 5 non-PGA Education MSR credits)

**Registration:** Contact John Jelley at [jjelley@nhgolf.com](mailto:jjelley@nhgolf.com)

### Rhode Island Chapter Seminar: State of Hardgoods Seminar and Round Table

**Date/Time:** Tuesday, March 24, 2015 8:30am-12:30pm

**Location:** Kirkbrae CC

**Cost:** \$20 (includes lunch)

**MSR Hours:** 4 PGA Required Education MSR Credits

**Registration:** [Click Here to Register](#)



# Education

## UPCOMING SEMINARS

Education opportunities are open to all NEPGA members.

### Teaching Individuals with Disabilities—[Click Here for Details](#)

**Date/Time:** Tuesday, March 24, 2015

**Location:** Marina Bay Sportsplex, Quincy, MA

**Cost:** Free of Charge

**MSR Hours:** 6 PGA Required Education MSR Credits

**Registration:** [Click Here to Register](#)

### USGA Handicap Seminar

**Date/Time:** Wednesday, March 25, 2015

**Location:** Pleasant Valley CC

**Cost:** \$40 (breakfast, lunch, seminar materials)

**MSR Hours:** TBA

**Registration:** [Click Here to Register](#)

### Cape Cod Chapter Seminar: Tournament Methods & Tee Gifts Workshop

**Date/Time:** Wednesday, March 25, 2015

**Location:** Sandwich Hollows GC

**Cost:** \$20

**MSR Hours:** 3 PGA Required Education MSR Credits

**Registration:** [Click Here to Register](#)

### TaylorMade Product Seminar

**Date/Time:** Wednesday, March 25th, 10:30am – 2:30pm

**Location:** Granite Links Golf Club

**Cost:** Free of Charge

**MSR Hours:** 3 PGA Required Education MSR Credits

**Registration:** [Click Here to Register](#)

### Rhode Island Chapter Seminar: Incorporating Technology into Your Instruction Programs

**Date/Time:** Wednesday, April 1, 2015 4pm-6pm prior to RI Spring Meeting

**Location:** Kirkbrae CC

**Cost:** Free of Charge

**MSR Hours:** 2 PGA Required Education MSR Credits

**Registration:** [Click Here to Register](#)

# CAPE COD CHAPTER NEWS

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

## 2015 Tournament Season Primer

The Cape Cod Chapter of the NEPGA has finalized its 2015 schedule highlighted by tremendous new venues and competitive opportunities for all members and apprentices. The Cape will continue to welcome non-chapter entries into nearly all of its 16 events without any "premium" or extra fee attached to same.

REGISTRATION on BlueGolf begins in early March for chapter members, while non-chapter members may register for most events beginning April 1st. To register, log onto the Cape's independent website: [capecodpga.com](http://capecodpga.com) and find the BlueGolf link on its homepage.

FEATURING new venues such as Hyannisport for the Callaway PRO PRO – June 17th or Wianno for the Cape's Pro-1Am Championship suggests success. In addition, Rhode

Island PGA's very own Callaway PRO PRO at Newport – May 13th couples two iconic seaside links offerings for those passionate about team golf at incredibly historic sites.

The chapter wishes to thank the many PGA hosts, our ever-growing list of sponsors and most importantly the future entrants, both pro and amateur for a hopeful season of great golf. Without the tireless efforts of Jay Askew, PGA HP at The Ridge Club (Tournament Chairman) and Jesse Schechtman, PGA HP at Sandwich Hollows (Chapter President) this fantastic schedule would not materialize.

For more information about tournament related issues on Cape Cod or Rhode Island please contact Mickey Herron - [mherron@pgahq.com](mailto:mherron@pgahq.com) or 508-505-5120.

# MASSACHUSETTS CHAPTER NEWS

*Submitted by Chris Young, PGA, Massachusetts Chapter Vice President*

We have now entered March, and it definitely "Came in like a Lion" with most of us getting 3-6 inches of snow. I guess the positive part of this scenario would be to end the month "out like a lamb." Let's hope so! For those of you who spent the winter months in Florida, good for you!

Just because there is snow on the ground, and your course may not be opening anytime soon, it does not mean that we should not start to gear our thoughts towards the upcoming season. This is the perfect time to start thinking about:

- Different teaching ideas to bring to your club. Do not be afraid to contact your fellow PGA Professionals for ideas, or PGA Best Practices section in PGA Magazine
- PGA Junior League- Whether you have had a team in the past, or are looking to get a team started this season, this is the time to start getting the details together with the rest of your league. I just sent an initial email out to my membership trying to get them thinking about golf.
- PGA Membership or Certified PGA Program- Whether you have started back to work or not, we are still about 6 weeks from getting back to the true grind of the season. You have plenty of time to finish up the apprentice level you may be working on, or get started on one of the 4 Certification programs the PGA offers.

- It is never too early to start promoting new product that will be out this year. A lot of your members, or frequent players, will start to get the itch for golf and golf products as soon as we get some sunny days and warmer temperatures. If we can remind them now that we will be carrying all these new products, that may lead them into your golf shop instead of somewhere else.

Just a reminder, the Chapter has playing opportunities on April 6th, 13th, and 23rd. I know some of these dates seem like a stretch, but get them booked on your calendar anyways. April 23rd is the Chapter Meeting at Myopia with a Pro-Pro event to follow. That event will also double as a 16-person individual match play qualifier for the Chapter. We also have a great Pro-Am shaping up for June 1st at Renaissance Golf Club.

I would also like to thank our sponsors for the upcoming season: Polar Beverage, Avidia Bank, Sunice, Prize Possessions, and Pro Quip.

As always, please feel free to contact Mark Aldrich (Worcester), Chris Young (Thomson), or Lou Rivers (Foxborough) with any questions, comments, or concerns.





## NEW HAMPSHIRE CHAPTER NEWS

*Submitted by Frank Swierz, New Hampshire Chapter Tournament Manager*

Now Available: [NH Chapter Player's Fee](#) & [Hole in One Pool](#) on NEPGA.com

NHC member and NHGA Tournament Director John Jelley has returned from the PGA/USGA Tournament Administration and Officiating Workshop in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida.

Mark Larrabee, Head Professional at Eastman Golf Links, has been certified through the LPGA T&CP as a "Teaching Her" Instructor. Mark also noted that Danny Kish, formerly of Rochester CC, has assumed new duties as Eastman's new assistant. Eastman will hold a rules seminar on March 7th and will host a World Golf Scramble qualifier

on June 14th.

The National Golf Course Owners Association (NGCOA) has named Atkinson Resort & Country Club in Atkinson, NH as its 2015 National Golf Course of the Year. The club was honored at the association's Annual Conference in Texas. On hand to accept the award was Peter Doherty, Atkinson's Director of Golf. The award is predicated on the following factors:

Quality of golf course  
Quality of ownership and management  
Outstanding contributions to the local community  
Significant contributions to the game of golf



Atkinson Resort & Country Club



Lake Winnepesaukee CC (courtesy of Kevin Roberts, PGA)



Chapter members Ed Deshaies and Ray Kelm braving the harsh winter conditions at The Moorings Club in Vero Beach, Florida.



Nippo Lake  
(courtesy of Chris Mowers, PGA)



The entrance to Baker Hill  
(courtesy of Mark Ashton, PGA)

# RHODE ISLAND CHAPTER NEWS

*Submitted by Mickey Herron, PGA, Rhode Island Chapter Tournament Manager*

## Tournament Registration Begins in Early March!

The Rhode Island Chapter of the NEPGA is pleased to announce a superb schedule of events for 2015, most of which are open to non-chapter members (beginning April 1).

Highlighted by the Callaway PRO PRO at Newport, the RIPGA will visit three new venues: the beautiful Sakonnet Golf Club in Little Compton for the Chapter Championship, Pt. Judith CC for the new Pro-Lady and Rhode Island CC for its spring opener Pro-3Am, home of the CVS Charity Classic. Rounding a great slate of venues – Kirkbrae, Pawtucket, Metacomet, Warwick and Shelter Harbor continue to host chapter events as they have done in the recent past.

Many thanks must go to the current RIPGA Board of Directors who have met several times on behalf of its member-

ship on a variety of topics – with creating an attractive tournament schedule a top priority. President Dave Tiedemann (PGA HP Shelter Harbor), Tournament Chairman Brent Amaral (PGA HP Acoaxet) and Mike Bradshaw (PGA HP Kirkbrae) have all volunteered countless hours. Pre-season thanks to our many PGA hosts, numerous sponsors and the players themselves for supporting our chapter.

To register for RIPGA tournaments – log onto [nepga.com](http://nepga.com) and then click on the chapter menu on the homepage to find our chapter Bluegolf pages.

For more information on Rhode Island Chapter events please contact Mick Herron – [mherron@pgahq.com](mailto:mherron@pgahq.com) or 508-505-5120.



## VERMONT CHAPTER NEWS

*Submitted by Dave Christy, PGA, Vermont Chapter Tournament Manager*

The Vermont Chapter BOD has selected John Goodchild, PGA, Williston GC as our new webmaster. A smooth transition to the new website, with the help of our long time website designer and master, Shari Pfannenstien, has already begun.

### Upcoming Event:

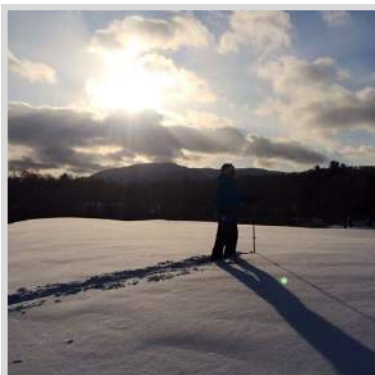
March 9th, Gonzo's Invitational Indoor Pro Am, South Burlington VT.

Recently planned educational opportunities for 2015 include:

May 13th, "Teachers teaching teachers" seminar Okemo Valley Golf Club.

September 30th, Teaching Seminar with Jim McLean, Dorset Field Club.

The Vermont Chapter Spring meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 4, 2015 at Rutland CC beginning with registration at 8:00 followed by the meeting at 9:00. We will have our sponsor appreciation day golf outing following lunch.



Michael-Harger—Manchester CC's 18th hole.



Steve Gonsalves of Links at Lang Farm at the Super Bowl





# NEPGA BULLETIN BOARD

## Roommate Wanted

Spare bedroom for rent in Milford, MA

[Click here for details](#)

Do you have a birth or wedding announcement you'd like to share with your fellow NEPGA members?

Send us your special announcements for the newsletter! Please send to Joan at [JStuart@pgahq.com](mailto:JStuart@pgahq.com).

## Buy or Sell!

### MARKETPLACE

#### For Sale:

Pro Shop Counter  
Set of 6 Shop Fixtures  
Junior Explanar  
Titleist NXT Practice Balls  
TaylorMade Range Balls

#### Looking to Buy:

Range ball inventory

[Click here for more info](#)

To promote your upcoming club event or post an item on the Marketplace, please send the details to Joan Stuart at [JStuart@pgahq.com](mailto:JStuart@pgahq.com). Ads will run for 1 month.

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATES Changes reported between 2/6/2015–3/4/2015

### New Members

Name	Class	Facility
Loretta A. Giovannettone, PGA	A-8	Shelter Harbor GC
Michael P. Taylor, PGA	A-8	Stowe CC

### New Apprentices

Name	Class	Facility
Michael A Gilbert	B-8	Sanford GC

### Classification Changes

Name	Class	Facility
Christopher M. Colucci, PGA	A-1	Weekapaug GC
Terrence P. Crimmins, PGA	A-23	Club Champion - Boston
Brian A. Dees, PGA	A-13	The Ridge Club
Julie J. Donlon, PGA	A-4	Farmington CC
John W Fuller	B-4	Laurel Lane GC
Justin R. Lawson, PGA	A-1	Nashua CC
Richard J. Lynch, PGA	A-1	Glen Ellen CC
Joseph E. McNulty, PGA	A-6	Fit To A Tee GC
Robert D. Rundlett, PGA	A-1	Ponkapoag GC

### Employment Changes

Name	Class	Start	Facility
Christopher M. Colucci, PGA	A-1	3/15	Weekapaug GC
Terrence P. Crimmins, PGA	A-23	2/10	Club Champion - Boston
Brian A. Dees, PGA	A-13	3/2	The Ridge Club
Julie J. Donlon, PGA	A-4	3/2	Farmington CC
Christopher M. Colucci, PGA	B-4	3/1	Laurel Lane GC
Karl J. Giblin, PGA	A-8	3/4	Willowbend Golf & CC
Matt Hibbert, PGA	A-13	3/2	Ridgewood CC
Aaron S Kingsley	B-8	4/20	Lake Sunapee CC
Justin R. Lawson, PGA	A-1	2/17	Nashua CC
Richard J. Lynch, PGA	A-1	3/1	Glen Ellen CC
Joseph E. McNulty, PGA	A-6	2/22	Fit To A Tee Golf Shop
Jonathan G. Milne, PGA	A-6	3/1	Gonzo's Indoor Club & Academy
Robert D. Rundlett, PGA	A-1	2/25	Ponkapoag GC
Ryne W. Varney	B-8	3/3	Lake Winnepesaukee GC

### Transfers Into Section

Name	Class	Previous Section
Brian A. Dees, PGA	A-13	Southern Texas
John W Fuller	B-4	Connecticut

## NEPGA STAFF

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### Frank Swierz (NH)

Chapter Tournament Manager  
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