



# PGA

New England Section

# Full Swing

Official News Magazine of the New England PGA May 2017



# New England PGA

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## FEATURING

Start of the Tournament Season  
New England Open Details  
PGA Junior League Team Tips

# Pro-Pro Match Play Championship



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## FRONT COVER:

Troy Pare (left) and Jeff Martin (right) have won their 6th NEPGA Pro-Pro Match Play Championship. Even the poor weather conditions could not block their road to victory— read all about it on page 6.

## NEPGA OFFICERS



**Rob Jarvis, PGA**  
President  
robjarvis@pga.com



**Ron Bibeau, PGA**  
Vice President  
rbibeau@thefirstteemaine.org



**Allan Belden, PGA**  
Secretary  
allanbelden@gmail.com



**Larry Kelley, PGA**  
Honorary President  
larry@fivestargolfcars.com

## NEPGA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Brian Bickford, PGA

District Director  
Maine  
(207) 829-2225  
bbickford@cumberlandmaine.com



### Mike Bradshaw, PGA

District Director  
Rhode Island  
(401) 333-1303  
pgapro@kirkbrae.com



### John Fields, PGA

District Director  
MA - Eastern  
(617) 484-5360  
jfields@belmontcc.org



### Dan Gillis, PGA

Senior Director  
(978) 692-4606  
dangillis.nlcc@gmail.com



### Rob Hardy, PGA

District Director  
New Hampshire  
603-767-5601  
Rob.hardy@mizunousa.com



### Scott Hickey, PGA

District Director  
MA - Central  
(508) 869-9900  
scotth@cypriankeyes.com



### Lou Rivers, PGA

District Director  
MA - Southern  
(508) 543-4661  
lourivers@pga.com



### David Soucy, PGA

District Director  
Vermont  
(802) 422-4653  
vtgolfpro@yahoo.com



### Glenn Kelly, PGA

District Director  
Cape Cod  
(508) 548-2932  
glennpkelly@netscape.net



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: Rob Jarvis, PGA



Greetings NEPGA Professionals,

I hope this message finds you all off to a great start in your 2017 endeavors. Here in Maine, Mother Nature has not been quite ready to serve us up many good days consecutively, but we are making the most of it. Hopefully all of the bad weather is getting out of the system and we will all have warm sunny days until Fall arrives.

## Spring Meetings

The 2017 Chapter and Section spring meetings are all in the books. I was fortunate to be able to attend 3 different Chapter meetings this spring and I enjoyed the time we were able to share together. The attendance was wonderful at all three but the excitement from our NEPGA Professionals was even better. There was a strong feeling of optimism in the air and what I perceived as a renewed energy to get back at our facilities and start the new season off right with some fresh ideas and enthusiasm.

For those of you that attended the NEPGA Spring Meeting, you saw some new things. It is my strong feeling that meetings are vital to the growth and success of our Association. For that reason, we worked hard to try and change things up a bit this year in some areas that lend themselves some flexibility. I certainly enjoyed being able to give part of my presentation on the floor versus behind the podium. It was nice to feel like I was engaging with our membership on a more personal level as that has been my aim as your President since my time of election.

The strongest feedback has been in regards to our panel discussion. The concept behind this was to give the membership an opportunity to engage our officers and key staff members with questions that may not be traditionally raised during the Open Forum. It is important to all of us that our PGA Professionals always have an audience with their Association's elected officials and I believe this new format increased that opportunity. My only regret is that we did not dedicate more time to this new venue, but I expect we will in future meetings.

## Facebook Live Debuts

For those of you following us on social media you might have seen a new segment hosted by our Executive Director Mike Higgins. Each Thursday, on the NEPGA Facebook Page, we will air a new video production with special guests of interest to those of us in the Section and the golf world. The production broke ground with Mike interviewing Player Development Regional Manager Brian Bain, PGA and recently featured yours truly. Our first two segments have garnered over 2,500 views so far! If you have not seen the segments, they are still easy to find on our page.

This sort of program is great for our Section and its professionals. There is no more effective way, in today's on demand world, to get our message out to the masses than through social media and video production. Each Thursday Mike will host a different guest that will bring relevant and exciting content to our followers. Throughout the summer

you can expect to see some great things through this new concept so I hope if you are not following us on Facebook, you join the 1,781 individuals that already are. Now if Mike can only curb those "Jazz Hands" as he calls them.



> [Click here to find more NEPGA Facebook Live videos](#)

## Triple Crown

Our first major championship of 2017 is in the books. Troy Pare, PGA and Jeff Martin, PGA won their third consecutive Pro-Pro Match Play Championship! To win this event twice in a lifetime is a great accomplishment, but these two have made it a habit. I am sure this is not the last we have seen of these two, but my guess is we will see some teams trying their best to stop their efforts for a fourth title in 2018. Thanks to all of the PGA Professionals who braved the weather and delays to make our first championship of the season a great one. Special thanks also goes to LeBaron Hills Country Club for kicking off our Championship season and providing a great venue for this event.

## Get Out and Play!

Some of us that live in areas still struggling to get above 60 degrees consistently have yet to make their first golf swings of the season. It is my hope that when the time comes you will all find time to play in one way or another. We all have businesses to run but it is important that we remember we all got into this profession from our love of the sport. Not all of us will win three consecutive championships like Troy and Jeff but none of us should let dust settle on our golf clubs. Try and take some time to get on the course as often as you can. We all have members and patrons that would just love the opportunity to play with their professional. Most of them will never ask you because they see how busy you are day to day. If you can, try and set aside a certain time, or times, of the week and dedicate that to playing the game you love. I am certain that if we polled our golfers and asked them if they wanted to see their PGA Professional play more golf, their answer would be a resounding YES! I understand all too well that it is easier said than done, but we owe it to ourselves and our facilities to not just teach, but do.

I wish you all the best of luck in 2017 and I look forward to seeing many of you this summer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rob Jarvis, PGA  
New England PGA President



# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE: Mike Higgins



The mission of the New England PGA is to improve the vocation for our PGA Members and grow the game of golf. The Section leadership and staff work very hard to do this by continually trying to promote our PGA Professionals as well

as the New England PGA. Our members are very talented instructors, players and merchandisers, so this is not a difficult thing to do, but we are always looking for different ways to accomplish it. This year you will notice some of the new and creative ways we will be attempting to grow

our brand. The new NEPGA Facebook Live series will run throughout the season and highlight the best of the best in New England golf. Many of our PGA Professionals will join me in our Providence, Rhode Island studio to film a weekly show that is helping to grow our exposure and followers on social media. [Click here](#) to watch my interview with NEPGA President, Rob Jarvis.

Additional exciting opportunities will show the instructional talents of our PGA Professionals. One is a new [NESN.com](#) series featuring New England PGA Professionals giving lessons to NESN on-air personality Rachel Holt. These 12 video lessons will run all summer and will hopefully not only provide great tips for viewers, but also

encourage golfers to visit their local NEPGA Professional to improve their game. We will also be filming an additional "tip from a NEPGA Professional" series that will be seen on [NEPGA.com](#) and all our social media platforms.

The New England PGA will continue to try and grow our brand, but our PGA Professionals need to do to their part to grow their own brand. Once people know who you are and begin to identify you with a specific area of understanding or expertise, you'll be well on your way to becoming the go-to person in our industry.

So how do you become more recognized, build your brand or increase your following? Here are five ways that might help.

## 1. Be Authentic

It would be extremely difficult to build your brand if you were always "fake". Try to act or look a certain way, even say certain things, no matter of how you felt about them is not the way to be. Many professionals suggest you can build a personal brand by shaping and molding how others view you. Your brand should be a reflection of who you are, not who you think you are. What do you believe is the best way to teach the game of golf? What are your strengths? What are your weaknesses?

Golf is a relationship industry. People connect with people. If we do not appear genuine, how likely do you think others will be to trust what you are saying? Building our personal brand is first and foremost developing an understanding of our true self, and then sharing that with the world.

## 2. Show your talents to more than just your students or members at your facility.

If you're looking to build your brand, then you should be in front of as many people as possible. This doesn't necessarily mean on a stage in front of hundreds of people. It can be on a range, on social media or even your personal website. Obviously developing your communication skills is very important, so you need to try and stand out from the crowd and be different than others.

Speak from a place of knowledge that shows that you know what you're talking about. If your expertise is putting, and you know everything there is to know about the putting stroke, focus on that! Let people see that you know what you are talking about, and they will start to seek you out.

Be confident. Others may disagree or even criticize you, but the important thing is to

remain open to feedback. I always encourage others to scrutinize my presentations at meetings, tournaments or online. It is the only way I will get better.

## 3. Contribute articles and participate in interviews.

Having an article published or conducting an interview can instantly establish your credibility. Getting an "in" with the media, or online publishers and publications can be a challenge, so your articles can start with your facility's newsletter, your associations' magazine, an online blog, or even your social media platforms. This is a powerful way to show that you know what you're talking about. Each and every outlet is a connection and can certainly increase your brand.

## 4. If you don't have an online presence, you need one!

How are you viewed online? This is something you need to monitor consistently, and try to improve whenever possible. Do you have social media profiles? If you are trying to create a brand, I certainly hope you do. What do you have and what can people see? Hopefully no pictures of you in college at a fraternity party are all over your Facebook page? What image are you portraying with all of your published content, and does it make you look professional? Is your professional contact information readily available? Are you using high-quality images and videos showing your work? Are you interacting with others and sharing their content?

Do you have a website for your personal brand? A website gives you much more personal control of your online presence than social media, and provides you the ability to show more of your content. Go to [godaddy.com](#) right now and see if your name is available for a possible domain. Also it never hurts to Google yourself every

once in a while and see what pops up. Believe me your students are certainly doing it.

## 5. Never stop learning and continually educate yourself.

It doesn't matter how much you think you know about the golf swing or the golf industry, there is always something to be learned. There are so many experts in our industry and I learn something new from each and every one of them. It is so important to stay up to date with the latest products, theories and trends. It takes a lot of time and effort to build your personal brand, so you need to stay relevant and current, or all of your time and efforts will be for not. You need to have a steady supply of industry articles, blogs, videos and books on hand. Never stop learning!

There is a reason the New England PGA conducts Teaching and Coaching Summits and Educational Seminars. There are so many benefits to learning new things, developing new skills, and expanding your knowledge.

I know you know how important it is to stay on top of your game, but a friendly reminder from your Executive Director never hurts.

If you are currently trying to build your brand please let me know. I always love to follow our New England PGA Professionals online. I learn so much from you each and every day!

As always, please reach out to me or any of your NEPGA Staff if there is ever anything we can do to assist you.

Respectfully,

Michael J. Higgins  
New England PGA Executive Director



# New England PGA Ireland Pro-Am

Oct. 8-14, 2017



**Royal Dublin GC**



**European Club**



**The Island GC**



**Portmarnock GC**



**County Louth**

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***\*\*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...**



# Fish in Water

*Pare/Martin Take Championship Second Year in a Row*

[VIDEO](#) / [PHOTOS](#) - [DAY 1](#) [DAY 2](#) [DAY 3](#) / [RESULTS](#)



Jeff Martin, PGA (Norton CC) and Troy Pare, PGA (Ledgemont CC) took home the Pro-Pro Match Play Championship in 20 holes on Wednesday, April 26th at LeBaron Hills Country Club in Lakeville, Mass. This is the second consecutive year and sixth time they've won the event.

It was nothing short of miserable through the rounds on both Tuesday and Wednesday. Wind, rain, and temperatures into the 40s pushed Tuesday's semi-final matches to Wednesday. For the final day, Martin and Pare had to battle in the same wet conditions for at least 36 holes to repeat as champions.

Squaring off against Matt Zdon, PGA and John Fields, PGA in the semi-finals Wednesday morning was no easy task. Through nine holes, all was square in the match. As the rain kept falling and wind willing the duos forward, the putts started falling for Pare and Martin, who would win the match 3&2. They agreed that the match play style aided, in part, to their success.

"We work well as a team and it's good to be beside your buddy out there," said Pare, "Jeff was definitely able to drive the long par 5s and I'd do my best to help out from there. We work really well together."

After lunch, the true test came in the championships. Shawn Warren, PGA and Chad Spencer, PGA was another challenging pair to take on. This time, things were even tighter between the groups. It seemed as though at the end of every hole, when one duo would go up a point, the other would mirror and do the same.

Coming down the eighteenth green, all four players were set up nicely to put some pressure on the other team. However, especially in golf, the best laid plans are always set to fail. All players missed their first put, and they finished even once again, headed to playoff holes.

On the second playoff hole, Troy Pare hit his drive to the right side of the fairway. Then, hitting into the wind and over a hazard to the back pin location, he landed his second shot about 15 feet from the hole. Warren and Spencer put the pressure on as well, landing their second shots about 30 ft. on the green and 55ft. away on the edge of the green respectively. Both made great attempts on their first try, but unfortunately would land just short. Pare then lined up and sunk the winning put.

This marks the next of many times that Pare and Martin have notched victories in this event. In fact they're seasoned veterans at this point: they have never finished lower than T5.

Thanks to LeBaron Hills CC and PGA Head Professional Tom Rooney, PGA and Superintendent Mark Klimm for having the course in such beautiful condition through two days of especially wet conditions. A big thanks to partners in this event: Prize Possessions, Fairway and Greene, GolfMax, GolfBuddy, Country Club Enterprises and PGA Tour.





# What's In The Bag?

*A look at our latest NEPGA event winner's  
equipment*

## 2017 NEPGA Pro-Pro Match Play Championship

LeBaron Hills CC, Lakeville, Mass

**Jeff Martin, PGA & Troy Pare, PGA**

Norton CC

Ledgemont CC

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### In Troy's Bag...

Driver: Titleist 917 D3

Fairway Titleist 917 F2

Hybrid Titleist 816 H1

Irons: Titleist 4-9 716 MB

Wedges: Titleist Vokey

Putter Scotty Cameron

### In Jeff's Bag...

Driver: Taylormade M1 440, 9.5

3 wood: M1 15° Aldila Rogue

2 iron: UDI 18°

Irons: 4-pw Taylormade Tour

Preferred MB

Wedges: Taylormade Milled

Grind 52°, 56°, 60°

Putter: Taylormade Itsy Bitsy

Proton







THE NATIONAL CAR RENTAL  
PGA PRO-AM SERIES IS BACK.



# Flinging to the Top

*Manchester and Windham CC Teams Take Top Spots in Blustery Conditions*

## PHOTOS / RESULTS

Teams from Manchester Country Club and Windham Country Club each finished with hard-fought scores of six-under-par 134 (two best balls, gross + net) to tie for first place in the Spring Fling Pro-Am, the first event of the NEPGA's 2017 Season. Robert Tramonti, PGA of Triggs Memorial Golf Club had the top finish in the Individual Professional competition, with an even-par 70.

The field of 31 teams took on the challenging Stiles and Van Kleeck design at Thorny Lea, with added difficulty courtesy of a steady 15-20 mph wind and gusts. Even after navigating the tough weather conditions and course layout, players' short games were put to the test on Thorny Lea's tricky, finely-manicured greens.

However, the teams from Manchester CC and Windham CC were up to the challenges that the day brought. Representing Manchester, PGA Professional Ricky Gray and his amateur partners Joe Sprague, Keith Hansen, and Brad Auclair managed scores of 70 (gross) and 64 (net). Gray's team faced a tough battle against the elements on the front nine, making the turn at even par, before going on a hot streak, posting a total back-nine score of six under par.

The team from Windham CC, featuring PGA Professional Marc Spencer and amateurs John Hugo, Vin Grasso, and Dave Holland matched Manchester's total of six under par for the day in a similar fashion. The front nine was a grind for team Windham as well, as they made the turn at even par, before ramping up the intensity on the return trip, which featured natural birdies on holes 10, 13, and 14 by Spencer.

In the Individual Professional Competition, Robert Tramonti, PGA of Triggs Memorial GC returned an impressive score of 70, courtesy of a hot start to his day. Tramonti carded birdies on holes 4, 7, and 10, which held up, despite some pushback from the difficult conditions on the back nine.

Thanks so much to Tim Watroba, PGA, Head Professional at Thorny Lea Golf Club for hosting this fantastic event and ensuring that all players had a great time. We'd also like to thank our partners on this event: National Car Rental, Mohegan Sun, and Oakley, along with Oakley representative Scott Morton, who was on site to award sunglasses to closest-to-the-pin qualifiers.





# Green Around the Edges

*Rainy Day Helps Home Team Flourish* [PHOTOS / RESULTS](#)

Despite the rainy and raw conditions at the Portsmouth Country Club, the home club's team persevered, capturing the title with a ten-under-par score of 134. The winning team of Portsmouth CC was comprised of Host Head Professional Bill Andrews, PGA, Craig Steckowych, Dave Bickford, and John Pratt. Demonstrating the importance of local knowledge, another team from Portsmouth claimed second place, represented by Jim Gunnare, PGA, Rob Strand, Eric Lapham, and Larry Collins. Frank Dully, PGA won the Individual Pro contest with an impressive score of four-under-par 68.

The field of almost 200 players confronted the seaside layout at Portsmouth with enthusiasm, despite the added difficulty of the cold rain and wet course conditions, enjoying the waterfront views and unique challenges presented by the Robert Trent Jones design. Portsmouth CC's team, led by Andrews, rose to the challenge, carding five natural birdies as a team. Andrews himself played some fine golf, finishing with a 73 on his own ball.

In the Individual Professional contest, Frank Dully, PGA was not fazed by the challenging conditions, as he returned a bogey-free card for the day. Dully got off to a hot start, making three consecutive birdies on holes #4-6, before returning to the clubhouse with a score of one-under-par 35 on the back nine.

Many thanks to Bill Andrews, PGA Head Professional at Portsmouth Country Club for hosting this great event, and also to our tournament partners National Car Rental, Golf Buddy, Mohegan Sun, and Hole-in-One U.S.A, along with Golf Buddy representative Cary Gordon, who was on site to greet players on the first tee.



## RESULTS

### NEPGA Pro-Am—Thorny Lea

Pos	Team	+/-	Total
T1	Marc Spencer	-6	134
T1	Ricky Gray	-6	134
3	Brendon Ray	-5	135
T4	Robert Bradley	-4	136
T4	Bob Miller	-4	136
T4	Jeffrey Monteleone	-4	136
T4	Matt Arvanitis	-4	136
8	Anthony Maki	-3	137
9	Ben Egan	-2	138
T10	John Paesani	-1	139

### NEPGA Pro-Am—Portsmouth

Pos	Team	+/-	Total
1	Frank Dully	-4	68
2	Shawn Warren	-2	70
T3	Jay Pollini	+1	73
T3	Bill Andrews	+1	73
T5	Matt Arvanitis	+2	74
T5	Brett Smestad	+2	74
T5	Marc Spencer	+2	74
T5	Brian Moskevich	+2	74
T5	Rico Riciputi	+2	74
T10	Griffin Andrews	+3	75



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# UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

## NEPGA Hudson Cup Duxbury Yacht Club | Thursday, May 11<sup>th</sup>

The Hudson Cup is a great opportunity for NEPGA Assistant Professionals to get out of the shop and play some competitive golf with other Assistants. The event will once again be held at the Duxbury Yacht Club, in Duxbury, MA. The Hudson Cup is named for longtime NEPGA Executive Director Susan Hudson, ever a friend of the Section's Assistant Professionals.

Many thanks to Head Golf Professional Randy Grills, PGA and Superintendent Peter Lanman for hosting the Hudson Cup once again, and tournament partner Event Man for sponsoring the event.

**Registration is now closed.**



## NEPGA Stroke Play Series #1 Shelter Harbor Golf Club | Tuesday, May 16<sup>th</sup>



With each new season comes a fresh start for the annual NEPGA Stroke Play Series! The 2017 Series kicks off on May 16th at Shelter Harbor Golf Club, and will include a blind-draw Pro-Pro in addition to the individual contest. Thank you to PGA Professional Dave Tiedemann and Superintendent Michael Dachowski for hosting.

Each Stroke Play Series event will serve as 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 lists, New England Section Professional Championship and the New England Open will be combined to determine the field for the Avidia Cup Finals on September 26th at the Misquamicut Club.

**Registration is now closed.**





# NEPGA Acushnet Golf Pro-Assistant Championship

Bay Club at Mattapoisett | Monday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>

The Pro-Assistant Championship is a great chance for Professionals to bond with their Assistants on the golf course, while competing with other clubs for the Championship. This year, we've expanded eligibility, inviting Head Professionals, Directors of Golf, and General Managers to play on a team with their staff (as long as no assistant is left behind!). Please visit the event page in BlueGolf for more details on eligibility.

Thanks to the Bay Club at Mattapoisett, General Manager Greg Yeomans, PGA, and Superintendent Jon O'Connor for hosting the event, as well as tournament partner Titleist/Footjoy/Acushnet Golf for sponsoring the Championship.



*Titleist*

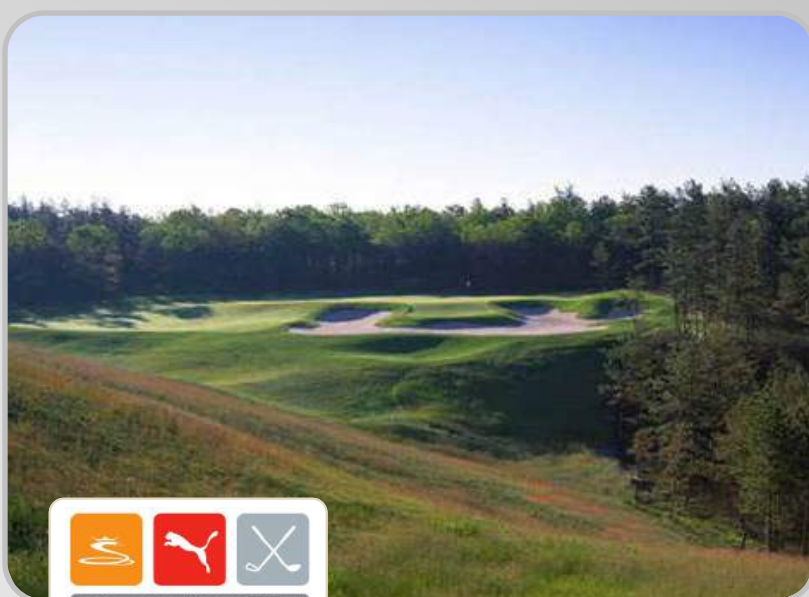


#1 SHOE AND GLOVE IN GOLF

[Register Online](#)

# NEPGA Pro-Am Championship

Pinehills Golf Club | Tuesday, May 30<sup>th</sup>



This year's Pro-Am Championship will be returning to Pinehills Golf Club once again, and will be a 36 hole event over the course of one day. Each PGA Professional will bring one amateur partner, and will play both courses at Pinehills, experiencing a variety of excellent holes over the course of the day. Professionals may bring an amateur partner from their facility, or a family member, even if they are not a member of the facility.

Pinehills Director of Golf John Tuffin, PGA and Superintendent Joe Felicetti are our hosts, and we'd like to extend our thanks to tournament partner Cobra Puma Golf for sponsoring the event.

[Register Online](#)





# UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

## New England Open, presented by Turkish Airlines

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

The New England Open will return to the Quechee Club in Quechee, VT on June 6-7, and is one of the first majors of the 2017 season. This event welcomes Professionals and Amateurs from all over New England and elsewhere, and is sure to draw a strong field. Sign up now while there's still space! NEPGA Members can sign up at [NEPGA.com](http://NEPGA.com) or through the BlueGolf event page, and amateurs can find the amateur application at [NEPGA.com](http://NEPGA.com).

Thanks to our gracious hosts, Head Professional TJ Anthoine, PGA and Superintendent Ken Glick. We also appreciate the support of our New England Open partners Turkish Airlines, Yamaha, Avidia Bank, Mohegan Sun, and the PGA Tour.



[Register Online](#)



*Now Open for Registration!*

## National Car Rental NEPGA Assistant Professional Championship

Bay Club at Mattapoisett | Monday-Tuesday, September 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>



ASSISTANT  
PGA PROFESSIONAL  
CHAMPIONSHIP

New England Section

Registration for the National Car Rental New England Assistant PGA Professional Championship is now open through the PGA of America. This year's event is being held at The Bay Club in Mattapoisett, MA on September 11 & 12. The entry fee is \$175 (additional \$50 for those using this event as a PAT). The deadline to register is August 23rd. **Register for this event on [PGA.org](http://PGA.org) or by calling the PGA at (800) 474-2776.**

[Register Online](#)

Registration will soon be available on [PGA.org](http://PGA.org) for the NEPGA Professional Championship (Renaissance GC & Turner Hill GC, August 21-23) and NEPGA Senior Professional Championship (Okemo Valley GC, July 31 - August 1). More information on these events can be found in our next news magazine.





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## New England PGA LAS VEGAS PRO-AM

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**REGISTER HERE!**

## Learn from the Experts: Making Golf Accessible Seminar

There is still time to register for the "Making Golf Accessible Seminar" on **May 15th** at **Braintree Municipal Golf Course** from **3 pm to 7 pm**. This event will be worth 4 PGA Required Education MSR hours. It will be held outside (weather permitting) and will feature many experienced NEPGA Professionals who will share their expertise in teaching golfers with different abilities.

This is also an invitation to the apprentices of the New England Section to come learn from the experts as you will be the

next generation of Golf Professionals working with those of different abilities. This is a great opportunity to not only attend the workshop but also to help with the Accessible Golf Clinic that Bob Beach, PGA hosts every Monday.

**Register Online**

### Seminar Agenda

*Moderator: Brian Bain, NEPGA Player Development Regional Manager*

- 3:00 pm** - Teaching Golf to the Physically Challenged with Rick Johnson, PGA and Joanne Flynn, PGA
- 3:45 pm** - Teaching Veterans and Wounded Vets with Kim O'Neil, PGA; Jim Tobin, PGA; and Peter Doherty, PGA
- 4:30 pm** - Break
- 4:45 pm** - "What is Autism?" with Tim Sullivan, Clinical Director New England ABA
- 5:00 pm** - Special Olympics Golf with Chris Carter, PGA; Don Lyons, PGA; and Bob Beach, PGA
- 5:30 pm** - Teaching Blind Golfers with Kevin Sullivan, Coach, Lettie Trespasz, PGA, and Bob Beach, PGA. There will be a special tribute to blind golfer Bill McMahon.
- 6:00 pm** - Hands on Experience with Accessible Golf Clinic at Braintree
- 7:00 pm** - Closing Comments from Bob Beach, PGA and Brian Bain, PGA



## SECTION NEWS

### Get to Know the New Members

We hope you enjoy getting to know our newly-elected members through their questionnaire answers.

#### Brenden Mitchell, PGA

Elected on March 1, 2017



Where are you from? Beverly, MA

Where did you attend college? Methodist University in Fayetteville, NC.

What was your first job in the golf business? I was an intern at Renaissance in Haverhill, MA.

Where do you currently work? The Country Club

What are your career aspirations? My big picture goal is to become a Head Golf Professional.

#### Diamo Streaser, PGA

Elected on March 1, 2017

Where are you from? Glen Rock, NJ

Where did you attend college? Coastal Carolina University

What was your first job in the golf business? Caddy at Hackensack GC in Oradell, NJ

Where do you currently work? The Country Club, Brookline, MA

What are your career aspirations? Become a Director of Golf or Head Golf Professional in the New England, Metropolitan, or New Jersey Section.

#### Doug Rutherford, PGA

Elected on April 3, 2017



Where are you from? Pittsburgh, PA

Where did you attend college? Pennsylvania State University

What was your first job in the golf business? I started caddying when I was 14 at Sewickley Heights Golf Club in Sewickley, PA.

Where do you currently work? Vineyard GC, Edgartown, MA.

What are your career aspirations? I hope to continually further my career and one day be a Head Golf Professional or Director of Golf.

#### Philip Cornetta, PGA

Elected on March 1, 2017

Where are you from? Gloucester, MA

Where did you attend college? The Golf Academy of America in Orlando, FL

What was your first job in the golf business? Golf Instructor at the Golf Academy of America

Where do you currently work? I am the Director of Instruction at Sun 'N Air Golf Center in Danvers, MA

What are your career aspirations? To continue to grow the game of golf and the Phil Cornetta Golf School through private instruction, group lessons, and player development programs.

## Important Dates

### MAY 11

NEPGA Hudson Cup  
Duxbury Yacht Club

### MAY 15

Making Golf Accessible  
Seminar  
Braintree Municipal GC

### MAY 16

NEPGA Stroke Play #1  
Shelter Harbor Golf Club

### MAY 17

NEPGA Senior Professional  
Championship Registration  
Opens (Register through  
PGA of America)

### MAY 22

NEPGA Acushnet Golf Pro-  
Assistant Championship  
The Bay Club at Mattapoisett

### MAY 30

NEPGA Pro-Am  
Championship  
Pinehills Country Club

### MAY 31

NEPGA Professional  
Championship Registration  
Opens (Register through  
PGA of America)

### JUNE 6-7

New England Open  
The Quechee Club



## Tony Decker, PGA NEPGA Golf Professional of the Year



**What age did you begin to play golf?**  
My Uncle, Al Romano introduced me to the game at the age of 12.

**Who taught you the game?**  
My Uncle taught me quite a bit and I took my first lesson from Frank Tirabassi when I was in High School.

**Where did you go to school?**  
I graduated from the University of Southern Maine.

**Who inspired or mentored you?**  
I owe so much to John LaFond who was my coach in High School. He provided me with an opportunity to secure my first job in our industry and was always there for me. Once I entered the PGA Apprentice Program, the list is long but includes Mark Fogg, Doug Van Wickler, Bob Darling, Ron Bibeau and Bryce Roberts. These PGA Professionals helped me immensely.

**When did you decide to become a PGA Professional and why?**  
I remember playing in pro-ams as an amateur and seeing the interaction and camaraderie among PGA Professionals at events. To be able to do something you love for a career was very appealing to me. The more time I spent working in the business, the more I knew I wanted to become a PGA Professional and do something in golf.

**Of all the courses that you have played, which one is your favorite?**  
I am a huge fan of desert golf...so I'll go with the Raptor Course at Grayhawk in Scottsdale AZ. Internationally, Lahinch in Ireland is a great course and perhaps one of the coolest towns I've ever visited.

**Tell us about your family.**  
Wife - Kathy, Son - Christopher (18), Ryan (13) and daughter Haley (11).

**What other interests do you have besides the game of golf?**  
Spending time with my family and attending kids activities and games. I enjoy doing yardwork...bizarre I know. I am also a HUGE Patriots fan!

**What would you like to leave as your legacy to the game?**  
I hope people remember me as an honest, humble and hard working individual who was devoted to growing the game and making the PGA of America and New England PGA stronger through involvement.

## James Lane, PGA NEPGA Hall of Fame Inductee



**What age did you begin to play golf?**  
6

**Who taught you the game?**  
My father, Phil Lane, PGA.

**Where did you go to school?**  
Malden H.S. Salem State College

**Who inspired or mentored you?**  
Tex McReynolds

**When did you decide to become a PGA Professional and why?**  
1978—I always interested in golf and enjoyed helping people.

**Of all the courses that you have played, which one is your favorite?**  
Winchester C.C.

**Tell us about your family.**  
Married - Diana (50yrs. in October), Sons - Sean and Chris, Grandchildren - Amanda, Sean, Great grandson - Damien

**What other interests do you have besides the game of golf?**  
Gardening and DIY projects

**What would you like to leave as your legacy to the game?**  
The relationships that I have formed with former staff (that have gone onto success in golf and life), club members, and my NEPGA peers that have given me great pride in being a PGA Professional.



# Snapshots from around the Section



**1.** Zack Wyman, PGA used his points from his NEPGA Mastercard to buy a boat!

**2.** Paul Parajeckas of Pleasant Valley Country Club made 3 holes in one in January 2017, making that a total of 21 holes in one in his golfing career!

- Jan. 10 - Port St. Lucie PGA Ryder Course; 12<sup>th</sup> hole 155 yards, 8 iron
- Jan. 20 - Bear Lakes CC West Palm Beach Links Course; 16<sup>th</sup> hole 176 yards, 6 iron
- Jan. 24 - Bear Lakes CC West Palm Beach Lakes Course; 14<sup>th</sup> hole 165 yards, 7 iron

## NEWS FROM THE JUNIOR TOUR: Jacy Settles

NEPGA Junior Tour presented by



The New England PGA Junior Tour is excited to announce the introduction of its inaugural **Four-Ball Series** to the 2017 New England PGA Junior Tour. The series will aim to

provide an opportunity for young tour members to experience the atmosphere of playing in a tournament setting, while also participating in a team-based event.

We have seen the recent success of team-based golf events, such as the PGA Jr. League, and believe that will transcend into equal success for the Four-Ball Series. This will provide a perfect avenue for players that are looking to gain some tournament experience, and will lead them to success in our many other NEPGA Junior Tour Events.

Four-ball is a competition in which **two** competitors play as **partners**, with each playing his/her own ball. The lower score of the partners is the score for the

hole. Most Four-Ball Series contests will be **9-hole Stroke Play events**.

A full list of tournament dates can be found by [clicking here](#).

New England PGA Junior Tour membership & tournament registration is officially open. To register for a NEPGA Junior Tour membership, [click here](#).





## Your View From The Fairway

### MAY MEMBERSHIP NOTES: Joan Stuart

#### Membership Dues—Important Information!

Dues invoices are released to [PGA.org](http://PGA.org) and everyone with an e-mail address received an email notification during the week of May 8, 2017 advising them that they can view, print and/or pay the FY2017/2018 dues online. Those with an e-mail address will not receive a printed invoice in the mail.

For those individuals whose employer pays their dues, you should log onto [PGA.org](http://PGA.org) to print an invoice to submit to your employer for payment processing.

If you are paying by check, put your member/apprentice number in the "Note" portion of the check and/or on the check stub.

**DUES PROXY OPTION** Continuing this year is the ability for members and apprentices to *Assign a Dues Proxy* giving access to one other individual (such as employer, supervisor or agent) to pay dues on his/her behalf. This process was developed as a one-to-one relationship so each individual will need to assign their own proxy, if so desired.

**ACH ONLINE PAYMENT OPTION** In addition, there is also an online ACH Payment (Automated Clearing House) option – an online Bank authorization to issue a payment to the PGA for dues from either a checking or savings account. You will need to input the name on their Account, Account Number and the Bank Routing Number. The bank will then generate a transaction.

Those individuals without an e-mail address were mailed a printed invoice during the week of May 8, 2017.

The due date for this invoice is 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.

#### ACH Payments for Purse Winnings

This is worth repeating! Did you change your bank account over the winter months? If you did, a new ACH Form and voided check needs to be sent via email to the office. As we begin the 2017 Tournament

Season, again a reminder about the advantages of receiving your purse winnings as a direct deposit either into your checking or savings account.



- Why wait to receive your money?
- Why risk the possibility that the check may get lost in the mail?
- Why wait for the check to be sent or forwarded to a new address?
- Why have a stop payment fee deducted from your check when the Section has to stop payment because you never received the check?

The SIMPLE solution is to have the money deposited directly into your account. Please [click here](#) for the ACH Payment Form and follow the instructions on the form. If you need any guidance, please call the section office at 508.869.0000 or email [jstu-art@pgahq.com](mailto:jstu-art@pgahq.com).

# PGA Annual Operations Survey

Complete by June 5<sup>th</sup>

The PGA Annual Operations Survey is now available on PGA.org. We encourage you to complete the survey as it allows you to compare your top-line revenues and expenses against other "like" green grass and off-course facilities and also serves as a value guide during the budgeting process. Additionally, data from this survey is used to support state and national economic impact studies which are vital to telling the story about golf's impact on the economy. Here are some key points to note:

- **Highest-Ranked Pro's** Survey to be completed by the highest-ranked PGA Professional at each facility, or to any other golf professional with proxy rights for their facility.
- **Confidential** Information gathered through this service is strictly confidential to individual facility management and is presented in aggregate with other facilities for reporting purposes.

- **MSR Credits** Members will automatically receive up to two MSR credits upon completion of the survey if submitted by the deadline of June 5<sup>th</sup>.
- **Streamlined** To improve your survey experience, many areas have been streamlined to ensure that you only answer questions that are relevant to the operational areas you manage. In addition, there is a downloadable version of the survey on the Annual Operations Survey landing page that you can use as a worksheet to simplify your online experience and save time.

[Click Here to Begin the Survey](#)

## District 1 Director Report:

Noel Gebauer, PGA



[Click here](#) to view the PGA of America Highlight Summary for the month of April featuring National Golf Day coverage, an update on the status of the PGA Center for Learning & Performance and St. Lucie Trail, PGA and Senior PGA Championships news and much more!

## DCP Instruction Playbook

The Drive, Chip and Putt Instruction Playbook will aid you in the creation and implementation of youth clinics with a Drive, Chip and Putt twist. The following ideas and concepts can be modified to fit your golf facility with the ultimate goals of increasing youth activity at your facility, creating revenue for your instruction business and driving awareness of the Drive, Chip and Putt Championship. [Click here](#) to view the playbook.





# 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!

CONNECT —————→



NEPGA.com







## The Big Three

Now that PGA Junior League player registration is underway what can we learn from some of our top performers on their successes with getting players to register. Below find the top three keys from three New England facilities.



### WINCHESTER COUNTRY CLUB

Jim Salinetti, PGA

#### 73 players registered

- Very detailed introductory email to membership.
- Create a schedule of matches and practices (with dates) from the start. I know some captains leave their schedules TBA until after they register their players. Parents like to know their kids' schedules. This also helps avoid drop outs/refunds. I understand it may be difficult to schedule the matches in advance if you do not know who the other teams are in the league, but at least schedule your practices.
- Create a buzz with parents. Know the parents and kids that "move the needle". If they are involved, others will follow.

### THE HARMON GOLF – BOSTON CAMPUS

TJ Valentine, PGA

#### 46 Players Registered

- First and foremost is to run a great program the previous year that will get parents and kids talking about and excited to get involved the next year.
- Club support from all parties involved from the Head Pro, General Manager to Ownership. Without that you won't get the support needs to create excitement.
- Get volunteers involved from parents, local high school golfers, etc. and leverage the community networks that already have been created through the relationships that they have developed. I can't express the importance of this! If the pro has someone they can lean on and help out it makes it so much easier!

### PINEHILLS GOLF CLUB

Michael Rothera, PGA

#### 60 Players Registered

- Market the total experience for both child and parent. Offer free range privileges, course access for parent and child so they can see your course, pre-season programs, and make sure they know you are the go to person for junior golf. Be knowledgeable on junior clubs, equipment, and apparel. Once I captured a small group of kids I talked with the moms and had them spread the word. Word of mouth marketing is the best!
- Social media blitz! Send blast emails and posts frequently.
- Have a long term plan. Year 1 and 2 for me I tried to make it the best experience possible. I made it super fun and always provided food after each match. I think the kids were more excited about being with friends and eating the food than just the golf. Also make it a fun place for the parents to be. They will choose your club over others.



Peter Doherty, PGA gives Atkinson CC team a pep talk

As you can see all three facilities are slightly different yet have some consistent themes! If you would like to put together a plan for player recruitment please send me an email [bbain@pgahq.com](mailto:bbain@pgahq.com) or give me a call (617)820-4411.



# Why are the greens faster today than the last time I played?



*Submitted by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of New England*

Our friends from the GCSANE will be authoring some articles to help all of us get a better understanding of what Superintendents do.

## Factors affecting green speed

Green speed has become one of the most discussed factors in golf course maintenance. Golf Course Superintendents often build their agronomic programs, work schedules and equipment choices around how each of these will affect green speed. Golfers are always discussing green speeds before, during and after their rounds. If we think about all the aspects of the game of golf and the golf course; green speed is just one small piece of the golfer experience. However, it is the one aspect that gets the most attention. Whenever we have a major event, players and spectators want to know what the speed of the greens is. If we have a member guest event at a local club, questions and comments about green speed start the week before, and continue a week after. Some facilities even post their daily green speed outside the Golf Shop. Others have determined a set range of "acceptable" green speeds into their course Maintenance Standards.

Green speed is most commonly measured using a Stimpmeter. When looking at green speed, one of the most influential factors is the design of the greens. For example, a classic Donald Ross green with heavy contour or a steep back to front slope, is going to have a faster speed than a Geoffrey Cornish green that is relatively flat; even if the exact same green construction, growing environment, grass type and maintenance protocols exist. It is for this very reason that comparing green speeds between golf courses is completely irrelevant. One course's greens could measure 9' and play fast due to the slope of the green, while the other course would seem quite slow with a reading of 9', on a relatively flat green.

At my previous job as Golf Course Superintendent at a local private club, I was often asked what the green speeds were. One of my least favorite tasks during my morning routine was using the Stimpmeter to measure the speed of the greens. (Just ask one of my former assistants and they will confirm this!) The Stimpmeter can be helpful when a superintendent is trying to keep green speed consistent between different greens throughout the course. Often times growing environments, moisture content, and design can cause a need to alter maintenance practices on a particular green to achieve the same speed as another green. In my experience, this is only done for major tournaments (as in televised events, not the Friday night 9 and dine!).

There is much more to achieving fast greens than rolling, and mowing at lower heights of cut. I would often hear from golfers a day or two before a tournament say "are you going to shave the greens down?" or "are you going to roll them this weekend?" The reality is that green speed is something that you need to work on over the course of several days and by adjusting several factors in your maintenance program. When you hear of green speeds at the U.S Open measuring up to, and beyond 14' on the Stimpmeter, their maintenance routine started weeks before the event so that the greens would "peak" during the tournament. Some of the tools that superintendents utilize include the following:

- Adjusting nutrition programs to have healthy turf without excessive growth
- Utilizing plant growth regulators (PGR's)
- Sand topdressing
- Brushing the greens before mowing
- Grooming or vertical mowing
- The use of wetting agents and soil surfactants to alter moisture on the surface and in the soil profile

- Changes in water management
- Mowing height
- Mowing frequency (times per day)
- Frequency of clip (FOC) (how fast the blades spin, in relation to how fast the mower travels)
- Rolling

Then there is that one factor that the superintendent can't control; WEATHER. How does weather affect green speed? All of the factors listed below can either speed up or slow down greens overnight or even throughout the course of a day. Weather might cause the golfers who tee off in the morning, to have a completely different green speed compared to a group playing in the afternoon or evening.

- Humidity
- Wind
- Frost the night before (usually means there is very little growth happening)
- Rainfall
- Temperature and soil temperature
- Dew formation the night before

In summary, the factors affecting green speed are very complex. Once you begin to look at the different combinations of the maintenance practices in conjunction with the weather, you can have many different outcomes. As superintendents, we try to control what we can, and expect the unexpected when it comes to the weather. Next time you ask a golf course superintendent on Tuesday how fast the greens will be rolling on Saturday for your 7:00 am tee time, know that he or she can only make an educated guess. One of skills that a great golfer has, is the ability to start playing a course and adjust their game to the conditions on that given day.

Written by Greg Cormier, CGCS  
Client Representative, Tom Irwin Inc.



# 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**



# CAPE COD CHAPTER NEWS

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

## YOUNG & OLD SHINE IN EARLY SPRING ACTION

With two sold-out Pro-3Ams in the books this Spring, both our younger and older PGA Members have brought their A games to the links (young being a relative term!).

The recently held LANES BOWL & BISTRO Pro-Am at the venerable Donald Ross layout of Pocasset GC was won by Oyster Harbors' PGA HP Sean Edmonds

(48 yr-old) while the 67 yr-old Bob Giusti, PGA HP from The Back Nine Club, placed 2<sup>nd</sup>, tied with 53 yr-old Jay Wick, PGA HP at Old Sandwich GC. Edmonds fired an even par 72 as the runners-up recorded 73's.

Opening the Spring at Eastward Ho!, a long time tradition for the Cape Chapter, saw 2016 Wessner Player of the Year Gregg Richbourg, PGA AP (42) at Cape Cod National open his campaign with a two-shot victory over Bay Pointe's new

PGA HP Scott Trethewey (48) and finishing T-3 was 'youngster' Matt Baran (33), Oyster Harbors PGA AP and still another 48 yr-old Jimmy Campbell PGA HP at CCN.

Looking like two years from now the Section Seniors Championship will welcoming a bunch of Cape Codders who are now 48, then throw in Sandwich Hollows' Tom Tobey PGA HP who is 49. Better start preparing your songs now for those rookie appearances.

## UPCOMING...

After visiting The Ridge Club for a May 4<sup>th</sup> tilt (after this newsletter was submitted), the Chapter moves to a pair of super venues:



The Chapter will visit the newly named TGC at Sacconneset on May 18th. This view is a view of the challenging and long par-4 17th hole on what was formerly named The Golf Club of Cape Cod.



June 7th marks the 5th annual Miacomet Spring Invitational hosted by PGA Head Professional Phil Truono. This view is of the opening hole and the large bunker down the left side. All Section members are invited to join the Cape on Nantucket—register on BlueGolf now!

## WESSNER PLAYER OF THE YEAR Sponsored by 15thgolfclub.com

### Top 10 (after two events)

- 19 Gregg Richbourg – Cape Cod National
- 15 Sean Edmonds – Oyster Harbors
- 14 Tom Tobey – Sandwich Hollows
- 13.5 Mike Roy – The Ridge Club
- 13 Bob Giusti – Back Nine Club
- 12 Scott Trethewey – Bay Pointe
- 11 Jay Wick – Old Sandwich
- 10.5 Jim Campbell – Cape Cod National
- 10 – Brad Sherman – 15thgolfclub.com
- 9.5 Matt Baran – Oyster Harbors





# MAINE CHAPTER NEWS

Submitted by Maine Chapter President Jason Hurd, PGA

Hey All,

The Maine Chapter is gearing up as we recently concluded our Chapter meeting. Courses are starting to pop up all over the map, and before you know it all the courses will be operating at a high pace. Our season will kick off shortly as May has finally arrived.

Save time for all of our upcoming events, and please pencil them into your calendars. We ask for your help in exceeding

our participation numbers for all these events! Let's make this an awesome year!

Here is a list of our first few events of the season:

- May 9<sup>th</sup> - Pro-Pro Stroke Play Championship at Webhannet Golf Club
- May 16<sup>th</sup> - Pro-Am #1 at Dunegrass Golf Club
- May 23<sup>rd</sup> - Pro-Am #2 at Prouts Neck Country club
- June 13<sup>th</sup> - Pro-Am #3 at Kebo Valley Golf Club

# MASSACHUSETTS CHAPTER NEWS

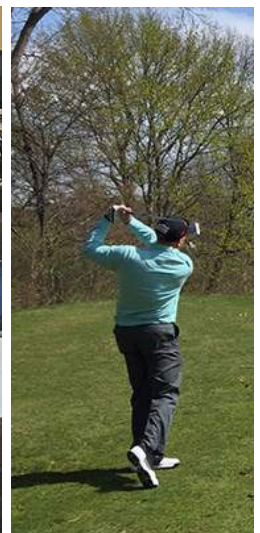
Submitted by Jacy Settles, Massachusetts Chapter Tournament Manager

Congratulations to the team of Chris Carter, PGA (Hillview GC) and Jim Lane, PGA (PGA LM – Winchester CC) on winning the 2017 NEPGA Massachusetts Chapter Spring Pro-Pro (Blind Draw) on Thursday, April 20, at Beverly Golf & Tennis Club in Beverly, MA. It was a great day for golf and Carter, the Head Golf Professional at Hillview GC and Lane PGA Life Member displayed such. Carter & Lane carded seven birdies and only one bogey to shoot a stellar six-under par 64 to win the event by three strokes over Ian Kelley, PGA (Blue Hill CC) and Kirk Hanefeld, PGA (Salem CC) who posted a three-under par 67 to finish second place.

Thank you to all of the MA Chapter participants as we had 30 attendees for the meeting & 20 players (10 teams) for the Pro-Pro.

The meeting portion of the day was very interesting and eventful as we had a wonderful guest speaker, Cliff Thompson from Avidia Bank, and we celebrated our 2016 award winners and 2017 Massachusetts Chapter newly-elected Members.

Thank you to Cliff Thompson from Avidia Bank as he was our guest speaker for the Spring Meeting. Also, a special thank you to our wonderful host David Dionne, PGA (Head Golf Professional) and Christine DiFranco (Function Manager) at Beverly Golf & Tennis Club for making such an event so special. To view the entire leaderboard, please [click here](#).



**TOP:** MA Chapter Pro-Pro Champions Chris Carter, PGA & James Lane, PGA

**BOTTOM LEFT:** PGA Employment Consultant Michael Packard, PGA at the MA Chapter Spring Meeting

**BOTTOM RIGHT:** Host PGA Professional David Dionne, PGA



# NEW HAMPSHIRE CHAPTER NEWS

Submitted by New Hampshire Chapter President Tim Loch, PGA

The New Hampshire Chapter finally kicked off its 2017 tournament schedule with the first Pro-Am of the year at The Oaks Golf Links in Somersworth. Tied for low professional were Nashua Country Club Head Professional Justin Lawson and Keene Country Club Assistant Professional C.J. Konkowski with two over par rounds of 73. Ken Hamel, Stonebridge Country Club Head Professional, was third with a 74. Thanks to The Oaks Head Professional Shaun Bishop for his hospitality and to Don Groft of Yamaha for his sponsorship.



The first NHC Pro-Am of the year was held at The Oaks Golf Links.



Yamaha was on hand at The Oaks Pro-Am as a tournament partner. Don Groft (right) is Yamaha's representative and he enjoyed playing with his brother Harvin (left) and his father Don, Sr. (center).



NHC President Tim Loch, Cochecho CC Head Professional, and his partners make their way to the first tee at The Oaks.

## SCHEDULE

On the New Hampshire schedule for May are the following Pro-Ams:

- May 8th - Wentworth By The Sea CC
- May 15th - Concord CC
- May 22nd - Campbell's Scottish Highlands
- May 30th - Beaver Meadow GC



The Oaks foursome, including host professional Shaun Bishop (2nd from left), prepare to tee off at first of the year NHC Pro-Am.



# RHODE ISLAND CHAPTER NEWS



The New England Section is pleased to announce the hiring of Sean Duong as its RI Chapter Operations Manager effective April 15, 2017. Sean onboarded the NEPGA staff as an Assistant Golf Professional from The Milton-Hoosic Club.

Sean, who currently resides in Shrewsbury, Massachusetts, is a graduate of the University of Massachusetts at Amherst where he studied Economics, Finance, and Marketing. Sean is a PGA PGM Level

3 Apprentice and is serving his third season as an Assistant Golf Professional at The Milton-Hoosic Club in Canton, Massachusetts. He is quickly advancing through the PGA PGM Program and has his PGA election anticipated for Fall 2017.

Sean's rapid advancement in learning many aspects of a club's operations has unveiled opportunities to see and do more in the business of golf. Being well versed in Tournament Operations and having a passion for delivering a variety of events led Sean in pursuit of the RI Chapter Operations Manager position, which he accepted earlier this month. Sean will be replacing Mickey Herron, PGA who has managed the Chapter since 2011, as Mickey will now solely operate the Cape Cod Chapter.

During the off-season, Sean provides golf lessons and clinics at an indoor facility in Quincy, Massachusetts and enjoys volunteering his time giving lessons at local NEPGA outreach events. During his downtime, Sean loves to play golf, blog on the Team Titleist social golf forums, and tinker with his CoolBreeze headwear designs.

Sean is very excited for the 2017 golf season and looking forward to serving the NEPGA Section with energy and zest for the game, and taking care of the Golf Professionals within the Section and Chapter. If there is something that he may be of assistance with, please free to contact Sean at [sduong@pgahq.com](mailto:sduong@pgahq.com) or via mobile at 617-529-5114.

## JUNE TOURNAMENTS

### June 6 - Pro-3Am at Metacomet

Sponsor: David Vermylea/Fairway & Greene/Zero

Host: CJ Talbert, PGA  
Lunch included

Mohegan Sun Qualifier

Added sponsor money for low pro pool

[Click Here to Register](#)



### June 21 - Pro-Pro at Acoaxet

Sponsor: Peter Guild/Callaway

Host: Brent Amaral, PGA

Post-round food

[Click Here to Register](#)



# VERMONT CHAPTER NEWS

Submitted by VT Chapter President Roger A. King, PGA

On April 26th, the Vermont Chapter held its Spring Meeting at Rutland CC hosted by Greg Nelson, PGA and sponsored by Jim Mayo, Antiguan, Bushnell, and Imperial Headwear.



We heard Section and National reports from Dave McAdams, NEPGA Director of Operations, Larry Kelley, PGA, Mike Packard, PGA and Brian Bain, PGA. Chapter committee reports and 2016 awards were also presented. Current Vermont Board of Directors include: Roger King, PGA, Greg Nelson, PGA, Matt Havers, PGA, Brian Gara, and Dave Pfannenstien, PGA.

On April 26th, the Vermont Chapter and our allied associates sponsored a meet and greet with the Vermont legislature at the Vermont

Statehouse in Montpelier. The House of Representatives officially proclaimed the day Golf in Vermont Day. NEPGA Executive Director Mike Higgins and Vermont PGA Members attending the breakfast were Dave Soucy, Roger King, Larry Kelley, Dave Pfannenstien, and Dave Christy. We also set up our NEPGA Section hitting net on the statehouse lawn and gave mini lessons to our legislators.

This year 20 students from East Montpelier Elementary School visited the State House and conducted a First Tee class on the lawn for state senators and state representatives.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**May 15:** Woodstock CC Pro Senior Championship

**May 30:** CC of Vermont Pro Am





# ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION NEWS

Submitted by Assistants' Association President Ryan Kesten, PGA

Thursday, May 4th marked the opening day of the 2017 NEPGA Assistants' Association tournament season, and featured an Individual Stableford tournament, followed by the NEAA Spring Meeting. The event was hosted by Marshfield Country Club, with special thanks going out to Head Professional James Antonelli, PGA, always a gracious host and friend to the NEAA.

The individual Stableford title was claimed by Brendon Ray, PGA of Carnegie Abbey Golf Club, who carded a gross score of even-par 70, good for 41 Stableford points. Ray's round was full of highlights, as he made five birdies on the day, including three in a row on holes 11, 12, and 13. Andrew Wester of Winchester Country Club matched Ray's gross score of 70, however his 39 Stableford points

didn't hold up against Ray's aggressive play along Marshfield's pristine layout. In the Blind Draw Pro-Pro contest, Ray finished in the top spot once again, this time with partner Jeff Atkinson, PGA of Belmont Country Club, who contributed three birdies to the team's cause.

The Spring Meeting followed play in the Marshfield Clubhouse, featuring a review of Assistants' Association projects and accomplishments by NEAA President Ryan Kesten, PGA, Vice President Brendon Ray, PGA, and Secretary Ben Egan, PGA. The meeting also served as a welcome to the NEAA's newest Board Member, Joe Merlin, PGA of Wannamoisett Country Club. Among the accomplishments addressed by the Board was a recent charitable donation of \$1500 to the Kylie McAdams Compassionate Care Fund, a testimony to

the NEAA's commitment to bettering their community through golf. A presentation by NEPGA Director of Operations Dave McAdams, on the state of the New England Section, followed. McAdams offered the Assistants information on the upcoming tournament schedule, Section Programs, and NEPGA Foundation activity. The meeting's final speaker was PGA of America's Regional Employment Consultant Michael Packard, PGA. Mr. Packard informed all attendees about the resources available to them, which they can utilize as they advance their careers in the golf industry. To cap it all off, a Draw Party followed the meeting, in which seeds were selected for the NEAA's annual Season-Long Match Play Championship.

## SENIORS' ASSOCIATION NEWS

Submitted by Joan Stuart

The Seniors' Association Spring Meeting was held at Middleton Golf Course on Friday, April 28<sup>th</sup>. After the meeting, the Annual Senior Pro- Pro took place with the team of Brad Durrin, PGA; Jim Lane, PGA; and Rod VanGuilder, PGA winning the Team Gross Division shooting 51. There was a tie between the team of Dan Gillis, PGA; Harry Rose, PGA; and Mike Mullavey, PGA and the team of Jim Gunnare, PGA; Andy Froude, PGA; and Billy Lodge, PGA. Both teams shot 46 in the Team Net Division. Dan Gillis, PGA shot a 54 to win the Individual Pro Gross and Brad Durrin, PGA came in second with a 58 followed by Chris Costa, PGA with a 59. Billy Lodge, PGA shot a 52 to win the Individual Net followed by Jim Lane, PGA coming in second with a 53 and then third place went to Donnie Lyons shooting a 56. *See pictures to the right...*

The next Senior tournament is a Pro Am (3) at Gannon Municipal Golf Course on May 10<sup>th</sup>. Check [NEPGA.com](http://NEPGA.com) for results.



**LEFT:** Mike Mullavey, PGA along with Dan Gillis, PGA and Harry Rose, PGA

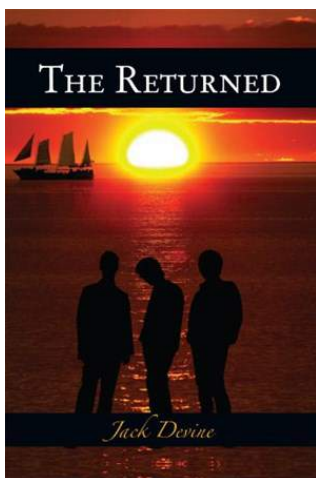


**RIGHT TOP:** Brad Durrin, PGA  
**RIGHT BOTTOM:** Rod Van Guilder, PGA

Following the Gannon Pro Am, the Seniors travel to Indian Ridge Country Club on May 18<sup>th</sup> for another Pro Am. They end the month with a Pro Am at Milton Hoosic Club on May 25<sup>th</sup>.

Looking for a great summer read? Be sure to put NEPGA Professional, Jack Devine's book on your list for this summer! Jack has been a PGA Professional for 52 years and is a student of colonial American history and a great storyteller. You can find his book on [www.Amazon.com](http://www.Amazon.com) along with [www.BarnesandNoble.com](http://www.BarnesandNoble.com). Jack wrote "The Returned" in 2010 and is currently working on another novel.

Jack was the longtime Head Professional at Scituate Country Club along with serving as the Head Pro at Rehoboth Country Club, Unicorn GC and North Hill Country Club.





# PGA

New England Section  
EST. 1916

# Social Corner

"Check out the video wrap up from the Pro-Pro Match Play Championship!"



"ICYMI: Rich Berberian Jr. on Morning Drive!"



Here's what the duos are competing for in the rain at the Pro-Pro MPC, much more than just bragging rights! Thanks @PrizePossessions!



# MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

Changes reported between 4/4/2017–5/10/2017

## NEW APPRENTICES

Name	Class	Facility
Andrew S Barr	B-8	Fresh Pond Golf Course
Andrew L Berg	B-8	Poland Spring Country Club
Joshua M Fickert	B-8	LeBaron Hills Country Club
Samuel R LeBlanc	B-4	Sanford Golf Club
Zachary C. Luthman	B-8	Green Hill Golf Course
Katherine A Merrill	B-8	Purpoodock Club
Alec A. Vozzella	B-8	Marshfield Country Club

## NEW MEMBERS

Name	Class	Facility
Alex R. Wood, PGA	A-8	Oyster Harbors Club

## FIRST TIME TRANSFERS INTO SECTION

Name	Class	Facility	From
Nicholas T. Arthurs, PGA	A-8	Cohasset GC	Utah
Sheldon J. Callahan, PGA	A-6	GolfTEC - R.I.	Southern CA
Tyler A. Corder, PGA	A-8	Essex CC	South Florida
Brennan G Earls	B-8	The Quechee Club	North Florida
Daniel C. Hemme, PGA	A-8	Myopia Hunt Club	South Florida
James B. Heninger, PGA	A-8	Baker Hill GC	Northern CA
Patrick O. Kowker, PGA	A-8	Portland CC	Metropolitan
Abby K. Mann, PGA	A-8	Weston GC	Southwest
Patrick W. Saunders, PGA	A-8	Nantucket GC	Metropolitan
Zachary R Tucker	B-8	Cape Cod National GC	South Central
Ward C White	B-8	Dorset Field Club	South Florida
Dieter M. Wiedmayer, PGA	A-8	Sankaty Head GC	Michigan

## CLASSIFICATION CHANGES

Name	Class	Facility
Christopher P. Angis, PGA	A-1	Sunday River Golf Club
Gregory A. Beans, PGA	A-8	Bear Hill Golf Club
Richard J. Berberian Jr., PGA	A-14	Vesper Country Club
Kevin J. Burnsworth, PGA	A-8	Shaker Hills Country Club
Sheldon J. Callahan, PGA	A-6	GolfTEC - Rhode Island
Matthew R. Cunningham, PGA	A-8	The Milton Hoosic Club
Brian P. Fitzgibbons, PGA	A-14	Cyprian Keyes Golf Club
John T. Geraci, PGA	A-6	KOHR Academy
James B. Heninger, PGA	A-8	Baker Hill Golf Club
Patrick J. Hurrie, PGA	A-1	Atlantic Country Club
Allison L Mitzel	B-8	Laconia Country Club
Matthew P. Murphy, PGA	A-1	Gorham Country Club
Stephen J. Napoli, PGA	A-12	Holy Cross College
Alexander A Plummer	B-1	Goose River Golf Course
Raymond A. Smith	B-1	Whip Poor Will Golf Club

## NEW CPP CERTIFICATIONS

Name	Class	Facility	Area
Harold E Balboni, PGA	A-1	Springbrook Golf Club	Instruction
Jo-Anna R. Krupa, PGA	A-8	Charles River Country Club	Golf Operations
Jo-Anna R. Krupa, PGA	A-8	Charles River Country Club	Instruction

## EMPLOYMENT CHANGES

Name	Class	Facility	Start
Matthew R. Alwin, PGA	A-8	Dedham Country & Polo Club	4/10
Christopher P. Angis, PGA	A-1	Sunday River Golf Club	5/1
Nicholas T. Arthurs, PGA	A-8	Cohasset Golf Club	4/15
Anthony S Bacigalupo	B-8	Worcester Country Club	4/12
Mike Bailey, PGA	A-1	Stratton Mountain Resort GC	4/24
Gregory A. Beans, PGA	A-8	Bear Hill Golf Club	5/1
Richard J. Berberian Jr., PGA	A-14	Vesper Country Club	4/15
James S Brackett	B-8	Worcester Country Club	4/10
Robert P. Bruso, PGA	A-8	Essex County Club	4/17
Kevin J. Burnsworth, PGA	A-8	Shaker Hills Country Club	4/26
Sheldon J. Callahan, PGA	A-6	GolfTEC - Rhode Island	5/3
Stephen P. Caruso, PGA	A-8	Ferncroft Country Club	5/1
Randolph L Clark	B-8	Waterville Country Club	5/4
Benjamin T. Claus, PGA	A-8	Boston Golf Club	5/8
Daniel J. Colton	B-8	The Ridge Club	5/1
Tyler A. Corder, PGA	A-8	Essex County Club	4/19
Matthew R. Cunningham, PGA	A-8	The Milton Hoosic Club	4/10
Ryan J Dube	B-8	Laconia Country Club	4/17
Brennan G Earls	B-8	The Quechee Club	4/17
Kevin B Ellis	B-8	Boothbay Harbor Country Club	5/1
Vincent S. Forte, PGA	A-8	Weekapaug Golf Club	5/3
John T. Geraci, PGA	A-6	KOHR Academy	5/3
Eric D Harbilas	B-8	Willowbend Golf & CC	4/10
Daniel C. Hemme, PGA	A-8	Myopia Hunt Club	5/1
James B. Heninger, PGA	A-8	Baker Hill Golf Club	5/1
Patrick J. Hurrie, PGA	A-1	Atlantic Country Club	4/17
Nicholas A Knight	B-8	Baker Hill Golf Club	5/1
Patrick O. Kowker, PGA	A-8	Portland Country Club	4/20
Lucas J. Langelier, PGA	A-8	Cochecho Country Club	4/15
Daniel R. Lehmann, PGA	A-1	Essex Country Club	5/1
Abby K. Mann, PGA	A-8	Weston Golf Club	4/16
Allison L Mitzel	B-8	Laconia Country Club	4/30
Issac R. Moniz, PGA	A-1	Acushnet River Valley G.C.	4/17
Matthew P. Murphy, PGA	A-1	Gorham Country Club	4/17
Stephen J. Napoli, PGA	A-12	Holy Cross College	5/1
Jeffrey A. Peabody, PGA	A-8	Bath Country Club	5/2
Peter A Perillo	B-8	Pinecrest Golf Club	4/10
Alexander A Plummer	B-1	Goose River Golf Course	4/5
Patrick W. Saunders, PGA	A-8	Nantucket Golf Club	5/8
Raymond A. Smith	B-1	Whip Poor Will Golf Club	4/17
Jonathan R. Tamburro, PGA	A-8	Sankaty Head Golf Club	5/1
Adam J. Trottier, PGA	A-8	Purpoodock Club	5/1
Zachary R Tucker	B-8	Cape Cod National Golf Club	5/2
Andrew R Wester	B-8	Winchester Country Club	4/23
Ward C White	B-8	Dorset Field Club	5/1
Dieter M. Wiedmayer, PGA	A-8	Sankaty Head Golf Club	5/15

*In our next issue...*

Registration for our NEPGA  
Professional & Senior Professional  
Championships



**PGA**  
New England Section

## Summit Lodge Golf Classic

Tee Off Fore Autism

June 2, 2017

[Click here for details](#)

## MARKETPLACE

### For Sale:

- 15 Clothing Racks
- GC2 Launch Monitor
- Custom Club Rack
- Set of 6 Shop Fixtures

### Looking to Buy:

- Range Ball Washer

[Click here to see details  
on all items!](#)

## Hartford Women's Open

Goodwin & Keney Park  
Golf Courses

June 17-18, 2017

[Click here for details](#)

## NEPGA SECTION STAFF

**Michael J. Higgins**  
Executive Director  
[mhiggins@pgahq.com](mailto:mhiggins@pgahq.com)

**Dave McAdams**  
Director of Operations  
[dmcadams@pgahq.com](mailto:dmcadams@pgahq.com)

**Max Doctoroff, PGA**  
Tournament Director  
[mdoctoroff@pgahq.com](mailto:mdoctoroff@pgahq.com)

**Joan Stuart**  
Accounting/Finance Director  
[jstuart@pgahq.com](mailto:jstuart@pgahq.com)

**Ron Green, PGA**  
Rules & Championships Director  
[rgreen@pgahq.com](mailto:rgreen@pgahq.com)

**Jacy Settles**  
Director of Junior Golf Programs  
[jsettles@pgahq.com](mailto:jsettles@pgahq.com)

**Kristen Garrone**  
Marketing & Communications Manager  
[kgarrone@pgahq.com](mailto:kgarrone@pgahq.com)

**Chris Clayton**  
Asst. Tournament Director  
[cclayton@pgahq.com](mailto:cclayton@pgahq.com)

## NEPGA CHAPTER TOURNAMENT MANAGERS

**Mike Arsenault, PGA (ME)**  
Ch. Tournament Manager  
Cell 207.310.1648  
[marsenault@pgahq.com](mailto:marsenault@pgahq.com)

**Dave Christy, PGA (VT)**  
Ch. Tournament Manager  
Cell 802.476.7007  
[dchristy@pgahq.com](mailto:dchristy@pgahq.com)

**Sean Duong (RI)**  
Ch. Tournament Manager  
Cell 617-529-5114  
[sduong@pgahq.com](mailto:sduong@pgahq.com)

**Mickey Herron, PGA (CC)**  
Ch. Tournament Manager  
Cell 508.505.5120  
[mherron@pgahq.com](mailto:mherron@pgahq.com)

**Frank Swierz (NH)**  
Ch. Tournament Manager  
Cell 603.493.5282  
[fswierz@comcast.net](mailto:fswierz@comcast.net)