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BRING ON BELFAIR!

*14 NEPGA Professionals
head to the PGA
Professional Championship*

***IT'S
TOURNEY
TIME!***

*New England PGA
Tournaments begin
in April!*

APRIL 2019

On the cover...

Bob Brusco, PGA, hits a tee shot during the 2018 New England PGA Section Championship, where he qualified for the upcoming PGA Professional Championship.

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Ron Bibeau, PGA

President
New England PGA

Dear Fellow NEPGA Golf Professionals and Associates,

I would like to take this opportunity to usher in the 2019 golf season in New England with my best wishes. I hope many of you had the opportunity to enjoy some rest and relaxation during the off-season and had a chance to recharge for the upcoming season.

**GOOD LUCK IN 2019!!
MAKE IT THE BEST YEAR EVER!!**

Our Spring Meeting was held on Tuesday, March 26th at Andover Country Club and I am always excited for the start of our meeting season. It is so great to see my fellow golf professionals and inform you on what is happening with your organization. The addition of the vendor showcase was a hit when it originated a few years ago and it still is a big part of our relationships with our partners. It goes to show

how much work Mike and the staff put in to create partnerships. The dedicated partners that we have in our section were excited to attend as you all could see by the number of participants that walked up in front of the audience to start the meeting. The NEPGA is very fortunate to have such wonderful supporters of our PGA Professionals.

I look forward to seeing all of my Chapter friends as I will be in attendance at several chapter meetings in the upcoming weeks. I started my leadership role at the Chapter level and will always be a member of The Maine Chapter of the NEPGA. I am very excited to report that our Section Officers, Board of Directors and Staff have been working diligently during the off-season to prepare for the year ahead. We are very fortunate to have such a dedicated staff at the Section and Chapter levels.

I encourage you all to [sign up for NEPGA U](#). NEPGA U is a groundbreaking education platform that will grow and make every NEPGA Golf Professional better in our profession. I am proud of the work that has been done by Secretary Bradshaw and his education committee and I am sure it will grow and create opportunities for our professionals to grow.

If you have not seen anything about [The NEPGA Foundation](#) I certainly want you to take a look at the wonderful programs and activities that are associated with our charitable arm. The Foundation funds scholarships and important programming through fundraising efforts. A group of NEPGA Professionals recently visited Boston Children's Hospital to put smiles on these children's faces, which is what this is all about. Now is the perfect time to volunteer for a program, or create one yourself. All of the information is on the NEPGA website.

I have seen a lot excitement among golfers in the Northeast during my travels this spring which provides terrific opportunities for our PGA Professionals. We always want to try and be as creative as possible as we continue to show our value and professionalism.

In closing I would like to wish each and every one of you a very happy, healthy and successful 2019. If there is ever anything I can do to assist you, please do not hesitate to call me. I think we should all have a personal goal to get out and play more golf with our members and our staffs and enjoy the game we are working so hard to promote. I am enjoying serving you as your President and I am appreciative of this opportunity.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ron Bibeau, PGA
President of The New England Section of the PGA



Michael Higgins

Executive Director
New England PGA



If you are reading this article and you have ever been to the Masters, raise your hand!

If your hand is up I am sure you will agree that the Masters is one of the most exciting golf experiences you have ever enjoyed. If your hand isn't up, my personal recommendation is to do whatever you can to try and get to Augusta National at least once in your life.

I bring up the Masters because it is the perfect way to begin my April article on memories. This past weekend I played a round of golf with three friends. We were the first group in the morning and while we were sitting around for the post golf lunch a few of the later groups began to trickle in. The Augusta National Women's Amateur was on the TV and as the room filled the conversation quickly turned to Augusta National Golf Club and of course the Masters. We all humbly went around the room to share our memories of our first time stepping on the grounds, where we stood to watch golf, how inexpensive the food was, and how much we spent in the pro shop.

Almost every story started off the same.

"I have never seen a golf course so immaculately manicured," or "that place is just magical." Everyone began to tell their story of how fortunate they were to travel with their father, or how they spent a few days with great friends. Maybe it was a business trip to Berckmans Place or how they won their tickets in the lottery after many years of trying.

Regardless of how they got there or how many pimento and cheese sandwiches they ate, what began to happen next was pretty special. As each person told their story, I quickly surmised that everyone's trip to Augusta triggered a personal memory.

Golf has the wonderful ability to create fabulous lifelong memories and it can also serve as a trigger for memories that bring you back to a special time or place. It can whisk you to a favorite hole, or it can shotgun you back to an all-star foursome at the course where you learned to play the game. Many golfers have a vault full of golf memories and whether PGA Professionals realize it or not, many of those memories are the result of their efforts.

PGA Professionals teach a sport that has brought fathers/mothers and sons (and daughters) closer together for decades. That bond on the greens and the memories that are made are eternal. Everyone remembers who they credit for introducing them to the game, they remember where they learned to play the game, and certainly which PGA Professional taught them the game.

As you work with your students this season take a step back every once in a while, and realize that you are helping to create memories for someone. When you are coaching your PGA Junior League squad, realize that you are creating unique memories for your team that will last a lifetime. Your invitationals, your member/members, the season opening tournament and the many other events you conduct throughout the year are memory-creating opportunities. Your NEPGA staff is going to try and take this same approach at all of our events this year. Our goal is to create a memorable experience for our PGA Professionals, Junior Tour members, Amateur guests, host facilities and everyone involved with the New England PGA.

I encourage you to get involved in your Chapter and your Section this season. We have a plethora of offerings for our Section Members, and I also encourage you to encourage your members to get involved in your facility and your programs. Let's all work hard to grow the game we all love, and let's make 2019 a memorable year!

As always, please be sure to reach out to any of your talented NEPGA staff if there is ever anything we can do for you or your facility.

Respectfully,

Michael J. Higgins
Executive Director



Jim Remy, PGA
Career Consultant

A GREAT START TO MY NEW POSITION

Greetings to all my fellow NEPGA Members. It has certainly been a busy and exciting first three months in my new job as your Career Consultant. Already I have had the opportunity to work on nearly twenty positions where we have assisted our members in obtaining new employment. I am becoming more comfortable with the position and I am enjoying the opportunity to visit and assist our members. Special thanks to Mike Higgins and Larry Kelley for their guidance and commitment. We are all fortunate to be members of a section that is ded-

icated to improving the employment and lives of our members.

PLEASE UPDATE YOUR CAREERLINKS PROFILE

I recently received a report that showed the last update to the CareerLinks Profile for every member in our Section. The report indicated that many of you have not updated your profile in many years. This is so important for you and our section. If you are interested in a new position or even thinking that at some point you may want a new position it is imperative, you update your profile. You never know when something will change in your life. Take it from someone who recently experienced exactly that.

Go to www.pga.org and log in. Go to **Employment** and to **PGA CareerLinks Profile Update** and click in and update your profile. You need to be updated and our section needs your info. If you have any questions, contact me at: jremy@pgahq.com or call me at 802-558-8852 and I will be happy to assist if needed.

I look forward to seeing many of you soon at the Spring Chapter Meetings.

14 NEPGA PROFESSIONALS HEAD TO 2019 PGA PROFESSIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP



Fourteen New England PGA Professionals will head to Bluffton, S.C., at the end of April for the PGA Professional Championship, where 312 PGA Professionals from around the country will battle for 20 spots in the upcoming PGA Championship at the Belfair West & East Courses April 28-May 1.

PGA Professionals qualify for the Professional Championship through the Section Championship, which was contested in August of 2018. Some will be in the Professional Championship field for the first time, while others have made it an annual destination. Check out how some of New England's Professionals are approaching this year's PGA Professional Championship.

[Check out nepga.com](http://nepga.com) for the complete Q&As with New England PGA Professionals headed to the Professional National Championship.

Bob Bruso, PGA

BOB BRUSO, PGA BLACKSTONE NATIONAL GOLF CLUB

Bob Bruso, PGA, First Assistant Professional at Blackstone National Golf Club (Sutton, Mass.) will make his third appearance in the PGA Professional National Championship in Bluffton, S.C., at the end of the month. He finished tied for ninth at the 2018 NEPGA Section Championship to advance to the PNC with the help of an improbable birdie late in the Section Championship.

NEPGA: How has the Professional National Championship move to April affected your preparation?

Bob Bruso: I've been down to Florida 3 or 4 times to play in winter series events. I've also been hitting balls indoors at Blackstone.

NEPGA: Describe your most memorable shot from the Section Championship that helped you advance.

BB: I holed out on 18 for birdie after a penalty drop at Warwick. If it wasn't for that shot there's no way I would of made it.

NEPGA: What do you know about Belfair and how it will suit your game?

BB: I've never played it. I've heard it's not a long course. I can take advantage of my length and steady driving.





Congratulations to the 14 NEPGA Professionals competing in the 2019 PGA Professional Championship:

**DAVID BENNETT
RICH BERBERIAN
BOB BRUSO
LIAM FRIEDMAN
KIRK HANEFELD
STEVE HAUSMANN
CHIP JOHNSON**

**RICK KARBOWSKI
ADAM KOLLOFF
JEFF MARTIN
TROY PARE
BRENDON RAY
JEFF SEAVEY
SHAWN WARREN**

KIRK HANEFELD, PGA SALEM COUNTRY CLUB

Kirk Hanefeld, PGA, is no stranger to high-level golf. He has played in two PGA Championships (1990, 2013), one U.S. Open (1990), 71 Champions Tour events – making 65 cuts – and has won three New England Section Championships. He’s won two Senior PGA Professional Championships and lost count of how many times he’s played in the PGA Professional Championship. Later this month, Hanefeld will be up against a younger field full of long hitters at the PGA Professional Championship, but oddly enough, he’ll rely on his driver to give him advantage.

NEPGA: What can you take from previous PNC experience to use to your advantage?

Kirk Hanefeld: I’m so old now, and played so many events, that experience, I’m not sure how much it’s worth now. Anytime you play in a decent-sized tournament, it’s good. Unfortunately, because of the time of year, I don’t know how ready I’m going to be. Distance, for me, has really become an issue with the length of the golf courses we’re playing. My experience will help, as it does in any event, but I’m not sure how measurable that is.

NEPGA: Do you have any experience at Bethpage?

KH: I have never played there before and to tell you the truth, five years ago when I qualified for the PGA it was at Oak Hill in Rochester, New York, and I came very close to not entering because I knew how long and hard it was going to be and I was 57 years old at the time. I did end up playing and I only missed the cut

by a couple, I believe. I played okay but these golf courses are just so ridiculously hard and long. If I happen to make every putt I look at down in South Carolina and I qualify, it would be hard-pressed for me to play the tournament (PGA Championship) because I wouldn’t be able to reach the fairways in that tournament if it came do that.

LIAM FRIEDMAN, PGA NASHAWTUC CC

Growing up in New York, Liam Friedman, PGA, had an annual appointment at Bethpage Black, where he competed in several State Opens. With the PGA Championship coming to Bethpage next month, Friedman would love the opportunity to return to his favorite course for his first PGA Championship. But as he prepares for his third PGA Professional Championship at Belfair of Bluffton, South Carolina, Friedman is aiming for more than a top-20 finish.



Liam Friedman, PGA

NEPGA: What are your goals at the Professional Championship?

Liam Friedman: I'd love to win the thing. Definitely being in the top 20 is a huge goal of mine with the PGA Championship being at Bethpage this year. Bethpage is probably my favorite course. I'm from Buffalo, so I used to play the State Open at Bethpage every year, so I just really love it there. I'd love to finish top 20 and go to the PGA there.

NEPGA: What are your favorite memories from Bethpage?

LF: I only played Bethpage in the State Open. I had a round at Bethpage where it was the final round of the last State Open I played. I made the cut but was in the middle of the pack. It was the worst ball-striking round I have ever had as a professional. I hit three greens in regulation, made two birdies, and I had one blow-up hole with a triple, and I think I shot two-over on the day and moved up like 20 spots on the leaderboard. I got up and down, I don't know, 13 of 15 times, or something like that. It was crazy. Bethpage is such an awesome place. The front nine you get out and ease into the golf course and you're like 'I can make birdies out here' and then you get to number 10 and you're like 'uh oh.' The back nine is just relentless.

**DAVID BENNETT, PGA
COUNTRY CLUB OF VERMONT**

David Bennett, PGA, was in the middle of the pack after an opening round 75 at the 2018 NEPGA Section Championship. But some solid golf over the final 36 holes propelled him into the top-10 and earned him a spot in his third PGA Professional Championship. Bennett fell short of making the cut in his two previous appearances, but his experience has taught him that simply playing some solid golf could be the ticket to his first PGA Championship start.

NEPGA: How has your preparation for the championship been?

DB: My preparation has pretty much consisted of skiing this winter. It's going to be interesting and challenging. I did get down to a member's trip in March to play some golf for four days, other than that I haven't touched a club since October. Hopefully I get some practice in over the next few weeks and then be able to get down on the 22nd, so about a week beforehand to get some practice in. I'm going to be significantly underprepared compared to years past. But that's just the nature of being a full-time New England person, especially in Vermont. There's just not an opportunity to play a lot of golf, and my job is year-round.

NEPGA: After being there twice before, what advice would you give yourself going into this year's championship?

DB: In years past you have this expectation that you have to play amazing golf to get through to the PGA Championship. If you look at scores in the past, somewhere around even-par over four days is good enough to get in most of the time. It's coming in with the expectation that you have to play solid, consistent golf, but you don't have to play incredible golf. Obviously, you have to play well. I think I put too much pressure on myself the last couple times. This time I'm going to go in with a care-free, fun attitude and just enjoy the experience. I'll have my family with me once again and if I play consistently over four days and don't do anything outrageously great or outrageously poor, I think you have a chance to get through to the next level.

**CHIP JOHNSON, PGA
HATHERLY CC**

Chip Johnson will have his wife, Pam, on his bag and not a hint of pressure on his mind when he competes in the PGA Professional Championship at the end of April. As far as he's concerned, he's



David Bennett, PGA



Chip Johnson, PGA

got nothing to lose as he attempts to qualify for the PGA Championship for the second time in his career. But despite the calm exterior, Johnson's self-described "Jon Rahm" moment at the NEPGA Championship last August nearly cost him a tee time at Belfair.

Was there a moment from the Section Championship that propelled you into the Professional Championship field?

I had played really well for two days and then the last day I was scrapping a little bit. On the last hole I had a shot that was probably not the smartest shot, I'll call it a Jon Rahm moment. I forced things and lost my composure a little bit and I tried to hit a shot that I probably shouldn't have hit. It was out of the left trees and I had to go under branches but still wanted to carry this water hazard with these big high reeds in it. I hit a shot that I thought was perfect and much to my surprise it wasn't even close. I dunked it in the water and I had a feeling at the time I was pretty close to the number. So now I had to play a shot over the water again. I dropped it and I wedged it in there

to about six feet, and that calmed me down a little bit. I called it a Jon Rahm moment, but I could have had a Jordan Spieth moment up around the water hazard there. Especially when your brain is cooking and you're just trying to get done.

So I assume you made the six-footer?

I did not (laughs)! There's not a happy ending, no. I did not make it, but I wound up right on the number. I thought for sure that I had butchered that last hole.

Final thoughts as the PGA Professional Championship Approaches?

It's been a couple of years since I qualified for the regular Professional Championship. I have nothing to lose. I'll just go down there and hopefully catch a little fire with my game. I'm looking forward to it. As far as pressure, I don't really feel any.

**BRENDON RAY, PGA
POINT JUDITH COUNTRY CLUB**

A four-foot putt coupled with an untimely weather delay put Brendon Ray's nerve to the test on the 54th and final hole of the NEPGA Championship last August. Ultimately, Brendon drained that knee-knocker to secure his first PGA Professional Championship invitation, where he will tee it later this month.

NEPGA: Describe your most memorable shot that helped get you into the field.

Brendon Ray: That definitely was on the 54th hole of the Section Championship last August. I knew I was near the cut line to qualify for the Professional Championship. I missed the green long and right on 18. I hit a great chip to about four feet and then the horn blew for weather. During the wait I learned that the four-footer I was facing would send me to Belfair. After played resumed 15 minutes later I was able to convert that four-footer and punch my ticket. That 15 minutes felt like an hour.

NEPGA: Given the change in the schedule for 2019, how has your preparation for the championship been affected by the long winter?

BR: My prep work has mainly been practicing inside all winter. Short game work has been an emphasis as of late as the courses start to open up. A few trips down south earlier in the winter helped to break up the off season.

What is the biggest strength of your game?

My short game has always been a strength. If you have trust in that area of your game you can play aggressive and hopefully shoot some low numbers!

**SHAWN WARREN, PGA
FALMOUTH COUNTRY CLUB**

Redemption. That might be the best word to summarize Shawn Warren's first five PGA Professional Championship appearances. He came up short a few times. Eventually, he played well enough to get into a playoff with a PGA Championship bid on the line, before falling short again. In 2018, he found himself in the lead early on the final day of the tournament, but finished the day in another playoff for a top-20 spot, where he finally punched his first ticket to the PGA Championship. With all that history, there's no telling what the future will bring, but Shawn is aiming high in 2019.

NEPGA: What was playing in the PGA Championship like?

Shawn Warren: It was unbelievable. To this point the highlight of my golf career. To not only tee it up in a PGA Tour event but have my first event be a major. It was pretty nerve-wracking but once you get out there and start playing it's just golf. Just going out there and really soaking it in and enjoying each moment was my number one goal. At that point if you get too up-tight your performance will reflect that.

NEPGA: Can you use your experience of making it through in a playoff last year to your advantage this year?

SW: Absolutely. I think with anything in golf, it's really hard when you have people tell you

that 'you're going to build off this experience of having disappointments' but it's really been true in my career. The first time I was in a playoff I missed, and then last year being in a playoff and making it through, utilizing that experience of 'okay, we've been here before' and the same thing goes with last year, I had the lead with 16 holes left in the Professional Championship, and wasn't able to play great golf coming in, so I'm hoping that this year and years going forward I can continue to put myself in that position and close the door.

**JEFF SEAVEY, PGA
SAMOSET RESORT GOLF CLUB**

Every April there are two types of golfers: those who are digging their clubs out of the garage for the first time in months, and those who spent the winter playing in a warm-weather climate. After spending his winter in Florida while many New Englanders were battling the elements, Jeff Seavey, PGA, is taking some additional responsibility to represent the New England Section well at the upcoming PGA Professional Championship.

NEPGA: What has your experience been like at the Professional Championship?

Jeff Seavey: I've never made it to the PGA Championship, unfortunately. I've been very close. My closest was in 2006. I was in 12th to 14th place with two holes to play, and I made double-bogey on the 17th hole and knocked myself out of it. I missed the PGA Championship by a shot. In the previous nine times I think I've made the cut three times, possibly four. It is, I think, the toughest tournament we play in terms of making the cut.

NEPGA: What have you learned from previous appearances in the PNC that you can use to your advantage this year?

JS: If somebody was going to give me even par right now, I would take it in a heartbeat. Probably 95 percent of the time that puts you in the PGA Championship. The golf courses aren't set up ridiculously hard, but it's a true test of golf. Even par is a good round. One or two under par is a very good round, and if you can put it in the 60s, you're playing some exceptional golf.

NEPGA: Final Thoughts as you head down to Belfair?

I'm one of the fortunate guys from our section. There are some guys that are put in a slight



Shawn Warren, PGA



Jeff Martin, PGA

disadvantage, they don't get a chance to spend their winters in Florida. I think it's my responsibility to ramp myself up and get ready for this tournament because I have the opportunity. I need to take it upon myself to work hard to play as well as I can.

**TROY PARE, PGA
LEDGEMONT COUNTRY CLUB**

A three-putt on the 53rd hole of the 2018 NEPGA Section Championship nearly cost Troy Pare, PGA (Ledgemont CC) a spot in the upcoming PGA Professional Championship. But in the end, Pare qualified on the number and will attempt to reach the PGA Championship for the second time later this month. Pare played in the 2010 PGA Championship at Whistling Straights where he finished +3, missing the cut by just two strokes. No stranger to the PGA Professional Championship, Pare is approaching his 10th trip to the national tournament.

NEPGA: Describe your most memorable shot/moment that helped get you into the Professional Championship field.

TP: Honestly I thought I shot myself in the foot on the 53rd hole of the tournament. I played very conservatively and hit the green in two and had 25 feet for birdie, and I ended up three-putting. I thought I tossed my chances out the window. I made a par on the last hole and I thought I missed (qualifying for the PNC). When it was all said and done, I ended up making it on the number. All you can try to do is turn those lousy rounds into something that's halfway decent. The first day at Warwick was incredibly hard. It was breezy, the greens were firm, fast, and the place was tough. The biggest thing for me was just getting through Round 1 on the most difficult golf course.

NEPGA: What has your experience been like at your previous PNC appearances?

TP: I've only made it through (to the PGA Championship) once, that was in 2010. I finished fifth in the tournament and made it to the PGA Championship at Whistling Straights. Being there at least once, at the Major and knowing that I can compete with those guys – I finished +3 for the tournament at the PGA and missed the cut by two – but just knowing that I can compete out there, I want to get back again. I want to at least make the cut and see where it goes.

**JEFF MARTIN, PGA
WOLLASTON GOLF CLUB**

Like many of us, Jeff Martin, PGA, spent the winter sitting on his couch watching Netflix. But unlike most of us, Martin is just a few weeks away from attempting to qualify for the PGA Championship for the fourth time. Martin finished -6, one stroke behind champion Rich Berberian, in the 2018 NEPGA Section Championship to secure a spot in the PGA Professional Championship for the 15th consecutive year. The Head Professional at Wollaston Golf Club (Norton, Mass.), Martin qualified for the PGA Championship in 2005, '08, and '13.

NEPGA: How has your preparation been affected by the long winter?

Jeff Martin: My preparation has been non-existent. If you call sitting on your couch watching Netflix preparing for our biggest tournament of the year, then yes, I've been preparing! When the PGA of America moved the Professional Championship to the end of April, they put almost everyone in the Northern states at a disadvantage. Needless to say, it's going to be a challenge! So, for me its going to be like cramming for a test. I will practice as much as I can in the next three weeks to try and get my game to where it needs to be and try to figure the rest out when I get to South Carolina.

NEPGA: What are your goals at the Championship?

JM: Winning is always the ultimate goal but there are other things to be thinking about as well. A top-20 finish will get you a spot in the 2019 PGA Championship at Bethpage Black and a top-5 finish will secure a spot on the 2019 PGA Cup Team. These will definitely be on my mind as I head to the Professional Championship in a few weeks.

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HIGGINS RECEIVES HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP IN THE NEPGA

ANDOVER, Mass. –Mike Higgins has served the New England PGA in almost every capacity over the last 22 years. From Intern to Junior Tour Manager, to Tournament Director, and now Executive Director. Today, Higgins can add Honorary Life Member of the New England PGA to his list of titles.

The NEPGA Board of Directors recognized Higgins with honorary membership at the annual NEPGA Spring Meeting, honoring his dedication and service to the section’s PGA Professionals.

“Michael Higgins has spent over half of his lifetime dedicated to New England PGA and its golf professionals,” New England PGA President Ron Bibeau, PGA, said. “His tireless service to our 1,000-plus members is second to none and under his continued leadership, our section has blossomed into the nationwide-leader in all sections.”

Higgins, who was surprised to receive the honor at the meeting, recalled calling with his mother as a college student requesting to help purchase a plane ticket home, in hopes of landing his internship with the NEPGA.

“I told her ‘this sounds like a good job, something I’d be excited to do,’” Higgins said. “I never expected it to turn into this. I never expected to be given this great of an honor. There are so many friends in this room, and so many of you that we’ve had professional and personal relationships. I’m very honored and touched.”



BOYLSTON, Mass. – Dozens of curious New England PGA Professionals gathered at Cyprian Keyes Golf Club for a unique NEPGAU education seminar hosted by PING Vice President of Fitting & Performance Marty Jertson, PGA.

Jertson, a named inventor on over 125 patents and the lead designer on the PING G410 driver, gave a deep dive into some of the research, data and science that goes into the club design and

“In the last 10 years who would have thought all these places would have pretty expensive launch monitors? But it’s worth it. It’s worth it to help the golfer get better, to fit better, to teach off of these tools.”

fitting process today.

“If you as a fitter understand that better, you can know when to pull on a certain lever to fit a particular player, or characteristic, or miss or shot-shape,” Jertson said after the seminar. “You can get to the fitted solution more quickly and more efficiently. In that process, depending on your customer, you can explain the technology to them better, the why. For some customers, maybe not all, but for some customers it can be really good to tell the story.”

Given the technological advances of the last decade that have reshaped the club-fitting process and maximized the gains a player can realize from a properly fit set of clubs, Monday’s topic, and presenter, were particularly timely.

“Ten years ago, if you asked who has a launch monitor, a couple people might have raised their hand. Whereas now it’s 90 percent, or even more,” Jertson said. “In the last 10 years who would have thought all these places would have pretty expensive launch monitors? But it’s worth it. It’s worth it to help the golfer get better, to fit better, to teach off of these tools, and that’s what we’re seeing.”

Even though today’s technology enables fitters and players to realize never-seen-before gains, Jertson expects the technology to keep advancing at rapid pace.

“Where are we going to be in 10 years? I don’t know, there’s no way to predict the future,” the three-time PGA Championship participant said. “But we want to measure things that we currently can’t, and that’s kind of fun. It’ll be never ending. As long as we stay curious and hungry and question the status quo, there will continue to be advancements.”

Check NEPGA U in May for episodes from this seminar!

FOUNDATION CORNER

NEPGA FOUNDATION TO RAFFLE OMEGA SEAMASTER WATCH

Watch RAFFLE

Purchase tickets for a chance to win an OMEGA Seamaster 300M Gents' Watch!

- 1 Ticket: \$50
- 3 Tickets: \$100
- **\$4,850 Value!**
- All proceeds go to the New England PGA Foundation!
- Visit www.nepga.com/foundation to learn more!



Look for Daniel Craig wearing the watch in the upcoming James Bond movie!



The New England PGA Foundation is raffling off an OMEGA Seamaster Diver 300m Gents' Collection Watch. The watch is to be featured in the upcoming James Bond movie starring Daniel Craig! Tickets cost \$50 for 1 ticket, and \$100 for 3 tickets. All proceeds will go to the New England PGA Foundation to help fund our Military PGA HOPE Clinics, Boston Children's Hospital Clinics, PGA Professional Grants, the NEPGA Junior Tour, as well as academic scholarships.

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Do not miss out on this great opportunity to support the New England PGA Foundation! The retail value of this watch is \$4,850. If you would like to purchase tickets, or if you have any questions about the New England PGA Foundation please email our Foundation Coordinator Christian Comeau, PGA at ccomeau@pgahq.com or call the NEPGA office at (508) 869-0000.

Special thank you to Barmakian Jewelers for supplying the NEPGA with this luxury watch.



EASTWARD HO COUNTRY CLUB

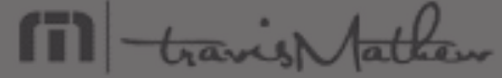
Help make this year's Foundation Foursomes auction a success *and* impact lives through the game of golf by **donating a foursome** from your facility and promoting the auction to your friends and members! The Foundation will auction off each foursome, with all the proceeds supporting the NEPGA Foundation and its mission. Our 2019 goal is to raise \$30,000. **The Foundation Foursomes Auction Goes Live April 15.**

November 10-14, 2019

WELCOME
TO *New England PGA*
LAS VEGAS
PRO-AM

 **Avidia Bank**


FIVE STAR
GOLF CARS & UTILITY VEHICLES





SOLD OUT!

Itinerary

Includes

Important

SUNDAY, NOV. 10

Arrive in Las Vegas
Check into the Mirage

MONDAY, NOV. 11

Play Shadow Creek or
TPC Las Vegas
(Breakfast and Lunch included)
Monday Night Football
Cocktail Party

TUESDAY, NOV. 12

Play Shadow Creek or
Southern Highlands
(Breakfast and Lunch included)

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 13

Play TPC Las Vegas or
Southern Highlands
(Breakfast and Lunch included)
Farewell Awards Reception

- Four nights lodging at the Mirage
- **5 WORLD CLASS** rounds of golf
- Valuable Tee Gift packages
- **Breakfast, lunch and cocktails daily**
- Nightly Hospitality Suite access
- Monday Night Football cocktail party
- Farewell awards reception

- \$1,500 team deposit due by July 1 to secure spot (limited to first 40 teams)
- Entry must be paid in full by Aug. 1 (Payments received after Aug. 1 will incur a \$150 fee)
- Checks payable to New England PGA

Cancellations

- Cancel by Sept. 1 - Full refund
- Cancel Sept. 2-30 - 50% refund
- Cancel after Sept. 30 - No refund

Lodging Requirements

All players must include lodging at the Mirage or another MGM property. This is due to the requirements for playing Shadow Creek. Please contact NEPGA staff with any questions.

Stay tuned for information on a POTENTIAL second 2019 NEPGA Las Vegas Pro-Am week!



Scotland 2019

This year's rotation features courses that have hosted
8 OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS | 4 SCOTTISH OPENS

NEW ENGLAND PGA SCOTLAND PRO-AM 2019

**PLAY SIX ICONIC
SCOTLAND COURSES**

**CRAIL - BALCOMIE LINKS | CARNOUSTIE | SCOTSCRAIG GC
KINGSBARNS | GULLANE #1 | NORTH BERWICK**

October 6-12, 2019

OH, BEHAVE!



Max Doctoroff, PGA
mdoctoroff@pgahq.com

Tournament Director
New England PGA

THE DOCTOR IS IN

Now that most everyone in the golfing community has gotten their hands on a new Rules of Golf book, hopefully we've all at least made it through Rule 1. If you have, you may have noticed that there is quite a bit of emphasis on the Standards of Player Conduct almost immediately in the book. Rule 1.2 reminds us that all players are expected to play in the spirit of the game by acting with integrity, showing consideration to others, and taking good care of the course. However, the Rules make it clear that there is no penalty for failing to act in this way, except that a player can be disqualified for acting contrary to the spirit of the game by committing "serious misconduct." In

other words, there are no consequences for bad behavior under the Rules, unless the player's conduct is so egregious that the Committee has no choice but to disqualify them. If this sounds familiar, that's because it was true under the old Rules, as well as the new. So why, you may ask yourself, am I talking about a Rule that hasn't changed for this year?

That's because the Rules of player conduct can change in 2019, but those changes are up to you! For the first time, the Committee now has the right to institute a Code of Conduct as a Local Rule, meaning that disqualification isn't necessarily the only option for a player who is not behaving in appropriate ways. You, the PGA Professional who is likely the Committee for competitions and general play at your club, now have the right to apply a one-stroke penalty or the general penalty for misconduct on the golf course. However, if you wish to assign penalties for certain behaviors at your course, you do have some responsibilities, and homework to do before changing the penalty structure regarding player conduct.

Before writing your Code of Conduct, here are some of the things you'll need to consider (and once these decisions are made, be sure to put them in writing as part of the Code!):

- Who will have the authority to decide penalties and sanctions? Is it only certain Committee members, or is there a minimum number of Committee members who need to be involved in the decision? Does any member of the Committee have the authority to decide unilaterally?
 - Will there be an appeals process?
 - What behaviors will be prohibited? Some examples of conduct that may be included:
 - o Players entering specified no-play zones
 - o Failure to rake bunkers, fill divots, fix ball marks
 - o Unacceptable language
 - o Abuse of clubs or the course
 - o Being disrespectful to other players or officials/staff
 - o Failure to meet the dress code
 - Does the Code apply to caddies (can the player be penalized under the Code of Conduct for the actions of his or her caddie during the round)?

#RULESTOTHEMAX

- What will the penalties be for breaching the Code? You have a great deal of latitude in determining penalties for various behaviors, and you can structure those penalties in almost any way you choose. Some examples of things to consider:

- o Will there be a warning system before any penalties are applied?
- o Will the penalty for each breach be one penalty stroke, the general penalty, or will penalties escalate with each breach?
- o Will a penalty automatically apply whenever a player breaches the Code of Conduct, or will it be left to the Committee's discretion?
- o Will different penalties apply for breaching different aspects of the Code, or will there be a set penalty structure no matter what aspect of the Code is breached?

Here's a sample penalty structure for a Code of Conduct, but as explained above, you have the authority to modify this in many ways:

- ◆ **First breach of the Code of Conduct**
 - o Warning
- ◆ **Second breach**
 - o One-stroke penalty
- ◆ **Third breach**
 - o General penalty
- ◆ **Fourth breach or serious misconduct**
 - o Disqualification

This newfound ability to institute a Code of Conduct as a Local Rule is another great example of the USGA and R&A's efforts to afford the Committee more flexibility in how we run our golf tournaments, or even everyday play at our clubs. I just wanted to make you all aware of one of the new tools you have at your disposal, that you can use to motivate your golfers to take better care of the course, preserve the image of the club that they represent, and ensure that all of their fellow golfers are being treated with respect. Please refer to Section 5H in the Official Guide to the Rules of Golf for more info, or as always, reach out to me at any time for help.



WE ARE GOLF is a coalition to tell the true story of golf. Not just the game, but the stories of the hard-working men and women who make it the greatest sport in the world and whose livelihoods depend on it.

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF GOLF

WE ARE GOLF unveiled its U.S. Golf Economy Report

ACTIVITY DIRECTLY DRIVEN BY GOLF

\$84.1 Billion in 2016, a 22% rise from \$68.8 Billion in 2011. The golf industry supported \$191.9 Billion in total annual activity, including 1.89 million jobs and \$58.7 Billion in wages and benefits.



\$34.4 BILLION REVENUE FROM COURSES, CLUBS, RESORTS OTHER FACILITIES

\$1.9 Billion invested in existing golf facilities

\$25.7 BILLION IN TOURISM SPENDING IN 2016

4.6% Compound Annual Growth Rate since 2011



\$7.2 BILLION IN NEW HOME CONSTRUCTION IN GOLF COMMUNITIES

18.5% Compound Annual Growth Rate since 2011

\$6 BILLION IN SALES OF EQUIPMENT, APPAREL AND SUPPLIES

\$2.4 Billion in professional tournaments, associations and player endorsements



WWW.WEAREGOLF.COM



IT'S TOURNEY TIME!

April marks the opening of the New England PGA Tournament season, and the section has three exciting tournaments on the schedule this month. The competitive season kicks off with the NEPGA Pro-Am at Marshfield CC (Marshfield, Mass.) on April 16.

The section is excited for its inaugural Blind Draw Scramble at CC of Halifax on April 18. The event aims to foster friendship, new relationships, networking opportunities and competition as a Blind Draw Scramble kick-off event.

The season-long NEPGA Stoke Play Series also begins in April, with the first of five regular-season 18-hole individual stroke play tournaments being contested at beautiful Newport National on April 22.

COMPETITIVE GOLF IN ITS SIMPLEST FORM

Individual stroke play. It's golf in its simplest form.

That's exactly what the NEPGA Stroke Play Series brings to NEPGA Professionals each year. Five 18-hole individual stroke play tournaments with attractive purses draw some of the Section's best professionals to each field, with the lure of a spot in the Avidia Cup Finals at stake.

Liam Friedman (Nashawtuc CC) caught fire at the end of 2018 to win the Avidia Cup Finals, taking home more than \$4,000 in prize money from the Stroke Play Series alone along the way. After playing in just one of the first three Stroke Play events in 2018, Friedman finished T2 at the penultimate tournament and won both the fifth event and Avidia Cup Finals to take home the hardware.

Players will be looking to build an early cushion at the first Stroke Play Series event on April 22 at Newport National Golf Club in Middletown, R.I. The 7,200-yard championship course, considered by some to be the top Public Access golf course in New England, will give NEPGA Professionals a links-style challenge with its swirling winds and fescue-lined fairways, tees and greens. PGA.com ranked Newport National as the 8th-best Links Style Golf Course in America.



The 2019 Stroke Play Series runs through September, with the fifth and final event Sept. 3 at Presidents Golf Course. Points accumulated through each event, along with Chapter Championships, will be used to determine the 54 professionals who qualify for the Avidia Cup Finals, Sept. 30 at Nashawtuc. Stroke Play Series events are limited to the first 75 NEPGA Members and Associates who have passed Level 1.

NEWPORT NATIONAL

BLIND DRAW SCRAMBLE PROMISES EXCITING, UNIQUE DAY OF GOLF

If you've seen the New England PGA tournament schedule for 2019, you've probably noticed a new event on the slate as the season kicks off.

The inaugural NEPGA Pro-Pro Blind Draw Scramble, to be played April 18 at the Country Club of Halifax (Halifax, Mass.), promises to provide an exciting and unique day of golf as NEPGA Professionals find their form for the 2019 season.

The blind-draw format adds a twist, and a bit of suspense. Players register for the tournament individually and the four-person teams will be drawn at random during lunch, then head straight to the course for the shotgun start. Those 65 and over will play from "Senior" tees.

Given the nature of the event, it couldn't come at a better time in the busy NEPGA Tournament schedule. Those who have been hitting into a simulator all winter and those who haven't swung a club in months will get a chance to tune up their game with a fun 18 holes while connecting with section Professionals they wouldn't ordinarily play with.

The \$100 entry fee includes lunch, carts, and golf on one of the best championship layouts in the Bay State.

Upcoming Events

- APR 16** NEPGA Kick-Off ProAm
MARSHFIELD COUNTRY CLUB
- APR 18** NEPGA Blind Draw Scramble
COUNTRY CLUB OF HALIFAX
- APR 22** NEPGA Stroke Play Series #1
NEWPORT NATIONAL GOLF CLUB
- MAY 6** NEPGA Portsmouth ProAm
PORTSMOUTH COUNTRY CLUB
- MAY 13-15** NEPGA Pro-Pro Match Play
KIRKBRAE COUNTRY CLUB
- MAY 16** NEPGA Hudson Cup
DUXBURY YACHT CLUB
- MAY 20** NEPGA Pro-Assistant Championship
THE BAY CLUB AT MATTAPOISETT
- MAY 28** NEPGA ProAm Championship
PINEHILLS GOLF CLUB
- JUN 4-5** New England Open
THE QUECHEE CLUB

[CLICK FOR FULL SCHEDULE!](#)

PGA
New England Section

INAUGURAL NEPGA KICKOFF

BLIND DRAW SCRAMBLE

4-Player Scramble | April 18 | CC of Halifax (Halifax, Mass.)

\$100 ENTRY FEE

LUNCH & CART INCLUDED!

NEPGA HOLE-IN-ONE ELIGIBLE EVENT!

TEE GIFTS FROM LINKSOUL & AFTERSHOKZ!

SENIOR TEES FOR PLAYERS 64 AND OLDER!

YOUR VIEW FROM THE FAIRWAY



Joan Stuart

Director of
Accounting & Finance
New England PGA

April Membership News

Updating Employment, Classification, and Section Affiliation is an important step for all members and associates at this time of year as it relates to the annual dues invoices that will be created for fiscal year 2019/2020. Please take the time to review your information not only including employment, classification, and section affiliation but also your preferred address, mobile and home phone, and your email address on your personal dashboard on www.pga.org.

Please be sure to submit any changes by April 15, 2019. If you have any questions, please call the office 508.869.0000 or email jstuart@pgahq.com.

Annual dues are invoiced as of May 1, 2019 and are payable by June 30, 2019 to avoid suspension and assessment of the Late Fee.

COMPLIMENTARY ACCESS INFORMATION TO THE MASTERS & PGA CHAMPIONSHIP



April 8 – 14; Augusta National GC; Augusta, GA

As a courtesy extended by Augusta National: Class A PGA Members, Life Members and Master Professional Members only; this offer is not extended to other Member classifications, Associates or PGA Golf Management University Students. No spouse or families (including Practice Rounds). Must show membership card and photo ID each day. Entries are limited to 2 per day, i.e., if the member leaves, he/she may re-enter by following the same procedure but only 2 times total per day. Go to North Gate off of Berckmans Road, follow signage to PGA Booth located to the far right of the ticket pavilion to receive daily ticket. **NOTE:** Daily tickets are not available to purchase for spouse. Ticket Information: (706) 667-6700 and masters.com.



May 13 – 19; Bethpage Black; Long Island, NY

PGA of America Members, Associates, PGA Golf Management University Students and accompanying immediate family (spouse, children and his and her parents – does not include member's grandparents, brothers/sisters, spouse of children, etc.). Must show membership card and photo ID each day. PGA Members (only) may bring a guest instead of their spouse. Section Employees and their spouse may receive a complimentary daily ticket. Section Employees must show current Section Employee card and photo identification. Spouse must accompany the Section Employee to receive ticket. Go to the Will Call trailer located near admission gate to pick up daily ticket. Ticket Information: (800) 742-4653; pga.com

2019 CHAPTER MEETING SCHEDULE

CHAPTER	DATE	CLUB	TIME
Maine	Tuesday, April 16	The Woodlands Club	9:00 AM
New Hampshire	Thursday, April 18	Intervale Country Club	9:00 AM
Massachusetts	Tuesday, April 23	Granite Links Golf Club	10:00 AM
Cape Cod	Wednesday, April 24	Sandwich Hollows	9:30 AM
Rhode Island	Thursday, April 25	Shelter Harbor GC*	9:00 AM
Seniors	Friday, April 26	Cyprian Keyes GC	9:00 AM
Vermont	Monday, April 29	Rutland Country Club	9:00 AM
Assistants	Thursday, May 2	Marshfield Country Club	1:00 PM

* Seminar after followed by optional Par 3 Event

STILL LOOKING FOR AN ASSISTANT?



All NEPGA Professionals who would like to list an Assistant Professional or Teaching Professional opening for 2019 on www.nepga.com can email the information on those openings to Joan Stuart at jstuart@pgahq.com and it will be posted under our website's Employment Tab until that position is filled. Please include a brief description of the position, the deadline for resumes, the dates of employment and contact information. It is always recommended that these positions are also posted on www.pga.org. Also, if you need help for outside operations or are looking for a position for yourself, we can also list those for you. If you are interested or have any questions, please call the NEPGA office at 508.869.0000.

If you are interested in obtaining a position or a new position, we do also offer this service on our website. Please email Joan Stuart at jstuart@pgahq.com if you would like to use this service. Please be sure to contact Joan Stuart at jstuart@pgahq.com or by phone 508.869.0000 if the position that has been posted on the website has been filled.



Jacy Settles
 New England PGA
 jsettles@pgahq.com
 508-869-0000 ext. 204



Visit the NEPGA Junior Tour online and be sure to promote NEPGA Junior programs to the juniors at your facility!

Are you ready for the 2019 golf season? The NEPGA Junior Tour is ramping up and ready to go for 2019! Check out the following happenings below!

- ◆ **Membership & Tournaments:** 2019 NEPGA Jr Tour Membership and tournament registration is open!
- ◆ **Drive, Chip, and Putt:** 2020 Drive, Chip, and Putt registration is now open. See below for details.

Rules Officials Needed: The NEPGA is looking to fill multiple Rules Official positions (paid) for its Junior Tour from June to August. The NEPGA Junior Tour consists of more than 100 events throughout the New England Section of the PGA. The NEPGA Jr Tour has a heavy concentration of events in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Cape Cod. The NEPGA Junior Tour is open to all junior amateurs 9-21 who reside within the jurisdiction of the New England Section. [Click HERE for full description.](#)



Golf Bag Fundraiser: For the second year, we are offering junior golfers in the New England Section the opportunity to participate in an online junior fundraiser. This cool program offers a chance to earn a FREE personalized NEPGA TaylorMade golf bag when you hit the fundraising goal of \$300 in donations. What's more, all proceeds directly benefit the New England PGA REACH Foundation and will help to fund academic scholarship to members of our Junior Tour. Fourteen junior golfers reached their fundraising goal and earned their own bag bag last year! Now, it's your turn. Our goal for 2019 is to raise \$7,500 and give out 25 bags. Let's get started today!

To learn more about PGA REACH New England Junior Golf Online Program - [Click HERE.](#)
 For more information or to questions contact:
 Jessie Stewart at (844) 534-3168 or Jessies@BloomForGood.com

DRIVE CHIP AND PUTT REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Register at: <https://www.drivechipandputt.com/>



June 1	Val Halla Golf & Recreation Center	Cumberland, ME	Player Packet
June 15	Button Hole Golf Center	Providence, RI	Player Packet
June 23	Cyprian Keyes Golf Club	Boylston, MA	Player Packet
June 27	Cranberry Valley Golf Course	Harwich, MA	Player Packet
July 9	The Bay Club at Mattapoissett	Mattapoissett, MA	Player Packet
July 10	LeBaron Hills Country Club	Lakeville, MA	Player Packet
July 16	Windham Country Club	Windham, NH	Player Packet
July 24	Granite Links Golf Club	Quincy, MA	Player Packet
Aug. 1	The Kwini Club	So. Burlington, VT	Player Packet

PGA JR. LEAGUE NEW RULES: KEY CHANGES

The 2019 PGA Jr. League Conditions of Play has been updated and posted on PGAJRLEAGUE.com.

HERE ARE SIGNIFICANT CHANGES THIS YEAR.

ADVICE



There will be no limitations to the amount and form of advice a Captain or Coach gives to their players so long as they do not delay play.

10 PLAYER POSTSEASON ROSTER POLICY



Teams will no longer be penalized at Section qualifiers and Section Championships if they do not have all 10 players present. Permanent roster replacements will be allowed for any reason with proper documentation.

COURSE SET-UP



PGA Jr. League is introducing a recommended forward tee for Boys 11-under / Girls 13-under and a recommended back tee for Boys 12-over/ Girls 14-over and new yardage recommendations.

PLACING A BALL



Players are now allowed to place and replace their ball as many times as they choose and by any means they choose (use of a club, dropping instead of placing).

ORDER OF PLAY



Throughout local league play, Section qualifiers and Championships, all players designated to hit from the back tees will play first on every hole to ensure maximum safety.

INTERFERENCE WITH CONDITION THAT GRANTS FREE RELIEF



Players are unable to receive free relief from an object that does not cause interference at the original spot of the ball.

PACE OF PLAY



PGA Jr. League is introducing a pace of play policy that will be enforced throughout the postseason. Click [HERE](#) to view the pace of play policy.

As a reminder, players should be familiar with the USGA Rules of Golf, as PGA Jr. League is governed by the Rules of Golf effective from January 2019. The USGA Rules of Golf and significant changes for the 2019 year can be found at USGA.org/rules-hub.html.



CHAPTER ROUND UP

NEWS AND NOTES FROM AROUND THE SECTION

CAPE COD

The Olde Barnstable Fairgrounds GC team of Dave Sheret, John Fowler, Ryan Mulligan & Dave Hasseltine won the 2018-19 CAPE COD PGA WINTER BOWLING LEAGUE after 12 weeks of 'intense and fun' competition featuring 10 club teams from across the chapter. All but Hasseltine work in some capacity at OBF. In all, over 20 Chapter PGA members participated including such ballers like Jeff Halunen – PGA Head Professional (Pocasset GC) and Mike Vidal PGA Head Professional (Willowbend) who both have averaged nearly 200 for the past several seasons! The league has been warmly received by longtime Chapter Sponsor Jeff Moore, proprietor of THE LANES BOWL & BISTRO (Mashpee Commons) and his three fabulous BOBBY BYRNES PUBS across the Cape.



Dave Sheret, John Fowler, Ryan Mulligan & Dave Hasseltine

CONGRATULATIONS to a pair of new PGA Members – Robert McCarthy (TGC at Sacconneset) and Andrew Morris (Kittansett), and to Nick Wiseman who is representing the Jane Frost Performance Golf Center at Sandwich Hollows GC and recently earned his TEACHING & COACHING certification from the PGA of America.

Cape Cod Chapter tournament season kicks off in late April with many outstanding venues, formats and camaraderie. The Chapter is pleased to invite non-chapter members to register in most of their offerings, and want to remind those who are still working toward their Class A status that they are invited to play in all events – including their respective CHAPTER CHAMPIONSHIPS. The Cape visits Wianno Club for their 2-day championship Sept. 15-16. Chapter President Eric Steindel will host the Cape's big event!

MAINE

Tournaments:

After the fall Chapter meeting, a survey was circulated to our membership. There were questions concerning such topics as: participation, frequency, costs, day of the week for Pro-Ams, etc. After considering the survey results, the tournament committee set various goals to try and meet the wishes

of most of the respondents. To this end, our schedule has returned to Pro-Ams on Mondays (as much as possible), different venues, non-competing dates and the return of the "Dugas Cup" event at Cape Arundel GC in October. Also, Pro-Ams have been set up to allow PGA Professionals or Assistants to bring more than one team of amateurs. The complete schedule is available on our website.

Education:

Along with Maine State Golf Association, the Chapter co-hosted a Rules of Golf seminar on Thursday, March 28th at The Purpoodock Club. It was a great success with a total of 85 attendees, making it the largest seminar we've had that anyone can remember.

Website:

A new Maine Chapter website launched on March 1st. Please take a minute to check it out at <https://mechapter.com> and please support our listed partners. Once the season gets underway, look there for tournament results and news.

Drive, Chip and Putt:

Val Halla Golf Course will again host this year's local DC&P qualifier. Slated for June 1st, the event attracts juniors from all over New England and beyond. Volunteers are always needed, so come help and earn some MSR credits.

Junior Golf:

This will be our second year administering the Maine Junior Tour which we took over from the MSGA. There are 13 events scheduled, which is one more than last year. Membership registration opened March 1st and event registration went live on March 15th. Wendy's is our main partner again. The Junior Tour also has a new website: <https://mechapter.com/junior>. Last season we gave out nearly \$4,000 in retail value of prizes such as golf balls, clubs, bags, shoes etc., that were donated to the program from various sales reps. We're on track for about the same this year.

Annual Spring Meeting:

Maine's spring meeting is slated for Tuesday, April 16th at The Woodlands Club in Falmouth. Registration starts at 8:00am and the meeting will begin at 9:00am. A continental breakfast will be available. Some of our sponsors will be in attendance, displaying their latest products, so come early. The meeting should end by noon and an optional educational seminar is scheduled for the afternoon. The cost for those who opt to stay for the seminar will be \$20 and will include lunch. Attendees will earn (2) PGA Required Education MSR Hours. Registration is available [here](#). The topic for the seminar will be "Enhancing your Tournament and Events Program" Presented by Dan Venezia, PGA, Portland Country Club & Don Doyon, Maine Operations Manager. Participants will gain hands-on experience with the premium version of the USGA Tournament Management Program (Golf Genius).

MASSACHUSETTS

Mass Chapter tournaments get underway this month, beginning with the 6-6-6 at TPC Boston on April 8. The Chapter Spring Meeting is April 23 at Granite Links GC, with a Pro-Pro to follow. The remaining Mass Chapter Tournament Schedule is as follows:

June 5 - Pro+3Am (Foxborough CC)

Sept. 24 - Chapter Championship (Walpole CC)

Oct. 22 - Fall Meeting & Pro-Pro (The Haven CC)

Nov. 4 - Individual Stableford (Thomson CC)

Nov. 11 - Pro-Pro (Blue Hill CC)

NEW HAMPSHIRE



Tony Loch, PGA

The New Hampshire Chapter, in conjunction with the New Hampshire Golf Association, welcomed Tony Loch into the New Hampshire Golf Hall of Fame Class of 2018. Loch has been a PGA professional for over 50 years in the state, serving the majority of his tenure as Head professional at Portsmouth Country Club. During this time, he helped start the New Hampshire

Chapter and served on its Board of Directors as well as on the New England PGA Board of Directors. He is the father of Tim Loch, Cochecho Country Club Head Professional and past president of the chapter.

The New Hampshire Golf Hall of Fame was established in 2017 to recognize individuals for their contributions to the game of golf in the Granite State. The Hall of Fame seeks to identify those who have had a profound effect on golf through playing accomplishments, volunteerism, teaching on any activity that has made a positive impact on the game in New Hampshire. The chapter's board is in the process of nominating worthy individuals to be inductees in the 2019 class.

The New Hampshire Chapter will kick off its 2019 schedule with the annual spring meeting of members at Intervale Country Club on Thursday, April 18th beginning at 9:00. The first Pro-Am of the year will take place at The Oaks Golf Links on April 22nd with the highlight of the schedule being the Chapter Championship at North Conway Country Club on August 12 and 13. Matt Arvanitis, Head Coach of Southern New Hampshire University Golf Team, is the defending champion.

The chapter wishes to recognize and express its gratitude to the 2019 sponsors: Yamaha, Club Car, Five Star Golf Cars, Callaway, PGA Tour, Titleist, Cleveland Srixon, Avidia Bank, Lincoln Motors and TaylorMade.

Congratulations to two chapter members who were recognized by the New England PGA for their commitment and dedication to the game of golf. Alex Kirk, Hanover CC head professional who received the Patriot Award and to Justin Lawson,

Director of Golf at Nashua CC who was received the Horton Smith Award.



Justin Lawson, PGA Alexander Kirk, PGA

RHODE ISLAND

Representing over 100 PGA Members within their chapter – the Rhode Island Board of Directors has been meeting all winter to organize and coordinate issues at hand. Rhode Island Chapter Tournament season kicks off in late April with many outstanding venues, formats and camaraderie. The chapter is pleased to invite non-chapter members to register in most of their offerings, and want to remind those who are still working toward their Class A status that they are invited to play in all events – including the CHAPTER CHAMPIONSHIPS. Rhode Island's CHAPTER CHAMPIONSHIP will be hosted by Troy Pare, PGA HP at Ledgemont GC (Oct. 1st).

VERMONT

The 2019 golf season in Vermont is right around the corner! The season will kick off April 29th with our Annual Chapter Spring meeting at Rutland Country Club followed by our Sponsor Appreciation lunch and golf. We hope to see our fellow PGA Professionals attend this year's meeting and thank our sponsors for their dedication to our Chapter.

Vermont continues to grow participation for PGA Junior League at more clubs throughout the state. We are seeing more interest in U17 this year which is a great indicator that we are keeping these kids in golf as they age. The Vermont PGA Junior Tour kicks off the season at The Quechee Club on June 24th with three more regular season events to follow. The Chapter is working with the Vermont Golf Association to pool resources to enhance competitive junior golf in Vermont. A special thanks to the PGA Professionals that are hosting Junior Tour events and to the Junior League Coaches for giving their time and effort to provide junior golfers in Vermont playing opportunities for every age group.

The Chapter Scholarship fund continues to be healthy and continually provides our Chapter Professionals the opportunity to offset tuition costs for children and grandchildren of our members. We have been fortunate to have one major sponsor that has really made an impact on the fund over the past five years. We have assessed the possible needs of the fund in the future and we will have to build this

fund up to accommodate the upcoming group of kids that will be eligible in the future.

The upcoming Vermont Chapter Pro-Am schedule is below:

April 29, 2019 - Spring meeting & Pro-Pro @ Rutland CC

May 13, 2019 - Pro-Am @ Manchester CC

May 28, 2019 - Pro-Am @ Pine Hills Golf Club
(NEPGA Pro-Am Championship)

June 3, 2019 - Pro-Am @ Rutland CC

June 10, 2019 - Pro-Am @ Burlington CC

ASSISTANTS

Another golf season is upon us. We hope that you all enjoyed some time off this winter or had a great season down south during your winter employment. Your NEAA Board has been hard at work this off-season to prepare for a successful 2019 campaign. Over the course of the past few months we have had a few changes on the board level. Mark Kitchen, former Vice President, has taken a full-time instructional role at Broken Tee Virtual Club. We want to thank Mark for his time and efforts on the board and wish him the best of luck going forward. With that came two openings on the Board; these positions have since been filled. The 2019 NEAA Board and contact information is listed below:

President – Jo-Anna Krupa – Belmont CC
(860.306.0965)

Vice President – Ed Doherty II – Nashawtuc CC
(603.661.9256)

Secretary – Michael Chase – The Bay Club
(401.486.3130)

Tournament Chair – Matthew Alwin – Dedham Country & Polo Club (727.251.0693)

Director at Large – Alex Hoyos – Essex County Club (914.575.1504)

Past President – Brendon Ray, PGA – Point Judith CC
(508.333.1863)

The 2019 NEAA Annual Spring Meeting & Golf Event is set and scheduled for Thursday, May 2nd at Marshfield Country Club. The day will start with a shotgun at 8:30 am. The format for the event is Individual Stableford coupled with a Blind Draw Two-Person Team Stableford done that day. After golf, the Spring Meeting and lunch will begin at approximately 1:00 pm to discuss the upcoming season. Lunch will be included in your entry fee. If you can join us please mark this day on your calendar as this is a great way to network and kick off the 2019 season!

Lastly, we invite all players to stay for a great chance to meet one another at the 2019 Individual Match Play Draw Party. We will choose the 32 seeds at this time to set up our always exciting yearlong Match Play Championship! This event is a great opportunity to meet fellow assistants, play new courses

with the flexibility of the competitors schedules. We hope to see everyone May 2nd for a day filled with golf, camaraderie and friendship.

The 2019 NEAA Schedule is close to being finalized. Please see below for the most up to date schedule:

Season Long – Individual Match Play Championship – limited to the first 32 players to enter

May 2nd– NEAA Annual Spring Meeting & Golf Event (Marshfield CC – 8:30 am; Shotgun)

May 16th – Hudson Cup (Duxbury Yacht Club – 7:30 am; Tee Times)

May 23rd – Spring Championship (Valley CC – 7:30 am; Tee Times)

September 16th – 17th – NEPGA Assistant's Championship (Pocasset CC – 7:30 am; Tee Times)

October 4th – NEAA Fall Event (@ – TBA (TBD))

October 10th – NEAA Annual Fall Meeting & Golf Event (Blue Hill – 8:30 am; Shotgun)

We look forward to seeing everyone this spring and wish all a successful and productive 2019 season.

SENIORS

Save the Date! Friday, April 26th the Senior Association will kick-off the 2019 Tournament Season with their Spring Meeting at Cyprian Keyes Golf Club in Boylston, Mass., at 9:00 am followed by a blind draw Pro-Pro. Come join the Association, reconnect with your peers and catch up with them on how they spent this past winter.

2019 Senior Association Tournament Schedule

Apr 26 Cyprian Keyes GC

Spring Meeting 9:00 am with Pro/Pro after

May 23 Gannon GC Pro/3 Am

June 18 George Wright GC Pro/3 Am

July 11 Louisquisset GC Pro/3 Am – 9:30 shotgun

July 25 Mt. Pleasant GC Pro/Pro

Aug. Tatnuck CC Pro/3 Am (date TBA)

Aug. 20-21 Woodstock CC NEPGA Sr Champ

Sept. 19 Bass Rocks GC Pro/3 Am

Sept. Needham GC Pro/3 Am (date TBA)

Oct. Kirkbrae CC (date TBA)

Senior Fall Meeting and Senior Assoc. Championship

Membership Dues are \$25 and the Senior Association is open to any PGA Professional in good standing who will turn 50 years of age in 2019. For more information, please contact Joe Carr, PGA 508.873.7768 or Dennis Selvitella, PGA 508.410.4984. To pay your 2019 Senior Membership Dues, [please click here](#).

The NEPGA Avidia Bank MasterCard

As a Member of the NEPGA, you are entitled to the following Member Benefits offered through Avidia Bank "The Official Bank of the NEPGA" and Proud Supporter of the NEPGA Foundation!

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PGA
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FOUNDATION

Improving Lives through the Game of Golf

UPDATE FROM PGA HEADQUARTERS



PGA

RETHINK HOW YOU COACH GOLF, AND CREATE PASSIONATE ATHLETES FOR LIFE

In 2014, the U.S. Olympic Committee, in partnership with the National Governing Bodies, created The American Development Model (ADM) to help Americans realize their full athletic potential and utilize sport as a path toward an active and healthy lifestyle. The model uses long-term athlete development concepts to coach as many as possible, as long as possible, with the best experience possible.

Golf's governing bodies (LPGA, The Masters, PGA of America, PGA TOUR, USGA and USA Golf) have partnered with the U.S. Olympic Committee to apply ADM to golf. The goal is to create athletes that love the game, realize their potential and become life-long golfers. To help professionals and facilities across the country adopt this model, we created PGA.Coach.

What is PGA.Coach?

PGA.Coach is the ultimate coaching resource that teaches PGA Professionals about ADM, and how to apply the concepts to coaching golf.

What's in it for me?

ADM is essential for growing the sport and vital to you and your employer's success. The ADM Certificate and PGA.Coach will allow PGA Professionals to evolve and adapt to the changes in the game and a new generation of players. Plus, PGA Members will be eligible to earn 3 MSR credits.

How do I get started?

There is no cost for PGA.Coach. Just go to www.PGA.Coach and sign up for the training. After you complete the virtual training (which takes 2-3 hours), you will be given access to the GPA Coach app. The app includes:

- ◆ Lesson planning, notetaking and assessment tools for all ages and skill levels
- ◆ The ability to create your own lesson plans using over 150 different ADM inspired activities
- ◆ Video and illustrated demonstration for activities
- ◆ Preset lesson plans designed by ADM experts
- ◆ Assessments for all ages and skill levels

To start your journey visit www.PGA.coach

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NOTE: Complimentary access to the Masters, the Open Championship, USGA, PGA Tour, and LPGA tournaments is determined by their respective organizations on an annual basis.

[Click here to take advantage!](#)

MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

CHANGES REPORTED BETWEEN FEB. 28-APRIL 3, 2019

NEWLY ELECTED MEMBERS

Name	Class	Facility
Cody S. Webber, PGA	A-8	Weekapaug GC
Corey S. McAlarney, PGA	A-1	Edgartown GC
Erik D. Carlson, PGA	A-8	Worcester CC
Joshua M. Brickley, PGA	A-8	Meadow Brook GC
Nicholas F. Hallowell, PGA	A-8	The Country Club
Sean E. Bergeron, PGA	A-8	The Woodlands Club

NEW QUARTY CENTURY MEMBERS

Name	Facility
James F. Hart, PGA	Pinecrest Golf Course
Jeffrey A. Wirbal, PGA	Bear Hill Golf Club

NEW CLASS A TRANSFERS

Name	Facility
Andrew B. Stolze, PGA	New Seabury Cape Cod
Corey S. McAlarney, PGA	Edgartown Golf Club

EMPLOYMENT CHANGES

Name	Class	Facility
Jim W. Campbell, PGA	A-1	Blue Rock Golf Course
Eric P. Sandstrum, PGA	A-1	Crotched Mountain Golf Club
Jeffrey L. Beaupre	A-1	Winnapaug Golf & Country Club
Cory J. Mansfield, PGA	A-1	Derryfield Country Club
Lou Katsos, PGA	A-4	The Cape Club of Sharon
Jason A Winslow, PGA	A-1	Eastward Ho! Country Club
Mark A. Aldrich, PGA	A-1	Whitinsville Golf Club
Jeffrey W. Martin, PGA	A-1	Wollaston Golf Club
Richard M Cardoza, PGA	A-1	Blissful Meadows
Mitch E. Jefferson, PGA	A-1	Rochester Country Club
Corey S. McAlarney, PGA	A-1	Edgartown Golf Club
Andrew B. Stolze, PGA	A-1	New Seabury Cape Cod
Brian D. Bickford, PGA	A-11	Maine State Golf Association
Jim F. Gunnare, PGA	A-13	Whip Poor Will Golf Club
James J. Callahan, PGA	A-14	Chelmsford Country Club
Michael S. Daron, PGA	A-4	New England Country Club
Brian D Hamilton, PGA	A-4	Eastward Ho! Country Club
Steven C. Rogers, PGA	A-4	Montcalm Golf Club
Thomas A. Moffatt, PGA	A-4	Cape Arundel Golf Club
William P. Bondaruk, PGA	A-6	Stone Meadow Golf
Jill M. Philips, PGA	A-6	Pocasset Golf Club
James D. Pollini, PGA	A-8	Ridgewood Country Club
David A. Johnson, PGA	A-8	Newport National Golf Club
Daniel J. Russell, PGA	A-8	The Quechee Club
Timothy E. Merrill, PGA	A-8	Myopia Hunt Club
Jo-Anna R. Krupa, PGA	A-8	Belmont Country Club
Kevin C. Bennison, PGA	A-8	Burlington Country Club
Edward J. Dobbins, PGA	A-8	LeBaron Hills Country Club
Tyler A. Santacroce, PGA	A-8	The Country Club
Steven M. Schultz, PGA	A-8	Souhegan Woods Golf Club
Edward J. Doherty II, PGA	A-8	Nashawtuc Country Club
Joshua M. Brickley, PGA	A-8	Meadow Brook Golf Club
Thomas N. Rossoll, PGA	A-8	Hyannisport Club
Cody S. Webber, PGA	A-8	Weekapaug Golf Club
Nicholas F. Hallowell, PGA	A-8	The Country Club
Erik D. Carlson, PGA	A-8	Worcester Country Club
Sean E. Bergeron, PGA	A-8	The Woodlands Club



NEPGA White Board

Post items for sale, opportunities for PGA Professionals & More contact Joan Stuart to post something jstuart@pgahq.com

Promote your upcoming club event!

Send details to Joan at jstuart@pgahq.com

Ads run for 1 Month

Buy or Sell MARKETPLACE

GC2 Launch Monitor from Foresight Golf. Excellent condition works perfect! For Sale \$4500 (New \$6400) contact - golfprotwombly@hotmail.com or 267.229.9234

K-Vest & K-Player - Brand New! Best Offer Contact - Todd Cook at Milton Hoosic Club 781.696.6925

Used Range Balls - 50 Gross for \$750
Need to be picked up at Sankaty Head Golf Club, Siasconset, MA
Contact - Mark Heartfield, PGA mark@sankatygolf.com

Two Visual Sports Simulators

Elite Package. Bought new in Fall of 2015 (3 seasons old). Over 80 golf courses included. Updated EG Software. Perfect for a sports bar, clubhouse, personal use, clubfitting, lessons, leagues. Both simulators have over 10 sports games on them like football, hockey, baseball, Zombie Dodgeball, etc.. Great for Birthday Parties, Corporate Parties.

Retail: \$40,000 each - Lowered Price for 2018 -
Selling Price: \$25,000 each OR *** Buy 2, \$40,000

CONTACT:

Steve Gonsalves, PGA, steve@gonzoshdsports.com or 802-233-6019

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200 High Quality Wooden Hangers for Sale..if interested please contact John Fields at jfields@belmontcc.org

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