

GET TO KNOW THE PRO

AWARD – YOUTH PLAYER DEVELOPMENT AWARD
RECIPIENT – MICHAEL TABBERT
EMPLOYER – BELOIT CLUB & IRONWORKS GOLF ACADEMY
ELECTED TO PGA MEMBERSHIP – 2015

Hometown – Janesville, WI
Current Residence – Milton, WI

College – UW Stout & The Professional Golfers Career College

Accreditations

Level 3 TPI Certified Coach - Power, Golf, and Junior Development
Penn State Biomechanics of Golf Certified
K-Motion 3D Biomechanics Certified
Boditrak Ground Mechanics Certified
U.S. Kids Golf Certified Coach

Awards

Golf Fitness Association of America - On Course - Top 100 Facility - 2022

One noteworthy item that stood out from his award application – Tabbert currently coordinates and coaches the Ironworks Golf Academy PGA Jr. League teams. Their participation numbers have increased every season they've administered the program. In 2022 they fielded four teams, comprised of 40 kids. In addition, Tabbert has been heavily involved with the all-star team from the South-Central area, which has been very successful in the PGA Jr. League postseason.

Important past work experiences

2012-2016 - Head Golf Professional at Glen Erin Golf Club
2016-2017 - Beloit Club PGA Professional and Ironworks Golf Lab General Manager
2018-2022 - Ironworks Golf Academy Certified Instructor and Club Fitter
Oct 2022 - Present - Ironworks Golf Academy Director of Instruction

Best piece of advice I have been given – "Make preparation be your separation." - Travis Becker

How were you introduced to the game of golf and where did you learn to play? – I began to learn the game of golf from my grandfather when I was 10 years old on a Par 3 course in Janesville, WI called Hackbarth Hills. It was a great place to learn the game at a young age. Afterwards we'd go to my grandfather's bar he owned for chicken fingers and cheese curds.

Biggest hope for the golf industry – To have golf courses/facilities that cater to the wide variety interests that bring people to golf. Not all golfers play 18 holes, play for score, or even play on a course. Golf needs to have a variety of pathways to capture interest from all people, all skill sets, and life restrictions. This would mean a wide variety of difficulty of courses, more executive or par 3 courses for beginners and juniors, and quick access green fees for 3, 6, and 9 hole rounds. Also continuing to grow off-course facilities for recreational fun and social entertainment. I feel these concepts will continue to grow the game and reach more people who may not have the time, money, or facilities to play as much as they'd like.

Favorite way to spend free time – Spending time with my wife and kids. Golfing and bowling with my friends and family. I also love watching/attending sporting events for the Brewers, Packers, or Wisconsin Badgers.

The best homecooked meal is – Chicken Alfredo

Favorite place to hang out in Wisconsin – Going to Wisconsin Dells. Playing golf, visiting Noah's Ark and stopping at Ho-Chunk Casino.

What are you most looking forward to in 2023 - personally or professionally?

Personally - I am looking forward to teaching my son to play golf this summer. He is going to be 4 years old, and I think ready to enjoy a day at the course with Dad.
Professionally - Continuing to grow in my new position as the Director of Instruction for the Ironworks Golf Academy and helping my students enjoy the game as much as possible.

Comments or Thoughts – What does this award mean to you? "This means so much to win the Youth Player Development Award. I have been learning and working hard on my teaching craft for over 13 years, working alongside some of the game's best coaches. I thoroughly enjoy helping junior golfers get into the game, improve their skills and build good character. To be recognized for this passion with an award is an absolute honor."

