



**PGA**

Wisconsin Section

**WISCONSIN PGA  
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

The American Club Resort Hotel  
Kohler, Wisconsin

**Monday, February 27, 2023**

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AGENDA**

**Monday, February 27, 2023 - 12:00pm**

**Call to Order & Approval of October 2022 Membership Meeting Minutes** Pages 3-4

**Wisconsin Golf Sales Association** – Jim Gaugert - President

**2023 American Family Insurance Championship** – Nate Pokrass -Tournament Director

**2023 USGA Senior Open** – Danny Rainbow - SentryWorld

**Reports of the Officers & Executive Director:**

Report of the Secretary .....	Matt Taken, PGA	Page 5
Report of the Vice President.....	Mark Voeller, PGA	Pages 6-7
Report of the President .....	Mike O’Reilly, PGA	Pages 8-12
Report of the Executive Director .....	Joe Stadler, PGA	Pages 13-14
WPGA Jr Foundation .....	Joe Stadler, PGA	Page 15
First Tee of Southeast Wisconsin .....		Page 16

**Report of the Committees:**

Employment .....	Jeremy Cabalka, PGA	Page 17
PGA Career Consultant .....	Ryan Holland, PGA	
Tournament Policy Board .....	Michael Crowley, PGA	Page 18
Education .....	Danny Rainbow, PGA	Page 19
Membership .....	Mark Voeller, PGA	Pages 20-21
Player Development .....	Scott Walecki, PGA	Page 22
Player Engagement Consultant.....	Frank Chieppa, PGA	
Assistants .....	Shaun Finley, PGA	Page 23
Special Awards.....	Jeff Ellingson, PGA	Page 24
Nelthorpe Cup .....	Jeff Ellingson, PGA	Page 25
Scholarship .....	Joe Stadler, PGA	Page 26

Old Business – None

New Business – None

Open Forum –

Meeting will adjourn and be followed by the Wisconsin Golf Salesperson’s Association Product Showcase. Beginning at approximately 2:30pm, PGA of America President John Lindert will be joined by WPGA President for a Town Hall discussion led by PGA Professional and Director of Player Development Erika Pirkl.

**Wisconsin PGA Membership Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, October 31, 2022**  
**Embassy Suites - Brookfield, Wisconsin**

Meeting called to order at 12:03 p.m.

Minutes from the March 2022 meeting were approved after a motion from Jeff Ellingson and a second from Mark Voeller.

Elections for four positions at-large on the WPGA board were conducted. The election was overseen by Jeff Ellingson, Past President of the WPGA. Mark Voeller – Metro, Jeremy Cabalka – Southwest, Dave Kemnitz – Northwest, and Jamie Christianson – Northeast were all elected by acclamation subsequently sworn in as directors for a three-year term.

Dave Reid from Fairways to Heaven provided an overview of the services their company provides in international travel.

Danny Rainbow provided an update on the 2023 US Senior Open to be conducted at SentryWorld.

**Report of Matt Taken, PGA – WPGA Secretary**

Mr. Taken asked for a moment of silence for John Accola, Rob Bosi, Wayne Rolfs, Tom Knorr and Honorary PGA Member Herb Kohler. He then introduced quarter century members, new members and those new to the section. He provided an update on the number of members in the section. Matt reminded members if they are looking for staff to check out golfinginwisconsin website as an avenue to recruit people.

**Report of Mark Voeller, PGA – WPGA Vice President**

Mr. Voeller presented the end of September financials and stated we are about \$16,000 ahead of budget prior to investments. We are seven months into our fiscal year. Mark again thanked Vince Suter for attending and presenting his investment update. Mr. Voeller then provided an update on the marketing and public relations efforts of the section with Nelson Schmidt and O'Reilly PR. He talked about the financial investment and how that it is difficult to evaluate the ROI. Stadler will be meeting with Dan Nelson from Nelson Schmidt and the officers and board will have to decide on next steps since our 3-year commitment is coming to an end.

**Report of Mike O'Reilly–WPGA President (also covering the District 6 Director report in Rob Elliott's absence)**

Mr. O'Reilly highlighted the WPGA efforts on their 100-year celebration. Mr. Walecki put together a video to commemorate the efforts. Mike mentioned that Nathan Charnes will be the next secretary of the PGA of America as John Lindert becomes president and Don Rea vice president. Mike gave an overview of the marketing successes as presented by Nelson Schmidt. Mike highlighted the success on Google, Snapchat, Facebook and LinkedIn for paid ads. He then shared some of the successes through the PR campaign.

Mike then presented the two resolutions that are being voted on at the PGA Annual meeting. One is on the PAT and the other is the addition of an inclusion statement to the PGA constitution. Mr. Stadler provided some clarity on the PAT resolution to combine two 18 holes scores to pass the PAT. Mike then read the statement the PGA released on LIV golf. Mr. O'Reilly will be sharing more national information during the membership meeting.

**WPGA Junior Foundation – Andy Landenberger, Director of Junior Golf & Michael Bielawski, Foundation President**

Mr. Landenberger updated the members on events and junior memberships and also thanked host facilities for supporting the Foundation. He stated the Foundation awarded thirty-one scholarships totaling \$60,000. Mr. Bielawski asked the members in attendance for two things – get involved at your facility with hosting an event and encourage your junior players to participate in Junior Foundation tournaments. He stated that you the PGA Member has a great influence on our junior players.

**Report of the Committees:**

**Employment:** Brian Bishop mentioned the importance of the compensation survey and reminding members about it. Ryan Holland touched on the recruitment specialists looking to be added in the near future. Ryan stated that WI is doing a great job with the compensation survey at this time.

**Tournament Policy Board:** Matt Taken explained the Las Vegas Pro-Am had 74 individuals in the lottery. The tournament board will look to adjust the system for future events. Tournaments had a slight increase in fees but did not detract from participation. Matt stated we are looking for host sites and potentials sponsors.

**Education:** Danny Rainbow updated the board on an education opportunity coming up next week. Danny stated they will continue to offer virtual education this winter in January & February. He said Ping will be the sponsor of these educational winter programs.

**Membership:** Mark Voeller commented on his report being something everyone should read. He mentioned it talked about the club pro crisis everyone is going through and he will talk about it more in the general membership report.

**Player Development:**

Scott Walecki updated the board on the 1,300 juniors who participated in PGA Jr League. That puts us ranked 25th out of 41 sections. The downside of this was we were ranked 38<sup>th</sup> of 41 sections in the private club area. Scott also reminded members to scan the QR code in front of you if interested in PGA Hope programs.

A special guest joined us for the player development report. John Harvey, retired United States Air Force is our PGA Hope Ambassador. Mr. Harvey is a Vietnam veteran and talked about how this program changes the lives of the veterans that attend.

Erika PirkI provided a DCP update to the board. We will continue to have facility run DCP events and foundation conducted events. She stated this will give us more flexibility and dates. Erika said she has the schedule set except for one site in the northwest area of the state. Scott & Erika explained our PGA Hope program in Wisconsin, and we are looking to expand that in 2023

**Assistants:** Shaun Finley was not able to make the meeting. Michael O'Reilly updated the board with a brief assistant's report. Michael reminded the board of assistants who won events during the year. We had 83 PAT registrants with a total of 13 passing.

**Special Awards:** Mr. Ellingson reminded the board the special awards deadline is November 7.

**Nelthorpe:** Mr. Ellingson updated the board on team PGA winning the Nelthorpe cup this year. He asked team members to stand up during the meeting to be recognized.

**Old Business /New Business - none**

**Open Forum – none**

**The meeting adjourned at 1:53 pm.**

## Secretary's Report – 2023 Spring Meeting

### Recently Deceased

Ken Hulen, PGA

### Election to Membership

Robert Kraseman, PGA (RI)

Robert Swift, PGA (RI)

### New Transfers into Section

Matthew Tausig, PGA

Kristyn Crippen, PGA

Ken Collett, PGA

Fritz Johnson, PGA

Chadwick Bain, PGA

Cody Franke, PGA

### Half Century

Dick Wallace, PGA

Bob Afton, PGA

### Quarter Century

Al Brehmer, PGA

Dan Drier, PGA

Bob Feller, PGA

Tom Gerke, PGA

### Newly Specialized PGA Members

Derek Guzman, PGA – Teaching/Coaching

### Member or Associate Managerial Job Changes within the WPGA Section since 11/01/2022

Chadwick Bain, A-13	Dairyman's CC	Scott Howard, B-1	Rhineland CC
Ken Collett, A-13	Lake Beulah CC	Victor Jacinto, A-1	Tuckaway CC
Andy Fish, A-14	Elite Sports Club	Fritz Johnson, A-4	Par 5 Resort
Cody Franke, A-1	Thornberry Creek	Rick Leslie, A-1	Grand Geneva Resort
Justin Goosen, A-6	Golf365	Steve Loomis, A-4	Geneva National Resort
James Grogan, A-4	Green Field Park GC	Austin Schloesser, A-4	University Club
James Grogan, A-4	Whitnall Park GC	Matt Taken, A-4	Wisconsin Club
Andy Hansen, A-1	University Club	Matthew Tausig, A-1	New Berlin Hills GC
Dylan Hills, A-20	XXIO USA	Scott Walecki, A-1	Brown Deer Park GC

### Membership Breakdown:

A-1	106	A-12	4	A-23	2	F	0
A-2	4	A-13	47	A-24	2	B-1	14
A-3	4	A-14	20	MP	2	B-4	1
A-4	31	A-15	6	RSV	15	B-6	2
A-6	33	A-17	1	LM	88	B-8	60
A-8	43	A-18	1	LMA	3	B-11	1
A-9	14	A-20	9	RM	10	B-12	1
A-11	2	A-21	5	LMC	1		

Total Members: 453

Total Associates: 80

Wisconsin ranks 20th in overall membership out of 41.

January 31, 2023 - Section Financial Summary

Project Type	YTD Revenue	YTD Expense	YTD Profit/Loss	Budgeted Revenue	Budgeted Expense	Budgeted Profit/Loss	Variance
1 Professional Only Events	\$115,615	\$112,240	\$3,375	\$144,460	\$138,810	\$5,650	(\$2,275)
2 Assistant's Events	\$18,945	\$18,280	\$665	\$18,750	\$19,100	(\$350)	\$1,015
3 Pro-am Events	\$741,381	\$665,732	\$75,649	\$686,645	\$622,999	\$63,646	\$12,003
4 Major Championships	\$261,680	\$246,878	\$14,802	\$224,680	\$212,860	\$11,820	\$2,982
5 Meetings & Seminars	\$32,075	\$46,358	(\$14,283)	\$12,200	\$28,100	(\$15,900)	\$1,617
6 General & Administration	\$707,989	\$697,043	\$10,946	\$695,976	\$700,078	(\$4,102)	\$15,048
7 Marketing	\$0	\$99,871	(\$99,871)	\$0	\$86,000	(\$86,000)	(\$13,871)
8 Investments	(\$136,320)	\$13,462	(\$149,782)	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$149,782)
9 <b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,741,365</b>	<b>\$1,899,864</b>	<b>(\$158,499)</b>	<b>\$1,782,711</b>	<b>\$1,807,947</b>	<b>(\$25,236)</b>	<b>(\$133,263)</b>

**WPGA Balance Sheet**  
**1/31/2023**

Wisconsin Section of the PGA of America, Inc.

	2022 Actuals	2021 Actuals
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Accounts Receivable	(\$7,485)	\$12,000
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$546,541	\$684,998
Inventory	\$3,542	\$1,030
Prepaid Expenses & Other Current Assets	\$48,146	\$75,107
Short-Term Investments	\$1,347,598	\$1,531,174
Intercompany Receivable/Payable, Net	\$23,398	\$33,190
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<u>\$1,961,740</u>	<u>\$2,337,499</u>
<b>Long Term Assets</b>		
Long term investments	\$28,462	\$28,702
Property & Equipment	\$84,497	\$37,503
<b>Total Long Term Assets</b>	<u>\$112,959</u>	<u>\$66,205</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<u>\$2,074,699</u>	<u>\$2,403,704</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Accounts Payable & Accrued Expenses	\$16,417	\$108,932
Current Portion of Deferred Revenues	\$669,045	\$658,766
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<u>\$685,462</u>	<u>\$767,698</u>
<b>Long Term Liabilities</b>		
<b>Total Long Term Liabilities</b>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<u>\$685,462</u>	<u>\$767,698</u>
<b>UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS</b>		
Undesignated	\$1,389,236	\$1,636,005
<b>Designated</b>		
<b>Total Designated</b>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
<b>Total Unrestricted Net Assets</b>	<u>\$1,389,236</u>	<u>\$1,636,005</u>
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Unrestricted Net Assets</b>	<u>\$2,074,698</u>	<u>\$2,403,703</u>

# Deferred Compensation - Overview

- **GOAL:** To be able to reasonably compensate members for performing services that advance our purpose; specifically for growing the game of golf
  - In conjunction with the IRS, we created a plan whereby members that participate in activities that meet specific performance objectives can earn contributions towards a deferred compensation fund via a points system.
  - Designed to provide supplemental retirement income for members once they reach the age of 65
  - Members can begin to register now, and start earning points April 1, 2023
  - Plan year is April 1 to March 31 every year, consistent with the PGA's fiscal year
- **Eligibility**
  - All PGA Members in good standing that are working in the United States.
  - Class F Members will not be eligible to earn points while in Class F status.
  - PGA Associates/University Students are not eligible for the plan



# What is Deferred Compensation

- **Deferred Compensation** - compensation that is set aside, to be paid out on a later date
  - Typically starts paying out at retirement or when an individual reaches a certain age
  - Includes Retirement Plans, Pension Plans, Stock-Option Plans, etc.
- **Benefits**
  - Tax-deferred growth
  - Ability to choose your investment allocation from a wide variety of funds
  - Supplement your future retirement income
  - Contributions come directly from the PGA

# Contributions and Withdrawals

## • Contributions

- Contributions to the Plan are made only by PGA of America. There are no participant contributions.
- Currently, the maximum amount an eligible member can receive in a Plan year is \$1,500.00. Set by the IRS and can change from year to year
- Actual dollar amount received by a member depends on several factors.
  - This includes points earned, total participation in the Plan, and overall contribution by the PGA for that specific Plan year


## • Withdrawals

- Distribution age for the Plan is 65 years old
  - Funds cannot be withdrawn before age 65 (Hardship withdrawals may be available in limited circumstances)
- Members will receive Plan benefits in monthly payments over 10 years, “Distribution Period”
- No tax will be withheld on distributions. Members should consult with a tax professional for any tax related questions
- Loans and Rollovers are not permitted within the Plan

# Point System

- Members earn points towards the Plan after the completion of certain specified performance objectives/activities
- Must earn a minimum of 200 points in a given Plan year to be eligible to receive a contribution
  - If a member does not reach that threshold, such points will be forfeited
  - Additionally, points cannot be rolled over to future Plan years
- Reporting Points
  - Members can submit and keep track of their points on PGA.org or through the new PGA Member App being developed
  - Multi-pronged reporting model includes self-attestation, the attestation of another PGA Member, and the use of other readily available data sources as needed
- A list of eligible activities and their assigned point value will be available on the website ([pga.org](http://pga.org))

## Deferred Compensation

- PGA Members can earn up to \$1,500 a year to a retirement fund by participating in combination of 16 activities
- The aim is that over the years these investments will grow and provide a supplemental income for the member upon reaching the age of 65
- Learn more and sign up today 



SCAN ME

## Executive Director Report – 2023 Spring Meeting

### **WPGA Sponsorships:**

The following is an updated list of WPGA sponsors and changes made for 2023. Any efforts made in either thanking the sponsors or doing business with the sponsors is appreciated. Only sponsors of at least \$1,000 are listed.

<b>Diamond Level Partners</b>	
American Family Insurance Championship	Same level
The Suter Ward Group at Morgan Stanley	Same level
PGA Tour	PGA of America sponsor – slight increase from 2022
<b>Platinum Level Partners</b>	
Oliphant Golf Management	Same level
Premier Golf & Utility Vehicles	Same level
Rolex	Same level – PGA of America sponsor
Sentry	Same level
TaylorMade	Same level
<b>Gold Level Partners</b>	
Harris Golf Cars - Yamaha	Same level
Hornung's	Same level
Tito's Handmade Vodka	Same level
Wisconsin Golf Sales Association	Same level
WSGA	Same level
<b>Silver Level Partners</b>	
Adidas	Increase from 2022
Bushnell	Same level
Cadillac/GM	PGA of America sponsor – same level
Club Car	PGA of America sponsor - same level
Earth Networks	TBD
Fairways to Heaven Golf Travel	Same Level
GOLFTEC	Same level
Integrated Payment Systems	Same level
National Car Rental	PGA of America sponsor – same level
PGA National Resort & Spa	PGA of America sponsor – same level
Under Armour	Same level
XGolf Mequon/Brookfield	Same level
XGolf Madison/Middleton	Out 2023
StrackaLine	New for 2023

<b>Bronze Level Partners</b>	
Ahead	New in 2023
AndersonOrd	New in 2023
Antigua	Same Level
Callaway	PGA of America sponsor – same level
Cobra Puma Golf	New in 2023
Evolve Golf	Same Level
FootJoy	PGA of America sponsor - Same level
Good Vibe CBD	TBD
Homestretch Golf	Same Level
National Golf Graphics	Same Level
Nike Golf	PGA of America sponsor – reduced from 2022
PING	Same level
Prestwick Golf Group	TBD
PTE Golf	Same Level
PXG	TBD
Russ Darrow Automotive Group	Still Foundation sponsor but not section
Sterling Cut Glass	Same Level
Sun Mountain	Same Level
Titleist	PGA of America sponsor – same level
Yamaha Golf & Utility	TBD

**WPGA Junior Foundation Sponsorships:** The following list of sponsors is in order of financial support with the largest supporter listed first.

Balance & Believe Foundation w/ Middleton Ford	Same as 2022
Stricker American Family Insurance Foundation	Same as 2022
Russ Darrow Group	Same as 2022
Culver's	Same as 2022
WSGA	Same as 2022
Cardinal Heating & Air	New in 2023
X Golf Brookfield/Mequon	Same as 2022
X Golf Madison/Middleton	Out in 2023
Shattuck	Same as 2022
Bridgestone Golf	Increased from 2022
UW Stout	New in 2023
University of Nebraska PGM	Same as 2022
The Suter Ward Group at Morgan Stanley	Same as 2022
Caddy Time	TBD
adidas	Same as 2022

## **WPGA Junior Foundation Report - 2023 Spring Meeting**

This report contains information about the Junior Foundation Board, Event Updates & Memberships.

### **Event Updates**

The Junior Foundation is excited to have a few new events on the schedule. Our schedule includes over 140 junior events throughout the year for juniors all ages and abilities. Thank you to our sponsors (Balance & Believe Foundation, Culver's, Middleton Ford, Bridgestone Golf, Shattuck St. Mary's School, Morgan Stanley, WSGA, X Golf Brookfield/Mequon, Cardinal HVAC, UW Stout, American Family Insurance Championship, GOLFTEC, Russ Darrow Automotive Group, Under Armour, Adidas, Titleist, Nebraska PGM Program, Joseph Elliott).

### **2023 Updates**

- Our scholarship applications are now available online for high school seniors and college students. The deadline for applicants is April 28. We awarded \$60,000 in 2022 and will look to increase that number in 2023. Visit our website for more information.
- We have expanded the Sherri Steinhauer girls event and Mike Schnarr boys event to 54-hole events.
- We will continue to have our Intermediate Tour in 2023. This tour is geared towards juniors who have aged out of the Future Tour (playing 9-holes) but are not quite ready for the Junior Tour (18-hole events for skilled players) and for those 10-12 year olds who want to try and play in an 18-hole tournament. This tour will play shorter yardages and we will modify tees so the Boys 14-15 will play from about 5,700 to 5,900 yards and younger boys and all girls will play around 5,000 or less yards. This tour is geared for players under the age of 15.

We will continue to offer a Beginner 11 & under membership for juniors. This gives them benefits and discounts to Par 3, Future Tour and X-Golf events for a fraction of the regular Junior Membership fee. The cost is \$30 for the Beginner 11 & under membership. If the junior participates on a PGA JR League team they will receive a discount code for \$30 making the Beginner Membership FREE for them.

### **Junior Memberships & Junior Packet Mailing**

Online registration started on January 25. Junior members will be able to register for events starting March 29. Non-member registration opens April 20. All PGA Professionals and golf courses will receive the Junior Packet mailer; this mailing contains all information about junior events in our state. Please share this information with your juniors. We will also email you the membership application and junior calendar to forward out to your juniors and parents.

### **Highlighted Dates for 2023 - visit [wiscjuniorgolf.com](http://wiscjuniorgolf.com) for full schedule**

- June 13 - Junior Best-Ball at The Bull at Pinehurst Farms (members only event)
- June 19 - AJGA Wisconsin Only Qualifier at The Legend at Merrill Hills
- June 19-20 – Players Tour event at Johnson Park & Meadowbrook CC
- June 21-22 - Junior Championship at Brown Deer Park & Dretzka Park in Milwaukee
- June 26-27 – WI Dells Junior Championship (Hosted by Wild Rock & Trappers Turn)
- June 28-29 – 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Cup matches hosted by The Royal Club, Lake Elmo, MN.
- July 5 - 6 – Players Tour at Blackwolf Run
- July 7 - Par 3 Championship hosted by Sand Valley – The Sandbox
- July 9-10 – High School College Showcase hosted by Whistling Straits
- July 11 –12- Players Tour at Lawsonia
- July 24-26 – Junior Girls Championship (Match Play) hosted by Hartford GC
- August 1-2 – Sherri Steinhauer Girls Only 36-hole event (hosted by Blackhawk CC & Nakoma GC)
- August 6-7 – Lake Arrowhead Invitational
- August 21-23 – Mike Schnarr Boys Championship at Blackhawk CC

***Thanks to all the clubs hosting an event in 2023 - Visit [wiscjuniorgolf.com](http://wiscjuniorgolf.com) for more information***

### **Summer Programs**

Summer program registration is now available on our website, [firstteesoutheastwisconsin.org](http://firstteesoutheastwisconsin.org). We are excited to work with Brown Deer Park GC, Currie Park GC, Dretzka Park GC, Hansen Park GC, Lake Park GC, The Legend Clubs, Noyes Park GC and Rolling Meadows GC to help us bring First Tee programs to local kids this summer. Thank you to our Wisconsin PGA member coaches who help make each summer a huge success for our kids and their families.

### **Coach Training Opportunities**

First Tee has made it even easier to get trained as a First Tee Coach. This spring, we will be offering local Level 1 First Tee Coach training, which is a great way to add new junior programming at your facility or enhance an already existing junior program. For more information, please contact our program director, Tom Gerke, PGA, at [tgerke@thefirstteesew.org](mailto:tgerke@thefirstteesew.org).

### **Expanded Outreach**

In 2022, we continued to expand our community outreach efforts by bringing golf to new communities and organizations. Some of our outreach programs included:

- Junior golf activities at community events including Walleye Weekend in Fond du Lac, Milwaukee's Juneteenth Celebration, German Fest, MPS Ultimate Sports Day, and Summerfest Family Fun Days
- A two-day camp in partnership with FIT Club MKE that incorporated a wellness check, baseball, golf skills training, mindfulness activities, and community speakers.
- A partnership with the Fellowship Open, MKE Fellows and PGA REACH Wisconsin to host the inaugural Fellowship Youth Open, a free tournament and clinic at Currie Park GC for Milwaukee youth.

### **New School Program Partners**

Through the First Tee School Program, teachers provide a safe introduction to golf for their students, helping them strengthen character and confidence through the positive personal and social values associated with the game and extend those values to other areas of their lives. If there are elementary schools within your area that would be interested in the First Tee School Program, please contact our program director, Tom Gerke, PGA, at [tgerke@firstteesew.org](mailto:tgerke@firstteesew.org).

### **Tee to Green Golf Classic – Pro-Am & Auction**

Save the date for the 2023 Tee to Green Golf Classic, the annual pro-am golf outing and auction benefiting First Tee – Southeast Wisconsin. The Tee to Green Golf Classic will be held Monday, July 10 at Tuckaway CC, hosted by Victor Jacinto, PGA. Please consider playing, bringing a team or supporting the auction with a golf donation. Contact David Cohn at [dcohn@firstteesew.org](mailto:dcohn@firstteesew.org) for more information.

### **Golf Marathon**

The 2023 First Tee – Southeast Wisconsin Golf Marathon, will take place this fall throughout Southeast Wisconsin. Local golfers will play at their home courses and clubs, including Noyes Park GC, Hidden Glen at Bentsdale Farms and Wisconsin Club. Thank you to our partner members, Kevin Kramp, PGA and Matt Taken, PGA for their support of our golf marathon efforts. Since 2017, over \$225,000 has been raised through the golf marathon to support local First Tee programs. If you are interested in playing this year or bringing the golf marathon to your own course, please contact David Cohn at [dcohn@firstteesew.org](mailto:dcohn@firstteesew.org) for more information.

#### **First Tee – Southeast Wisconsin**

11350 W. Theodore Trecker Way, West Allis, WI 53202  
414-727-5290 | [info@firstteesew.org](mailto:info@firstteesew.org) | [firstteesoutheastwisconsin.org](http://firstteesoutheastwisconsin.org)



The Employee Committee (Jeremy Cabalka and Ryan Holland) met early February to have a better understanding of the compensation profile's importance. Couple key notes were taken from the meeting:

- The survey is surprisingly easy to complete compared to the past.
- Wisconsin PGA currently stands 6th of the 41 Sections in completion at 67% of active Members.
- Never appreciated the power of the survey regarding employee retention.
  - What's more important, finding new staff or retaining current staff?
  - The survey can help us fight for the staff we currently have with real data.
  - Custom reports can now be generated with a peer set identified by the Professional (minimum of 10 facilities in peer set) to give a targeted market analysis of your compensation levels.

How can you help?

- Complete the profile and update it as necessary
- Require your assistants and associate to complete the profile

Committee goals going forward:

- Add additional WPGA members to the committee
- What is the purpose of the Employment Committee?
- Why do we want to grow the Employment Committee? More people, more ideas?
- What is the true mission and how can the Employment Committee members help vs sitting by and simply saying we're on a committee?
- Educate members on the current resources and how to use them.

Submitted by Jeremy Cabalka, PGA

## **WPGA Tournament Policy Board Report – 2023 Spring Meeting**

We are excited for another great slate of Wisconsin PGA tournaments this upcoming season. If you haven't already circled some events you plan to play in, we encourage you to do so. Several events open for registration on Wednesday, March 1 at 8 AM. The rest of the opening dates are listed on the WPGA tournament schedule page of the section website.

We have some great sites lined up for our major championships this year. They include:

- The Suter Ward Group at Morgan Stanley Wisconsin State Open - SentryWorld
- Sentry Wisconsin State Women's Open - Blackhawk CC
- Wisconsin State Senior Open - Maple Bluff CC
- WPGA Professional Championship - The Links Course at The GC's of Lawsonia
- WPGA Assistant and Senior Professional Championships - Meadowbrook CC
- WPGA Match Play Championship – Glen Erin GC

The section staff and your TPB has also been busy setting up future sites for our majors. They include:

- 2024 State Open - Minoqua CC
- 2025 State Open (Back to an expanded field) - The River and Meadow Valley Courses at Blackwolf Run
- 2026 State Open - Tuckaway CC
- 2024 State Senior Open - North Shore GC
- 2025 State Senior Open - Geneva National Resort

Some notable items as we approach the season.

- Staggered registration opening dates will return for our pro-ams. All events will be first come, first serve in terms of entering with one exception. For the second straight season The Suter Ward Group at Morgan Stanley Meadow Valleys Pro-Am will feature a lottery system.
- Host facilities of our pro-ams will have three spots reserved for teams from the host facility.
- Defending champions of our in-season four-player pro-ams will have a spot reserved for them provided the event has some continuity (title sponsor, name, or same host facility).
  - Applicable teams will register and pay prior to registration opening to reserve a spot. Each host professional or team professional in the case of defending champions will be contacted by section staff in advance.
- Low professional events at pro-ams and pro-lady events will feature stableford format.
- A new handicap reduction policy will be instituted for exceptional amateur performance at four-player pro-ams.
- The WPGA Las Vegas Pro-Am lottery system will continue and be altered. The 2024 process and rules will be rolled out prior to April 17.
- The WPGA Stableford Classic will take place on July 31 at Waupaca CC. Participants will play the nine-hole layout twice for their 18-hole competition.
- The Legend at Bergamont Pro-Am will take place simultaneously as the Wisconsin State Senior Open. A scenario that played out in 2022 after an early season pro-am was postponed due to wet conditions.
- In addition to these items the TPB is also examining our State Open Player of the Year Point allocations, event cancellation policies and tournament eligibility for individuals that are presently pre-qualifiers and qualifier eligible and working their way towards becoming a PGA associate.

Thank you as always for your support of the WPGA tournament program. If you have an issue you'd like discussed by your TPB, please reach out to me.

Michael Crowley, PGA – Wisconsin PGA TPB Chairperson

## Education Committee Report – 2023 Spring Meeting

### 2023 Completed Virtual Education Opportunities

Recordings are located on the members side of the section website.

#### **Member Travel (42) – Vince Pulizzano, PGA**

- January 17

#### **Creating Inclusive Golf Programs for Diverse Communities (25) – Chris Noble**

- January 18

#### **Bill Strausbaugh Award Winner Panel (35) – Jim Richerson, Jeff Ellingson, Jim Gaugert (moderated by Brendan Locke)**

- January 30

#### **New Head Golf Professional Panel (38) – Eric Keeler, Jake Van Fleet and Will Young**

- January 31

#### **Pace of Play Best Practices (33) - Jason Rasmussen (Ozaukee CC), Shaun Finley (The Oaks), Derek Guzman (Sand Valley).**

- February 7
- Seminar covered:
  - Data vs. Experience
  - Relationship Management
  - Daily Operation Tactics
  - How to handle a difficult guest/member

#### **Demonstrating your Value and Negotiating Compensation (32) – Ryan Holland, PGA**

- February 8

#### **Golf in Schools (17) – Brian Dumler, PGA**

- February 13

#### **Fitness for Golf (29) – Dr. Kyle Murison, Founder and Owner of Murison Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation**

- February 16
- Dr. Kyle works with all ages and abilities but has a huge passion for golf. His passion had led to having a Trackman Golf room as part of his practice. Recently, he has developed an app to provide athletes/ patients to work on specific movements or limitations on their own time. He provides a screening and then develops the plan for their improvement.

#### **2023 Guide to the Markets (21) - Brandon Cintron, The Suter Ward Group at Morgan Stanley**

- February 21

### 2023 GolfTec Spring Teaching Seminar

The seminar will once again take place at the American Family Championship at University Ridge on Tuesday, June 6. Nick Dunn, PGA from Altus Golf in Texas will be our afternoon presenter. PGA Champions Tour players will fill the morning. Watch for more details in the coming weeks.

Submitted by:

Danny Rainbow, PGA  
WPGA Education Chairperson  
Director of Golf  
SentryWorld  
601 Michigan Ave N  
Stevens Point, WI 54481

## Membership Committee Report – 2023 Spring Meeting

### PGA of America Introduces Deferred Compensation

- For many years the PGA of America has searched for a way to develop some kind of retirement plan for members. As we all know, there are tax rules that prevent the Association from directly giving money to members. But the basic principle is that we can reasonably compensate a member for performing services that advance our exempt purpose; specifically for growing the game of golf. Therefore, we created a plan whereby members that participate in programs that meet specified performance objectives can earn a contribution towards a deferred compensation fund.
- The aim is that over the years these investments will grow and provide a supplemental income for members upon reaching the age of 65. Because of the power of compounding over time, clearly younger members will benefit most from the program, but everyone can participate.
- In addition to all our programs and other benefits this is now a very real and accessible vehicle to accumulate wealth towards a more comfortable retirement. We further hope that this can serve as a truly significant lure and recruiting tool to attract new talent to our great and growing industry.

#### Benefits Include:

- Tax-deferred growth
- Ability to choose your investment allocation from a wide variety of funds
- Supplement your future retirement income
- Contributions come directly from the PGA

### Your Journey to Deferred Compensation Enrollment

- ★ You're Enrolled!
- ★ You're successfully enrolled in the PGA Deferred Compensation Plan. You'll be ready to start earning and recording points when the plan officially launches in the spring of 2023. Please refer to PGA.org for upcoming information on the PGA Deferred Compensation Plan, the 2023 Plan Year Points Matrix, including but not limited to, how to submit and earn points, and our new Member app that is coming soon. Additional details will be sent via email in the near future.
- ★ What happens next?
- ★ Check back in to.....
- ★ Get updates on the launch of the Deferred Compensation Plan, which we anticipate in the spring. You will receive information about our forthcoming mobile app for members who have enrolled in deferred compensation.
- ★ Learn how the plan works and be ready for launch.
- ★ Stay tuned! So, you will be able to earn points by completing eligible activities throughout the fiscal year.

Dear Mark,

We hope that you are having a great start to your New Year.

If you were able to join us in Orlando for the PGA Show we hope that you felt the energy surrounding our great sport and association. It truly is a great time to be a PGA Professional.

We are excited about everything that came out of the PGA Show, but why we're reaching out today is to tell you more about perhaps the most exciting of the initiatives that we soft launched at the PGA show, Deferred Compensation.

Beginning on April 1, PGA Members in good standing can potentially earn up to \$1,500 a year to a deferred compensation fund by participating in a combination of 16 activities. Members can directly register by clicking [here](#) or can read more information, including how activities started prior to April 1 may be eligible, by clicking [here](#).

Subcommittees that include your fellow PGA Professionals from all three career paths, Board Members and Executive Directors worked on program details and administration so know that the voice of the PGA Member was at the forefront of all conversations had on this topic.

The aim is that over the years these investments will grow and provide a supplemental income upon reaching the age of 65.

In addition to all our programs and other benefits this is now a very real and accessible vehicle to accumulate wealth towards a more comfortable retirement. We further hope that this can serve as a truly significant lure and recruiting tool to attract new talent to our great and growing industry.

As mentioned earlier, we are rolling out now and you can join by signing up today. We will continue to review and refine the program over the first few years and hope that you will join us along the way.

Thank you for taking the time to read about what we feel is a real game changer for our profession.

We hope that you have a great 2023.

John Lindert, PGA  
President, PGA of America

Seth Waugh  
CEO, PGA of America

## Player Development Committee Report – 2023 Spring Meeting

### PGA Hope

#### Training dates

- **PGA HOPE Training @ Grand Geneva Resort & Spa**
    - Tuesday, April 18th, 2023 9am - 3:30pm
  - **PGA HOPE Training @ Kohler Golf Academy -**
    - Wednesday, May 17th, 2023 9am - 3:30pm
1. "How To" - we are almost done with a completed PGA Hope Program checklist for anyone that needs help getting started
  2. PGA HOPE - going to be surveying courses for veteran offerings at courses as a way to get our veterans playing more golf and highlight PGA members that are committed to honoring our vets. Will be featured on our Section website and consumer website - [golfinginwisconsin.com](http://golfinginwisconsin.com)

#### PGA Junior League

1. SIGN UP Now... It's live and ready for signing up.
2. Please reach out to me or Erika if you have any roadblocks in creating or starting a program.

#### PGA Coach:

1. If you are trying to grow your lesson base and your brand. Get PGA Coach Trained.

## **Assistants Committee Report – 2023 Spring Meeting**

**Committee Meeting Schedule:** The Assistants Committee will be meeting in the coming weeks. Topics we are addressing will include: Assisting assistants with job placement here in the section and during winter months in southern states, ways to promote careers in golf, education opportunities for current assistants, and more. If you have any topics/ideas that you would like addressed, please let myself or a committee member know!

**2023 PAT Schedule/Lessons:** The 2023 PAT is posted on the website. Please reach out to Erika Pirkl or Shaun Finley if you have any questions regarding PAT information. If your game needs help before taking your PAT in the future, please reach out to me as well! I will get you in touch with area instructors that can help you with your game!

**2023 Tournaments:** Please check out [wisconsin.pga.com](http://wisconsin.pga.com) for the 2023 event schedule. A-8 PGA members and PGA associates are eligible to play in almost every event the section runs. The only events that are for PGA members only are the WPGA Match Play and WPGA Professional Championship.

We encourage you to sign up and enjoy as many of the WPGA events this tournament season!

The events reserved for Assistants Only in 2023 are:

May 15<sup>th</sup>: Assistant Stroke and Match Play – The Oaks Golf Course

July 17<sup>th</sup>: WI Assistant PGA Professional Championship – Meadowbrook Country Club

For any questions or more information on any topic, please contact Shaun Finley, PGA.

Submitted by:

Shaun Finley, PGA – WPGA Assistants Committee Chair

## Special Awards Committee Report – 2023 Spring Meeting

A big thank you to all Wisconsin PGA members, as we had a record number of nominations this year. Thank you to everyone who nominated a deserving professional and thank you to all the nominees who submitted applications. Even though it made the responsibility of determining the winners very difficult, we appreciate you taking the time to nominate someone and fill out the application. We are lucky in the Wisconsin PGA to have so many deserving professionals. My only wish is that we could recognize more of our great members.

The Wisconsin PGA Special Awards Reception will be held tonight, Monday, February 27, at Blackwolf Run. During this special dinner we will honor our 11 award winners and 3 Players of the Year. If you didn't already RSVP, unfortunately, this year's event is sold out. We are sorry for any inconvenience.

We have two wonderful sponsors who make this reception free for all who attend. Thank you to the **Wisconsin Golf Salesperson's Association** and **PGA National Resort and Spa** for their partnership and for sponsoring this wonderful event.

### Award Recipients

Golf Professional of the Year	Vince Pulizzano, PGA
Assistant Golf Professional of the Year	Jake Wisniewski, PGA
Bill Strausbaugh Award	Andy Barrett, PGA
Teacher/Coach of the Year	Travis Becker, PGA
Patriot Award	Jamie Christianson, PGA
PGA Professional Development	Jonathan Stuart, PGA
Youth Player Development	Michael Tabbert, PGA
Player Development	Scott Walecki, PGA
Merchandiser of the Year – Public	Shaun Finley, PGA
Merchandiser of the Year – Private	Skip Simonds, PGA
Merchandiser of the Year – Resort	Danny Rainbow, PGA
Player of the Year – Member	Michael Crowley, PGA
Player of the Year – Assistant	Josh Grisa, PGA
Player of the Year – Senior	Michael Crowley, PGA

I would like to thank our:

**Sub-Committee Members:** Michael O'Reilly, Mark Voeller, Matt Taken, Victor Jacinto, Jake Van Fleet, Dan Hastreiter, Bill Graham, Andy Barrett, Jeremy Cabalka, Jamie Christianson, Bob Feller, Mark Becker, Craig Czerniejewski, Rob Elliott, Brendan Locke, Jonathan Stuart, Vince Pulizzano, Jim Gaugert, Scott Walecki, Dave Kemnitz, Shaun Finley, Michael Crowley, Molly Braid, Danny Rainbow, Jason Rasmussen, Paul LoCicero, Joel Weitz, James Kelly, Matt Boesch and Mike Warren.

**Committee Members:** Mark Voeller, Dave Kemnitz, Jeremy Cabalka, Jamie Christianson, Gary D'Amato, Phil Polletti, Joe Stadler and Jeff Ellingson

Jeff Ellingson, PGA

Honorary President, Wisconsin PGA



## **Nelthorpe Cup Report – 2023 Spring Meeting**

The first Nelthorpe Cup matches were played at Westmoor Country Club in 1968. This yearly competition features the 12 best players and 4 best seniors from the Wisconsin PGA and the WSGA in a one day, 36 hole, match play style tournament. Matches consist of 18 holes of Singles worth 3 points (1 front, 1 back, 1 total) and 18 holes of four-ball worth 5 points (2 front, 2 back, 1 total). The team with the most points wins the cup and bragging right for the year. Currently the series is at 35 WPGA to 20 WSGA.

The 56<sup>th</sup> playing of this event will take place on Friday, August 4, at North Shore Country Club. Thank you to Eric Keeler, PGA for hosting this year's Cup matches.

We would like to congratulate the following players who have qualified for the 2023 Nelthorpe Cup.

### **Wisconsin PGA**

David Bach, PGA  
Jamie Christianson, PGA  
Craig Czerniejewski  
Ryan Helminen, PGA  
Joe Leonard, PGA  
Matt Sabol, PGA  
Mick Smith, PGA  
Eric Stenseth, PGA  
Jason Tipton, PGA  
Andrew Troyanek, PGA  
Mark Voeller, PGA  
Jake Wisniewski, PGA  
Matt Kennedy, PGA (in for Smith)  
Brad Lanning, PGA (in for Wisniewski)

### **Senior WPGA**

Michael Crowley, PGA  
Kurt Mantyla, PGA  
Jim Schuman, PGA  
Jeff Bisbee, PGA  
John Freeman, PGA (in for Schuman)

### **WSGA**

Jack Schultz  
Adam Miller  
Cameron Huss  
Garrett Jones  
Adam Garski  
Jim Doing  
Cory Aune  
Graham Moody  
Ty Kretz  
Mason Schmidtke  
WSGA Match Play Champ  
WSGA State Am Champ

### **Senior WSGA**

Jim Doing  
Robert Gregorski  
Kevin Cahill  
Rocky Sperka

**Good luck and let's retain the Cup!**

**Jeff Ellingson, PGA  
Honorary President, Wisconsin PGA**

# **PGA Financial Assistance Fund Scholarship Program Report – 2023 Spring Meeting**

## **How to Apply in 2023-2024**

The PGA Financial Assistance Fund Scholarship application for the 2023-2024 school year became available on Friday, December 9, 2022. You can access the application on PGA.org.

### **Scholarship Eligibility Requirements**

Students must have at least a 3.4 cumulative GPA, be a child or grandchild of a PGA Member in good standing, and who hasn't exceeded the limit of two scholarships during undergraduate studies. Scholarships are not available for graduate students.

### **Evaluation Criteria**

• High school students will be evaluated on the following ranking percentages:

-60% Cumulative GPA---20% Resume---20% Extracurricular Activities\*

• Current college students will be evaluated on the following ranking percentages:

-60% Cumulative GPA---20% Resume---20% Extracurricular Activities\*

Activities include sports, student government, employment, arts, hobbies, and educational clubs.

### **Important Dates**

• December 9, 2022 – Scholarship application is open.

• April 10, 2023 – Deadline for submitting Application and Supporting Documents

• June 2023 - Notification of Selection Results

• July 2023 - Funds Disbursed

• August 2023 - Deadline date for photo submission

November 2023 - PGA Magazine and PGA Magazine digital version will highlight the PGA Financial Assistance Fund Scholarship.

### **About the PGA Financial Assistance Fund**

The PGA Financial Assistance Fund was established in 1986 and provides college scholarships to the children and grandchildren of PGA Members based on evidence of academic achievement during high school or college. All funding for the scholarships comes from contributions made by the PGA Members. Since its inception, the PGA of America has awarded a little over 4,000 scholarships totaling \$8,797,500. For the 2022-23 school year, 185 students were awarded academic scholarships totaling \$400,000.