



Bhrett McCabe Headlines Met PGA Fall Meeting, Special Awards Presentation & Fall Forum at Empire City Casino on October 26th



Our upcoming Fall Meeting & Fall Forum will be at Empire City Casino on Wednesday, Oct. 26th. The Fall Meeting enables the members to celebrate the 2016 season and review the activities of the Section and help set the course for the coming year with the election of officers and the Nominating Committee. In addition we will honor several of our 2016 Metropolitan PGA Special Awards winners at the close of the Fall Meeting including the following: Mike Diffley, Pelham Country Club (Horton Smith Award), Grant Turner, Siwanoy Country Club (Bill Strausbaugh Award), Bill Mackedon, Port Jefferson Country Club (Youth Player Development Award), Kirk Oguri, Greens at Half Hollow (Teacher of the Year), Ben Hoffhine, Wykagyl Country Club (Player Development Award), Paul Glut, Woodside Acres Country Club (Patriot Award), Bruce Zabriski, The Golf Scoreboard Company (Deacon Palmer Award), Sam Wiley, Wee Burn Country Club (Merchandiser-Private), Kevin Smith, Montauk Downs State Park (Merchandiser-Public)

The Fall Forum will feature Dr. Bhrett McCabe, a former pitcher for the LSU Tigers, speaking to us about *The Mindside* and the science behind sports performance and psychology. Dr. McCabe is a Licensed Clinical Psychologist whose academic credentials, professional approach, and understanding of competing in high-pressure environments have served as a foundation for his rapidly growing practice and influence in the field. Dr. McCabe presently works with numerous players from the PGA and LPGA Tours, the developmental tours, serves as the sports and performance psychologist for the University of Alabama Athletic Department, and an NBA basketball team.

Our [proposed slate](#) has been posted and the names of candidates for the 2016-2017 Nominating Committee will be voted upon at the Fall Meeting.

Met PGA Foundation and HOPE Graduation

Among the accolades given at the Fall Meeting will be recognition and thanks to the clubs who have raised significant funds for the Met PGA's Foundation that directs funds to Junior Golf, First Tee, Patriot Golf Day, and Met PGA HOPE. The HOPE program has continued to grow with a spring and fall session this year amassing well over 200 graduates, each receiving a new set of clubs upon completion of the program. The fall class will have their graduation ceremony on Wednesday Oct. 19th at Woodside Club and will include a golf outing alongside Met PGA pros for the graduates. Professionals interested in participating in graduation should contact Kelli Clayton.



National Car Rental Jack Mallon Pro-Am Championship at Rockville Links on Oct. 25th



The sponsorship dollars from National Car Rental and a bonus purse for those registered to join the Emerald Club (at no cost) has truly enhanced this team event. Our Long Island professionals will enjoy Rockville Links Country Club where they will compete with their men's club champions or facility's top male amateurs on Oct. 25th for the National Car Rental Jack Mallon Met PGA Pro-Am Championship. Registration is online. We will also have an opportunity to pay tribute to Mike Turnesa, Jr. who recently announced his retirement after 37 years at the club.

90th Lincoln Met PGA Championship

As the PGA of America and the Metropolitan Section celebrated their 100th birthday we were invited to conduct our championship on the recently restored golf course at Siwanoy Country Club, site of the inaugural PGA Championship 100 years ago. Siwanoy proved to be a great championship test with a premium on shot placement and patience on the greens. Fortunately for the players a half inch of rain the night before round one yielded more manageable firmness and speed, but despite favorable weather only nine players managed to score better than par over 54 holes. Matt Dobyns put the tournament fairly out of reach after a second round 62 and followed that up with the lowest final round (67), cruising to a ten shot victory and back-to-back Met PGA Championships. We are so thankful for our relationship with the Lincoln Motor Company, enabling us to play for a \$100,000 prize purse, and enough cannot be said about the quality of the golf course, and the hospitality of Siwanoy Country Club.



September Tournament Results

In addition to the Met PGA Championship, we crowned our Assistant and Senior champions in September. Somehow the Met PGA Assistant's manage to bring their "A-games" following a busy Labor Day weekend at their jobs. Inwood's Kyle Higgins got his first major Met PGA win after shooting a pair of 67's on Bethpage's Red Course. Higgins will be joined by the following eleven qualifiers for the National Car Rental PGA Assistant Championship: Grant Sturgeon, John Guyton, Peter Ballo, Josh Rackley, Kevin Lisi, Daniel Lee, Ben Polland, Todd Larson, Anthony Aruta, Colin Corrigan, and Matt Noel.

Metropolis Country Club played host to the Empire City Casino Met PGA Senior Championship for the second straight year. Metropolis is another club whose golf course has undergone major changes over the past few years. The playing conditions are impeccable and proved to be a great test for our championship. In his first appearance in the Senior Championship, Carl Alexander made went eagle, birdie on the 34th and 35th holes to extend his lead out of the reach of host pro, Craig Thomas. Darrell Kestner, Mark brown, John Reeves, Bobby Heins and Tom Sutter all earned spots in the PGA Senior Professional Championship along with Carl and Craig.

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Wedged between three individual stroke play championships is the fraternal and fun Senior/Junior tournament. The 27 hole better ball, Pinehurst and scramble formats make for a fun day and a lot of birdies. Paramount Country Club's tandem of Michael Jackmack and Steve Scott fired sixteen under par 92 to top Peter Procops and Pete Ballo by one stroke. Our thanks to Jerry Shulock for his continued support of the event and donation of prizes to bolster the fun of the day.

Fresh Meadow Awaits the Summit Brands 2016 Farley Cup Teams

Like the PGA Tour, there was competition inside the competition as our Lincoln Met PGA Championship at Siwanoy concluded. The OMEGA Player of the Year standings have been updated and the 2016 Farley Cup teams headed to Fresh Meadow on Oct. 20th will include the following: Long Island will be represented by the following leaders among the OMEGA point standings: Matt Dobyons, Mark Brown, Ben Polland, John Guyton, Anthony Aruta, Christopher Marinaro, Paul Dickinson, Josh Rackley, Jason Caron, Kyle Higgins, and senior representatives Darrell Kestner and Bill Van Orman. The Westchester/CT/Upstate squad will be comprised of: Rob Labritz, Brian Gaffney, Grant Sturgeon, Frank Bensel, Steve Scott, James Ondo, Charlie Meola, Greg Bisconti, Kyle Baehler, Anthony Casalino, and seniors Carl Alexander, and David Young. This fraternal yet competitive event continues to honor the memory of our great friend and Tournament Director, John Farley who passed away in 2008.



Rob Labritz Clinches OMEGA Player of the Year Title While Senior Crown and 2016 Match Play Exemptions Are Still Up for Grabs

Wheatley Hills Golf Club plays host to our annual conclusion to the Met PGA Player of the Year race and for the coveted Treiber trophies and the title in this stableford event. Rob Labritz has locked up the Section Player of the Year title while the senior title is still up for grabs. Professionals are also reminded that the point standings are used for the Match Play exemptions for 2017. Qualifying for both the Regular and Senior Divisions (who are not exempt for this Tournament of Champions) will be on Tuesday, Oct. 11th and the championship runs on the 12th – 13th with a cut after each round. Players are reminded that the 54 hole championship will be played over two days, with two rounds played on Thursday October 13th.

Gene Borek Squire Cup Teams Square Off at Fenway

Our congratulations to the assistant professionals who have been selected for the 2016 Gene Borek Squire Cup team. They will compete against a team of their head professional counterparts at Fenway Golf Club on Thursday, Oct. 6th. These matches honor the memory of Gene Borek and his legacy as a leader, player and the ultimate professional. The matches are sponsored by Cutter & Buck and Paul McManus. The Assistants Team will be comprised of the following: **Peter Ballo** (Old Oaks), **Jessica Carafiello** (Innis Arden), **Pete Catanzaro** (Scarsdale), **Dennis Dungee** (Mt. Kisco), **Tyler Jaramillo** (Saint Andrew's), **Isaac Kim** (Garden City CC), **Tyler Lower** (Whippoorwill), **Frankie Martinez** (Patterson), **Kirk Oguri** (The Greens), **Ian Orr** (CC of Darien), **Alex Smith** (Garden City GC), and **Jeff Sullivan** (Fenway). The head professional team includes: **Carl Alexander** (GC of Purchase), **Greg Bisconti** (St. Andrew's), **Mark Brown** (Tam O'Shanter), **Brian Crowell** (Silo Ridge), **Dave Fusco** (Patriot Hills), **Bobby Heins** (Old Oaks), **John Kennedy** (Westchester), **Brian Gaffney** (Quaker Ridge), **James Ondo** (Apawamis), **Steve Scott** (Paramount), **Michael Turnesa** (Rockville Links), **Heath Wassem** (Fenway). Both teams should be very proud of their selection and accomplishments and having the opportunity to celebrate the assistants and the legacy of Gene Borek. It will be a special and memorable event at one of the most special clubs in our Section.

Lincoln Met PGA Pro-Lady Championships Set for Cold Spring and Elmwood

The close of our tournament season is always marked by the Pro-Lady championships on our fall schedule. Lincoln and is our sponsor for both the Oct. 5th Long Island Pro-Lady Championship at Cold Spring CC and Oct. 25th Westchester Pro Lady at Elmwood. Both events will be morning shotgun events with a modified Pinehurst format that pair our professionals with their women's champion or top lady amateur from the club. Spots are still available, please visit the web site or call the office to sign up.

Atlantic City Pro-Am Field is Filling

We are closing in on a full field but can still take a few more teams for our Atlantic City Pro-Am event on Oct. 17th – 18th at Galloway National and Hidden Creek while the hotel and gaming competition will be at The Water Club at the Borgata.

Assistants Association Prepares for Officers Elections at Fall Meeting on Oct. 24th

The Assistants Association puts a wrap on their season with the closing Assistant-Assistant tournament and their Fall Meeting on Monday, Oct. 24th at Innis Arden GC. The Fall Meeting includes an election of the Assistants Association officers and the presentation of the Gil McNally (most improved player) Award and Stroke Average Award. Please check the Assistants Association page for updates on the venue as well as more details on the election and the team event.

Congratulations to New PGA Members

We welcome our four newest additions to the Met Section roster. Newly elected PGA members include Joseph Buongiorno, A-8 to Jack Druga at Shinnecock Hills, Anthony DelDotto, A-8 with Grant Turner at Siwanoy, Joseph Doughty, A-8 under Brian Gaffney at Quaker Ridge, Kevin Lisi, A-8 for Bob Miller at Bergen Point, Stephen Sanderson, A-8 to Jim Morris at National Golf Links, and Tanner Stuart, A-8 to Mike Acerra at Plandome

CPP Certification

Congratulations to Andy Crane head professional at West Point GC for finishing his fourth and final Certified Professional Program in Golf Operations. Andy's the first professional to complete the grand slam in under one year's time. Great job Andy!

How are You with the Rules?

PGA Professionals are generally expected to be the Rules experts at their club or course but more often than not, they are not prepared for that role and the stress of issues that arise at their course in events. There may be no better investment in the business than attending a PGA/USGA Rules Workshop. Check out the [2017 schedule](#).

Sales Reps on the Move

Ryan Barton is moving to the Met Section as the new sales representative for Taylor Made. Ryan's previous territory was New Mexico/W. Texas. We welcome Ryan, his wife Melody and their soon to be new born baby to the area.

For Sale

Club Champion Model Indoor/Outdoor Putting Green. Specs: Total Square Feet 40' (4"x10'), longest putt 9', 2 cups, 2 poles, stimps @ 10.5, it's an awesome smooth roll!! Perfect model for golf shop, office, home, convention and events. A money maker as well!! Like new condition New \$799-Best offer, email: golfersww@aol.com

Propourri

Former Met Section member, Mike Melton of the South Florida Section has notified us about a new tournament, The St. Lucie Open. [Click here for flyer.](#)

US Kids Certification Seminar Schedule is now available. To register or for more info [click here](#).

St. John's Golf is having their annual golf classic in October. [Click here for flyer.](#)

PGA Updates

The 2016 PGA Tournament Series presented by GolfAdvisor will start to accept entries on Oct. 19th. Event schedule begins on Nov. 28th and 29th and continues until Dec. 15th and 16th with six two day events in all at the PGA Golf Club.

For those changing their address or Section affiliation as the off-season approaches, make sure that you use the PGA online change forms.

PGA LEAD was developed by the Diversity & Inclusion Committee as a strategy to identify, mentor and progress PGA members who aspire to lead, along a guided path into leadership roles at the Chapter, Section and National levels. While the program is focused on driving a diverse demographic of participants – gender, age, race/color, national origin/ancestry, sexual orientation, disability, and veteran status, the program is open to all PGA members. [Click here for more about PGA LEAD.](#)

The PGA Credit Union (IBMSECU) has 2-year certificates offering 1.24 apy and they also have rates as low as 3% for home equity lines of credit and special rates for auto loans. Call (800) 873-5100 for more details,

Employment – [Click here](#)

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