



## Four Events Remain on 2017 Met PGA Winter Education Series Schedule

Our Winter Education Series has been a success thus far with an average of over 30 attendees for our first three programs. PGA Members will receive 2 MSR credits in education when they attend any Met PGA Winter Education Series program. We do ask that everyone [register for the programs](#) in advance, as there are often space limitations or changes in schedules that can only be communicated effectively to those who are pre-registered. The remainder of the schedule is below:

Feb 9	After the PGA Show Forum	GC of Purchase
Feb 16	Club Fitting For All	North Shore CC
Mar 2	Merchandising...It's More Than You Think	Fenway GC
Mar 9	Get Your Game On At Any Level	TBA

## Partners and Sponsors Are Center Stage at the PGA Show – Short Game Challenge Results

We had some good feedback from our Partners and Sponsors at the PGA Show and will be looking forward to using our March and April Newsletters to promote the many companies from the golf industry who continue to support the Met PGA and support our professionals. Thanks to all of our members who took the time to say thank you and extend their appreciation to our 2016 Partners and Sponsors at the PGA Show. The Metropolitan Section won a daily prize on Friday when the PGA Short Game Challenge was located at Taylor Made. Congratulations and thanks to the members who helped the section finish T-3 and take home \$250!

## PGA Financial Assistance Fund Scholarship Program Deadline Approaching

If you have a senior in high school or a college student and he or she has a grade point average of 3.4 or higher, please make sure you look into the PGA Financial Assistance Fund for their eligibility for a 2017 scholarship. With many college students home at this time of year, and with high school seniors in the midst of their college application process, this is an ideal time to go onto [PGA.org](http://PGA.org) and submit the application for consideration. In addition to the application, you will need to provide the student's social security number, their parent or grandparent's PGA ID number, transcripts, standardized test scores, and Student Aid Report.

Applications must be submitted by March 1<sup>st</sup> and all supporting documentation must be received at PGA HQ no later than March 18<sup>th</sup>. Additional information to assist parents or grandparents with the scholarship program process is available [here](#).

## PGA's Winter Activities Feature Senior Events – Leaderboards Again Packed with Met Section Names

The [PGA Winter Championships](#) have moved through January with the completion of the Quarter Century Championship, the Senior Stroke Play and the Senior-Junior Championship. Events are presented again this year by Premier Golf and GOLFADVISOR.

In the Quarter Century Championship six Met PGA Members were able to cash a check in the first event of the Winter Championships. Pelham's Mike Diffley (T-6<sup>th</sup>), Dan Tzivanis of Rolling Hills (9<sup>th</sup>), and Charlie Bolling (T-12<sup>th</sup>) were in the money in Group 2. Bobby Heins of Old Oaks finished T-4<sup>th</sup> in Group 4. Tom Joyce was 3<sup>rd</sup> in Group 6, and Bob Joyce won Group 7 as well as being crowned Half Century Champion!

In the Senior Stroke Play, eight Met PGA members enjoyed prize money. Metropolis' Craig Thomas (T-2<sup>nd</sup>), Tam O'Shanter's Mark Brown (T-3<sup>rd</sup>), and Carl Alexander from GC of Purchase (T-12<sup>th</sup>) were among the leaders in Group 1 (50-54). Group 2 saw Shinnecock Hills' Jack Druga and Birchwood's Kammy Maxfeldt (both T-17<sup>th</sup>) at the payout window. Bobby Heins of Old Oaks (2<sup>nd</sup>) was among the winners in Group 4 while Tom Joyce finished T-1<sup>st</sup> in Group 6, and brother Bob Joyce was 2<sup>nd</sup> in Group 7.

The Senior-Junior Championship was again dominated by the Met Section with Tam O'Shanter's Mark Brown and Fresh Meadow's Matt Dobyns separating themselves from the field, closing with rounds of 63 & 62, to win by three shots. Including the champions, there were 14 players who made the 54-hole cut to finish in the money. 2016 champions Lonny Nielsen and Brown's assistant, Josh Rackley, finished T-2<sup>nd</sup> at -29. Peter Serafimoff from Millbrook G&TC teamed with Jeff Sorenson in their T-6<sup>th</sup> effort. Matching them was the Metropolis CC tandem of Craig Thomas and Brice Busse. Three time champions Kevin Morris and Century CC's Frank Bensel came in at T-9<sup>th</sup> in a week that included a round of 60! Piping Rock's Nick Beddow and Jay Horton cruised their way to T-17<sup>th</sup>. David Young of Sleepy Hollow and partner David Damesworth were nineteen under par (T-27<sup>th</sup>), one better than the teams of Dan Tzivanis of Rolling Hills and Pete Catanzaro of Scarsdale, and Pat Eggeling of Old Oaks and Bob Rittberger of Garden City GC (both T-33<sup>rd</sup>). Rounding out the Met Section money winners was Shaun Powers of Fairview, partnered with Bruze Zabriski.

## Tournament Schedule Posted – But Be Aware – It is Tentative

The [2017 schedule](#) has been posted but PLEASE – realize that this is subject to change and revisions so while we offer it to help you with your facility planning, just make sure you keep checking for updates and realize that changes are inevitable and anticipated.

## New PGA Members

Congratulations to the following newly elected PGA members:

- Maren Crowley, A-8 with Jim Smoot at Huntington Country Club
- Kevin Guameri, A-8 with Steve Scott at Paramount Country Club
- Bobby Roberts, A-8 with Theron Harvey at Hudson National Golf Club
- Zachary Wood, A-8 with Mike Laganza at Shorehaven Golf Club

## Five Met PGA Members Achieve Membership Benchmarks

Congratulations to Tom Avezzano, Head Professional at Sprain Lake, Mal Galletta, Life Member, Loring Hawkins, Life Member, and James Hundertmark, Life Member on earning Half Century Status—having completed 50 years of membership and service to the PGA of America and the game of golf. Michael Breed, Director of the Michael Breed Golf Academy has joined the Quarter Century ranks. Thanks to all of these professionals on their dedication to the Professionals Golfers Association.

## Upcoming Equipment Manufacturer Education Events

Our friends at a number of equipment companies have advised us of upcoming spring product awareness events. Below are some of the dates, please look for further information in the March Newsletter.

Taylor Made	Monday, March 27	Old Oaks
Callaway	Tuesday, March 28	Tam O'Shanter
Cobra/Puma	Early April	TBA
Titleist	TBA	TBA

## North Coast Golf Show

The North Coast Golf Show is coming to Long Island in March. They have contacted the Metropolitan PGA for involvement, which will consist primarily of free “10-minute lessons” with a PGA pro and the opportunity to demo equipment that they will provide. The show takes place on March 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> at Suffolk Community College. We are in need of volunteers, and hope that an opportunity to promote business will be beneficial to a number of teaching professionals. Please contact Kaitlin ([ksabbagh@pgahq.com](mailto:ksabbagh@pgahq.com)) with questions or if you'd like to participate.

## Take the Opportunity to Certify With US Kids Golf

US Kids Golf will be conducting a coaches' certification class at Patterson on April 25<sup>th</sup>. [Click here](#) for information and online registration.

## New Addition to the Ausserlechner Family

Kara Rose Ausserlechner was born on 1/14/17 at 12:12pm a healthy 7lbs 6oz. Kevin's wife Kerri is doing great and sister Kaylee (7), and brother Kaden (4) are excited to welcome her home.

## Condolences

We send our deepest sympathies to the family and friends of Michael Krak, who passed away in Palm Beach, FL at the end of January. Mike was a successful head professional at Middle Bay before moving to Wee Burn. A leader in the Met Section, he served as Tournament Chairman and on the Board of Directors. Mike won the Met PGA Championship in 1966 & 1968.

## John Kennedy Golf Professional Coaching

John Kennedy is offering his expertise and assistance to Met PGA professionals in the areas of: business planning, contract review, staff management, and others. He has availability for up to four professionals this year. Contact john at [jkcomein@yahoo.com](mailto:jkcomein@yahoo.com) for fee and availability.

## Inspire Your Members with The Dennis Walters Golf Show

Dennis Walters will be spending the month of July in the Met Section and still has a few openings for engagements to deliver his most powerful and impactful presentation. Please contact Dennis if you are interested in information or scheduling an appearance (954-232-5410).

## Propouuri

John McPhee has extended an invitation to any Met PGA professional and up to three of his/her members to the Palms Club in LaQuinta, CA at a reduced rate. Please contact John for information and to make arrangements at [jmcphee711@aol.com](mailto:jmcphee711@aol.com) or 914-720-8836.

Now is the time to take the game indoors at Fenom in Harrison. They have a beautiful space to teach or practice with our Full Swing E6 Simulator. Please call Fenom for pricing and availability at 914-732-3000 or email Sara Richman at [sara@fenomfit.com](mailto:sara@fenomfit.com)

Being able to attend the Masters free of charge is one of the great benefits of PGA membership. Champions Retreat is enhancing that benefit for you and your members. When you book a tee time with 3 of your members during Masters Week you will receive a \$400 bonus! We know the importance of traveling with your membership and now, in addition to attending the Masters, you can entertain them with exceptional golf at Champions Retreat. Available tee times sell out quickly so don't delay in making your reservation. Please contact Mike Rymer, PGA Director of Golf at [mike@championsretreat.net](mailto:mike@championsretreat.net) or call 706-854-6964. Thank you.

## PGA of America's Tee Time Coalition

The PGA of America has launched a Tee Time Coalition to help members take a deeper dive into tee time patterns and yield management. They will be launching the following five online courses for all PGA Professionals through PGA.org in mid-February:

- Intro to Golf Course Revenue Management
- Forecasting and Booking Patterns
- Differential Pricing and Segmentation
- Distribution Channel Management
- Strategic Management and Competitive Analysis

## DCP Registration is Open

The PGA announced the opening of [registration](#) for the 2017 Drive, Chip & Putt Qualifying to compete in the 2018 Finals at Augusta National right before The Masters. Now in its 5<sup>th</sup> year, this exciting competition is open to boys and girls ages 7 – 15 (as of April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018). Please note that the Met Section qualifiers will be held at several locations before advancing to the subregionals. Remember, however, that those who advance past the subregional will be assigned to the Regional Finals based on their qualifying site, not necessarily the closest or most convenient Regional location.

## PGA Junior League

PGA Junior League has taken off and in just four years, the Met Section has gone from 4 teams to over 100 this past year. We anticipate that our League will grow again in 2017 as more clubs and courses have enrolled and many facilities are now fielding multiple teams. Don't miss out on this opportunity for your juniors – it has been a home run for professionals, for facilities, for parents and most importantly for the kids.

## Deadline for Completion of PGA Compensation Survey is March 31<sup>st</sup>

Now is the time to **complete the 2016 PGA Golf Professional Compensation Survey**. Your participation ensures that our Section's compensation information is valid and meaningful. Members can receive up to two MSR credits by completing the survey by the deadline. **MSR credit is now automatically applied** upon completion of the survey with a summary of their responses available for their records. In an effort to continuously improve the survey experience for our members, we have also **streamlined many areas**. Ideally, this will direct you to only answer questions that are relevant to your position. The survey can be accessed [here](#).

To help prepare Members, and for review prior to completing the survey online, **there is now a downloadable version** of the survey on the Compensation landing page. As a reminder, **all survey responses are treated confidentially** with results being reported only if there are five or more responses. To ensure confidentiality, results continue to be shared in an aggregated format and not by individual.

## PGA News and Notes

[PGA Junior League Golf registration](#) is up and running. Get a head start on the 2017 Junior League season.

Check out the rates from the PGA's credit union – [IBMSECU.org](http://IBMSECU.org).

PGA Trade-In Network allows you to get top values for 2016 models with bonus values of 30% or more.

## Employment Update – [Click Here](#)

*Please remember to check the dedicated “[Employment Listing](#)” section of the web site as new opportunities are posted as soon as we are notified. A number of positions have been posted in the past few weeks. The employment listing is found under “Important Links,” just below the “Latest News” section.*

Trump National GC (Westchester) will be accepting resumes for a Head Golf Professional very soon. Please pay attention to the employment section for an update very early in February.

Pleasantville Country Club has announced that Sharon McQuillan has accepted the Head Golf Professional position. Sharon brings former head professional experience, teaching acumen, and local knowledge to PCC, who we wish all the best in the upcoming season.

Congratulations to Fred Gipp, on his retirement after over 42 years of running the golf operation and pro shop at West Sayville Golf Course! As Fred steps aside, he is the longest tenured Met PGA professional and leaved the Town of West Sayville and Suffolk County Parks in the capable hands of his longtime assistant Robert Callioras. We wish Fred all the best as he enjoys his home at PGA Village, and some time to actually play golf!

Best wishes to former Winged Foot assistant and Met PGA Player of the Year Grant Sturgeon. Grant recently accepted the Head Professional position at Arcola CC in New Jersey. Everyone in the section will miss Grant, except the players that were trying to beat him!

Redding CC assistant Jim St. Pierre has informed us about his appointment to the head professional position at Newtown CC in Connecticut. Jim and Sam Olson had been a formidable tandem at Redding for a number of seasons, and Sam will have his work cut out in replacing him.

## Club Association

Apawamis Club  
Aspetuck Valley CC  
Atlantic GC  
Beekman CC  
Bethpage State Park GC  
Birchwood CC  
Bonnie Briar CC  
Brae Burn CC  
Bridge, The  
Brooklawn CC  
Brookville CC  
Burning Tree CC  
Centennial GC  
Cherry Valley Club  
Cold Spring CC  
Creek, The  
Darien, CC of  
Deepdale GC  
Doral GC  
East Hampton GC  
Elmwood CC  
Fairfield, CC Of  
Fairview CC  
Fenway GC  
Friar's Head  
Garden City GC  
Gardiners Bay CC  
Garrison GC  
Glen Cove GC  
Glen Head CC  
Glen Oaks Club  
Glenarbor GC  
Golf & Body NYC  
Greenwich CC  
Griffith E. Harris GC & Range  
Hampton Hills G & CC  
Hempstead G & CC  
Hollow Brook GC  
Hudson National GC  
Huntington CC  
Huntington Crescent Club  
Innis Arden GC  
Inwood CC  
Lake Isle CC  
Laurel Links CC  
Leewood GC  
Lido GC  
Long Island National GC  
Mahopac GC  
Maidstone Club  
Mansion Ridge, The Golf Club  
McCann Memorial GC  
Meadow Brook Club  
Merrick Road Park GC  
Metropolis CC  
Middle Bay, Golf Club At  
Milbrook Club  
Mill River Club, Inc.  
Mount Kisco CC  
Muttontown Club, The  
Nassau CC  
National GL of America  
New Canaan, CC Of  
Nissequogue GC  
North Fork CC  
North Hempstead CC  
North Hills CC  
North Shore CC  
Noyac GC  
Oak Hills Park GC  
Old Oaks CC  
Old Westbury G & CC  
Paramount CC  
Patterson Club, The  
Pelham CC  
Pine Hollow CC  
Pine Ridge GC  
Piping Rock Club  
Port Jefferson CC  
Purchase, The GC of  
Quaker Hill CC  
Quaker Ridge GC  
Quogue Field Club  
Redding CC  
Rockaway Hunting Club  
Rockland Lake State Pk GC  
Rockrimmon CC  
Rockville Links CC  
Rolling Hills CC  
Round Hill Club  
Saint Andrew's GC, The  
Salem GC  
Sands Point GC  
Scarsdale GC  
Shinnecock Hills GC  
Shorehaven GC  
Silver Spring CC  
Silvermine GC  
Siwanoy CC  
Sleepy Hollow CC  
South Fork CC  
St. George's G & CC  
Stanwich Club, The  
Sunningdale CC  
Tall Grass GC  
Tam O'Shanter Club  
Tamarack CC  
Towers CC  
Tuxedo Club, The  
Village Club Of Sands Point  
Waccabuc CC  
Wee Burn CC  
West Hills CC  
Westhampton CC  
Wheatley Hills GC  
Willow Ridge CC  
Woodmere Club, Inc.  
Woodway CC  
Wykagyl CC

## Thank you 2016 Partners & Sponsors

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