



## PGA of America and USGA Making Significant Changes

A number of announcements regarding the future of golf tournaments were made on March 1<sup>st</sup>. The PGA of America announced that players would be allowed to wear shorts during practice rounds of its major events, including: the PGA Championship, Senior PGA Championship, PGA Professional Championship, and the Assistant PGA Professional Championship.

The USGA announced a number of proposed changes to the Rules of Golf. As part of an initiative to modernize the Rules and make them easier to apply, the USGA and R&A have opened a six month feedback and evaluation period before the changes are finalized in 2018 and take effect at the beginning of 2019. The general goals of the changes are to help make the Rules easier to understand, more consistent, and more fair.

More detail on each of these announcements is available at [met.pga.com](http://met.pga.com).

## Spring Meeting Moves to Long Island—Old Westbury to Host on March 29<sup>th</sup>

We've reacted to the recent relocation of the Met PGA Fall Meeting to Empire Casino in Yonkers by taking the Spring Meeting to Old Westbury G&CC. This move ends a 7-year run at Wykagyl, and we could not be more thankful for their hospitality over that stretch. Our fingers are crossed that March and April are as mild as February was, and we remain optimistic plans for the opportunity to include golf along with our Spring Meeting and annual salute to our Sponsors and Partners. Prior to the start of the business meeting that morning, we will welcome our Partners and Sponsors to help greet our attending professionals during the registration and continental breakfast. After introducing our supporters, we then turn to the business reports up until lunch. Weather and course conditions permitting, there will be an early afternoon shotgun followed by a closing awards reception as the official opening of our 2017 season. We encourage as many as possible to play golf, and expect to accommodate all interested thanks to Old Westbury's 27-hole layout.

Since the Ely Callaway Award, Woman Player of the Year, and Senior Player of the Year awards are finalized after the previous Fall Meeting, they are also on the agenda for the Spring Meeting. The Ely Callaway Award recognizes a Met PGA Professional for his or her dedication to education, service and involvement. The award will be presented to Andy Crane, head professional at West Point GC, amassed an amazing 342 MSR credits in 2016 and completed his CPP accreditation in all four disciplines of General Management, Golf Operations, Teaching & Coaching, and Player Development. Jessica Carafiello's road to the Woman Player of the Year Award was highlighted by a win in the Women's Stroke Play and a 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish in the Women's Met Open. Carl Alexander burst onto the scene in the Senior circuit, winning the Met PGA Senior Championship and Treiber Memorial on route to earning the Senior Player of the Year Award.

Professionals are reminded that attendance at the Spring Meeting provides 3 MSR Credits in the required meeting category.

## Phil Kenyon and Mike Bentley Headline 55th Annual Met PGA Spring Educational Forum on April 11th

The Met PGA's Annual Spring Educational Forum has a long history of attracting cutting edge presenters to our kickoff event, and we are excited to continue that tradition at The Westchester Dinner Theatre on Tuesday April 11<sup>th</sup>. Phil Kenyon, PGA Professional, is the principal owner of Harold Swash Putting Ltd and a sought after 'specialist putting coach' that has worked with many of the world leading players. Before developing a career as a coach Phil was a professional golfer that competed worldwide as a tournament professional. Prior to his career in professional golf Phil completed a Master's Degree in Sport Science. Phil's background in sports science brings a cutting edge to the putting school which combined with his experiences as both player and coach have been paramount to his success. His past and present students include: Rory McIlroy, Henrik Stenson, Justin Rose, Lee Westwood, Louis Oosthuizen, Martin Kaymer, Thomas Bjorn, and Darren Clarke.

Always on the cutting edge of technology development, Mike Bentley has helped develop some of the industry's most innovative motion capture and analysis systems including K-VEST, Fujikura's ENSO and the Leadbetter Putting System. Bentley pioneered an objective teaching system that analyzes 3D motion and ground reaction forces to evaluate movement patterns. The analysis yields customized training programs and tools for the physical, technical, mechanical, and tactical components of the game. Michael is considered an industry expert in 3D motion capture technologies and analysis. His extensive research and expertise spans Inertial, Electromagnetic and Optical technologies. Michael draws on his extensive golf experience as a former tour player competing throughout Asia, Australia, and the United States. Michael has worked with many of today's top 100 instructors and has directed world ranked PGA, EPGA, SPGA, & LPGA Tour players. Throughout his career, Michael has worked closely with leading specialists in human motion including Physicists, NASA Scientists, Biomechanists, Athletic Trainers, Physical Therapists, Sports Optometrist, Podiatrists, and Strength & Conditioning Coaches.

Six (6) MSR Credits will be awarded in the required category. Registration will open on March 1st for the Spring Forum.

## Spring Forum Ceremonies to Honor Charlie Robson as Sam Snead Award Recipient along with 2016 Met PGA Professional of the Year Brad Worthington and OMEGA Player of the Year Rob Labritz

Two Met PGA professionals will be recognized with the association's top honors on Tuesday April 11<sup>th</sup> at the Westchester Dinner Theatre. Longtime leader of the Met PGA, Brad Worthington will be celebrated as the 2016 Professional of the Year. A former Winged Foot assistant, Brad's integral role in the opening of Atlantic, and his twenty year tenure at Brooklawn define his storied career. His passion for the association and dedication to service has been second to none. We will also celebrate Rob Labritz as he receives his membership into the very elite group of players earning his third Met PGA Player of the Year Award, and the OMEGA timepiece that comes with it. Last, and certainly not least, the Met PGA will finally have a public opportunity to recognize, honor, and pay tribute to the person who has had the absolute most impact on our association when we present Charles Robson with the 2016 Sam Snead Award. This special presentation promises to be a wonderful finale to an educational and inspirational day.

## Assistants Spring Meeting and Opening Tournament at Whippoorwill Country Club on April 10<sup>th</sup>—Board Openings Expected

Our opening meeting and tournament for our Assistants Association will take place on Monday, April 10th at Whippoorwill Country Club. The annual gathering provides a great opportunity to meet new additions to the Section and share plans for the upcoming season. The meeting will be under the leadership of the Assistants Officers Board consisting of President, Tyler Jaramillo (Saint Andrew's Golf Club), Alex Smith (Garden City Golf Club), Frankie Martinez (Patterson Club). Based on some recent employment changes, we expect at least one and possibly two Board vacancies that will be elected during the meeting. Anyone interested in running for a Board position should contact Kevin Rodine ([krodine@pgahq.com](mailto:krodine@pgahq.com)) for application materials. Our 2017 Spring Tournament will again be an individual stroke play event. PGA Members are also reminded that attending this meeting does provide for 2 MSR Meeting Credits. Registration for the Assistants Spring Meeting and the Assistant Playing Privileges will begin on March 1st. Tournament registration will be limited to 108 players and playing privilege fees must be paid in order to sign-up (Playing privilege fees can be paid as of March 1st).

## 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. In that same vein, we are **still in need of Tournament Sites**. If you can help or if your facility has not hosted a Met PGA event of any kind in a while, please contact Dan Kiley or Dan Frankel at the Met PGA Office.

## 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 by clicking the following [link](#). 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.

## Race for the Lease Returns with 2017 Lincoln Pro-Am Series

The two year race for the lease gets continues in 2017! While Peter Cowan of North Fork Country Club is enjoying driving in “American Luxury”, we are excited for year two of the second iteration of the program and the opportunity to award a Lincoln vehicle to another Met PGA member at the end of this season. The Race for the Lease is a participation based point system, where a PGA Professional from the club with the highest level of Pro Am participation, will earn a two year lease on a Lincoln. Check the web site for our nearly completed Pro Am Series schedule and encourage your members to get away and play. In addition to the Lincoln Motor Company, we are so appreciative of the continued support of Presenting Sponsors: Mohegan Sun, MasterCard and Anheuser-Busch. Additionally, Pro-Am winners will again be invited into the Tournament of Champions at Mohegan Sun vying against our counterparts from New England in the Stripes vs. Sox Pro-Am in October. We will have more details on all of these changes on the web site and in our April Newsletter and Spring Meeting packets.

## TaylorMade/Adidas/Ashworth/Adams Golf Met PGA Pro-Assistants on April 17th

Some 400 professionals will gather at our two Pro-Assistants venues on Monday, April 17th for the TaylorMade adidas Golf events at Hamlet CC on Long Island and Westchester Hills for Westchester/CT/Upstate. Both events will offer double shotguns to allow for our PGA Member head professionals to compete with their professional staff. Unfortunately the size of these fields does not allow for staff members who are not professionals to compete. Registration for the Pro-Assistants will begin on March 1st.

## OMEGA Player of the Year Race Opens with MasterCard Match Play Championships

The first point events of the spring will be at the Match Play Championships conducted at Seawane on Long Island and at Woodway for the Westchester/CT contingent. The MasterCard LPGA and MasterCard Westchester PGA qualifyings will be on Monday, April 24th and they will also serve as the qualifying rounds for the Senior Match Play Championship at Engineers on May 8-10. Details on the format, schedule, exemption policies, and the point system for qualifiers and other event information will be included on the web site and in the registration link. Registration will open on March 1st.

## Jason Caron Wins PGA Stroke Play – Fourball Stableford Event a Success

Rob Corcoran of Poxabogue Golf Center partnered with Rich Berberian of the New England Section to win the new fourball stableford event. The format, which rewards birdies and eagles, was very well received, fun for the players and attracted a large field. Other Met Section Professionals with top finishes were Matt Noel (Huntington) & Nick Beddow (NJ PGA) at T6, Matt Sita (Nassau) & Anthony Aruta (North Shore) at 8<sup>th</sup>, Frank Bensel (Century) & Richard Terga (SF PGA) at T12, Craig Thomas (Metropolis) & Jessica Carafiello (Innis Arden) at T18, Sean Quinlivan (Piping Rock) & Jason Caron (Mill River) at T22, and Charlie Meola (Saxon Woods) & Shaun Powers (Fairview) at T30.

Jason Caron played tremendously, out-birdieing the field for a two shot victory at the Met PGA Stroke Play. The Mill River head professional led a group of 20 Met PGA players making the 36 hole cut. Ben Polland of Deepdale (5<sup>th</sup>), Charlie Meola of Saxon Woods was (T7), and Paramount's Steve Scott finished (10<sup>th</sup>) all notched top 10 finishes. Others making the cut and cashing checks were: Rob Labritz of GlenArbor (11), Rob Corcoran of Poxabogue (T12), Josh Rackley of Tam O'Shanter (T15), Frank Bensel of Century (T22), Anthony Aruta of North Shore (T32), Shaun Powers of Fairview (T32), Matt Sita of Nassau (T35), Pete Catanzaro of Sacarsdale (T39<sup>th</sup>), Sean Quinlivan of Piping Rock (T39<sup>th</sup>), Daniel Lee of Deepdale (T44), Kyle Higgins of Inwood (T47), Ryan Kalista of Tamarack (T49), Caleb Wilson of Fresh Meadow (T51), Colin Corrigan of Friar's Head (T55), Matt Noel of Huntington (T67), Nick Iacono of Elmwood (T70). In the Women's Stroke Play event, Century's CJ Reeves finished T12 and Stanwich assistant Michelle Winkler also cashed a check at T14. This year's Winter Championships were presented by GOLFADVISOR and PrimeSport.

## District 2 Teaching & Coaching Summit

On Tuesday April 25<sup>th</sup> from 8:00-5:00, the Metropolitan Section will join New Jersey and Philly for a District 2 Teaching & Coaching Summit. The first ever of its kind, this event will be hosted by the NJPGA and Fiddler's Elbow—however each section will accept their own registrations. For more information and to register, visit [met.pga.com](http://met.pga.com).

## Three 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 each program. 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:

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Mar 2	Merchandising...It's More Than You Think	Leewood
Mar 9	Get Your Game On At Any Level	Fresh Meadow
Mar 15	PGA Show Recap	GC of Purchase

On March 22nd we join with the MGA in offering our 30th Annual Rules of Golf Seminar at Brae Burn Country Club. The seminar will be from 9 am to 1 pm and include lunch. Pre-registrants pay \$45.00 and those who do not pre-register and pay at the door pay \$60.00. Registration will be taken online at [mgagolf.org](http://mgagolf.org)

## Nick Iacono Gains Certification

Congratulations to Nick Iacono of Elmwood Country Club who is our newest addition to the ranks of Certified Professional. Nick recently completed the requirements for Certification in Teaching & Coaching. We salute both Nick on his willingness to dedicate hard work to elevate themselves in the profession through these PGA Membership opportunities.

## Upcoming Equipment Manufacturer Education Events

Our friends at a number of equipment companies have advised us of upcoming spring product awareness events. Below are dates where PGA Members can earn MSR in the required category.

Taylor Made	Monday March 27 <sup>th</sup>	Old Oaks
Callaway	Tuesday March 28 <sup>th</sup>	Tam O'Shanter
Titleist	Tuesday April 4 <sup>th</sup>	TBA
Cobra/Puma	Wednesday April 5 <sup>th</sup>	TBA

## John Hobbins to Represent BLAST Motion

Blast Motion has announced that it has reached agreement with Met PGA member John Hobbins to be their brand representative here in the Northeast region. Through this agreement John will conduct educational seminars for professional staffs and golf clubs interested in learning the usage of BLAST's motion sensor technology, Blast Golf 360. In addition John will conduct Putting Performance Seminars featuring the usage of Blast Golf 360. John will also be responsible for the distribution of Blast Motion for resale in golf clubs. If you are interested in obtaining more information or opening an account you may contact John at [jdobbins@greensidegolfacademy.com](mailto:jdobbins@greensidegolfacademy.com) or through his mobile phone at 914-646-5882.



## US Kids and MGA Offer Additional Educational Opportunities

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

The Metropolitan Golf Association's Spring Educational Programs include: the annual Green Chairman event, Handicap and Rules Seminars, and Caddie Academies. Visit [mgagolf.org](http://mgagolf.org) for more.

## Arizona State University Research Survey

We have been asked by a group of undergraduate Marketing students at Arizona State University to administer a brief market research survey aimed at measuring brand awareness and affinity of different golf club brands. Regardless of your level of familiarity with golf brands, your participation and personal feedback is greatly valued. The survey should take about 5 minutes to complete and is completely anonymous. They ask for the survey to be completed by March 12, 2017. [Click here](#) to participate in the survey!

## Met PGA Junior Tour Membership is Open

Registrations are being accepted for the Met PGA's Junior Tour. Please remind your members and students of these opportunities to play our areas courses, compete with their peers, learn about etiquette, and have FUN.

## 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 qualifyings 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 last 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.

## New PGA Members

Congratulations to the following newly elected PGA members:

- Joseph Batdorf, A-19 with Greg Norman Collection
- Richard Justus, A-8 with Jack Druga at Shinnecock Hills
- Luke Reilly, A-6 at GolfTEC-Carle Place

## 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 [kcomein@yahoo.com](mailto:kcomein@yahoo.com) for fee and availability.

## Inspire Your Members with The Dennis Walters Golf Show

Dennis Walters will be spending the month of July at in the Met Section and still has a few opening 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).

## Golf Art Collection and Range Balls For Sale

Tom Lupinacci is offering a \$20,000 Commission to any PGA Professional who might find him a client for his Antique Golf Collection. Please review Tom's Website [Timelessgolfantiques.com](http://Timelessgolfantiques.com). Tom also has used white striped Range Balls for Sale and High quality Used Golf Balls for re-sale—AND hit away balls for .15ea. There is free delivery in Long Island or Westchester for orders of 3000 balls or more! Tom is looking to purchase used Yellow Range balls! Tom can be reached at 904-233-1023



## Propouuri

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.

Baltusrol Golf Club is hosting two seminars with The Golf Lab's Certified Engineer, Liam Mucklow. The events (April 3-4 and April 5-6) are designed to help participants gain a deeper understanding of common measurement devices that gauge: video, launch monitors, force, and pressure. Please contact Jason Carbone ([jcarbone@baltusrol.org](mailto:jcarbone@baltusrol.org)) for more info or to get registered. These programs have been approved for 16 MSR.

## 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.

Complimentary access to the Masters is available only to PGA Members, Life Members and Master Professional Members (not apprentices and not spouses or family)

Check out [PGA.org](http://PGA.org) for a complete list of member benefits offered through the PGA's licensees and partners

## 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 changes have been posted in the past few weeks.*

We are pleased to announce that Trump National Golf Club in Briarcliff has selected Chris Marinaro as their new head professional.

The Muttontown Club has provided us with a job description that can be found in the Employment Listing.

Congratulations to Brian Crowell who has been elevated to General Manager at Silo Ridge Field Club and to Justin Marano who has been named their new head professional.

## 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 2017 Partners & Sponsors

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