



Journal News Golf Show is March 12th & 13th at Westchester Marriott in Tarrytown

The Journal News Golf Show is back after a one year hiatus. This year's Show will be held on March 12 and 13 at the Westchester Marriott in Tarrytown, NY. We are excited to see the return of this promotional event that will have more of a focus on golf and instruction. The Show will run from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday. [Click here](#) for more information and advance ticket sales. Many of our Met Section professionals are already lined up for special presentations on the main stage, but we are also looking volunteers from the Section to provide free lessons to attendees throughout the show. Two (2) MSR Credits will be awarded in the total category. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Kate Keller, Show Manager, at 914-564-3214 or katekellergolf@gmail.com.

Butch Harmon Headlines 54th Annual Met PGA Spring Educational Forum on April 12th

Part of the start of our Centennial Celebration will feature a very special event as we are excited and proud to be featuring one of the most renowned instructors in the country at this year's Spring Forum at the Westchester Dinner Theatre on Tuesday, April 12th. Butch Harmon, best known for his work with Tiger Woods, Phil Mickelson and most recently, Rickie Fowler, will highlight the program. With the special opportunity to bring Butch to the Section, there will be a presentation in addition to what we believe will be an entertaining and enlightening fireside chat. 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 John Kennedy as Sam Snead Award Recipient along with 2015 Met PGA Professional of the Year Nelson Long and OMEGA Player of the Year Matt Dobyns

Three professionals who have truly left their mark on the Metropolitan PGA will be honored during the annual Awards Ceremony at our Spring Forum on April 12th at the Westchester Dinner Theatre. Nelson Long of Century will be celebrated as our 2015 Metropolitan PGA Professional of the Year. Nelson, a 2010 PGA of America Bill Strausbaugh Award winner who has also been honored with the Section's Horton Smith and Teacher of the Year Awards is beginning his 5th decade as the head professional at Century. Few professionals have been as active, as involved and as supportive of the Section as Nelson has throughout his incredible tenure. He will be joined on the stage by Matt Dobyns of Fresh Meadow who won three times last year enroute to a commanding 2015 OMEGA Met PGA Player of the Year title. Dobyns capped that off by also winning the prestigious PGA Club Professional Player of the Year Award. Finally, John Kennedy who has probably impacted and helped more professionals than any other PGA Member throughout more than 40 years of service in an illustrious career that includes two National Awards (2010 Horton Smith and 2012 Patriot Award) plus almost every Section honor will be presented with the Sam Snead Award for contributions to golf, the PGA and the Met Section.

Met PGA Winter Series Program Concludes with 2 Final Opportunities & Rules Seminar

We have enjoyed a great off-season with well attended and well received educational offerings. Our 2nd to last program of our Met PGA Winter Education Series will be **March 10th from 10 am to noon** in New York City for a special program with Dr. Yohei Takada on “*Understanding the Foundation for Essential Functional Movement of the Human Body*”. Dr. Takada is a Titleist Certified Golf Fitness Instructor in addition to having a wide range of certifications in fitness, strength, conditioning and functional movements. The program will be from 10 am to noon at FuncPhysio, 16 East 40th Street, Room 703, New York City. Participation is limited to the first 20 registrants and this will be an interactive presentation. On **March 17th** our final program features Sara Dickson of Quaker Ridge and Kevin Sprecher of Sleepy Hollow who will present on “*Building Successful Women’s Golf and Coaching Programs.*” The program will be from 10 am to noon at Fenway Golf Club. Registration is available on the Met PGA web site for both programs by [clicking here](#).

On **March 23rd** we join with the MGA in offering our 29th 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 at <http://www.mgagolf.org/2016rulesseminar> and should be available by next week.

Spring Meeting Returns to Wykagyl on April 7th

After a golf-friendly winter we will make our return to Wykagyl with optimistic plans for the opportunity to include golf along with our Spring Meeting and annual salute to our Sponsors and Partners on April 7th. After another incredible turnout last year and success bringing our Partners and Sponsors together with our membership for networking, business, lunch and golf, we are excited about the return to Wykagyl for our 7th year in a row. 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 2016 season. Our field for golf will be limited and registration for the meeting and golf will open March 1st online. Professionals are reminded that attendance at the Spring Meeting provides 3 MSR Credits in the required meeting category.

Met PGA Offers Spring Education Series with Partners & Sponsors

With the help and interest of our Partners and Sponsors heading into the upcoming MSR deadline, the Section has established the Met PGA Spring Educational Series. Programs will be offered on almost a weekly basis from the end of March through May at no charge and sponsored and presented by a number of our Partners and Sponsors. All programs will count towards the required MSR category. Several sites are still being finalized but the schedule is expected to include:

- **TaylorMade Golf on March 28th** - Club Fitting & Product Knowledge at Old Oaks – Contact RJ Zurak to register
- **Callaway Golf on March 29th** at Tam O’Shanter Club 1:00 pm – 6:00 pm [Register](#) *
- **Callaway Golf on March 30th** at Westchester Country Club 1:00 pm – 6:00 pm [Register](#) *
- **Golf Genius on March 16th** at Wykagyl CC from 10am-12pm - [Register](#)
- **Met PGA HOPE Training, April 13th & April 14th** – Registration opens March 9th
- **PING** is planning a product education program, details will be announced ASAP.

Space may be limited *

Other Upcoming Educational Opportunities

- *David Orr at Golf and Body March 21st* from noon to 2:00 pm at \$50.00 per person. Availability is limited. E-mail info@golfbodvnyvc.com or call 212 244-2626 to register. Payment must be handled in advance and can be arranged by GBNYC Front Desk. David Orr is a world renowned putting coach and founder of The Flatstick Academy. Among his students are Justin Rose and Hunter Mahan.
- *US Kids Golf Certified Coach Seminar* on April 19th at Westchester Country Club. This is a daylong seminar and the \$195.00 early registration fee (\$245.00 for late registration after April 12th) includes all seminar materials, lunch, optional online training and testing and the US Kids Golf Book of Games. For more info or to register go to: <http://www.signupanytime.com/front/event/about.aspx?event=40309>
- The MGA also offers a number of other programs including **the 2016 Green Chaiman Education Series**, their **Handicap/Rules Seminars** and their Caddie Academies. Go to MGAGolf.org for more info.

Assistants Spring Meeting and Opening Tournament at Old Oaks Country Club on April 11th. Tournament Format Returns to Individual Stroke Play

Our opening meeting and tournament for our Assistants Association will take place on Monday, April 11th at Old Oaks 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, Dennis Dungee (Mount Kisco CC), Tyler Jaramillo (Saint Andrew's Golf Club), Pete Catanzaro (Scarsdale), Jimmy Farrell (Creek) and Alex Smith (Garden City Golf Club). Our 2016 Spring Tournament will return to being 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).

2016 is a Celebration of the Metropolitan Section Centennial – Head Professionals are Asked to Help with our History Effort

While we boast about the rich history of the Metropolitan Section, we unfortunately still have many, many gaps in being able to tell our complete story. As part of our excitement and commitment to the Centennial when the Metropolitan PGA was one of 7 original founding Sections in 1916, we are going to be reaching out to every head professional with a "Centennial Challenge." Our request will be simple – we will be looking for each A-1 in the Section to complete a survey providing the names (and dates if possible) of all the head professionals who have served their facility. Please be on the lookout for our Centennial Challenge and start now doing any research into your archives and course history.

Also the Metropolitan Section will be the final feature of the 41 PGA Sections on the Golf Channel so mark your books now for the May 5th date of the final Section spotlight on Morning Drive.

BARCLAYS MILLION DOLLAR HOLE IN ONE CHALLENGE

You will soon be hearing more about a great promotion at your club or course this summer. As the Barclays returns to Bethpage, Aug. 25th – 28th with the first leg of the FEDEX Cup, your golfers will have a chance to be part of the excitement of the event. Anyone at a participating club or course who makes a hole-in-one during July will qualify to compete on Aug. 26th at Bethpage for a million dollars. There is no charge to enter and any club or course that promotes the Barclays with their promotional materials will be eligible to register qualifiers and that club or course will also receive a packet of tickets. This is a great way for every facility to get involved. We will have more details as we approach the start of the season.

No Increase in Playing Privilege Fees for 2016 – Met PGA Moves to Direct Deposit

Metropolitan PGA Members will not have any increase in their Playing Privilege Fees for the coming season. The registration and payment for 2016 Playing Privileges will begin on March 1st. Tournament Dues will be \$250.00 for PGA Members who play in 3 events or more for the calendar year (Life Members pay \$150.00 for 3 or more events) and those PGA Members who play in two events pay only \$125.00 (Life Members pay \$100.00) for the annual fees. Apprentice Playing Privilege Fees are \$100.00 and Non-Registered assistant playing privilege fees are \$150.00. Tournament dues must be paid in order to register for Section tournaments. In 2016, the Met PGA will introduce direct deposit for tournament winnings. We strongly encourage all professionals to enroll in this service. The Direct Deposit form is posted on the Met PGA website. Please mail this completed form and a voided check to the Section office.

Race for the Lease Returns with 2016 Lincoln Pro-Am Series

The two year race for the lease gets a fresh start in 2016! Peter Cowan of North Fork Country Club is enjoying driving in “American Luxury”, since winning the inaugural competition over the last two seasons. Our Pro Am Series schedule is up to date on the web site and currently boasts a fantastic lineup of hosts: Metropolis, Tuxedo, Pelham, Montauk, Sands Point, Siwanoy, Innis Arden and Seawane. 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. 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 Golf Met PGA Pro-Assistants on April 18th

Some 400 professionals will gather at our two Pro-Assistants venues on Monday, April 18th for the TaylorMade adidas Golf events at Cold Spring CC on Long Island and Patriot Hills Golf Club 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.

Player of the Year Race Opens with Match Play Championships

The first point events of the spring will be at the Match Play Championships conducted at Engineers Country Club on Long Island and at Sleepy Hollow Country Club in Westchester. The MasterCard LPGA and MasterCard Westchester PGA qualifying events will be on Monday, April 25th and they will also serve as the qualifying rounds for the Senior Match Play Championship (site TBA) on May 9-11. 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.

Complete the 2016 PGA Compensation Survey; Earn MSR Credit

PGA Professionals are asked to complete the 2016 PGA Golf Professional Compensation Survey by submitting results for the 2015 calendar year. Prompt survey completion will allow the PGA of America to report results back on a timely basis via the online interactive reporting tool on PGA.org. PGA Professionals may earn up to two (2) MSR credits by completing this survey no later than March 31, 2016.

PGA Stroke Play & Match Play Championships Close out PGA Winter Championships

The PGA Winter Stroke Play Championships produced solid showings for the Met Section both in the 72 hole event for members and the 54 hole championship for women PGA/LPGA Members. In the Women's Championship, Marjorie Jones of Chelsea Piers finished in 3rd place and Jessica Carafiello from Innis Arden was tied for 4th. Sara Dickson finished T6 and rounded out the Met Section players earning a payday.

The final results of the Stroke Play Championship boasted 16 out of the top 70 finishers from the Met Section. The best performance came from North Shore assistant, Anthony Aruta who finished in 4th place. Nick Beddow from Piping Rock was T6 followed by Rob Corcoran of Poxabogue (T8) and Deepdale's Ben Polland (T11). Also cashing checks were Glen Arbor's Rob Labritz and Kirk Oguri from The Greens at Half Hollow (T18), Michael Sweeney from The Bridge and Frank Bensel from Century (T26), Scott Ford of Glen Oaks and Fairview's Shaun Powers (T32), Matt Noel from Huntington and Bob Rittberger from Garden City GC (T40), Matt Sita from Old Westbury, Kyle Higgins of Inwood and Woodmere's Matt McAdow (T57) and Kyle Baehler from Willow Ridge (T60).

In the PGA Match Play Championship, five of the 32 money-earners were from the Met Section although nobody advanced into the quarterfinals. Pete Catanzaro of Scarsdale, Ted Kimmel from Tamarack, and Rob Corcoran each won two matches while Ryan Kalista of Tamarack and Matt Noel each won a match. This year's Winter Championships were presented by GOLFADVISOR and Premier Golf.

Welcome Newest PGA Members

The Metropolitan PGA has added **Brandon Gaydorus**, A-6 at Clay DX Sports Labs, and **Kevin Quinn** A-8 assistant to Brian Gaffney at Quaker Ridge Golf Club, to the membership rolls. Congratulations to Brandon and Kevin on their achievement and attaining PGA Membership.

Met PGA Needs Tournament Sites

As always at this time of year, we are working on finalizing our schedules for the coming season. We are still in need of host sites for our Section Tournaments, Junior Tour, Assistants Tour and for a couple of Playing Ability Tests. 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.

PGA Notes

PGA of America has announced plans to sunset the PerformanceTrak program due to declining participation and reporting by our PGA Members. Click here for a "Q & A they have provided on this decision.....Perhaps the fastest growing program in the PGA is the Junior League which is now under the control and operation of the PGA of America. Ask any professional who joined this program and they will tell you it is a home run for everyone involved. Registration for 2016 has just opened and with the steady growth (from 5 to 37 to 80 teams and this year we anticipate over 120 teams) it is critical that professionals get their teams registered now. The process for payment has also changed so please pay attention to the procedure for registration on PGA.org. Don't let your kids miss this opportunity..... PGA Trade-In Network is offering a bonus for last season's stock, trade-ins, demos and overstock plus an extra 30% for unhit clubs. Also, get the latest sales analysis from Golf Datatech. The start of the season is a great time to offer trade-ins as you promote new equipment sales. Call 888-777-3540 or email info@pgatradein.com..... Great rates for auto loans are available through the PGA's Credit Union (IBM SoutheastEFCU)..... Complimentary access to the Masters is available only to PGA Members, Life Members and Master Professional Members (not apprentices and not spouses or family). Click here for complimentary access information for tournaments..... Check out PGA.org for a complete list of member benefits offered through the PGA's licensees and partners.....The deadline for applications for the PGA Financial Assistance Fund was March 1st. Transcripts and additional information can be submitted after the deadline..... Molly Haga has joined the PGA of America team providing administrative support for Scott Kmiec at PGA REACH.

Rental Available on Long Island

Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bathroom with private entrance in Greenlawn, NY. Room for small office, washer dryer, and dishwasher included. Beautiful deck with private yard. Convenient location, close to 25a, 25 and Northern State Parkway. \$2200/month utilities included. Please contact Jason.Caron@themillriverclub.com for further details or to schedule a showing.

International Links Pro-Am Invitational

While the September and October offer our annual trip to Atlantic City as well as the World Links Invitational Pro-Am offered by one of our Partners (Carr Golf-info included), we have also recently received information from North Fork's Peter Cowan on the International Links Pro-Am Invitational on Ireland's East Coast, Oct. 24th – 29th. We have included the information ([click here](#)) and registration form.

Tom Lupinacci Ad

Tom Lupinacci is offering a \$21,000 Commission to any golf professional who may have a member who might enjoy a World Class, Museum Quality Antique Golf Collection with 565 Items. Please review Tom's Website www.Timelessgolfantiques.com for details! Price for package is \$215,000.

Tom is looking to purchase Used Yellow Factory range balls in Very Good Condition. Tom also has For Sale Used Factory White Range Balls in Very Good Condition starting at \$2.75 per Doz with free delivery in Westchester or Long Island for orders of 3000 balls or more! Tom also has High Quality Used Golf Balls for Re-Sale. Tom also has hit away golf balls @.15 each. Free delivery on orders over 3000 balls to Long Island or Westchester. Call Tom @ 904-233-1023 for questions or Information.

Please Welcome Kevin Rodine to the Met PGA Tournament Staff

Kevin Rodine, former staffer at Westchester, Paramount and Creek among others will be calling the Met PGA home as of the start of the season. Kevin will take on the role of Tournament Administrator, working with Dan Kiley who was recently named Tournament Director. Kevin did a great job on our field staff last year and his enthusiasm and commitment are outstanding. We look forward to having him be a part of our team on a steady basis and know our professionals will give him a warm welcome.

John Cooper Earns Master Professional Status and Steve Scott Gains Certification

Congratulations to John Cooper, PGA head professional at Longshore Club in Westport, CT who this winter completed the requirements for PGA Master Professional as an expert in General Management. John joins an elite group of PGA members who have achieved that distinction through their hard work and dedicated effort in education and an investment of time and effort to stay on top of the latest information and technology in the golf business. This is truly a significant accomplishment.

We also congratulate Steve Scott of Paramount Country Club who is our newest addition to the ranks of Certified Professional. Steve recently completed the requirements for Certification in Golf Professional Operations. We salute both John and Steve on their willingness to dedicate hard work to elevate themselves in the profession through these PGA Membership opportunities.

New Arrival

Congratulations and best wishes to Lake Isle's Kevin Chin and wife Terri on the arrival of their first child, Thomas Felton Chin on February 10th, 2016 at 6 pounds, 11 ounces. Everyone in the Chin household is happy and healthy.

PGA LEAD – An Emerging Leaders Program for PGA Members

PGA LEAD was created by the PGA of America and its National Diversity & Inclusion Committee in an effort to identify, mentor and progress a dedicated group of PGA members from diverse backgrounds, who aspire to leadership roles within the Association, along a guided path. Integrating diversity and its vast array of personal dimensions into our leadership ranks will help position the PGA for success, as we embark on our next 100 years. The ultimate goal of PGA LEAD is to establish a deep bench of diverse PGA members who are prepared to ascend to and through the volunteer leadership ranks of the Association. In addition, PGA LEAD will assist in developing PGA members who desire to serve and make an impact on nonprofit boards within the communities where they work and live. Among the select group are Earl Cooper, PGA from our District 2 and the Philadelphia Section, and Megan Padua from the Carolinas Section who has also been on the Maidstone staff working for Eden Foster in recent years.

Tournament Opportunity – Grey Goose World Par 3 Championships

The Turtle Hill Golf Club at Fairmont Southampton in Bermuda will once again play host to the World's Premier Par 3 Championship March 11 - 13, 2016. Golf Channel personality Charlie Rymer will be back as the host of the event which is expected to attract over 120 participants from more than 10 countries, and offers a \$75,000 professional purse. For more information, call Paul Adams at 441-239-6663 or

Industry News

Callaway is excited to announce that Jerry McGoey has taken over their Long Island Territory starting immediately. You can reach Jerry at 516-417-7697 or by email at jerry.mcgoey@callawaygolf.com. Chuck Gartner will be covering Jerry's former Mizuno territory during the interim period. Please address any issues or concerns to him at chuck.gartner@mizunousa.com.

Employment Update

Congratulations and welcome to **Erik Sorensen**, the new A-1 head professional at **Trump National** in Briarcliff. Erik had most recently been the PGA head professional at Dorset Field Club in Vermont. Before going to Dorset in 2010, Erik was an assistant at Myopia Hunt Club under Bill Safrin and also had stints at Isleworth in Florida and Hillview in MA.

It is with mixed feelings that we also report the move of **Brian Hussey** from the A-8 role under Shaun Powers at Fairview to the PGA head professional at **Rock Ridge Country Club** in nearby Newton, Connecticut. Obviously this is a great opportunity for Brian but we will be sorry to see him move across the border to the CT. PGA Section.

Employment Listings – [Click Here](#)

Metropolitan PGA

Officers

Heath Wassem, Fenway GC
President

Brian Crowell, GlenArbor GC
Secretary

Stuart Waack, Silvermine GC
Treasurer

Carl Alexander, GC of Purchase
First Vice President

Michael Shank, North Shore CC
Second Vice President

Brad Worthington
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Board of Directors

Dave Fusco, Patriot Hills GC

Ben Hoffhine, Wykagyl CC

Chris Kenney, Patterson Club

Jamie Kilmer, Wheatley Hills GC

Adam McDaid, Friars Head

Cory Muller, CC of Darien

Karl Obermeyer, VC of Sands Point

James Ondo, Apawamis Club

Sean Quinlivan, Piping Rock Club

Steve Scott, Paramount CC

Nominating Committee

Michael Breed, Michael Breed Golf Academy

Mike Diffley, Pelham CC

Joe Felder, Griff Harris GC

Bobby Heins, Old Oaks CC

Tom Henderson, Round Hill Club

Greg Hurd, North Hempstead CC

Jim Smoot, Huntington CC

Staff Members

[Jeff Voorheis](#), Executive Director

[Kelli Clayton](#), Director of Operations

[Dan Kiley](#), Tournament Director

[Dan Frankel](#), Junior Golf Director

[Paul Giordano](#), Communications Manager

[Charles Robson](#)