



EMPEY SECURES SECTION TITLE FOR THIRD TIME



Ryan Metzger, Champion Jim Empey
and P. David Baucom

Jim Empey of Boise, Idaho, winner of the Rocky Mountain Section PGA Professional Championship, held August 19-20th at Black Bull in Bozeman, Mont. will lead 3 Section PGA Professionals to compete in the 47th PGA Professional National Championship, June 22-25, 2014, at The Dunes Golf & Beach Club and the Grande Dunes Resort Club in Myrtle Beach, S.C. Jim also won this event in 2011 and 2007.

Empey turned in a winning total of 10-under-par 134 to capture the Rocky Mountain Section PGA Professional Champion title. Preston Otte of Twin Falls, Idaho was runner-up, finishing at 136. They are joined by Ben Bryson of Eagle, Idaho who finished in 3rd alone at 138.

Empey, Otte and Bryson also qualified for spots in the 2014 Albertsons Boise Open web.com event to be held next July at Hillcrest Country Club in Boise, Idaho.

Special appreciation goes to P. David Baucom, General Manager of Black Bull and Head Professional Ryan Metzger for hosting this event and for the hospitality extended to the players and section staff.

THOMSEN CAPTURES 2013 SENIOR SECTION CHAMPIONSHIP



Senior Champion Jeff Thomsen

Jeff Thomsen of Boise, Idaho, winner of the Rocky Mountain Section Senior PGA Professional Championship, contested July 31 and August 1 at Ridgecrest Golf Club in Nampa, Idaho, will lead 5 Section PGA Professionals to compete Oct. 10-13, in the 25th Southworth Senior PGA Professional National Championship. The National Championship, presented by Mercedes-Benz USA, will return for a third consecutive year to Creighton Farms of Aldie, Va., and River Creek Club of Leesburg, Va.

Thomsen turned in a winning total of 8-under-par 136 to capture the Rocky Mountain Section Senior PGA Professional Championship supported by Southworth Development LLC and Mercedes-Benz. Kevin Burton of Boise, Idaho finished 1 stroke back at 137. They are joined by John Graham of Idaho Falls, Idaho, Jim Empey of Boise, Idaho, and Ron Rawls of Boise, Idaho.

The Southworth Senior PGA Professional National Championship brings together a field of 264 contestants representing The PGA of America's 41 nationwide Sections, and features a total purse of \$285,000 on both courses over the first two rounds. Creighton Farms, a Jack Nicklaus Signature Golf Course, will host the final 36 holes.

The Section thanks Jim Brown, Director of Golf, and the staff at Ridgecrest Golf Club for the hospitality shown to competitors and staff.

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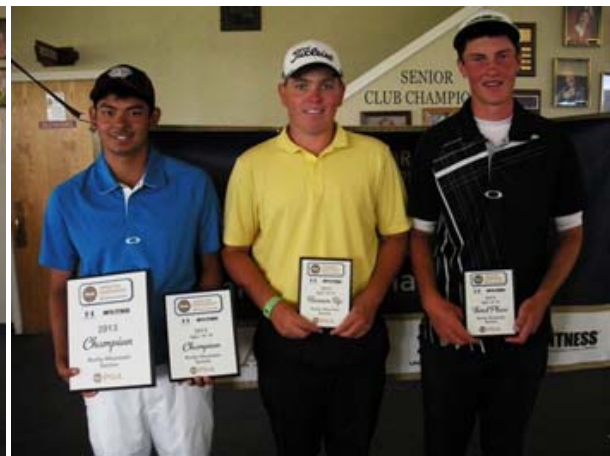
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**MITSunAGA AND BARKER VICTORIOUS
AT JUNIOR RMSPGA CHAMPIONSHIP**



Gabby Barker, Lou Points
and Haley Nist



Kyle Mitsunaga, Colby Dean
and Kade Crossland

Kyle Mitsunaga of Boise, Idaho and Gabby Barker of Caldwell, Idaho won the 2013 Junior Rocky Mountain PGA Championship presented by Under Armour and Hotel Fitness and supported by Cleveland Golf/SRIXON. The Championship was contested over 36 holes June 12th and June 13th at Centennial Golf Course in Nampa, Idaho.

By winning the boys' and girls' divisions respectively, Mitsunaga and Barker qualified for the 38th Junior PGA Championship, Presented by Under Armour and Hotel Fitness, July 30 - Aug. 2, 2013, at Trump National Golf Club in Washington D.C., Potomac Falls, Virginia.

Mitsunaga, 18, posted a final round 68 for a two-day total of 137 and a 1-stroke victory over Colby Dean of Eagle, Idaho. Barker, 17, had a final round 71 for a two-day total of 140 and a 10-stroke victory over Lou Points of Star, Idaho.

John Lewis, Head Professional at Centennial G.C. and his staff are to be complimented for their hospitality and efforts during this championship.

**BROWN, MOORE, DEXTER, & MARTIN EARN JUNIOR TITLES
AT GALLATIN VALLEY JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP**

Connor Brown, 16, from Bozeman, Mont. shot a two round total of even-par 142 to capture the Rocky Mountain Section PGA Foundation Gallatin Valley Junior Championship supported by Cleveland Golf / SRIXON. His one shot victory over Cole Lorenz, 18, of Billings, Mont., earned him first place honors in the Boys 15-18 age division in addition to the overall championship. Joey Moore, 13, of Billings, Mont., continued his great play by winning the Boys 12-14 division by 13 shots with a two round 1-over-par total of 143.

On the girls' side, Bailee Dexter, 17, of Townsend, Mont., earned the honors in the 15-18 age division with a two round total of 161 outlasting Katherine Wills, 17, of Missoula, Mont. In the Girls 12-14 age group, Skyler Martin, 12, of Shelby, Mont. took the winner's medal with a 197 two round score.

The Gallatin Valley Junior Championship was played at Bridger Creek Golf Course in Bozeman, Mont. on July 30-31. The Rocky Mountain Section PGA thanks PGA Professional Mark Holiday and his staff for hosting this event and Mitch Bourgault from Cleveland Golf / SRIXON for his support.

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PepsiCo and the PGA of America have partnered for over 20 years in the service of the professionals, players and fans of golf. This year, we're excited to announce our renewed partnership: one that focuses on expanding the game of golf and supporting all the key stakeholders in serving the golf community.

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2013 Play Golf America Programs

The PGA Player Development Department is excited to announce that [registration for 2013 Play Golf America programs](#) is now available. Click on the links below to register for each program.

Get Golf Ready:



Bring new golfers to your facility with Get Golf Ready. The program can be fully customized but the standard program is 5 group lessons for \$99.

[REGISTER](#)

PGA Sports Academy:



Enhance your junior golf programs by incorporating elements from PGA Sports Academy powered by UnitedHealthcare.

[REGISTER](#)

PGA Junior League Golf:



Create your own "Little League" golf team. Host a team of junior golfers and compete against other teams in a fun atmosphere.

[REGISTER](#)

TEE IT FORWARD:



Encourage your customers to TEE IT FORWARD. By doing so, your customers are more likely to play faster and have more fun.

[REGISTER](#)

YELLOWSTONE JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS

13 year old Joey Moore of Billings, Montana shot the low overall two round total of 142 to capture the Boys 12-14 age division of the RMSPGA Foundation Yellowstone Junior Championship supported by Cleveland Golf / SRIXON. Kortney McNeil, 16, also of Billings, Montana, took the Girls 15-18 division title and Billings, Montana resident Payton Stott, 15, made a birdie on the first playoff hole to win the Boys 15-18 division.

The championship was held July 10-11 at Olive Glenn Golf and Country Club in Cody, Wyoming. Special thanks goes to host professional, David Snyder, PGA, and his staff for taking great care of all those that traveled to play in this championship. The RMSPGA Foundation would also like to thank Cleveland Golf / SRIXON area representative Mitch Bourgault for his support of the Yellowstone Junior Championship.



Introduction to Background Screening Solutions

Validex Employment Screening Services, the approved background screening partner of The PGA of America, has been providing custom solutions for our clients' background screening needs since 1986. We strategically partner with our clients to provide a one stop Solution to best serve the needs of their business and hiring decisions. Validex is an industry leader in providing:

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A comprehensive background screening program, tailored to your facility, ensures hiring and volunteer decisions are **based on fact**, not instinct. When developing your background screening strategy, it's important you ask some of the following questions:

- Do I know that my volunteers working with children do not have a criminal record?
- Do I know that my staff operating vehicles and equipment have a safe driving record?
- Is the shrinkage I am experiencing due to employee theft?
- Do any of my employees have a criminal record?

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AMATEURS RETAIN MONTANA CUP TITLE

The top amateur golfers in the State of Montana retained their bragging rights and title by beating the best Montana PGA Golf Professionals 45-27 in the 2013 Montana Cup, played August 6th and 7th at Whitefish Lake Golf Course in Whitefish, Mont. The professional team consisted of seven professionals from the Pacific Northwest Section and five from the Rocky Mountain Section (Renzi Lee, PGA, Kelbi Lee, Woody Spainhower, Scott Pekovich, PGA and Eddie Kavran, PGA).



SRIXON



SRIXON.COM

Mitch Bourgault
Cleveland Golf/Srixon
Tel: (208) 954-4889
Mitchbourgault@Clevelandgolf.com

The advertisement features a central image of a golfer in mid-swing, wearing a dark long-sleeved shirt and dark pants. To the left, a stack of three golf balls is shown, with the top one being a Srixon ball. To the right, three Cleveland Golf irons are displayed, showing their heads and the 'CG15' branding. A yellow badge with a black border and the text 'HOT Golfing UNIT' is positioned near the bottom center. The background is a dark gradient with a white diagonal line separating the golfer from the product images.

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FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Another summer is streaking away from us and it seems just yesterday that we were beginning a new year. I hope that all who read this are finding it to be a very rewarding year, both personally and professionally.

I would like to take a moment to remind our professionals that the entire Rocky Mountain Section PGA Directory is available online on the Members Only side of the website. To get to the directory first go to www.rockymountainpga.com: when the home page appears hover your mouse pointer over Login on the far right of the page and click on Professional Login. Enter your PGALinks user name and password. The Members Only side will open up and the links to the various parts of the directory will be open on your screen.

Another item available on the Members Only side is a Rules of Golf tab that when accessed offers various tips and quizzes that can be viewed, downloaded and/or printed. These are excellent tools to keep all of us on our toes when it comes to the many Rules of Golf situations that exist; sometimes daily.

The last thing to touch on, as far as the website is concerned, is that a list of apprentice subject matter experts, from within our Section, has been added to the website. To find a list of these RMSPGA Members follow the instructions above and after accessing the Members Only side hover your mouse cursor over the Section Info tab and then click on Apprentice Mentors. A page will open with a link to the list that may be printed/viewed/downloaded.

It has been the desire of the Board and myself to make the website more of a clearinghouse of information, and it is, if you care to use it.

As we enter into the homestretch of the season it would do us well to review our standing as compared to the other Sections in term of participation in various National programs/initiatives. As you can see, we currently rank 26 out of 41 in the overall rankings. The information below is included for your review and is supplied by the PGA of America:

Rocky Mountain - Current Rank #26				
Rank	Program / Activity	Section Participation %	National Participation %	
4	CPP Library Purchased		49.0	53.1
8	PerformanceTrak Rounds		42.7	36.2
10	Compensation Survey (2013)		67.5	62.1
17	MSR Completion		16.4	15.5
17	PGA Sports Academy		22.7	23.3
20	Tee It Forward		37.1	39.5
22	Annual Operations Survey (2013)		25.0	25.6

29	Membership Profile (2013)		65.0	67.6
30	2013 Active.com Event Reg		7.2	10.6
32	Suspended Apprentices by Section		20.8	17.4
33	Get Golf Ready		29.9	37.8
36	Patriot Golf Day (2013)		42.3	55.3
39	AmEx Friend of Card Member		7.8	9.6

Through the end of October many of our most important Championships will be contested and I ask you to participate when you are able. Your participation is important to the well-being of the Section and is appreciated.

As this is written the 2013 award nomination forms have been electronically distributed and I encourage all active members to participate in this program. The acknowledgement of one's peers is a powerful statement and as PGA of America Player Development Award Winner Mark Holiday showed last year, our award recipients, when placed shoulder to shoulder with those from other Sections, compare quite favorably. Help the Awards and Honors Committee and Co-Chairs Dustin Ames and Ryan Troxel identify the very best of the Rocky Mountain Section. The deadline for the return of the 2013 nomination forms is Tuesday, September 3rd.

Best Wishes,
Vaughn P. Jenkins, PGA
Executive Director

IDAHO OPEN SUPPORTED BY CLUB CAR AND ADIDAS AND ASHWORTH GOLF

The 2013 Idaho Open, supported by Club Car and adidas and Ashworth Golf is being played September 18-20 at Teton Springs Resort and Club in Victor, Idaho.

The 2013 Idaho Open is a 54-hole stroke play event with a team division (1-professional and 1-amateur) as well as a Regular Professional Division and a Senior Professional Division. Entry will be by team only. Please note that amateurs must have an index of 18.0 or less and amateurs will receive one-half of their handicap from the tee played. There will be no individual amateur payout.

There will be a Senior Professional Division for those contestants age 50 or over as of September 18, 2013. Contestants age 50 or over must designate the division they wish to compete in, regular or senior, and may only compete in one division. The Senior Division and all amateurs will compete from a set of tee markers forward of the Regular Professionals.

A \$250 deposit is required for team entry and the balance will be automatically processed on Monday, September 16th. For those teams paying a deposit by check, the balance is due by Monday, September 16th. Entry may be completed via BlueGolf online at www.rockymountainpga.com, by utilizing the link below, or by printing and faxing the completed entry form to the RMS office at (208) 939-6058.

[CLICK HERE](#) to view/print the Idaho Open entry form [CLICK HERE](#) to enter online



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GALLATIN VALLEY OPEN ENTRIES NOW BEING ACCEPTED

Cottonwood Hills Golf Club in Bozeman, Mont. will be hosting the 2013 Pepsi Gallatin Valley Open, presented by Sun Mountain Sports and Culligan, September 7th and 8th.

This years' event will have a professional purse of \$12,000. The event is open to amateurs, PGA Professionals and non-affiliated professionals. Amateur players should contact Cottonwood Hills G.C. at (406) 587-1118 to enter. The entry deadline is September 3rd at 4:30 pm MDT.

Eagle Mount, a Bozeman foundation for children with disabilities, and other local junior golf programs will be beneficiaries of this event.

[CLICK HERE](#) to view/print the Gallatin Valley Open entry form

[CLICK HERE](#) to enter online

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THANK YOU THANK YOU

The Rocky Mountain Section provided the starters and scorers for the Albertsons Boise Open held at Hillcrest Country Club in Boise the week of July 22nd. The Section administered the Open Qualifier on Monday the 22nd at Ridgecrest Golf Club in Nampa, Idaho. The RMSPGA also provided 5 minute lessons to the public at the PGA booth on the weekend. We appreciate and thank the following individuals for volunteering their time during tournament week: Roy Ivey, Ron Ptacek, Andy Hollister, Scott Nicholes, Bob Campbell, Jim Brown, Jeff Taylor, John Lewis, Del Ericson, Merle Baptiste, Roger Garner, Roy Ahnstedt, Rob Ellis, Carissa Simmons, Blake Mason, Peter Nichenko, Jerry Breaux, Jonathan Gibbs, Tim Bensley, Larry Aspenson, Dave Carollo, Brett Kleinkopf and Fred Sutton.

Also, a special thank you to the facilities that donated rounds of golf for our raffle benefiting the Rocky Mountain PGA Foundation: Jug Mountain Ranch, Sun Valley Resort, Falcon Crest GC, Jackpot GC, Ridgecrest GC, Centennial GC, Purple Sage GC, BanBury GC, Quail Hollow GC, Warm Springs GC and Terrace Lakes Resort.

SHORT SHOTS

Congratulations to Scott McGeachin, PGA Director of Golf at Warm Springs GC in Boise, Idaho. Scott was recently elected to membership in the Quarter Century Club of the Professional Golfers' Association of America, having served The PGA with honor and pride for 25 years.

Welcome to David Hardwick, PGA Director of Golf (A-4) and Lehua Wise, PGA Assistant Professional (A-8) at the Yellowstone Club, Big Sky, Mont.

John Wallace, PGA, is now the Teaching Professional (A-6) at Pierce Park Greens, Boise, ID.

Nick Brown, PGA, Assistant Professional (A-8) is now working at the Valley Club in Hailey, ID.


Section Apprentice Changes:

Brady Fay, B-1 (Head Professional), The Links at Teton Peaks, Driggs, ID

Wade Farbo, B-8 (Assistant Professional), Yellowstone Club, Big Sky, MT

Nicklaus Blasius, B-8 (Assistant Professional), Plantation Country Club, Boise, ID

Erica Haney, B-6, (Teaching Professional), Falcon Crest Golf Course, Kuna, ID

 ANTIGUA  Charley Carlson	 ASH CITY Scott Larsen	 Bag Boy Scott Larsen	 BLACK BULL A MONTICELLO COMMUNITY P. David Baucom	 BRIDGESTONE GOLF Gary Spinelli Robert Su Cliff Jones
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