

# ROCKY MOUNTAIN SECTION



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## JOHN VAN VLEET TAKES REINS AS RMSPGA PRESIDENT



The election of new Rocky Mountain PGA Section officers was held during the annual membership meeting of the Section held May 21st at the Residence Inn Marriott in Idaho Falls and the following were elected to two-year terms: John Van Vleet, President; Dave Carollo, Vice-President; and Brandon Kahl, Secretary. The Board of Directors also includes newly installed chapter officers Tim Reinke, Lucas Brick, Brett Kleinkopf, Ryan Troxel, Michael Duquette and Jeff Allen.

The Section extends their appreciation and thanks to outgoing President Jim Brown for his dedication and service during his tenure. Jim will serve as Honorary President for the next two years.



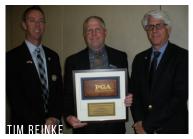


# 2016 RMSPGA AWARD WINNERS RECOGNIZED

The 2016 Rocky Mountain Section PGA Award recipients were recognized and honored at the annual membership meeting and reception held in May in Idaho Falls, Idaho.

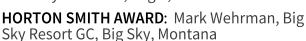
Congratulations to these professionals:





**GOLF PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR:** Jim Brown, Boise, Idaho

**TEACHER OF THE YEAR:** Jonathan Gibbs, BanBury Golf Club, Eagle, Idaho



**BILL STRAUSBAUGH AWARD:** Ron Rawls, Crane Creek Country Club, Boise, Idaho





YOUTH PLAYER DEVELOPMENT AWARD:

Zachary Abels, Canyon Springs Golf Course, Twin Falls, Idaho





MERCHANDISER OF THE YEAR (Public): Tim Reinke, Pinecrest Golf Course, Idaho Falls, Idaho



**PLAYER DEVELOPMENT AWARD:** Brett Nagel, The Club at SpurWing, Meridian, Idaho

**ASSISTANT OF THE YEAR:** Ted Babcock, Valley View Golf Club, Bozeman, Montana

**PLAYER OF THE YEAR** (Regular and Senior): Tom Anderson, Laurel Golf Club, Laurel, Montana







# POTTER & JACOBSEN EARN 2017 CLEVELAND GOLF/SRIXON/XXIO RMSPGA SNAKE RIVER CHAPTER FACILITY CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE

A cold and rainy start eased off after a few holes and led to a cool and windy afternoon as twentyone professional teams competed in the 2017 Cleveland GOLF/SRIXON/XXIO RMSPGA Snake River Chapter Facility Championship. Jon Potter, PGA Director of Golf with his PGA Head Professional partner Jason Jacobsen, both from Idaho Falls (Idaho) Country Club, shot rounds of 68 and 66 for a two-round total of 6-under-par 134 to outlast the city of Rexburg's Teton Lakes Golf Course duo of PGA Head Professional Tyson McFarland and his assistant Taylor Price by 2 shots. Alone in 3<sup>rd</sup> place one shot behind were the Eagle, Idaho,

BanBury Golf Course team of PGA Head Professional Ben Bryson and assistant professional Katie Somers. The rest of the field was closely bunched in pursuit of the title and the complete results are available at rockymountainpga.com.

The single day 36-hole Championship was contested Monday, April 10, at the 6325 yard, par 70 layout at Quail Hollow Golf Club in Boise, Idaho. The first round was a better ball of partners and the second round was a modified alternate shot (Chapman) format. Both players

on each twoperson team must be employed at the same facility.

The Rocky
Mountain
Section PGA
wishes to thank
Quail Hollow
Golf Club PGA
Professionals
Matt Ennis and
Troy Dykstra

and their staff for hosting the event. A sincere thank you goes out to the title sponsor sales representative Ethan Schofield from Cleveland GOLF/SRIXON/XXIO for his sponsorship of the tournament. Thanks to sales representative Lori Putnam, PGA, of Black Clover and Ken Allen, PGA Golf Sales for their kind support. Appreciation is also extended to OMEGA and The PGA TOUR for their continued support of selected RMSPGA events.



# ALLEN & MOORE HOLD ON TO WIN YELLOWSTONE CHAPTER PRO-PRO

Jeff Allen, PGA Assistant
Professional at Hilands Golf
Course in Billings, Montana, with
partner Tim Moore, PGA Teaching
Professional at Mitchell Golf in
Billings, won the 2017 Yellowstone
Chapter PGA Pro-Pro, supported
by Black Clover, OMEGA and The
PGA TOUR. Allen and Moore
finished with a 54-hole total of 7under-par, 206. Three teams tied
for second a single stroke behind

at 6-under-par 207. Those twoperson second place teams were Brian Eekhoff, PGA Head Professional at Cottonwood Hills Golf Course in Bozeman, Montana and Bernie Blan, PGA Head Professional at Riverton (Wyoming) Country Club; Renzi Lee, PGA Head Professional at Lake Hills Golf Course in Billings and Jonathan McAleer, PGA Head Professional at Bridger Creek Golf Course in Bozeman; and Kelbi Lee, PGA Assistant Professional and Michael Duquette, PGA General Manager at Black Bull in Bozeman.

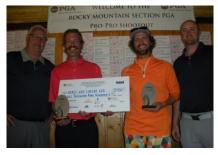
The event was contested on the 6138 yard Hilands Golf Club in

Billings, Montana, on April 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. The formats of play for the event included a scramble the first 18 holes, four-ball stroke play the second 18 holes, and modified alternate shot (Chapman) the final 18 holes.

The Yellowstone Chapter thanks Doug Hagen, PGA General Manager, Eddie Kavran, PGA Head Professional, and the Hilands Golf Club and its staff for hosting the event. The Chapter also thanks Black Clover and representative Lori Putnam, PGA, OMEGA and The PGA TOUR for their support of the event.

# LEE BROTHERS TAKE PRO-PRO SHOOTOUT TITLE

Unseasonably perfect weather was the surprise in late May as PGA Professional brothers **Kelbi Lee**, Assistant Professional from Black Bull in Bozeman, Mont., and **Renzi Lee**, Head Professional from Lake Hills Golf Club in Billings, Mont., teamed together to fire a three round total of 19-under-par to win the 2017 TaylorMade-adidas, Ashworth Golf and Adams Golf



Rocky Mountain Section PGA Pro-Pro Shootout, supported by The PGA TOUR, OMEGA and Bushnell Golf. Their rounds of 65-62-64=191 was good for a single shot victory over the team of Brent Fleshman, PGA Head Professional at Jackpot (Nev.) Golf Club with his partner Zayne Slotten, assistant professional at Twin Falls (Idaho) Golf Course. Jason Jacobsen, PGA Head Professional at Idaho Falls (Idaho) Country Club and his partner Ryan Nielsen, head professional at Falcon Crest Golf Course in Kuna, Idaho, finished alone in third place 2 shots behind.

In the Senior Division, 54 holes was not enough as Andy Hollister, PGA, and Jeff Taylor, PGA, needed two extra holes to outlast PGA Teaching Professional Stoney Brown from the Valley Club in Sun Valley, Idaho, and PGA Director of Instruction Doyle Corbett from Sun Valley (Idaho) Resort. Both teams finished wish 10-under-par totals of 200 to edge out the formidable



past champions in third place alone, Tom Anderson, PGA Head Professional at Laurel (Mont.) Golf Club, with his partner, PGA Director of Golf Bob Eames from Yellowstone Country Club in Billings, Mont.

The first two rounds of the 54-hole Shootout were played on Monday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> and the formats were four-ball stroke play and scramble. The final round was played on Tuesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> and the format was modified alternate shot. Forty-five two-person professional teams competed from the Rocky Mountain Section PGA. Pinecrest Golf Club in Idaho Falls, Idaho, served as the host site for the event.

The Rocky Mountain Section PGA would like to thank John Johnson, Territory Sales Manager of TaylorMade and Adams Golf and Jeff Smith of adidas and Ashworth Golf for the Title sponsorship. Appreciation is also extended to Bushnell Golf representative Charley Carlson, The PGA TOUR and OMEGA for supporting this event. The Rocky Mountain PGA also thanks Tim Reinke, PGA Head Professional at Pinecrest Golf Club and his hospitable staff for hosting the championship.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN
SECTION PGA
FOUNDATION
NAMES 2017
LARRY MALONE
AND YELLOWSTONE
CHAPTER
SCHOLARSHIP
AWARD WINNERS

The Rocky Mountain Section PGA Foundation has named fourteen students as Scholarship Award winners for 2017. The 2017 Rocky Mountain Section PGA Foundation Scholarship Award winners are: Ryan Bates, Elko, Nevada; Tanna Campbell, Big Timber, Montana; Colten Cordingley, Rexburg, Idaho; Danielle Doerflein, Sun Valley, Idaho; Isabelle Hahn, Billings, Montana; Logan Martin, Billings, Montana; Ragan McGilvery, Nampa, Idaho; Kelsey Parker, Boise, Idaho; Kordell Seidler, Meridian, Idaho; Ronald Stephenson, Gooding, Idaho; Caleb Trost, Billings, Montana; Vanessa Van Vleet, Preston, Idaho; Kaylee Walton, Paul, Idaho; and Reed Wasson, Harlowton, Montana. Each Rocky Mountain Section PGA Foundation Scholarship Award winner will receive \$1,000 to assist with expenses related to his or her college education for the 2017-2018 academic year.

The Rocky Mountain Section PGA Foundation's Scholarship Award is awarded annually to college-bound high school seniors based on academic achievement, community and extracurricular activity, leadership, financial need and involvement and contribution to the game of golf. *Continued pg. 6* 

### continued

Participants in the Snake River Chapter Larry Malone Scholarship Pro-Am and the Laurel (Montana) Golf Club and Yellowstone Country Club (Billings, Montana) Pro-Ams contributed to the scholarship fund of the Foundation. Additional support was provided by the Montana State Golf Association and individual contributors and donors. National Car Rental was a sponsor of the Larry Malone and Yellowstone events. The Scholarship Program has awarded over \$305,000 to deserving youth over the past 43 years.

"We remain thankful for all those who contributed to the scholarship funding efforts of the RMSPGA Foundation," states Vaughn Jenkins, PGA, executive director, Rocky Mountain Section PGA. "We wish this year's scholarship recipients great success; both in the classroom and in life," adds Jenkins.

# DRIVE, CHIP AND PUTT QUALIFIER RESULTS

### RIDGECREST GOLF CLUB

More than 150 children took their best 9 swings to qualify for the next level of the Drive, Chip & Putt competition. Twenty-four skilled players (12 girls and 12 boys) qualified at Ridgecrest Golf Club in Nampa, ID, to move on to the sub-regional competition to be held on August 1st at Rose Park Golf Course in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Congratulations go out to the 7 to 9 year old qualifiers, Zoe Moore of Meridian, Idaho, Sara Andrus of Meridian, Idaho, Raegan Larson of Emmett, Idaho, Russell Larson of Emmett, Idaho, Miles McFarland of Boise, Idaho, and Brooks Rizvi of Boise, Idaho, all of which get to go to Salt Lake City.

In the 10 to 11 year old division, Natalie Nichenko of Meridian, Idaho, Eliana Cho of Eagle, Idaho, Madeleine Heringer of Boise, Idaho, Beau Sahr of Eagle, Idaho, Hunter Sutton of Boise, Idaho, and Reid Piron of Boise, Idaho, will be traveling to Utah.

The 12 to 13 year old group saw Brooke Patterson of Eagle, Idaho, Natalie Stacey of Boise, Idaho, Tea Uranga of Wilder, Idaho, Gavin Rodeghiero of Star, Idaho, Carter Williams of Weiser, Idaho and Wheaton Ennis of Eagle, Idaho, all qualify for the next level.

Finally, the 14 to 15 year old qualifiers include Quinn Haigwood of Boise, Idaho, Davis Sahr of Eagle, Idaho, Gabriel Schroeder of Twin Falls, Idaho, Christine Cho of Eagle, Idaho, Emily Cadwell of Boise, Idaho, and Lauren Parish of Meridian, Idaho.

### THE POWDER HORN

The weather on Father's Day was ideal for the 53 children who attempted to qualify at The Powder Horn in Sheridan, Wyoming for the next level of the Drive, Chip & Putt competition. Twenty-four skilled players (12 girls and 12 boys) qualified to move on to the sub-regional competition to be held on August 1st at Rose Park Golf Course in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Congratulations to the 7 to 9 year old qualifiers, Khloe Romo of Casper, Wyoming, Ella Hiller of Sheridan, Wyoming, Olivia Bracke of Cody, Wyoming, Jaxson Bratton of Casper, Wyoming, Tate Nichols of Wheatland, Wyoming and Drew Wagner of Sheridan. In the 10 to 11 year old division, Shelbi Gardner of Sheridan, Camryn Wagner of Sheridan, Clara Murray of Sheridan, Justin Jones of Miles City, Montana, Isaac Schmidt of Casper and Toby Dinges of Bozeman, Montana, will be traveling to Utah. The 12 to 13 year old group saw Sophia Spiva of Casper, Gabriella Wright of Sheridan, Lily Nichols of Wheatland, Peyton Wasson of Gillette, Wyoming, Anderson Murray of Sheridan and Brock Owings, also from Sheridan, qualify for the subregional. The 14 to 15 year old qualifiers include Barrett Lloyd of Casper, Libby Gardner of Sheridan, Ellie Williams of Sheridan, Alex Sanders of Sheridan, Elijah Cole of Cheyenne, Wyoming and Brent Morrison of Gillette.

The Rocky Mountain Section PGA wishes each competitor the very best of luck throughout the competition. The regional champions in each of the boys' and girls' divisions from the four age categories will advance to the finals, to be held at Augusta National the Sunday before the Masters, April 1, 2018.

### REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

Registration is open and entries are being taken for the following events:

# RMSPGA SENIOR SECTION CHAMPIONSHIP/PROFESSONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Entries for the 2017 Rocky Mountain PGA Senior Section Championship & 2017 Rocky Mountain Senior PGA Professional Championship are being accepted by the PGA of America. **The entry deadline is Wednesday, July 12th at 4:00 p.m. Mountain Daylight Time.** 

This year the Championship will be played Tuesday, July 18th and Wednesday, July 19th at Jackson Hole Golf & Tennis in Jackson, Wyoming.

**CLICK HERE** to register for the Rocky Mountain PGA Senior Professional Championship.

*NOTE:* Entering the Rocky Mountain PGA Senior Professional Championship serves as automatic entry into the Rocky Mountain PGA Senior Section Championship.

**CLICK HERE** to view complete entry and eligibility information from the PGA of America.

CLICK HERE to view information regarding the Rocky Mountain PGA Senior Professional Championship.

**CLICK HERE** for the BlueGolf site to enter the Senior Section Championship **ONLY.** 

# WINDFALL CLASSIC (DUKE FAMILY FOUNDATION WINDFALL CLASSIC)

Entries are not being accepted for the 2017 Duke Family Foundation Windfall Classic to be played Monday, August 7<sup>th</sup> at Crane Creek Country Club in Boise, Idaho. The starting field is limited and entries will be accepted on a first come first served basis.

Professionals will be grouped with amateur teams on a blind draw basis (Professionals do NOT bring amateurs).

**CLICK HERE** to download/view the Entry Form **CLICK HERE** to register for the Windfall Classic

### RMSPGA ASSISTANT CHAMPIONSHIP

Registration is open for the 2017 National Car Rental Rocky Mountain PGA Assistant Championship supported by The PGA TOUR and OMEGA.

For those that have yet to pass the entire Player's Ability Test; the Assistant Championship can be used as a P.A.T. attempt. Should you desire to use this event as a P.A.T. attempt, please take special care when entering to make sure you have entered not only the Championship but also the P.A.T. portion of the event. Take note of the fact that the P.A.T. is offered as an addition to the Assistant Championship; players may not enter just the P.A.T. There is an additional \$50 fee for the P.A.T.

The Championship will be held at Snake River Sporting Club in Jackson, Wyoming on Wednesday, August 16, 2017. **Deadline to register is 3:00 p.m. MDT Wednesday, August 9, 2017.** 

CLICK HERE to view the BlueGolf site and information regarding the 2017 National Car Rental Rocky Mountain PGA Assistant Championship.

**CLICK HERE** to view the complete entry and eligibility information for the 2017 National Car Rental Rocky Mountain PGA Assistant Championship as provided by the PGA of America.

**CLICK HERE** to register online for the National Car Rental Rocky Mountain Section PGA Assistant Championship.

# RMSPGA SECTION CHAMPIONSHIP/PROFESSIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Entries for the 2017 Rocky Mountain PGA Professional Championship/Section Championship are being accepted by the PGA of America. **The entry deadline is Wednesday, August 23rd at 4:00 p.m. Mountain Daylight Time.** 

This year the Championship will be played Tuesday and Wednesday, August 29-30 at Teton Pines Country Club and Resort in Wilson, Wyoming. Make lodging arrangements early. The deadline for the room block at The Virginian Lodge (800-262-4999) is August 7th. Ask for the Rocky Mountain PGA rate.

**CLICK HERE** to view complete entry and eligibility information from the PGA of America.

**CLICK HERE** to view information regarding the Rocky Mountain PGA Professional Championship.

**CLICK HERE** to enter the Rocky Mountain PGA Professional Championship/Section Championship.

# MSR CYCLE 15A ENDS JUNE 15, 2018

Just a friendly reminder that the currently MSR cycle ends June 15, 2018. The next opportunity to obtain PGA Required MSR credits will be the fall section meeting on October 2<sup>nd</sup> in Idaho Falls, Idaho followed by the chapter meetings and education seminars. The videos from the 2017 PGA Merchandise Show are available for viewing at PGA.org and viewing and testing of these complimentary videos will earn you MSR credits in the PGA Required category.

If you have any questions on your MSR status, please contact Laurie at the Section Office or PGA MISC at (800) 474-2776.

# STARTERS NEEDED AT ALBERTSONS BOISE OPEN

As we have done for every year of the Albertsons Boise Open, we are again providing the starters for this year's event. If you are interested in being a starter, and would like to receive MSR credits for your efforts, please contact Laurie at the Section office. The Albertsons Boise Open is scheduled for September 14-17 at Hillcrest Country Club in Boise.

# SHORT SHOTS

Congratulations to **Brian Eeekhoff, PGA**, who was elected to membership in the PGA of America. Brian is the head professional at Cottonwood Hills in Bozeman, MT.

**Bill Larson, PGA**, Bozeman, MT., has reclassified to Life Member Retired.

**Eric Goettsch, PGA**, is the new Head Professional at 3 Creek Ranch, Jackson, WY.

Welcome to **Brent Baldwin**, A-1. Brent is the new Head Professional at The Links at Teton Peaks, Driggs, ID.

**Edward Oliver, PGA**, is the Assistant Professional at 3 Creek Ranch, Jackson, WY.

Snake River Sporting Club, Jackson, WY, has named **Matt Stireman, PGA** as the new Assistant Professional (A-8).

**Johann Emanuel, PGA**, is now the Assistant Professional at Plantation Country Club, Boise, ID.

Shooting Star Golf Club in Teton Village, WY, has named **Christopher Bunge**, **PGA**, as their new Assistant Professional.

Welcome to **Justin Scott, PGA**, A-20. Justin is a sales representative for Golf Genius and is living in Apine, WY.

**Joe Griffin, PGA**, is the Teaching Professional (A-6) at Indian Lakes Golf Club in Boise, ID.

Jon Stein, PGA, Nampa, ID, has reclassified to Life Member Retired.

### **APPRENTICE NEWS:**

**Jared Strickland**, B-8, Peter Yegen Golf Course, Billings, MT.

**Peter Dornisch**, B-8, Shooting Star, Teton Village, WY.

Derek Cook, B-8, Blue Lakes Country Club, Twin Falls, ID.

**Tom Deardorff**, B-8, Lakeview Golf Club, Meridian, ID.

**Sam Jacobson**, B-8, Plantation Country Club, Boise, ID.

Brian Kain, B-8, Jackpot Golf Club, Jackpot, NV.

Bronson Miller, B-1, Shadow Valley Golf Course, Boise, ID.

Corbin Disney, B-8, Snake River Sporting Club, Jackson, WY.

Alexandra Huber, B-8, Spanish Peaks Mountain Club, Big Sky, MT.

Charles Pirc, B-8, Shooting Star, Teton Village, WY

Gardiner Young, B-8, Elkhorn Golf Club, Sun Valley, ID.

# PGA OF AMERICA NAMES MONTE KOCH, PGA PACIFIC NORTHWEST/ROCKY MOUNTAIN SECTIONS EMPLOYMENT CONSULTANT



PGA Employment Services is pleased to announce Monte Koch, PGA will join the expanded team of 18 employment consultants now serving PGA Members and employers across the country. The addition of eight new field consultants will provide the team a unique opportunity to forge stronger relationships with both PGA Members and PGA employers through the overall smaller territories each Consultant will manage.

Koch, a PGA Certified Professional, will transition from his current role of Player Development Regional Manager into the role of Employment Consultant for the PGA of America and is dedicated to the Pacific Northwest and Rocky Mountain PGA Sections. His focus is to provide career-coaching for PGA Professionals, along with employment consultation for course owners, club managers and the like, in order to create significant and measurable revenue increases, deeper consumer/member engagement, and more.

With more than 25 years in golf, Koch is proud of his start as a greenskeeper at the City of Portland's Heron Lakes Golf Course. A native of Beaverton, Oregon, he

is a graduate of the PGA Professional Golf Management program at New Mexico State University. After graduation, Koch moved to the Northern California PGA Section (NCPGA) and his first role at Saddle Creek Golf Club. He worked for more than 15 years at facilities in the NCPGA Section. During that time, Koch served in various roles including General Manager, Director of Golf and Head Golf Professional at multiple facility types (including private, semi-private/daily fee and municipal.)

Prior to joining the PGA, he worked at Chardonnay Golf Club in the Napa Valley. While in the NCPGA, Koch served as a Director for the Section, including two years each as Secretary, Vice President and President. He was involved in the formative years of the California Alliance for Golf (CAG), representing the NCPGA among golf industry leaders. Koch also represented the Northern California PGA Foundation as a Director and Officer. In 2008, he won the Section's Bill Strausbaugh Award, followed by its Golf Professional of the Year Award in 2011.















# ERIC LYMAN, PGA LORI PUTNAM, PGA

# **BRIDGESTONE** GOLF

GARY SPINELLI, CLIFF JONES MATT SEARE





JASON SEEMAN CHARLEY CARLSON





**EDDIE SEEFELDT** ETHAN SCHOFIELD



RANDY HOMER, MIKE DALY **ERWIN HUFFER** 











SCOTT LARSEN, PGA

SCOTT LARSEN, PGA























Golf Sales







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BRAD RACINE, TERRY OUTZEN, PGA LLOYD PUTNAM