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DAVID SNYDER NAMED ROCKY MOUNTAIN SECTION PGA GOLF PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR



The Rocky Mountain Section PGA has named David Snyder, the Executive Director of the Wyoming State Golf Association, its PGA Golf Professional of the Year. Snyder is an eighteen year member of the PGA of America and has lead the WSGA the past two years.

The PGA Golf Professional of the Year Award is the highest honor paid to a PGA professional. The honoree is chosen based on his or her outstanding leadership abilities, exceptional performance as a PGA Professional and distinguished service to the Association and to the game of golf.

Since his election to PGA membership in 1996, Snyder has distinguished himself as a leader. He has served his Chapter and the Section as an officer since 2005 and is the current President of the Section.

This marks the second time David has been honored as the RMSPGA Golf Professional of the Year and his fourth overall Section award. He takes great pride in an ever-growing state-wide junior program and his willingness to constantly learn more about becoming a better leader than he already is. David credits his peers and mentors for his continued success. He feels it is greatly important for him to listen to other member's thoughts and concerns while communicating with as much of the membership as possible.

Outside of his daily responsibilities to the state golf association, David takes time to speak at local schools, the Lion's Club, and the Optimist Club. In addition, he teaches golf for a local recreation center and community college near his home in Cody, Wyoming.

Snyder created the Wyoming Cup, a Ryder Cup style competition between Wyoming golf professionals and amateurs. The event was a huge success and continues to be played at different venues around the state.

Snyder, along with the other 2014 Rocky Mountain Section PGA award recipients will receive their awards in May as part of the 2015 Rocky Mountain Section PGA Annual Meeting.

GREG GLOVER SELECTED AS 2014 RMSPGA TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Rocky Mountain Section PGA Member Greg Glover has been named the 2014 Teacher of the Year by the RMSPGA.

The Teacher of the Year award bestows special recognition upon a Rocky Mountain Section PGA golf professional that has performed outstanding service as a golf instructor. The honoree is chosen based on his or her performance, leadership, image, promotion of the game of golf, impact on teaching and golf instruction, as well as the individual's involvement in junior activities at his or her facility, and innovative contributions to golf instruction and published articles.

This honor marks the first time Greg has won the RMSPGA Teacher of the Year award and his second Section award overall as he was the Private Merchandiser of the Year in 2013. Greg was elected to PGA Membership in 1996 and has a passion for teaching the game to all levels of players. It is imperative to Greg that he is well versed in many different methods and styles of teaching because he realizes the importance of communicating to all types of students. Greg specializes in teaching the fundamentals of the game and showing his students how to practice properly. In addition, Greg has invested greatly in the latest tools and equipment to quantify his students' results. Over the last 7 years as the Director of Golf at 3 Creek Ranch Golf Club in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, Greg has instructed countless players spanning every level in an effort to further each person's enjoyment of the game of golf.

In addition to his normal club duties, Greg is a student of the golf swing and a student of teaching technique. He has studied countless famed teachers and their methods to hone his craft. It was a goal of Greg's to earn the Rocky Mountain Section PGA Teacher of the Year Award and the Section is happy to announce his achievement.

McGEACHIN EARNS 2014 RMSPGA YOUTH PLAYER DEVELOPMENT AWARD

Scott McGeachin, PGA General Manager of the Warm Springs Golf Course in Boise, Idaho, has been named the recipient of the 2014 Youth Player Development Award. McGeachin has been a member of the PGA of America since 1988 and has served the City of Boise with pride for 18 years.

The Youth Player Development Award bestows special recognition upon a PGA Professional who has displayed extraordinary and exemplary contribution and achievement in this field. Scott is dedicated to providing meaningful instruction and playing opportunities for juniors of all ages. His success clearly comes from his dedication to promoting the game and encouraging the next generation of golfers. Scott and his staff continually review and promote programs to facilitate the needs of the community.

Scott's courses are host to 4 high schools, 4 junior high schools, 2 college teams, and nearly 700 children participate in their junior programs. In addition, junior golf teams play, learn, and practice 3 times each week with teaching staff also taking them to local tournaments to further their playing interests. There are a half dozen junior/parent scramble nights during the summer that average 60 players each week. Scott's love for junior golf is clearly apparent by the way he designs his programs and how he looks to the future of the game.

The 2014 Youth Player Development Award marks the third time Scott has earned this honor having won in 2002 and 2006 when it was known as the Junior Golf Leader Award.

CAROLLO WINS ROCKY MOUNTAIN SECTION PGA BILL STRAUSBAUGH AWARD

Dave Carollo, of Eagle, Idaho, has been selected by the Rocky Mountain Section PGA as the 2014 recipient of the Bill Strausbaugh Award. Carollo, a twenty-six-year member of The PGA of America, is being honored with this award for the first time as a member of the Rocky Mountain Section. He also won the Strausbaugh as a member of the Southern California Section in 1997 in addition to being recognized at the chapter level twice in Southern California.

Established in 1979, the Bill Strausbaugh Award is presented to a PGA Professional who, by their day-to-day efforts, has distinguished themselves by mentoring their fellow PGA Professionals in improving employment situations and through service to his/her community.

As a PGA member, Dave has worked tirelessly to promote the PGA of America and its members. As a result, he has been actively involved with assisting his former assistant professionals in establishing their careers as PGA professionals. Dave has mentored various professionals who have attained PGA membership and given of his time to many through the years. He stresses never having asked any assistant to do anything he would not do himself and strives to positively affect how any professional he has worked with views their position.

The 2014 Bill Strausbaugh Award adds to an already distinguished resume for Carollo, the just retired PGA Head Professional at Hillcrest Country Club in Boise, Idaho. In addition to his 2007 RMSPGA Assistant Professional of the Year award, Carollo won two Section and three Chapter awards during his tenure in the Southern California Section including the most prestigious Golf Professional of the Year award in 2002.

MARK WEHRMAN WINS ROCKY MOUNTAIN SECTION PGA HORTON SMITH AWARD

Mark Wehrman, PGA Head Professional at Big Sky Resort Golf Course in Big Sky, Mont., has been selected by the Rocky Mountain Section of The PGA of America as the recipient of the 2014 Horton Smith Award.

The Horton Smith Award is presented to a PGA member for his/her outstanding contributions to professional education. Wehrman, elected to PGA membership in 2008, reflects this commitment through his dedicated service to the Rocky Mountain Section PGA. Mark is currently the RMSPGA Yellowstone Chapter Education Chairman. He has aided in the organization of various learning experiences and other educational opportunities for the members and apprentices of the Section including bringing PGA Master Professional and Hall of Fame member Dr. Gary Wiren to the Section to present a teaching seminar.

Mark's willingness to educate does not stop with the organization of seminars and researching relevant content. He has been an apprentice mentor since 2008 in addition to being on the PGA Growth of the Game committee since 2010. Play Golf America programs are also part of his day-to-day operation at Big Sky and he is a member of the National PGA President's Council for Growing the Game.

This award marks the third Section honor for Mark having won this award in 2012 and being this year's Resort Merchandiser of the Year.

MARK HOLIDAY SELECTED AS ROCKY MOUNTAIN SECTION PGA PLAYER DEVELOPMENT AWARD RECIPIENT

PGA Professional Mark Holiday of Bozeman, Mont., has been selected by the Rocky Mountain Section PGA as the 2014 recipient of the Player Development Award. Holiday, a 22 year member of The PGA of America has been honored as such to recognize his extraordinary contributions and achievements in the area of Player Development. This award considers the Professional's "growth of the game" leadership commitment at Section and National levels and the impact made at his/her own facility.

As the PGA Director of Golf at Bridger Creek Golf Course in Bozeman, Mont., Mark continues to work tirelessly to promote the game of golf. He has hosted multiple Play Golf America days, emphasizes Get Golf Ready programs, and built the Rocky Mountain Golf Academy from the ground up. Mark and his staff also run comprehensive adult group lesson programs including novice and family fun nights. Nike camps for children have been a part of the Bridger Creek growth of the game culture for 11 years and continue to complement the multi-tiered Bridger Creek Junior Academy. Holiday and his staff continue to lead the way welcoming women, children, and men of all ages to learn the game.

This marks the 8th time Holiday will be recognized as an award winner within the Section.

SHARP, MASON AND WEHRMAN RECOGNIZED AS SECTION MERCHANDISERS OF THE YEAR

Jaime Sharp, PGA Head Professional at The Valley Club in Hailey, Idaho, has been named the 2014 Rocky Mountain Section PGA Merchandiser of the Year for private golf course facilities. This award marks the first time he has been so honored by the RMSPGA.

Jaime has been a member of the PGA of America for 10 years, and has been on staff at The Valley Club for 15 years. In that time he has seen countless changes in member's tastes for fashion and accessories in addition to the never ending run of "latest and greatest" equipment. Jaime's positive results come from his ability and

willingness to adapt to this ever changing climate of selling golf related merchandise. Constant review, analysis and edit of the club's merchandise plan are other keys to his longtime success.

Blake Mason, PGA Assistant Professional at Warm Springs Golf Course in Boise, Idaho, has been named the 2014 Merchandiser of the Year for public golf course facilities. This marks the second time he has won the Merchandiser of the Year award having done so previously in 2006. Blake has been a member of the PGA of America since 2006 and has loyally served Warm Springs for the past quarter century.

Blake's merchandising philosophy is to provide products in a range of brands and prices to best meet the needs of Warm Springs' diverse customer base. He also collaborates with as many vendors as possible to provide staff training and demo days so that any guest's questions can be competently answered to insure sales at the time of customer first contact. He uses different types of merchandising techniques and stays on top of current trends to keep the Warm Springs inventory moving.

Mark Wehrman, PGA Head Professional at Big Sky Resort Golf Club in Big Sky, Mont., has been recognized as the 2014 Merchandiser of the Year for resort facilities. Wehrman has spent the past three seasons at Big Sky and has been a member of the PGA of America since 2008. This is the first time Mark has garnered this award.

Mark keeps the old adage "You can't sell from an empty shelf" firmly in his mind. By increasing the amount of merchandise in the shop, he was able to significantly increase sales over the last year. Mark changes the look in the shop every week for a fresh appearance and offers a special discount to pass holders. He also conducts in house product seminars at the beginning of the season to keep his staff knowledgeable about the merchandise and how the shop is supposed to look. Product knowledge and full service are big keys to profitability in Big Sky's golf shop. Merchandiser of the Year Awards are presented to the individuals who excel in their abilities to purchase, present and sell golf-related products in the most effective and attractive way possible while providing a high level of service to the customer at their respective golf facilities.

JEFF ALLEN NAMED ASSISTANT GOLF PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR

Jeff Allen of Hilands Golf Club in Billings, MT, has been named the 2014 Assistant Professional of the Year for the Rocky Mountain Section PGA. Jeff has been employed at Hilands the past seven years, the last four as an assistant professional.

Jeff is very involved in all day-to-day golf operations at Hilands Golf Club. He has been, and is, a crucial part of the operation and a professional who takes on his responsibilities of teaching, tournament operations, staff management, and member care with an easy going demeanor and positive approach. He possesses the dedication to detail necessary to see any job through to a successful conclusion. Jeff is very focused on each individual experience and, as a supervisor, making sure that experience is as enjoyable as possible. He is constantly looking for ways to accommodate the needs of others while serving the best interests of the membership, his employer, and the game he loves.

Jeff has administered many events and is heavily involved in all tournaments conducted at Hilands. He believes preparation is the key to running smooth events and strives to make sure every element of any tournament is planned, accounted for, and ready to roll come tournament time. Jeff also takes great pride in player development as he has developed clinics for all ages and captained the Hilands Golf Club PGA Junior League Golf team. Jeff is also instrumental in the PGA Sports Academy and has taught for the First Tee of Montana. Jeff is proud to wear many hats as an assistant professional at Hilands and willingly takes on any and all tasks assigned to him. Jeff feels the more he does, the more he learns and the more he learns, the more valuable he is to the facility and its members. Jeff does his very best to lead by example as he continues to learn the many aspects of the golf business.

BRYSON & THOMSEN EARN PLAYER OF THE YEAR HONORS

Ben Bryson, PGA Head Professional at BanBury Golf Course in Eagle, Idaho, is the 2014 Player of the Year in the Rocky Mountain Section of the Professional Golfers' Association of America. PGA Life Member Jeff Thomsen of Boise, Idaho, is the

2014 Senior Player of the Year in the Rocky Mountain Section. Bryson and Thomsen earned their honors due to their performance throughout the season in Section and National events.

This is the second time Bryson has earned Player of the Year honors as he previously did so in 2012. Ben clinched a closely contested Player of the Year award by winning the final event of the 2014 tournament season, the Snake River Chapter Match Play Championship. On the national stage, Bryson qualified for and made the cut at the PGA Professional National Championship held at the Dunes Golf & Beach Club and Grand Dunes Resort Club in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

Sixty-one year old Thomsen continues to defy father time as he captured his ninth Senior Player of the Year award. Thomsen nearly doubled the point total of his closest pursuers capping off a phenomenal tournament season which featured victories at the Section Championship and the Senior Division of the Idaho Open. He also finished third at the Senior Section Championship and played in the Senior PGA Professional National Championship, an event he won in 2003.

BRYSON AND SANDERSON CLAIM SNAKE RIVER CHAPTER PGA MATCH PLAY TITLES

Ben Bryson, PGA Head Professional at BanBury Golf Course in Eagle, Idaho, defeated Luke Sestero, assistant professional at Crane Creek Country Club in Boise, Idaho, 1 up to capture the 2014 Snake River Chapter PGA Match Play



Mike Hamblin, Cliff Jones with Champion Ben Bryson

Championship. In the consolation bracket, Preston Otte, PGA General Manager at Clear Lake Country Club in Twin Falls, Idaho, narrowly bested assistant professional Tyson Bowen from Sage Lakes Golf Course in Idaho Falls, Idaho, 2 & 1. Excellent course conditions allowed the players to truly focus on their opponents the final day as the players completed their 5th match over the 3-day championship.

Continued on page 6....

Tommy Sanderson, PGA Teaching Professional at The Valley Club in Sun Valley, Idaho, defeated Fred Luthy, PGA Teaching Professional at Teton Reserve in Rexburg, Idaho, to win the Senior Division crown in



Bridgestone representative Cliff Jones with Senior Champion Tommy Sanderson

the Championship presented by Bridgestone Golf and supported by Maui Jim and The PGA TOUR. Sanderson played very solid golf both days of the tournament methodically eliminating his four competitors, the last match ending 4 & 3. In the consolation bracket of the senior division, PGA Professional Dave Carollo ground out a victory over Jerome Country Club's Head PGA Professional Troy Vitek by a score of 2 & 1.

The Snake River Chapter Match Play Championship was the 2014 season's final tournament. It was contested at the picturesque 6,454 yard par-72 layout at Blue Lakes Country Club in Twin Falls, Idaho, from October 27th thru October 29th.

The Rocky Mountain Section and the Snake River Chapter of the PGA would like to thank Blue Lakes Country Club host PGA Professional Mike Hamblin, and the staff and volunteers who put forth the effort to keep this as one of the premier events in the Snake River Chapter. Appreciation is also extended to Bridgestone Golf territory managers, Cliff Jones and Matt Seare for their sponsorship of this Championship. Thanks to Maui Jim Sunglasses and The PGA TOUR for their gracious support.

LENNY STROUP'S RETIREMENT

On Friday, December 5th a retirement party was held at the Police Station in Caldwell, Idaho, for Lenny Stroup, longtime head professional at Fairview Golf Course. A brief ceremony was held for Lenny, who was surrounded by friends and family, as prepared by the City of Caldwell and with the assistance of Jerry Breaux, PGA Golf Facility Manager at Banbury Golf Course in Eagle, Idaho. The speakers included but are not limited to: the Honorable Garret L. Nancolas, mayor of Caldwell; Jerry Breaux; Warren "Stoney" Brown (complete with poem for Lenny); Tim Reinke; family members; golfers from Fairview; and RMSPGA Executive Director Vaughn Jenkin. Several other PGA Members attended including Jim

Brown, Jon Stein and Roger Garner. A special message was read from John Watson, PGA Head Professional at Purple Sage Golf Course, who was unable to attend. A special display of memories was set-up and a cake, snacks and drinks were provided for the enjoyment of the honoree and attendees. At the conclusion of the ceremony Lenny spoke to his affection for golf, junior golfers, those in attendance, the PGA and the City of Caldwell. I am sure you will join us in wishing this gentleman of the game all the very best and a very long, happy and healthy retirement. Another year has come and gone; with ever increasing speed it seems. 2014 was a better year for many of our professionals, but challenges aplenty still exist. Still, this is the time of year to pause and give thanks for all that we have. As such, if you have yet to pen a note or type out an e-mail this would be an excellent chance to thank our sponsors for supporting us in 2014.



(Left to right; Warren "Stoney" Brown, PGA; Tim Reinke, PGA; Lenny Stroup, PGA and Jerry Breaux, PGA)

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Change is coming to this office as I will relocate, at a time yet to be determined, to Cody, Wyoming in 2015. I will continue as Executive Director and my travels will increase. The office will be maintained in Boise and the operation of the Section will continue as it has in the past. Your staff is committed to the betterment of the Section and I look forward to renewing my ties with the Yellowstone Chapter as we move forward. 2015 will be an election year for both the Chapter and Section offices. As stated at the fall meeting of the Chapters please contact your Chapter President with your interest or you may always contact me. The elections will be held at the spring meetings of the Chapter and the election for the Section officers will occur at the Annual Meeting. That meeting is scheduled for Sunday, May 17th at the Residence Inn at Idaho Falls. Any individual interested in a Section office should contact Honorary President Ron Rawls with their interest.

98TH PGA OF AMERICA ANNUAL MEETING RECAP

The 98th PGA Annual Meeting was held in Indianapolis, Indiana during the week of November 16th. The theme of the meeting was *"Driving the Game Forward."* Most of the delegations, including the one representing this Section, arrived on the 16th. That evening the welcome party was held at Lucas Oil Stadium, home of the Colts, and the delegates were welcomed onto the field to attempt field goals, passes, receptions, etc. There was not a single injury suffered by your delegation during that evening.

The Opening Session started at 8:00 a.m. on the 20th. As you might imagine, the matter of the removal of former President Ted Bishop was discussed by then Interim President Derek Sprague and by the officers of the Indiana Section during their welcome address. No further comments were made on that topic. The new strategic plan of the Association was presented and is available for viewing on PGA Links. The three candidates for secretary made their final speeches during the afternoon session and then the remainder of the afternoon was available for delegations to meet with candidates. The evening of the 20th the 2014 PGA of America National Awards were presented.

The Informal Session was held on Friday the 21st. Donald Trump was the keynote speaker and he offered his view that while the PGA of America and other sources report a 2% decline in golfers he sees play at the facilities he owns going up. The informal session was also used for the Past Presidents forum, and for a review of the resolutions the delegates would vote on the following day. There was, surprisingly, very little discussion of the resolutions this year. During the afternoon the national officers plus CEO Pete Bevacqua and COO Darrell Crall took the stage for some comments and questions from the assembled. Concern was raised by a member of the Metropolitan Section (New York) about Dick's Sporting Goods having floor space at the PGA Merchandise Show. Mr. Crall answered that the Association does not own the show, thus, did not have a hand in their participation in it and that there is awareness of the concern within the membership on the subject of Dick's. That day concluded with Leadership Breakout Sessions on selected topics that included the role of the officers, executive director and a general discussion of business leadership.

The General Session started at 8:00 a.m. on the 22nd. The General Session followed the usual course with the reports of the officers and CEO beginning the day. PGA Properties continue to lose money although it was said things are improving. PGA Golf Club has been renamed St. Lucie Trail Golf Club. That facility has been renovated; meaning both the course and clubhouse. As for the resolutions, each and every one of them passed. Resolution 1, concerning the removal of the requirement to work for a Class "A" Member through the completion of Level 1, passed by a single vote. The morning was concluded with the presentation of the very first Deacon Palmer Award. The Deacon Palmer Award bestows special recognition upon a PGA Professional who personally displays outstanding integrity, character and leadership in the effort to overcome a major obstacle in his/her life. Arnold Palmer was selected as the first recipient of this award and he was brought to the stage and interviewed by the Golf Channel's Dave Marr III. Many in attendance for the entire week will remember the moments with Arnold Palmer as the highlight of the meeting. At each Annual Meeting those members who have completed their Board of Control and Board of Directors service are given some time to make a few remarks as they leave those responsibilities. Our District Director, Scott Brandt, completed his term and was succeeded by Kyle Heyen of the Colorado Section. New Business and Open Forum were then conducted. New Business is the answering of questions sent in advance and Open Forum is the delegates chance to make a comment, off the record. During Open Forum, no questions are allowed. Others will remember the election of Suzy Whaley, of the Connecticut Section, as secretary as the highlight. Suzy won the election on the first ballot over Russ Libby of Northern Florida and Michael Haywood of the Southwest Section. The newly elected Board was sworn in, a few closing comments were made and the meeting was adjourned. It is hoped that any member with an interest in the governance of the Association be able to attend at least a single Annual Meeting. A much better feel for the size and scope of our enterprise is gained through attendance at one of these meetings.

2015 GOLF PASS



The 2015 PGA Golf Pass is now available for sale. This year we have 70 facilities on the Pass and it is a tremendous value at only \$40. In addition to the great discounts the Pass provides, each Golf Pass holder will also receive a weekly grounds ticket to the 2015 Albertsons Boise Open.

Please help us with promotion of the Pass by making your members/customers aware of the many benefits of the Pass. The Golf Pass can be purchased online at www.rockymountainpga.com, by mail or by calling the section office.

Special thank you goes out to the 2015 presenting sponsor, Sun Valley Resort, and to Jeff Petersen, PGA Director of Golf at Sun Valley Resort as well as to all participating facilities.

COMPLIMENTARY ONLINE VIDEOS FOR MSR CREDIT AVAILABLE

PGA of America is offering ten videos from the 2014 Business Center Theatre at the PGA Merchandise Show at PGALinks.com. Completion of each video will result in either one or two MSR credits in the PGA Education/Meeting category. For those members still needing credits, this is a great opportunity to fulfill these requirements at no cost.

As a reminder, the current PDP cycle ends on June 15, 2015. Please contact the Section Office if you have any questions regarding your MSR status.

SHORT SHOTS

Dave Carollo, Eagle, ID, has reclassified to Life Member Active (LMA).

John Kinsey, Life Member, has moved back to the Rocky Mountain Section residing in Bozeman, MT.

Congratulations to *Brandon Fox*, Assistant Professional at Spanish Peaks Mountain Club, Big

Sky, MT. Brandon recently was elected to membership in the PGA of America.

Adam Martens has reclassified to General Manager, A-13, at The Club at SpurWing, Meridian, ID.

Welcome to *West Hilzer*, PGA Life Member, who recently moved to our section and resides in Sheridan, WY.

Johann Emanuel, A-1, is now the Head Professional at Shadow Valley GC, Boise, ID.

Hillcrest Country Club, Boise, ID, has named *Brett Kleinkopf*, A-1, as their new Head Professional.

Congratulations to Graysen Huff, son of RMSPGA Professional Rob Huff, Eagle, ID. Graysen was recently selected as the 2014 Pacific Northwest Junior Boys' Player of the Year, having been nominated for this award by the Idaho Golf Association in the Junior Boys' category.

PGA JUNIOR LEAGUE GOLF

Jonathan Gibbs, at the Snake River Chapter Fall Meeting, and Ryan Troxel, at the Yellowstone Chapter Fall Meeting, made presentations de-

signed to garner more participation in the PGA Junior League Golf Program for 2014. This is a growing endeavor; the 2014 participants loved it, and the Junior League is an excellent way to introduce young people to the game of golf. These gentlemen are the conduits to answer your questions in our Section and you are encouraged to contact them. To gain a further understanding of the program you may [CLICK HERE](#) to be taken to the PGA Junior League website.



2015 RMSPGA DIRECTORY

The section will again be producing a Directory for the membership and sponsors. Please take a minute to update all personal information (email, mailing address, cell phone number) at PGALinks.com to ensure that the information we have for you is current and correct.



The PGA Financial Assistance Fund Scholarship Program was established in 1986 to provide college scholarships for graduating high school seniors and college students who are the children or grandchildren of a PGA member. Since its inception, this program has awarded some \$5.7 million to 2,808 students.

The amount and number of scholarships is determined by the availability of funds, and may vary from year to year based on these factors and IRS guidelines. Scholarships are awarded at the discretion of the PGA Scholarship Committee. The scholarship is for accredited universities or colleges in the United States **only**.

The scholarship program is an academic based scholarship program that takes into account the following depending on the class level of the student:

High School Graduating Senior

- High School Cumulative Grade Point Average **must be at least 3.4** (60 percent of the scholarship weighting scale). This number is to be an unweighted GPA based on a 4.0 scale
- ACT and/or SAT test scores (30 percent of the scholarship weighting scale)
- Extracurricular activities in high school such as sports, clubs, student government, community service, part time employment, etc. (10 percent of the scholarship weighting scale)

Current College Student (has not reached their senior year in college)

- College Cumulative Grade Point Average **must be at least 3.4** (60 percent of the scholarship weighting scale)
- Most recently completed college semester or quarter GPA (30 percent of the scholarship weighting scale)
- Extracurricular activities in college such as sports, clubs, student government, community service, part time employment, etc. (10 percent of the scholarship weighting scale)

The application process is [available online](#) between Nov. 17, 2014 and March 16, 2015, and students are asked to wait until they are in possession of their most current grade report (first semester) or transcript before applying. The applicant must enter the student's Social Security number and the PGA-affiliated parent or grandparent's PGA ID number to access the application.

After submitting the online application, the applicant must send a sealed, official school grade transcript **postmarked by March 16, 2015**, that shows their GPA information and submit the ACT/SAT test score report (if a high school applicant) to:

Caroline Blackwood
PGA REACH Coordinator
PGA of America
100 Avenue of the Champions
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418

If you have any further questions regarding the PGA Scholarship Program, please call (888) 532-6662 or email cblackwood@pgahq.com.

DISTRICT 9 REPORT

To kick off the New Year, below are some key updates, as we celebrate the 99th year of the PGA of America!

Long-Term Strategic Plan

At the PGA Annual Meeting, President Derek Sprague and CEO Pete Bevacqua unveiled the future of the PGA by presenting the **Long-Term Strategic Plan**.

The Plan has been collaboration among the PGA of America's Officers, National Board of Directors, Past Presidents, National Committees, Section Officers, Section Executive Directors and PGA of America Staff for more than a year.

The Plan is highlighted by the mission of our Association – Serve the Member and Grow the Game.

The Core Products identified in this Plan are:

- Education
- Employment
- Player Development
- Sections
- Properties
- PGA REACH (the charitable foundation of the PGA of America)
- Championships
- Global Initiatives

I encourage you to [click here](#) to read the story on the launch of the Plan in the January 2015 issue of PGA Magazine. It is a highly informative and important story as we drive the game forward, well beyond the Centennial year of the PGA of America.

PGA.org

Starting at the 2015 PGA Merchandise Show this month, you will see a new look for PGALinks.com. The member website has been renamed PGA.org and is designed to provide PGA Members and Apprentices the following benefits:

Personalized features that allow you to customize your own version of **PGA.org** and how it works for your needs.

Simplified navigation to help you easily find the content and tools you need.

Enhanced tools to make teaching the game, managing the facility or advancing the industry easier from any device – whether it be your desktop, mobile phone or tablet.

You can continue to use the same login and password that you've used for PGALinks.com on PGA.org. And if you happen to type in PGALinks.com out of habit, don't worry...It will automatically redirect you to the new PGA.org.

PGA Marketing Resource Center

As we prepare for the upcoming season, I encourage you to utilize a number of outstanding tools available to assist your daily operation via the PGA Marketing Resource Center on PGA.org.

Among the valuable offerings on the Resource Center are:

Creative Materials – Flyers, emails and templates

Marketing and Public Relations – Facebook, Twitter, promoting Get Golf Ready to companies and a Marketing Action Plan

Growing Your Database – How you can expand your potential audience

Event Management – Ideas to make your events run even better

Increase in PGA Disaster Relief Fund

At the PGA Annual Meeting in November, your Board of Directors approved an increase in Disaster Relief to PGA Members from \$5,000 to \$7,000.

Any PGA Member previously granted the \$5,000 maximum is now eligible for the additional grant up to \$2,000 for any out-of-pocket expenses incurred after Nov. 19, 2014.

The PGA Disaster Relief Fund was created to provide PGA Members who find themselves faced with temporary financial problems due to medical emergencies, illness and natural disasters. It is supported exclusively by donations from PGA Professionals.

If you have any questions regarding the Disaster Relief Fund, please contact the PGA of America's Membership Department at (800) 474-2776.

Centennial Celebration

In January 2016, the PGA of America will launch our Centennial celebration at the PGA Merchandise Show.

The 100-day celebration will be centered on raising the profile of PGA Members and PGA Sections among employers and golfers. In order to do this, we will work closely with our media partner, Golf Channel, to communicate the value of PGA Members and Sections to the game and our industry.

In closing, I look forward to seeing you at the PGA Merchandise Show, Jan. 20-23, 2015.

If you have any questions, please contact me at kah57@me.com.

All my best,

Kyle Heyen, PGA
National PGA District 9 Director
PGA Board of Directors

winn
GRIPS



Golf Pride
GRIPS



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GOLF GRIPS

Softspikes



navika
USA Inc



**Chris Jenkins, Greg Jenkins
& Charley Carlson**

3602 S. Jason St
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800-321-7881 * 303-781-7881
www.jcgolfaccessories.com



PGA

Rocky Mountain Section

2015 RMSPGA MAJOR TOURNAMENT, PGA QUALFIER AND MEETING SCHEDULE

SRC Spring Membership Meeting

Wednesday, February 18

The Club at SpurWing – Meridian, Idaho

YC Spring Membership Meeting

Tuesday, March 3

Hilands GC – Billings, Montana

RMSPGA Facility Championship

Monday, April 13

The Club at SpurWing – Meridian, Idaho

Yellowstone Chapter Pro-Pro

Monday & Tuesday, April 13-14

Hilands Golf Club – Billings, Montana

Rocky Mountain PGA Foundation Larry Malone Scholarship Pro-Am

Monday, April 20

Hillcrest Country Club – Boise, Idaho

RMSPGA Annual Meeting

Sunday, May 17 – Idaho Falls, Idaho

RMSPGA Pro-Pro Shootout

Monday & Tuesday, May 18-19

Pinecrest Golf Course – Idaho Falls, Idaho

RMSPGA Junior Championship

Monday & Tuesday, June 17-18

Juniper Hills Country Club - Pocatello, Idaho

Albertsons Boise Open Qualifying

Monday, July 6

Ridgecrest Golf Club – Nampa, Idaho

RMSPGA Foundation/Yellowstone Junior Championship

Wednesday & Thursday, July 8-9

Powell Golf Club – Powell, Wyoming

RMS Senior Professional Championship & Senior Section Championship

Tuesday & Wednesday, July 21-22

Laurel Golf Club – Laurel, Montana

RMSPGA Assistant Championship

Wednesday, July 29

Jerome Country Club – Jerome, ID

RMSPGA Foundation/Gallatin Valley Junior Championship

Wednesday & Thursday, July 29-30

Bridger Creek GC – Bozeman, Montana

Windfall Classic

Monday, August 3

Crane Creek CC – Boise, Idaho

Montana Cup

Tuesday & Wednesday, August 4-5

Hilands Golf Club – Billings, Montana

RMSPGA Professional Championship/Section Championship

Tuesday & Wednesday, August 18-19

Jug Mountain Ranch – McCall, Idaho

Gallatin Valley Open

Saturday & Sunday, September 12-13

Cottonwood Hills Golf Club – Bozeman, Montana

Idaho Open

Wednesday-Thursday, September 23-24

Teton Springs Resort & Club – Victor, Idaho

Yellowstone Chapter Championship

Monday & Tuesday, September 28-29

Riverside Country Club - Bozeman, Montana

RMSPGA Fall Membership Meeting

Monday, October 5

Idaho Falls Country Club - Idaho Falls, Idaho

RMSPGA Fall Pro-Pro

Monday & Tuesday, October 5-6

Idaho Falls Country Club – Idaho Falls, Idaho

Snake River Chapter Match Play Championship

Monday-Wednesday, October 19-21

Blue Lakes Country Club - Twin Falls, Idaho

SRC Fall Membership Meeting

Monday, November 2

Site TBD

YC Fall Membership Meeting

Monday, November 10

Site TBD

BOISE GOLF & TRAVEL SHOW



Please support the section by volunteering your time at the Boise Golf & Travel Show on February 7-8 at Expo Idaho Center in Boise. The section will have a booth at the Show and we will be distributing Clubs For Kids as well as giving 10 minute free lessons as part of Play Golf America. We need volunteers in both of these areas. Please contact Laurie at the section office if you can help. Members will receive MSR credits and Apprentices will receive Apprentice Education points for volunteering.

SECTION OFFICE CLOSED FOR THE HOLIDAYS



The PGA of America and Rocky Mountain Section Offices will be closed for the Christmas and New Year's holidays starting on Wednesday, December 24th and will re-open on Monday, January 5, 2015. During this holiday season we wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

THANK YOU 2014 SPONSORS

The Rocky Mountain Section truly appreciates the sponsors who helped to make 2014 a truly great year for the Section. Please take a moment to show your appreciation and acknowledge the companies and sales representatives who have contributed so greatly to our success. The Rocky Mountain Section is fortunate to have such support and it is hoped you consider the brands and representatives below first when making your buying decisions for 2015.

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