



DECEMBER 2016

ROCKY MOUNTAIN SECTION



PGA

Rocky Mountain Section

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LANCE RIEBER IS RMSPGA SECTION CHAMPION

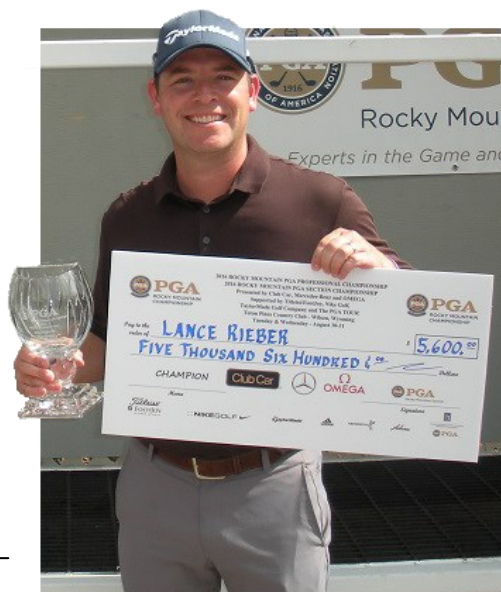
Lance Rieber of Boise, Idaho, winner of the Rocky Mountain PGA Professional Championship at Teton Pines Country Club & Resort in Wilson, Wyo., will lead four Section PGA Professionals to compete in the 50th PGA Professional Championship, June 18-21, 2017, at Sunriver Resort in Sunriver, Oregon.

Rieber turned in a winning total of 3-under-par 141 to capture the Rocky Mountain PGA Professional Championship title. Travis Hofland of Twin Falls, Idaho and Tom Anderson of Laurel, Mont. were runners-up, finishing tied at 2-under-par 142. They are joined by Ron Rawls

from Boise, Idaho who finished alone in fourth place at even par 144.

The Rocky Mountain PGA thanks PGA Head Professional Ron Dunham and his remarkable staff for their kind hospitality during the Championship. Thanks also to Erwin Huffer from Club Car, Terry Outzen from Titleist, and Jeff Smith from adidas and Ashworth Golf for making the trip to Teton Pines in support of the Section Championship.

Champion Lance Rieber



SNELLING AND BURTON TAKE SNAKE RIVER CHAPTER MATCH PLAY CHAMPIONSHIP TITLES

Justin Snelling, assistant professional at Boise (Idaho) Ranch Golf Course defeated Twin Falls (Idaho) Golf Club PGA Assistant Professional Travis Hofland 1 up in perfect conditions to capture the 2016 Rocky Mountain PGA Snake River Chapter Match Play Championship. Hofland held a 1 up lead standing on the 16th tee, but 3-putted the next two holes to go 1 down. Snelling short-sided himself in a greenside bunker next to the 18th green, but managed to make a slick 13-foot putt to win the match 1 up.

In the consolation bracket, assistant professional Taylor Hopkins from Purple Sage Golf Course in Caldwell, Idaho, needed 23 holes to finally best Shawn Rowe, assistant professional at Highland Golf Course in Pocatello, Idaho. A beautiful break in the weather and excellent course conditions allowed the players to truly focus on their opponents this final day as the players completed their 5th match

over the 3-day championship.

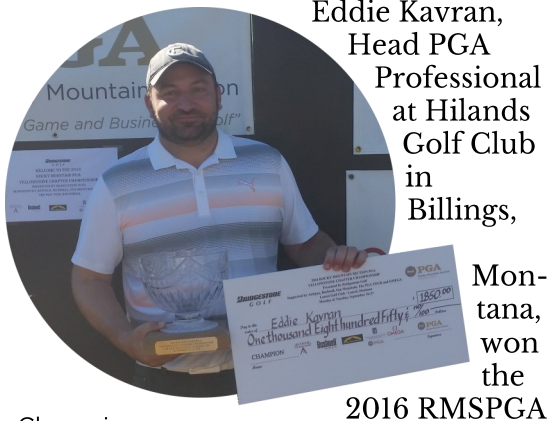
On the senior side, Kevin Burton, PGA Director of Instruction at Pierce Park Greens in Boise, Idaho, defeated Fred Luthy, PGA Assistant Professional at Teton Lakes Golf Course in Rexburg, Idaho, 2 & 1 to win the Senior Division. Burton won the regular division of this event in 2004 and 2006 and now has added a senior title to his impressive resume. In the consolation bracket of the senior division, two-time defending champion Tommy Sanderson, PGA Teaching Professional at The Valley Club in Sun Valley, Idaho, outlasted Centennial

Golf Course PGA Head Professional John Lewis by a score of 4 & 2.

The Rocky Mountain Section and the Snake River Chapter of the RMSPGA would like to thank Blue Lakes Country Club host PGA Professional Mike Hamblin and his staff who have 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 continued and loyal sponsorship of this Championship. Thanks also to OMEGA and The PGA TOUR for their continuing support.



EDDIE KAVRAN WINS THE 2016 YELLOWSTONE CHAPTER CHAMPIONSHIP



Champion Eddie Kavran

Montana, won the 2016 RMSPGA Yellowstone Chapter Championship, presented by Bridgestone Golf, supported by Antigua, Bushnell, Sun Mountain Sports, The PGA TOUR and OMEGA with a 36-hole total of 5-under-par, 139. The victory marks the fifth for Kavran in this event. Host PGA Professional Tom Anderson finished second with a 1-under-par total of 143 and Laurel Golf Club Assistant Professional Jacob McKinney finished third with an even-par total of 144.

The Championship was contested at Laurel (Montana) Golf Club, on September 26-27. Twenty-one RMSPGA Yellowstone Chapter professionals competed in the Championship.

The Rocky Mountain Section would like to thank PGA Head Professional Tom Anderson, his staff and Laurel Golf Club for hosting the event and for their hospitality. Sincere appreciation goes to Matt Seare and Gary Spinelli, Territory Managers with presenting sponsor Bridgestone Golf, and Robert Su, West Regional Sales Manager with Bridgestone Golf for supporting the members and apprentices of the Rocky Mountain Section PGA and the Yellowstone Chapter. Thanks also to Antigua, Bushnell and representative Charley Carlson, Sun Mountain Sports and representative Brent Palen, The PGA TOUR and OMEGA.

FERRELL AND SANDERSON CLAIM 2016 IDAHO OPEN CHAMPION TITLES



Nathan Ferrell with Preston Alder



Sr Champion Tommy Sanderson

PGA Professional Nathan Ferrell from Jackson, Wyoming, followed his opening round of 69 with a final round of 1-under-par, 71, for a two-round total of 4-under-par, 140, to capture the 2016 Idaho Open. Amateur Preston Alder from Draper, Utah, almost made it a second consecutive year for an amateur to win finishing a single shot behind after shooting a tournament low final round of 67. Alone in third place was PGA Professional Cam Garn from Ammon, Idaho.

The 2016 Idaho Open was presented by Teton Springs Resort & Club and supported by Club Car and adidas and Ashworth Golf. The Idaho Open was a 36-hole stroke-play event featuring an amateur paired with a professional for a better-ball of partners team event in conjunction with the individual championship honors. This year's championship was held September 21-22 at the Teton Springs Resort & Club in Victor, Idaho.

In the senior division, Tommy Sanderson, PGA Teaching Professional at The Valley Club in Sun Valley, Idaho, shot a closing round of 1-under-par 71 for a two round total of 3-under-par 141 to win the senior division for a second consecutive year by three shots over PGA Professional John Graham from Idaho Falls, Idaho. Alone in third place shooting 1-over-par 145 was PGA Professional Fred Luthy from Rexburg, Idaho.

On the team side, senior champion Tommy Sanderson with his amateur partner Ken Boer needed one extra hole to take the team title over Nathan Ferrell and his amateur partner Drummond Ayres. Sanderson actually won the playoff by himself as his partner had already departed. Alone in third place was the team of John Graham and his amateur partner Doug Hampton finishing one shot behind. The winning team total was 15-under-par, 129.

A total of 72 professionals and amateurs began play battling to earn a portion of the \$20,000 purse. The Rocky Mountain Section PGA wishes to thank PGA Professional Tony Snoey and his staff for their fantastic hospitality and supreme conditions at Teton Springs Resort & Club in Victor, Idaho. Thanks also to the supporting sponsors; Mike Daly of Stan's Golf Cars, Randy Homer of Intermountain Golf Cars, and Jeff Smith of adidas and Ashworth Golf.

RAIN, SLEET, SNOW, COLD & WIND DON'T STOP LEE AND EEKHOFF

The weather was the story at the 2016 Rocky Mountain Section PGA Fall Pro-Pro conquered by Renzi Lee, PGA Head Professional at Lake Hills Golf Club in Billings, Mont. and his partner Brian Eekhoff, head professional from Cottonwood Hills Golf Course in Bozeman, Mont. Day 1 was better suited for building an arc and was unfortunately canceled. Lee and Eekhoff took advantage of the shortened event and fired a 4-under-par round of 68 in the better-ball of partners format on the second day to take home the champion's hardware. Alone in second place shooting 3-under-par 69 was Travis Hofland, PGA Assistant Professional at Twin Falls (Idaho) Golf Club, and his partner Zach Abels, PGA Director of Instruction at Canyon Springs Golf Course also in Twin Falls. Congratulations go out to Rich Wehringer, PGA Assistant Professional at Shooting Star in Jackson, Wyo. who made an ace on the 7th hole.

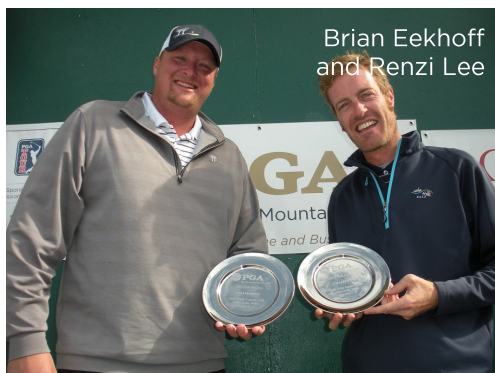
On the senior side, Idaho Falls Country Club Host PGA Professional Jon Potter and his

partner, PGA Professional Kevin Burton from Boise, Idaho, shot a 5-under-par round of 67 to outlast Rob Ellis, PGA Head Professional at Gooding (Idaho) Country Club and his partner John Graham, PGA Head Professional at Sand Creek Golf Course in Idaho Falls, Idaho, who shot 4-under-par 68.

This year's championship was supported by JC Golf Accessories, Ouray Sportswear, OGIO, Page & Tuttle, adidas and Ashworth Golf, Mizuno, OMEGA and The PGA TOUR.

The weather shortened team tournament was contested at Idaho Falls Country Club in Idaho Falls, Idaho. The format was a better-

ball of partners. The Rocky Mountain PGA would like to thank Jon Potter, PGA Director of Golf, Jason Jacobsen, PGA Head Professional and their staff at Idaho Falls Country Club for hosting the event and for the hospitality shown to the competitors. The Rocky Mountain PGA also extends its sincerest appreciation to Greg Jenkins of JC Golf Accessories, Scott Larsen, PGA, of Ouray Sportswear, Lori Putnam, PGA & Rich Whittet of OGIO, Jeff Smith of adidas & Ashworth Golf, Andy Hollister, PGA, of Page & Tuttle, Cody Faught and Jeremy Galbreth of Mizuno, OMEGA and The PGA TOUR for their kind and always generous support of the RMSPGA Fall Pro-Pro.



Brian Eekhoff and Renzi Lee



Senior Champs Kevin Burton & Jon Potter

WILSON SEIZES WEATHER SHORTENED ASSISTANT CHAMPIONSHIP

John Wilson of Pocatello, Idaho, won the National Car Rental Rocky Mountain Section Assistant PGA Professional Championship held August 17th at Juniper Hills Country Club in Pocatello, Idaho.



By winning, Wilson qualified for the 40th National Car Rental Assistant PGA Professional Championship held Oct. 27 – 30, at PGA Golf Club (Wanamaker Course) in Port St. Lucie, Fla.

Wilson posted a first-round 69 and Mother Nature did the rest. Electrical storms washed out the remainder of the tournament and gave him a 3-shot victory over PGA Assistant Professionals Luke Sestero from Boise, Idaho, Travis Hofland from Twin Falls, Idaho, and Robert Holmes from Emmett, Idaho, who shot like rounds of 72. Sestero won the 3-man playoff to take the second qualifying spot to the Assistant PGA Professional Championship.

The Rocky Mountain PGA wishes to thank PGA Head Professional Dallen Atkins and his staff for hosting the championship at Juniper Hills Country Club.

NOTES FROM THE 100TH PGA ANNUAL MEETING

What follows below are the recollections of the 100th Annual Meeting of the PGA of America. RMSPGA Secretary Dave Carollo compiled these notes and they are as complete as possible. A desire for the Association to focus on global opportunities was mentioned by a number of national leaders. While mentioned numerous times no specifics as to what those opportunities are or the manner contemplated to capitalize on them were provided for the attendees. It would be fair to expect the subject to be revisited in greater detail at future gatherings of the Association. The Grand Hyatt New York was the host site for the 100th meeting of the Association.

PGA OF AMERICA ANNUAL MEETING NOTES NOVEMBER 9-11, 2016 | NEW YORK, NY

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9TH

Jim Nance welcomed the attendees via video message.

PGA Member *Arnold Palmer* was remembered via video tribute.

Video recaps of the Centennial celebration included spotlights on #thxpgapro and the Section spotlight series.

Guest Speaker Erik Medina spoke to the next generation, The Centennials (age 0-19).

erikmedina@kantarfutures.com

- There are currently more Americans under the age of 35 than ever before
- The Millennials and Centennials have grown up influenced by a slow growth economy, polarized politics and global terror.
- 76% of Centennials own a smartphone and 55% own a tablet. These devices are their window to the world!
- There is greater ethnicity and diversity than ever before. The U.S. population is now 50% non-Caucasian for the first time.
- 40% of the parents of Centennials are multi-cultural.
- 70% of mothers of Centennials work outside the home, and two parent households are in decline.
- There is now a focus on independent and self-reliant children, so the Centennials exhibit traits of responsibility and resilience, along with expertise. They want to be treated more maturely and trusted with independence.
- On average, Centennials are socially engaged on smart phones/connected devices 6-9 hours daily.
- Their focus is on control, contentment and community.

Jeff Price led a panel discussion on the Changing Landscape of Sports. Panel members were Lisa Baird of the USOC, Cathy Clark of USA Soccer Federation and Mark Tatum, Deputy Commissioner of the NBA.

- The panel discussed many aspects of growing and promoting their respective sports, and there was a focus on growth in youth participation.
- An important conclusion is the importance of young athletes playing multiple sports, with specialization encouraged only after age 14.

Paul Levy and Pete Bevacqua spoke on the Strategic Plan, specifically "Serve the membership and grow the game".

- Pete stated that we must be the advocate of the PGA Professional. We need to defend, advocate and tell the stories of the members.
- A Chief Membership Officer will be hired by January 1st. That individual will be a PGA Member.
- Paul emphasized the importance of technology in the delivery of education to the members at all levels.
- Paul suggested a need to improve the value of Certified Professional status with the goal of increased compensation for certified members.

ANNUAL MEETING NEWS

- Pete stressed the importance of global expansion, stating that a global brand is stronger than a domestic brand. He indicated that the PGA must develop a global footprint while remaining connected to strategic objectives outlined in the Strategic Plan. There is a need to position PGA Members to be able to facilitate global growth in the game of golf. This would serve to increase the sphere of influence of the association and its' members.
- Pete commented on the role of Sections for program delivery on a more local level. Section funding has been increased, and he pointed out the need to align the efforts of Career Consultants with those of Section Executives and Section Officers.
- Paul pledged an increased commitment and investment in employment services, including smaller territories for Career Consultants.
- The association has changed its' philosophy regarding the "best and brightest", and will help facilities looking for highly skilled and regarded professionals.
- CareerLinks and PGA Job Finder are being upgraded to better serve the membership.
- New success metrics are being developed to evaluate the effectiveness of association programs and services.

Darrell Crall and Suzy Whaley discussed Junior League Golf, and other strategies to increase youth participation in golf.

- PGA Junior League Golf continues to grow and flourish, but is not without growing pains.
- 80% of participants are new or recently new to golf.
- The percentage of girls in PGA Junior League Golf has eclipsed the percentage of women who participate in the sport.
- Participation increases the value of the PGA Professional at his/her facility.
- Studies are being completed to determine if there is an opportunity to develop an international component similar to the Little League World Series.
- Darrell Crall spoke about the ADM (American Development Model) as a way to engage juniors in the game. This has been successfully implemented in youth hockey and tennis, and is being built out for golf.

Following a break for lunch, the Candidates for Secretary of the PGA of America each delivered their final speech to the delegation.

Wednesday evening was the Awards Dinner, moderated by David Marr.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10TH

INFORMAL SESSION

The Past President's Forum was first on Thursday's agenda. Questions were submitted by delegates, or provided by the association. Highlights are as follows:

- **Ken Lindsay** spoke about challenges in administering the Rules of Golf, especially in major championships. Television has changed how rules are administered. Focus on "getting it right".
- **Pat Rielly** commented on why some PGA members are struggling while the association is thriving. Pat indicated that tradition is the enemy of progress, that the association has grown more than the members and that employment remains a one on one proposition between employers and PGA professionals.
- **MG Orender** stressed the importance of the association providing resources so that Sections and individual professionals can expand their efforts to grow the game.
- **Roger Warren** expressed disappointment in the use and popularity of the Certified Professional program, indicating a need for members to buy in. Regarding education programs, he indicated a need to look forward to what will be salient in the next 100 years. Finally, he expressed disappointment in the discontinuance of Performance Trak.
- **Tom Addis** discussed Special Olympics golf.
- **Dick Smith** discussed the Hall of Fame, and asked the Sections to provide potential honorees. The next Hall of Fame cycle ends in 2017.
- **Jim Remy** spoke about the Junior Ryder Cup.

ANNUAL MEETING NEWS

Each Past President spoke on a topic, including those not listed here. Brian Whitcomb and James Ray Carpenter spoke via video.

Outgoing Independent Director Lynn Swann addressed the delegation, and encouraged racial diversity and a willingness to change in the future.

The Herb Graffis Award for outstanding achievement in player development and growth of the game programming was presented to the North Texas PGA.

The Officers along with CEO Pete Bevacqua participated in a Town Hall Forum, and the topics included the following:

- Pete clarified that globalization should not occur in an imperial fashion, but rather take on a partnership component with allied associations where possible and appropriate. Cooperation is key.
- PGM students that are non-citizens are not eligible for PGA membership. A constitutional review has been undertaken to review this issue.
- Alternative Golf Opportunities:
 - Paul: untraditional golf is on the way, but it doesn't work with Real Estate development and sales.
 - Suzy: opportunities exist for alternative deliveries of the game. Suzy is committed to making sure that PGA members have the opportunity to work in these new golf avenues.
 - Pete: important to make the "funnel" into golf as large as possible. Alternative entries into the game provide additional engagement.
 - Derek: don't let traditions get in the way of golfers having fun
- Ryder Cup Task Force. This was successful because it created a partnership between the players and the association, an emotional buy-in for all involved.
- Junior League Golf. Some operational challenges are being addressed, but there remains a need for youth golfers from ages 13-16 to have involvement and opportunity. High School regulations can be a challenge in this age group. Study is ongoing.
- Olympic Games. The prevailing opinion is that golf in the Olympic Games will serve to grow the game globally. Derek stated that golf federations around the world view the PGA of America as the best in the world, which opens opportunities for global expansion by the PGA. Pete stressed the importance of all professional golf bodies to work together regarding scheduling on years that the Olympic Games are played. It is important to protect scheduling of the PGA Championship.
- Employment. Paul focused on the need for a fresh mindset. What is the next generation of PGA Career Services?

Network commentator Jimmy Roberts interviewed Jack Nicklaus on stage.

The PGA provided delegate off-site outings on Thursday afternoon to:

- *One World Trade & 9/11 Memorial*
- *Statue of Liberty & Ellis Island*

Double Decker bus tour with Museum tickets

Thursday evening was the President's Evening, honoring outgoing PGA President Derek Sprague. Jimmy Roberts served as the Master of Ceremonies.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH

GENERAL SESSION AND BUSINESS OF THE ASSOCIATION

Derek Sprague presented plaques of appreciation to the Honorary PGA Members:

- Steve Wood, President of the PGA of Canada
- Diana Murphy, President of the United States Golf Association
- Peter Gross, President of the Golf Course Superintendent's Association
- Deb Vangellow, President of the LPGA Teaching and Coaching Division

ANNUAL MEETING NEWS

Mike Whan, Commissioner of the LPGA Tour reported via video:

- LPGA Tour is experiencing unprecedented growth and success
- Encouraged by the exponential growth in participation by Junior Girls golfers
- Proud to call the PGA friends and partners in growing the game of golf

Tim Finchem, outgoing Commissioner of the PGA Tour reported via video:

- Commissioner Finchem called the PGA of America the backbone of golf
- Successful collaboration and partnership between the PGA Tour and the PGA of America has led to a broader collaboration among all allies and entities in golf. The level of cooperation has never been better.
- He is excited about the future, and introduced Jay Monahan as the new Commissioner of the PGA Tour.

Jay Monahan, incoming Commissioner of the PGA Tour reported in person:

- Mr. Monahan is excited to make a huge impact on the growth of golf by working closely with the PGA of America.
- The PGA Tour continues to generate significant charitable contributions; \$160 million in 2016.
- He sees improved collaboration in all aspects of the game and among all industry constituents.
- He has a strong personal relationship with Pete Bevacqua, which will serve to foster continued excellent relationships and cooperation.

Mike Davis, Executive Director of the United States Golf Association reported in person:

- Stressed the importance of putting the game first when making decisions.
- The USGA implemented its' first Strategic Plan in 2011, and the focus is on the following:
 - Championships
 - Governance (including Rules of Golf)
 - Handicapping
 - Golfer engagement and growth of the game
 - Golf Facilities
- The USGA is committed to simplifying the Rules of Golf, with a focus on implementing available technologies to achieve that objective.

PGA of America **Secretary Suzy Whaley** provided the Secretaries' Report:

- The Secretary is charged with membership matters of the association, including activities of the Board of Control.
- PGA PGM enrollment and PGA Apprentice numbers are in decline.
- There are currently 14 Career Consultants and 9 Player Development Coordinators in the field.
- There is an all-time high number of PGA members in G.M. and Director of Golf positions.
- PGA Lead is a 2 year leadership development program targeting diverse applicants.
- PGA Properties are highly rated by golf publications, and experiencing membership growth.
- Junior League Golf is being heavily invested in through PGA Reach.
- PGA Hope is growing as PGA members assist military veterans by introducing them to golf and helping them learn the game.
- 128 scholarships were awarded in 2016 to children of PGA members attending college.
- In addition to ethics issues, the Board of Control provides disaster relief grants for members in need. Secretary Whaley stressed the importance of encouraging members to participate in the voluntary contribution to disaster relief when they pay their dues.

ANNUAL MEETING NEWS

PGA of America ***Vice-President Paul Levy*** provided the Vice-President's Report:

- The Vice-President is primarily charged with monitoring the financial performance of the PGA.
- The primary revenue drivers are as follows (in order of contribution): Broadcasting rights, Championships, Corporate Sponsorships and Member Dues (by far the lowest revenue driver).
- Due to increased revenues, more dollars are being driven down to the Sections than ever before.
- Due to increased revenues Championship purses have increased to be commensurate with other championships in golf.
- Additional funding is being provided to the Education Department.
- Paul noted that non-Ryder Cup years are typically loss years to the budget. For fiscal year 2015/2016, the budgeted loss was +/- \$26 million, and operations were \$1 million better than budget.
- For fiscal year 2016/2017, a new expenditure in the budget is for a Chief Membership Officer.
- Member program spending has increased 50% in the past 4 years, with a focus on driving resources to the Sections and ultimately the membership.

PGA of America ***President Derek Sprague*** delivered the President's Report:

- 5 key guiding questions determine how the association acts:
 - Will the decision positively affect and serve the Members?
 - Will the decision help grow the game?
 - Will the decision help grow diversity in golf?
 - Will the decision help improve and enhance the perception of the PGA and its' Members by the public?
 - Will the decision work to expand the influence of the PGA and its' Members?
- A stated goal is for the PGA of America to become a peak performing organization.
 - Govern and lead with purpose and passion
 - Work and align to a common goal
 - Focus on enhancing employment opportunities
- A comprehensive review and examination of the association's Constitution is in progress.
- Finally, President Sprague emphasized that this is OUR association.

PGA of America ***CEO Pete Bevacqua*** delivered the Chief Executive Officer's Report:

- We need to align our strengths to become the most influential governing body in the game.
- We need to tell our story through the power of the Championships and Ryder Cup, combining the influence and exposure of the Championships and Ryder Cup to improve the perception and influence of the membership.
- We need to tell our charitable impact story.

New Business was led by PGA Member ***Ron Ireland*** of the Northeastern New York Section.

- Sun Country Section asked if necessary changes to PGA Junior League Golf are being considered. Suzy Whaley fielded the question with the following comments:
 - PGA Junior League is a successful program, with 20% of PGA Members participating.
 - The average price for participation is growing, resulting in revenue gains for facilities.
 - Uniforms have been a challenge, but that is being addressed as a top priority.
 - Each participant was given 1 golf ball, ostensibly as a commemorative item, but this was not communicated well. These were not intended for play.
 - The association is investing heavily in the registration process.

ANNUAL MEETING NEWS

Suzy is bullish on PGA Junior League Golf, and expects continued program growth.

- Rocky Mountain Section inquired about A-3 members transferring to Life Member Active and participating in PGA of America and Section championships. Suzy Whaley commented:

According to Suzy, the issue was fully vetted through the Membership and Board of Directors. No change in policy is planned.

- Northern California Section expressed concern about too much reliance on on-line education. Suzy Whaley commented:

There remain many opportunities for PGA Members to gather and network, including In Person Education, Growth of the Game Activities, Tournaments, Meetings and the like. While many members prefer In Person Education, others prefer the convenience of on-line education. The PGA will continue to offer both.

- The Pacific Northwest Section suggested that ADP funding should be distributed on a "Per Member" basis versus a "Per Section" basis. Paul Levy responded:

The association is currently reviewing the Section Operations Business Plan, and all options are being considered.

- The Kentucky Section suggested the need for a full time Wage & Hour Specialist. Derek Sprague responded:

The association is weary of distributing blanket legal advice due to different laws in different areas. An on-line Q&A is posted on PGA.org that covers most situations that a golf professional will encounter.

Open Forum was conducted off the record. There were several passionate pleas from speakers in the room to keep working on improving the inclusion and diversity of the PGA.

Following a break for lunch, Paul Levy was elected President of the PGA of America without opposition, and Suzy Whaley was elected Vice-President of the PGA of America without opposition. In the race for Secretary, Bill Hughes delivered the nominating speech for Russ Libby; Ed Ibarquen delivered the nominating speech for Rick Murphy and Bill Hulbert delivered the nominating speech for Jim Richerson. The election for Secretary was decided on the first ballot (50% vote was required to be elected, 112 votes cast) as follows:

Jim Richerson – 60 votes (52.7 percent)

Russ Libby – 45 votes

Rick Murphy – 7 votes

Following the swearing in of the officers and incoming District Directors, the officers and Pete Bevacqua gave closing comments, and the 100th meeting of the PGA of America was adjourned by new President Paul Levy.

THANK YOU BOISE OPEN VOLUNTEERS

September, 2016 marked the twenty-sixth year that our Rocky Mountain PGA professionals have stepped up to volunteer as starters and give instruction tips at the Albertsons Boise Open, Idaho's only PGA TOUR sanctioned Web.com event held at Hillcrest Country Club in Boise in September.

Thank you to those professionals who volunteered as well as to the facilities that donated rounds of golf for our Rocky Mountain Section PGA Foundation raffle.

Tim Bensley instructing juniors
with Buster Bronco



LETTER FROM JEFF BEAUDRY WESTERN DIRECTOR, PGA EMPLOYMENT SERVICES



Good day,

After considerable thought and planning, I have made the decision to retire as Western Director for PGA Employment Services at the end of 2016. I have advised PGA senior management of my intent. It was a very difficult decision because I thoroughly enjoy serving PGA Professionals, sections, employers and other constituents. It has been the most rewarding role of my career and has been a privilege and pleasure to serve in this capacity.

My counterpart, colleague and friend, Eastern Director, Dick Bradow is retiring at the same time. Dick and I came to our decisions independently but both of us informed PGA management at the same time.

With our retirements, PGA leadership is evaluating the department's overall staffing model and section coverage to deliver the best possible services to PGA Professionals, employers, and sections. Once finalized, announcements about the hiring plan and timetable for replacements as well as any additional information about future departmental changes will be forthcoming.

I have cherished the opportunity for professional and personal growth being part of a group of consummate professionals on the PGA Employment Services team. I can never repay the PGA and my teammates for what this opportunity provided me and I will be forever grateful. The future is dynamic and I am certain PGA Employment Services will continue to grow and improve in providing valuable services to the Rocky Mountain Section and its members.

Serving the Rocky Mountain Section has been one long, enjoyable and rewarding journey and I want to thank you for your support, but most important your hospitality and friendship. It has been a privilege to work with you, as well as with those professionals, past and current, who served in section leadership roles. I look forward to speaking to you personally to thank you for the opportunity to serve you and Rocky Mountain Section members for the last 18+ years and answer any questions you may have about my departure and the transition.

Please know that after 18 years in the PGA Employment Services Department, I leave with even more respect and appreciation for the PGA of America, PGA sections and PGA Professionals.

Jeff Beaudry, PGA | Western Director, PGA Employment Services

MSR CYCLE 15 ENDS JUNE, 2018

This is a reminder that the current MSR cycle will end on June 15, 2018, which is just over a year and a half from now. All members are required to obtain 54 credits with 36 of those coming from the PGA Required category (Education, meetings, player development).

MSR education credits can be earned by completing the online tutorials and training via PGA.org.

If you have any questions where you are stand with your credits please give Laurie a call at the Section office (208) 939-6028.

TRAVIS TAKES GVO TITLE

Ty Travis from Boise, Idaho shot a two day total of 139 to take the title of 2016 PEPSI Gallatin Valley Open Champion. Cottonwood Hills Golf Course assistant professional Nick Knight and Tyler Carlson from Helena, Montana tied for second place with scores of 142.

Cottonwood Hills Golf Course in Bozeman, Montana was the setting for this annual event which features both the best in professional and amateur competition. Special thank you to Pepsi, presenting sponsors Sun Mountain Sports and Culligan along with supporting hole sponsors.

SECTION NEWS

2017 RMSPGA SCHEDULE (TENTATIVE DATES AND LOCATION)

April 10	SRC Facility Championship – Quail Hollow – Boise, ID
April 10-11	YC Pro-Pro – Hilands GC – Billings, MT
April 17	Larry Malone Scholarship Pro-Am – Hillcrest CC – Boise, ID
May 8	YC Scholarship Pro-Am – Laurel GC – Laurel, MT
May 15	YC Scholarship Pro-Am – Yellowstone CC – Billings, MT
May 21-23	Annual Meeting & Pro-Pro Shootout – Pinecrest GC – Idaho Falls, ID
June 7	Drive, Chip, Putt – Ridgecrest GC – Nampa, ID
June 10-11	Yellowstone Chapter Event – Lake Hills GC – Billings, MT
June 18	Drive, Chip, Putt – Powder Horn GC – Sheridan, WY
June 28-29	RMSPGA Junior Championship – Location TBD
July 12-13	RMSPGA Yellowstone Junior Championship – Powell GC – Powell, WY
July 18-19	RMSPGA Senior Section Championship – Jackson Hole G&T, Jackson, WY
July 26-27	RMSPGA Gallatin Valley Junior Championship – Bridger Creek GC – Bozeman, MT
August 1-2	Montana Cup – Location TBD
August 7	Windfall Classic – Crane Creek Country Club – Boise, ID
August 16	RMSPGA Assistant Championship – Snake River Sporting Club – Jackson, WY
August 29-30	RMSPGA Section Championship – Teton Pines Country Club & Resort – Wilson, WY
Sept. 9-10	Gallatin Valley Open–Cottonwood Hills Golf Course–Bozeman, MT
Sept. 20-21	Idaho Open –Teton Springs Resort and Club–Victor, ID
Sept. 25-26	Yellowstone Chapter Championship – Location TBD
Oct. 2-3	RMSPGA Fall Meeting and Fall Pro-Pro – Idaho Falls CC – Idaho Falls, ID
Oct. 16-18	SRC Match Play Championship – Location TBD

SECTION NEWS

2017 GOLF PASS

The 2017 PGA Golf Pass is now available for sale. This year we have 70 facilities on the Pass and it remains a tremendous value at only \$40. In addition to all the great discounts the Pass provides, each pass holder will receive a weekly grounds pass to the 2017 Albertsons Boise Open.

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

A special thank you goes to our 2017 presenting sponsor, Sun Valley Resort (Tyler Jones, PGA General Manager and Jeff Petersen, PGA Director of Golf) as well as to the participating facilities. We also appreciate the support of Cody Faught and Mizuno for their support of the Golf Pass program.



SHORT SHOTS

Congratulations to Bob Lantz, PGA, on his retirement. Bob has served Rupert Country Club in Rupert, Idaho as Head Golf Professional for 33 years and announced his retirement effective October 31. We wish Bob and his wife Cyndy the best in retirement.

The 2016 Gallatin Valley Open marked the final event for PGA Director of Golf Bill Larson as he announced his retirement after 38 years at Cottonwood Hills Golf Course in Bozeman, Montana. Congratulations to Bill on his well deserved retirement.

Welcome to Ken Allen, PGA, Nampa, Idaho. Ken is a sales representative for Ken Allen Golf Sales (Club Glove, Ben Hogan Golf Equipment, Team Effort, MV Sport, Mobile Proshop and The Game Headwear).

Welcome to Larry Pughe, PGA, Inactive, Tetonia, Idaho.

Randy Luke, PGA, Jefferson Hills Golf Course in Rigby, Idaho, has reclassified to Superintendent (A-17).

Gary Schroeder, PGA, is now the Head Professional at Jefferson Hills Golf Course.

Shooting Star, Teton Village, Wyoming, has named Eric Goettsch, PGA, as their Head Professional.

Apprentice News:

Matt Eilers, B-8, Eagle Hills Golf Course, Eagle, Idaho

Taylor Hopkins, B-8, Purple Sage Golf Course, Caldwell, Idaho

James Rankin, B-8, Quail Hollow Golf Course, Boise, Idaho

Max Vest, B-8, Pierce Park Greens, Boise, Idaho

Jacob McKinney, B-8, Laurel Golf Club, Laurel, Montana

Daniel Torres, B-8, Timberstone Golf Course, Caldwell, Idaho

Nicholas Perata, B-8, Warm Springs Golf Course, Boise, Idaho

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