



PGA

Nebraska Section

August 2018

INSIDE 5 THINGS TO KNOW:

- Sieckmann & Muller Win
- PGA Championship Wrap Up
- Foundation News
- Special Award Spotlight
- District 8 & Career Consultant



PGA

National Awards

2018 PGA of America National Award Recipients



**Congratulations to
James Sieckmann, PGA & Nick Muller, PGA**

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PGA

Nebraska Section

2018 NEBRASKA PGA TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

| DATE | COURSE | EVENT |
|------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 9/4/18 | Oak Hills | Mizuno Pro/Assistant Championship |
| 9/8-9/18 | Green Valley GC | TaylorMade 36 Hole Pro-3 AM |
| 9/14-16/18 | Elks Country Club | Wells Fargo Nebraska Open |
| 9/18/18 | The Players Club | Club Car Pro/Pro/Pro |
| 9/24/18 | Wild Horse GC | All Star Pro Golf Team Championship |
| 10/1/18 | Champions Run | PGA REACH Nebraska Pro-Am |
| 10/8/18 | Happy Hollow Club | Nebraska PGA Pro-Am Championship |
| 10/15/18 | The Pines CC | Nebraska Section PGA Legends of Golf |
| 10/22/18 | The Players Club | Club Car 27 Hole Pro-3 AM |



[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

NebraskaPGA.com

Congratulations to our National Winners

PGA TEACHER OF THE YEAR



James Sieckmann, PGA The Golf Academy at Shadow Ridge Omaha, Nebraska

James Sieckmann, a 23-year PGA Member in the Nebraska Section and the PGA Director of Instruction at The Golf Academy at Shadow Ridge Country Club in Omaha, is the recipient of the 2018 PGA Teacher of the Year Award for his "outstanding services as a golf teacher, innovator and coach."

"Recognized by GOLF Magazine as a "Top 100 Teacher in America," Sieckmann currently instructs 16 PGA Tour, LPGA Tour and Web.com Tour players, including Stewart Cink, Ben Crane, Anirban Lahiri, Cameron Tringale, Ben Marten, Tom Pernice Jr., Duffy Waldorf and 2017 Ricoh Women's British Open Champion In-Kyung Kim, among others. He has also been named to Golf Digest's "50 Best Teachers in America" list from 2015-2018.



Sieckmann is highly regarded as a mentor, educator and role model for fellow PGA Members. His recognition as 2018 PGA Teacher of the Year follows a long list of awards and accolades, including nine times as the Nebraska PGA Section's Teacher of the Year (1996, 2000, '01, '02, '04, '09, '14, '15, '16). He was also named the Nebraska Section Horton Smith Award Winner in 2000, and was inducted into the Nebraska Golf Association's Nebraska Golf Hall of Fame in 2016.

PGA MERCHANDISER OF THE YEAR PRIVATE FACILITIES



Nick Muller, PGA Country Club of Lincoln Lincoln, Nebraska

Nick Muller, a PGA Member in the Nebraska Section and PGA Director of Golf at the Country Club of Lincoln (Nebraska), is the recipient of the 2018 PGA Merchandiser of the Year Award for Private Facilities. Since he joined the Country Club of Lincoln five years ago, the golf shop has enjoyed double-digit growth in sales each year, as well as a 300 percent increase in junior apparel sales. The growth was also reinforced by a 73 percent increase in ladies' apparel sales and 110 percent increase in overall tournament revenue, thanks to Muller's implementation of well-choreographed events, such as turnkey fashion shows. His creative merchandising strategies, combined with his ability to engage customers through newsletters, branded posters and a mobile app used by 80 percent of club members, has been instrumental to his success. A member of the Nebraska PGA Section's Board of Directors, Muller is also passionate about mentoring through merchandising/service seminars to students in the University of Nebraska-Lincoln PGA Golf Management University and Hospitality Resort & Tourism programs.



Nebraska PGA Professional Championship

2018 NEBRASKA PGA PROFESSIONAL CHAMPION—Ryan Vermeer, PGA



[See Full Story Here](#)

2018 PGA Professional National Championship Qualifiers:

Nick Wanderscheid, PGA
Shane Zywiec, PGA
Ryan Vermeer, PGA
Jonathan Beaver, PGA
Jim White, PGA MP
Pete Hagen, PGA



PGA Championship Wrap-Up



Foundation Newsletter



OUR MISSION:

PGA REACH Nebraska was created for the purpose of administering the philanthropic affairs on behalf of the golf professionals within the Nebraska Section PGA. These affairs include, but are not limited to, promotion and growth of junior golf, scholarship programs, programs for underprivileged youth and contribution to allied charitable organizations.

PGA REACH Nebraska is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization committed to positively impacting lives through the game of golf.





NEBRASKA



PGA HOPE Story



PGA HOPE—Eagle Hills

The first session of PGA HOPE began this month at Eagle Hills GC. The program, led by Mark Baumann, PGA, is a free 7-week golf program for our servicemen, service-women and veterans.

This free program is a therapeutic adaptive golf program designed to introduce golf as a way to enhance mental, social, physical and emotional well-being, and to assist with rehabilitation and assimilation.



PGA REACH Nebraska is the charitable foundation of the Nebraska Section PGA. The mission is to positively impact the lives of youth, military and diverse populations by enabling access to PGA Professionals, PGA Sections and the game of golf.

Award Winners Spotlight

2017

Assistant Professional of the Year **Karrie VanRavenswaay, PGA**



I was extremely honored to receive this award last season. The Ridge Golf Club is a unique facility, classified as semi-private, with about 300 members. We have a private atmosphere in a lot of areas of the golf operation, but also have public access.

Historically, my biggest focus has been growing the game through junior golf. But, I feel what set me apart from other candidates for this award was the amount of responsibilities and tasks that I take on each day, week, month, and season. This includes managing staff, daily play and customer service, merchandising, corporate sales, league administration four days a week with about 360 participants total, tournament operations, corporate event set-up and management, PGA Jr. League coach of 6 teams, marketing, social media, club repair, golf car fleet management, golf instruction, membership billing administration.

The Ridge Golf Club is located in Sioux Center, Iowa, a small community with a local population of about 8,000 people. We have a small staff and a great golf course! Expectations were set high from the start with the opening of this facility in 2009.

I believe my natural tendency to help others and take on any task has facilitated great success in my career. I work hard to maintain a good relationship with team members in all departments. I am always willing to lend a hand assisting with anything that may be needed, from setting up tables and chairs to helping cook in the kitchen, waiting tables, or planting flowers. A great member experience is the ultimate goal, and I am willing to do whatever it takes to make this happen day in and day out.

The unique thing about the role of an assistant golf professional is the wide array of duties that are encompassed in our trade. In order to succeed, one must have the will to keep trying. I feel this trait displays my willingness to try new ways to run events or leagues, manage staff, and many other situations each season. It's also very important to be willing to learn and have humility, I may not always have the answer, but I am always willing to try to find it.

SETH WAUGH NAMED PGA OF AMERICA CEO



Former Long-Time Deutsche Bank Americas Chief Executive Officer to Lead the PGA into a New Era

[READ MORE](#)



Newly Appointed CEO Talks Strategy on Golf Channel

Membership Matters



Access the PGA Compensation Survey Results

Use these results to compare your compensation and benefits against other professionals in similar positions. [More...](#)

Member Assistance Program Started July 1, 2018 The SupportLinc Member Assistance Program (MAP) helps you deal with life's challenges and demands by providing confidential and professional counseling for a wide array of personal and work-related concerns. [Read the FAQs](#) to learn about the program.



District 8 Update

August Update

David Schneider, PGA District 8 Director



Dear District 8 PGA Members & Associates:

PGA Names Seth Waugh as CEO of PGA of America – Is there anything else going on nationally?

In any other 12-month period, this type of news would be the “talk of the year”. However, with topics like; our PGA Headquarters potential move, PGA Championship date change from fall to spring, significant suggested governance topics on the horizon, and then of course, there is the US Ryder Cup team trying to win on foreign soil for the first time since 1993.....it seems like just another day. With all these large-scale items on the docket, I want to ensure each and every member of the Nebraska PGA that I will not relax one moment in keeping our section and the district in mind at all times.

If I could digress for just a moment and return to the hire in Seth Waugh, I deeply encourage each of you to research this man. He is unquestionably a heavy hitter in the business world and quite frankly has connections in the golf industry and in Washington to continue to move the needle in the direction of our long-term strategic plan. He has served on the PGA National Board of Directors as an independent director the past three years where his passion and enthusiasm for “the member” along with his unquestioned leadership as a proven CEO makes him a perfect match. What solidified it for me was his constant message of growing the game and serving the member. He has consistently mentioned, THE MEMBER, as his focus in this role. It is clearly documented in his past CEO roles that making his associates lives’ better is his passion. That bodes well for the 29,000 of us.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions, but to summarize, we are all very fortunate to have Seth in this role following up Pete on our current trajectory.

The next focus is on the Ryder Cup September 28th – 30th in Paris. The duties for the week have not been set for PGA board members but feel we will be assigned as an observer for at least one match. Following the Ryder Cup, we will be hosting the District 8 officers for meetings and a round of golf on Oct 8 – 10th. Mike Antonio and Chris Cover will be gracious hosts at Happy Hollow for the 2 days of meetings.

David Schneider, PGA, CCM
District 8 Director
515-419-5653 Cell
daves@happyhollowclub.com

Career Consultant Update



From the Field: August Member Update

Jeff "JD" Drimel, PGA PGA Career Consultant

Dear District 8 PGA Members and Associates:

August golf in the Midwest means; Club Championships, Guest Days, Junior programs ending and a host of other events as the golf season swings into late summer...

This can be a very challenging time of the year when the long hours of your efforts tend to wear some down. I used to think of ways to keep team members engaged! Give someone the chance to play on a day they may have worked, setup a golf game at a neighboring club just for fun, cookout for a lunch, design some contest to boost summer sales and motivate in whatever way you can...now is NOT the time to slide...

Not only are the long hours taking its' toll, but most will begin (if it hasn't started already) to lose summer-time helpers as they go back to school. To help fill these openings, consider a retiree who likes to play, a teacher who can work a couple weekend days or someone who "always wanted to help." Who knows, it may lead to a position that can really be an asset.

Open Positions in District 8 –

TopGolf – Brooklyn Park, MN

Thief River Golf Club, Thief River Falls, MN

Braemar Golf Club, Edina, MN (will be posted soon)

Watch for others as they happen...

It's been an active summer with visits to Sections on a regular basis, event attendance, Starting Duties at Championships, and most of all, building relationships with Members in District 8. I plan to continue to remain active and hope to attend the Fall Meetings and other Fall Events. As the fall nears, I am happy to setup up Career Planning sessions, resume reviews or do whatever you feel necessary to help advance or improve your Career Path.

Have a great rest of the summer season...there is still lots of golf to be played!

All the Best,

JD Drimel, PGA
PGA Career Consultant
Serving the Iowa, Minnesota and Nebraska Sections
561-386 -7715 Cell

Tournament News

Friesen & Cornell Capture Pro-Pro



Read Full Story [HERE](#)

Friesen Captures Low Professional Title At The Harris Yamaha Golf Cars / Mizuno Pro-Am



Read Full Story [HERE](#)

Schellpeper And Herron Lead Field At Harris Golf Cars Pro-Am



Read Full Story [HERE](#)

Rule Tip—Rahmifications

During the third round of the PGA Championship at the Bellerive Country Club in St. Louis, Missouri, on the 8th hole, Jon Rahm pulled his drive into the left rough. As he walked through the rough in search of his ball, he felt his shoe touch his ball. At that point, he summoned a Rules Official for assistance.

Rahm told the Rules Official that the top of his shoe contacted the ball, but he did not believe he had moved his ball. Nevertheless, the Rules Official ruled that (a) Rahm had caused his ball to move; (b) Rahm needed to drop his ball, rather than replace it; and (c) Rahm could not clean his ball. Here are several “Rahmifications” or discussion points associated with these rulings:



Rahmification #1: How do you determine if a player has actually caused his ball?

Decision 34-3/9 [Resolution of Questions of Fact; Referee and Committee Responsibility] points out, “*Resolving questions of fact is among the most difficult actions required of a referee, or the Committee as a whole. For example, these situations include a broad array of incidents such as determining whether a player caused a ball to move*”

Relevant guidance is presented in Decision 18-2/0.5 [Weight of Evidence Standard for Determining Whether Player Caused His Ball to Move]. According to this Decision, “*When a player’s ball at rest moves, the cause of a ball’s movement has to be assessed. In many situations, the answer will be obvious In other situations, however, there may be some question as to why the ball moved All relevant information must be considered and the weight of the evidence must be evaluated. ... If the weight of evidence indicates that it is more likely than not that the player caused the ball to move, even though that conclusion is not free from doubt, the player incurs a one-stroke penalty under Rule 18-2 and the ball must be replaced.*”

Given that Rahm was walking through the rough, the Rules Official’s assessment of the weight of the evidence found that it was more likely than not that Rahm had caused his ball to move.

Rahmification #2: After a player has accidentally caused his ball to move, does he then replace or drop his ball?

According to Rule 18-2 [Ball at Rest Moved by Player, Partner, Caddie or Equipment], except as permitted by the Rules, if a player causes the ball to move, the ball must be replaced. However, if it is impossible to determine the spot where the ball is to be replaced, then Rule 20-3c [Placing and Replacing: Spot Not Determinable] applies, and (a) through the green or in a hazard, the ball must be dropped as near as possible to the place where it lay; (b) on the putting green, the ball must be placed as near as possible to place where it lay.

Given that it was impossible for Rahm to determine where his ball was located prior to his shoe contacting the ball, the Rules ruled that Rahm had to drop his ball, instead of replacing it.

Rahmification #3: When may a player clean his ball without penalty?

According to Rule 21 [Cleaning Ball], a ball on the putting green may be cleaned when it has been lifted under Rule 16-1b [The Putting Green: Lifting and Cleaning Ball]. Elsewhere, a ball may be cleaned when lifted, except when it has been lifted:

- a. To determine if it is unfit for play per Rule 5-3 [Ball Unfit for Play];
- b. For identification, in which case it may be cleaned only to the extent necessary for identification per Rule 12-2 [Lifting Ball for Identification]; or
- c. Because it is assisting or interfering with play per Rule 22 [Ball Assisting or Interfering with Play].

Per Rule 21, the Rules Official should have permitted Rahm to clean his ball before dropping it.

Rahmification #4: In stroke play, what recourse does a player have when a Rules Official renders an adverse ruling?

Per Decision 3-3/2 [Second Ball Played Despite Adverse Ruling], the answer depends upon whether or not the Committee has given authority to its referees to make final decisions. If the referee concerned has not been given authority to make final decisions, then the player is entitled to invoke Rule 3-3 [Doubt as to Procedure]. Even if the referee concerned has been given authority to make final decisions, he still has discretion to allow the player to proceed under Rule 3-3. However, if the referee renders a final decision, then there is no justification for the player to invoke Rule 3-3. Under such circumstances, if the player goes ahead and invokes Rule 3-3, he will be penalized two strokes for undue delay per Rule 6-7 [Undue Delay; Slow Play], and the score with the original ball, including the two-stroke penalty, must count.

Rule Tip— Lexi's Lapse

During the third round of the 2018 Indy Women in Tech Championship at the Brickyard Crossing Golf Course in Speedway, Indiana, Lexi Thompson had a mental lapse on the par-5 10th hole that cost her a birdie. Her wayward drive ended up in the fairway of the 6th hole where she marked and lifted her ball forgetting that a temporary Local Rule allowing “preferred lies” applied only when her ball was in her own fairway.



Per Rule 33-8 [Local Rules], the LPGA has the authority to establish Local Rules for local abnormal conditions if they are consistent with the policy set forth in Appendix I [Local Rules; Conditions of Competition]. One of the specimen Local Rules found in Appendix I concerns “Preferred Lies.” As noted in Appendix I, Part A.3.b, such a Local Rule is warranted when adverse conditions, such as heavy snows, spring thaws, prolonged rains or extreme heat are prevalent throughout the course, making fairways unsatisfactory.

With the course receiving over an inch of rain, the LPGA adopted a Local Rule for preferred lies similar to the following:

A ball lying on a closely-mown area of the hole being played may be lifted without penalty and cleaned. Before lifting the ball, the player must mark its position. Having lifted the ball, she must place it on a spot within one club-length of and not nearer the hole than where it originally lay, that is not in a hazard and not on a putting green.

A player may place her ball only once, and it is in play when it has been placed (Rule 20-4 [When Ball Dropped, Placed or Replaced Is in Play]). If the ball fails to come to rest on the spot on which it was placed, Rule 20-3d [Ball Fails to Come to Rest on Spot] applies. If the ball when placed comes to rest on the spot on which it is placed and it subsequently moves, there is no penalty and the ball must be played as it lies, unless the provisions of any other Rule apply.

If the player fails to mark the position of the ball before lifting it, moves the ball-marker prior to putting the ball back into play or moves the ball in any other manner, such as rolling it with a club, she incurs a penalty of one stroke.

Note: “Closely-mown area” means any area of the course, including paths through the rough, cut to fairway height or less.

PENALTY FOR BREACH OF LOCAL RULE: Stroke play – Two strokes.

Fortunately for Lexi, a Rules Official was in the vicinity of the 6th fairway and observed Lexi as she preferred her lie, placing her ball within one club-length of where it came to rest. Before she had the opportunity to play her next stroke, the Rules Official had time to reach her and remind her that she could only prefer her lie if her ball had come to rest in the fairway of the hole being played, i.e., the fairway of the 10th hole. Having lifted her ball in play without authority, Lexi was subject to a one-stroke penalty pursuant to Rule 18-2 [Ball at Rest Moved by Player, Partner, Caddie or Equipment] and was required to replace her ball. Had the Rules Official not intervened before Lexi played her next stroke from a wrong place, she would have incurred the two-stroke penalty for a breach of the Local Rule!

After replacing her ball with the assistance of the Rules Official, Lexi smacked a fairway wood from 215 yards onto the green and two-putted from 50 feet. Lexi's lapse wiped out a “*woulda-shoulda-coulda*” birdie, but her talent converted it into a “*ho-hum*” par.

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BRIAN HARMAN
Columbia Tour Staff



**NEBRASKA PGA SECTION
COLUMBIA OCS SALES REP**

Marc Cruse
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(402) 430 - 7540

MEMBER UPDATES

| EMPLOYEE | CLASS | CURRENT FACILITY | PREVIOUS FACILITY | PREV CLASS |
|----------|-------|------------------|-------------------|------------|
| NONE | | | | |

UPCOMING AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

| Name | Birth Date |
|----------------------|------------|
| Randy Carlson, PGA | 9/1 |
| Bob VanderZee, PGA | 9/3 |
| Judd Cornell | 9/5 |
| Brian Kuta, PGA | 9/5 |
| Kevin Chesnut, PGA | 9/6 |
| Owen Schuette, PGA | 9/6 |
| Jared Palmer, PGA | 9/9 |
| John Crow, PGA | 9/9 |
| Jackie Stevens, PGA | 9/10 |
| Brian Winge, PGA | 9/11 |
| Kirk Stanzel, PGA | 9/13 |
| Skip Tredway, PGA | 9/14 |
| Bradley Goetsch, PGA | 9/14 |
| Dan Fox, PGA | 9/15 |
| Don Graham, PGA | 9/16 |
| Casey Schiel, PGA | 9/18 |
| Anthony Thiner, PGA | 9/18 |
| Austin Miller, PGA | 9/19 |
| Jeff Nielsen, PGA | 9/20 |
| Ted DiGiacomo, PGA | 9/21 |
| Dan Shull, PGA | 9/21 |
| Paul Murcek, PGA | 9/22 |
| Nick Onken | 9/22 |
| Andrew Smeal | 9/23 |
| Tim Fox, PGA | 9/25 |
| Mike Zadalis, PGA | 9/25 |
| Ryan Kiewiet | 9/27 |
| Scott Ethington, PGA | 9/29 |
| Devon Kastler, PGA | 9/29 |
| Jonathan Benson, PGA | 9/30 |
| Adam Coates, PGA | 9/30 |

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