NEBRASKA PGA SECTION NEWSLETTER



December 2018

INSIDE5 THINGS TO KNOW:

- Letter from David Honnens, PGA
- National Player of the Year
- Vegas Classic Registration
- District 8 & Career Consultant Update
- Holiday Greeting



2018 OMEGA PGA Professional
Player of the Year
RYAN VERMEER, PGA

Director of Instruction at Happy Hollow Club





See Player of the Year Video

CONGRATULATIONS RYAN VERMEER, PGA

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Holiday Greetings from your Executive Director



Dear Nebraska PGA Members, PGA Associates and Friends,

There is no better time of year than the Holidays to reflect on the past year and thank those we get the opportunity to serve.

This year in particular, our Section has been very blessed with a considerable amount of recognition at the National and local levels. Nationally, James Sieckmann, PGA and Nick Muller, PGA were recognized with the highest awards that our PGA Professionals can receive in Teaching & Coaching and Merchandising categories. In addition, we witnessed on the Golf Channel, Ryan Vermeer, PGA capturing the 51st PGA Professional Championship. Gentlemen, congrats on a tremendous season!



At the local level, I could not be more proud of our Section because of the tremendous day-in-day-out dedication by each one of you. This year, I received numerous messages, calls and emails from those you serve in your communities for the impact you are making in the lives of your fellow community members.

Through your foundation, PGA REACH Nebraska, we continue to build momentum in growing the game and bringing golf to a diverse population. From Golf N Schools to PGA HOPE we look forward to strengthening these programs in the year ahead.

I want to wish you all a Holiday season filled with many wonderful memories of time spent with those you love. The Nebraska Section PGA team and I look forward to the new year and building upon the momentum of 2018 and for a prosperous 2019!

On a personal note.....my wife Erin and I look forward to welcoming our third child in May 2019, which will surely bring some entertainment into our lives.

God Bless, David Honnens, PGA

Hole-in-One Club





To sign up for the Hole-in-One club for the 2019 season

REGISTER HERE

If you make a holein-one at one of our Section events, you win all the funds in the pot.

This could be your year!!

PGA of America News

Ryan Vermeer, PGA captures 2018 OMEGA PGA Professional of the Year Award



PALM BEACH GARDENS, Fla. (Dec. 19, 2018) – PGA Professional Champion Ryan Vermeer of Omaha, Nebraska, and Senior PGA Professional Champion Bob Sowards of Dublin, Ohio, have won the respective 2018 OMEGA PGA Professional and Senior PGA Professional Player of the Year awards.

They will be honored on Friday, April 26, in conjunction with the 52nd PGA Professional Championship presented by Club Car and OMEGA at Belfair in Bluffton, South Carolina.

Vermeer, 40, the PGA Director of Instruction at Happy Hollow Club in Omaha, Nebraska, won his first national award during a season when he captured the PGA Professional Championship in June at Bayonet Black Horse in Seaside, California. Vermeer is the first Nebraska PGA Member to earn both national titles.

Vermeer's banner season included winning a second Nebraska PGA Player of the Year award in three years. He finished with 1,000 total points, while Michael Block

of Aliso Viejo, California, was runner-up with 850. Sowards, who made a strong run in both award categories, shared third with Johan Kok of Nashville, Tennessee, with 830 points.

Capturing the PGA Professional Championship gave Vermeer the spark to the award, and he added 300 points for Nebraska PGA Player of the Year; 100 each for winning the Section PGA Professional Championship and the Section Championship.

"Winning this award was in the back of my mind," said Vermeer. "It was attainable and within reach. To have it come to reality is awesome.

"The PPC was the biggest win of my life. It has opened a lot of pretty cool doors. Those opportunities allowed me to be playing against the best players in the world, which is an awesome experience."

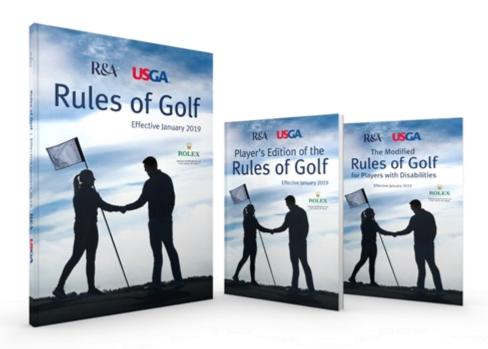
The son of PGA Life Member Bob Vermeer of Waterloo, Nebraska, Vermeer was elected to PGA membership in 2016, and spent nearly 11 years attempting to build a tour career.

Read Full Article

Register today!



Golf's New Rules: Major Changes



The following are the main changes to the Rules of Golf taking effect January 1, 2019 that are expected to have the most impact on the game and to be of most interest to golfers. The items covered on this page are organized into eight categories, and within each individual item, you will find the main reasons for the change.

Ball at Rest | Ball in Motion | Taking Relief
Areas of the Course | Equipment | Playing a Ball
When to Play During a Round | Player Behavior
Local Rule

View Changes



Award Winners Spotlight

2017

Merchandiser of the Year—Public Matt Shaner, PGA



Today the internet dominates everything from getting your news instantly, to shopping. Sometimes though it is very scary to shop online. You never know what you are going to get, especially in golf equipment.

Since I started at Golf USA-Kearney in October of 2016, I have been able to re-establish my passion of for player development, Golf-n-Schools, Club fitting, and seeing people improve their game.

One thing that has made Golf USA stand out for 25 plus years in Central Nebraska is our attention to customer service. When that customer walks through our doors, we want to know that person, even if they are just in our store for 5 mins. We take the time to talk with each customer to find out what they are looking for, not being pushy or forceful in our approach, and offer our expertise when it comes to club fitting. By doing these simple things our customers gain a trust in our staff. The internet can't compete with good customer service.

Club fitting has taken our business to another level that the internet can't duplicate as well. Our margins have increased over the last 2 years, all due to our focus on developing customer relations. We offer the club fitting as a free service to those buying from the store and do follow ups on how their new equipment is improving their game. This results in lesson revenue and club repair revenue in the long run.

Having fun with your customer, making them smile, and showing a genuine interest are great ways to connect. Following up on their equipment when they come into the store or when you see them in the community is key to building relationships and create repeat customers!

Matt Shaner, PGA
Golf USA—Kearney

Membership Matters

Golf Relief and Assistance Fund Available to Aid Victims of California Wildfires



Fund originated by the PGA of America helps golf industry personnel affected by the wildfires and future qualified natural disasters ...

The Golf Relief and Assistance Fund was created last year by the PGA of America to help golf

industry personnel affected directly by qualified natural disasters. Administered by the largest community foundation in the world, Silicon Valley Community Foundation, of Mountain View, California, the fund is available to aid those dealing with the devastating California Wildfires.

To either make a tax-deductible contribution to the Golf Relief and Assistance Fund or to apply for assistance, please visit

GolfReliefFund.org

About Silicon Valley Community Foundation:

Silicon Valley Community Foundation advances innovative philanthropic solutions to challenging problems. As the largest community foundation in the world, we engage donors and corporations from Silicon Valley, across the country and around the globe to make our region and world better for all. Our passion for helping people and organizations achieve their philanthropic dreams has created a global philanthropic enterprise committed to the belief that possibilities start here. Learn more at siliconvalleycf.org.

Membership Matters Cont.

2019 PGA OF AMERICA TEACHING AND COACHING SUMMIT

presented by OMEGA



Brad Faxon, PGA
Keynote Speaker
Analyst, FOX Sports Golf Coverage
Eight-time PGA TOUR Winner
Two-time U.S. Ryder Cup Team Member



Michael Breed, PGA
Emcee
Director of Instruction, Michael Breed Golf Academy
2012 PGA Teacher of the Year
Golf Digest's Chief Digital Instructor



Stephen Norris, Ph.D.
Highlighted Presenter
Performance Consultant and Sport Scientist
Lead Performance Consultant - USA Hockey and the International Olympic Committee



Will Robins, PGA
Breakout Leader
Owner/Operator, WRGolf
2016/17 Golf Digest "Best Young Teacher in America"
NCPGA Player Development Award 2015

JANUARY 20-21, 2019

Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, FL

Special discounted group rate for PGA & LPGA Members who bring a total of three guests with them to the Summit. To register, visit **PGA.org/Summit.**





Over 45 Speakers and Presenters!



GOLF MANAGEMENT UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM



"TURN YOUR PASSION INTO A PROFESSION"

The PGA of America is offering scholarship awards of \$8,000 each to up to ten students from diverse backgrounds pursuing a PGA Golf Management University Program degree.

Earn your bachelor's degree in a golf industry compatible major, have the ability to apply for PGA Membership, and earn the right to wear one of the most recognized logos in sports.

High school seniors, high school graduates or current undergraduates planning to enroll in, or already enrolled in, fulltime undergraduate study at one of the 18 accredited PGA Golf Management Universities for the entire 2019-20 academic year are encouraged to apply.

Apply at ScholarsApply.org/PGAWORKS

Application Deadline: January 31, 2019



District 8 Director Update

David Schneider, PGA
District 8 Director



Over two weeks ago, Renee reminded me that my newsletter article was due for the section. Being a "Captain of Procrastination", I placed it on the bottom of my daily To Do list. Then at 5:30 AM a few days ago, she texts, "here is friendly second reminder." She is so good. Then the pressure was on to produce.

It seems standard to wish all the PGA members and Associates in the Nebraska Section a very Happy Holiday and Best Wishes for a great 2019....and of course, I do. However, what if I also provided everyone a tip or suggestion that will really "Grow the Game and Serve the Member". To me that seems like as good of an idea.

So here it is. This time of year, everyone does a Secret Santa Exchange of some type. If you are also a "Captain of Procrastination" and have not gone shopping yet, don't fret. I have your back. When you are all gathered around to exchange, and your turn comes to give your gift to someone, here is what I suggest. Stand up on sturdiest table in the room in front of everyone and in a loud voice state, "Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all my loved ones. My gift to everyone this year, not just Mitzi who I had in the draw, is a complimentary lesson and 9 holes of golf with your favorite PGA Professional in the entire world.....ME!!" Then let the room roar, laugh, giggle, etc. What is the result????? You placed golf on their minds and get to spend quality one on one time with loved ones being around golf. (Additional tip: Try and announce this when that inebriated uncle is out of the room).

Special wishes to all of you and thank you for growing the game in your world.

Sincerely,

Dave, Deb, Nic, Nathan and Colin Schneider

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

Career Consultant Update

From the Field: September Member Update Jeff "JD" Drimel, PGA - PGA Career Consultant



Dear District 8 PGA Members,

Happy Holidays to everyone in District 8!

My update for December, concluding the 2018 season, will be a short one...

There are many opportunities out there for positions of all levels...will you advance?

Sections will continue to provide educational opportunities to make yourself better...will you take advantage of them?

Everyone can make more out of your career...will you make it happen?!

The end of the year is always a great time for reflection. I am so honored to remain active in our District, help others, and most of all, positively affect areas of the golf profession. Thank you for allowing me to serve you and your Sections.

From my family to yours, we wish you the best for the Holiday season as well as the New Year!

JD Drimel, PGA
PGA Career Consultant
Serving the Iowa, Minnesota and Nebraska Sections
561-386 -7715 Cell
Jdrimel@pgahg.com

2018 Special Awards Nominees

Nebraska Section PGA Announces 2018 Nominations for Special Awards

LINCOLN, Neb. – Each year the Nebraska Section PGA is pleased to reward distinction and honor to PGA Professionals for their contributions to the game of golf and their communities at the Section and National level. These awards recognize extraordinary accomplishments, expertise, distinction and service. It is with great pride that the below PGA Professionals have been nominated by the Nebraska Section PGA Nominating Committee for the following prestigious awards. The Nebraska Section PGA Selection Committee will announce the winners of each of these awards on **January 16, 2019**.

<u>Golf Professional of the Year</u> - The highest award our Section presents. This award is based on overall performance as a PGA golf professional, including leadership, service and promotion of the game. Nominees: Kevin Drew, PGA; Don Graham, PGA; David Honnens, PGA; Nathan Kalin, PGA; Dominick Mitchum, PGA; Brad Neunaber, PGA; Jeff Perdew, PGA; David Schneider, PGA and Loudan Steffes, PGA

<u>Teacher of the Year</u> - Awarded for excellence in golf instruction along with overall performance as a golf professional. Nominees: Alex Carper, PGA; Mike Cornell, PGA; James Kinney, PGA; Jonathan Mielke PGA; Ryan Norman, PGA and James Sieckmann, PGA

<u>Horton Smith Award</u> - Bestows special recognition for outstanding service and contributions to developing and improving educational opportunities for the PGA golf professional. Nominees: Tom Hearn, PGA; Scott Holly, PGA; Dawn Neujahr, PGA; Tony Pesavento, PGA and Chris Thomson, PGA

<u>Bill Strausbaugh Award</u> - Awarded to an individual who by their day-to-day efforts have distinguished themselves in the areas that truly reflect the characteristics and qualities that Bill Strausbaugh possessed during his lifetime – service to his Association, service to his fellow PGA professionals in helping them improve their employment situations and service to the community. Nominees: Wade Foreman, PGA; Greg Neujahr, PGA; Matt Nice, PGA; Jeff Porter, PGA and Gil Russell, PGA

Youth Player Development - Awarded to the PGA golf professional who is a leader in junior golf, reflects the image and qualities that juniors can emulate, and provides opportunities for juniors to learn and play golf. Nominees: Joe Canny, PGA; Richard Delfs, PGA; Dave Malone, PGA; Jonathan Mielke, PGA; Jeff Porter, PGA; Reed Schellen, PGA; Seth Scollard, PGA; Matt Shaner, PGA; Paul Swirzinski, PGA; Chris Thomson, PGA and Karrie VanRavenswaay, PGA

<u>Player Development</u> – Based on the PGA golf professional's growth of the game leadership commitment at the Section and National levels and the impact made at the facility. Nominees: Anthony Baranowski, PGA; Jonathan Mielke, PGA; Ryan Norman, PGA; Matt Shaner, PGA and Carly Ulrich, PGA



Merchandiser of the Year/Private Facility - Recognizes the PGA golf professional that has demonstrated superior skills as a merchandiser in the promotion of golf. Nominees: Mike Brown, PGA; Don Dravland, PGA; Don Germer, PGA; Dawn Neujahr, PGA; Bobby O'Keefe, PGA and Brandon Wedding, PGA

Merchandiser of the Year/Public Facility - Recognizes the PGA golf professional that has demonstrated superior skills as a mer-

chandiser in the promotion of golf. Nominees: Jon Benson, PGA; Don Graham, PGA; James Rolls, PGA; Louden Steffes, PGA; Joe Sutter, PGA; Denis Vontz, PGA and Dave James, PGA

<u>Facility of the Year</u> - Recognizes the golf facility that has played an important role in Section activities, as well as promotion of the game of the golf for men, ladies and juniors. Nominees: Ager Golf & Learning Center, Lincoln, NE; Awarii Dunes GC, Axtel, NE; Bent Tree GC, Council Bluffs, IA; Eagle Hills GC, Papillion, NE; Fremont GC, Fremont, NE; Hidden Valley GC, Lincoln, NE; Hillcrest CC, Lincoln, NE; Meadowlark Hills GC, Kearney, NE; Norfolk CC, Norfolk, NE; Oak Hills CC, Omaha, NE; The Players Club, Omaha, NE; The Club at Indian Creek, Elkhorn, NE; The Ridge GC, Sioux Center, IA; Wild Horse GC, Gothenburg, NE; Wilderness Ridge GC, Lincoln, NE and Woodland Hills GC, Eagle, NE

<u>Sales Representative of the Year</u> - Based on overall performance as a sales representative including product knowledge, service, professionalism, and involvement in Section activities. Nominees: Ben Cruise, Teesnap; David Durham, PGA, Titleist/Acushnet; Jim Hauth, Cobra-Puma; Christine Lietske, Click Gear; Joel Logan, TaylorMade; Mike Long, adidas; Randy Prince, E-Z-GO-Miller & Sons; Tyler Schaaf, Mizuno; Stan Sheffield, FootJoy; John Sheridan, Under Armour and Brian Winge, PGA; Callaway Golf

<u>Assistant Professional of the Year</u> - This award is based on overall performance as an assistant professional, including leadership, service and promotion of the game. Nominees: Richard Delfs, PGA; Connor Farrell, PGA; Brian Fauss, PGA; Derek Jensen, PGA; Austin Miller, PGA and Justin Onken, PGA

<u>Patriot Award</u> - Recognizes the PGA Professional who personifies patriotism through the game of golf and demonstrates unwavering commitment and dedication to the men and women who have valiantly served and protected the United States of America. Nominees: Mike Antonio, PGA; Mark Baumann, PGA; Richard Delfs, PGA; Nathan Kalin, PGA; Owen Schuette, PGA and Seth Scollard, PGA







Golf Management

UNL PGA Golf Management Program Today December Newsletter

From the Front Tees - Director Dann Husmann



Happy Holidays from the PGA Golf Management Program at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln! I hope this holiday season finds each of you safe, spending quality time with family and friends, and preparing for a wonderful and prosperous 2019. And be careful what you wish for since it might just come true. I wished for a full head of hair and voila! I now have a full head of hair (just kidding of course).

Since our last edition this past summer, our staff and students have been extremely busy and motivated. As you read

through our articles, you will find out what our recent graduates are doing and believe me, they are all doing some amazing things. You'll also read experiences from two students who were able to attend this year's National Meeting of the PGA in California. Very exciting times for Gretchen and Nate! Continue reading...

Read the entire December newsletter **HERE**



Rule Tip

Poecember Rules Quizek



As Dr. Seuss once wrote, "How did it get so late so soon? It's night before it's afternoon. December is here before it's June. My goodness how the time has flewn. How did it get so late so soon?" We are now less than one month away from officially implementing the new Rules of Golf that come into effect on January 1, 2019. If you have been diligently studying the new Rules, then this True-False quiz should be a "piece of cake" for you; if not, then it's probably time

for you to start burning the midnight oil and finding out what's in the new Rules book!

- 1. A ball is always treated as lying in only one area of the course. If part of the ball is in two specific areas of the course, it is treated as lying in the specific area that comes first in this order: putting green, bunker, penalty area.
- 2. If a conforming club is damaged during a round, the damaged club is treated as conforming for the rest of the round regardless of the nature or cause of the damage, and the player may continue to make strokes with the damaged club for the rest of the round.
- 3. If you change the performance characteristics of a club, e.g., the loft, using an adjustable feature during a round, you will not be penalized so long as you adjust the feature back as nearly as possible to its original position prior to making a stroke with the club.
- 4. In stroke play, if you play a wrong ball during the final hole of the round, in order to avoid the penalty of disqualification, you must indicate before leaving the putting green of the final hole that you will be correcting your mistake.
- 5. Any time your ball in play is within the teeing area, you are permitted to move the ball to another spot within the teeing area, including playing it from a tee, without penalty.
- 6. If you move a boundary stake out of the way because it interferes with your intended backswing, you cannot avoid the penalty for improving the area of your intended swing by replacing the stake before playing your next stroke.
- 7. After having marked, lifted and replaced your ball on the putting green, if a gust of wind then moves your ball, you must play the ball from its new position.
- 8. If your ball in motion ricochets off a nearby tree and accidentally strikes your golf cart, there is no penalty.



Answers:

- 1. False See new Rule 2.2c [Determining Area of Course Where Ball Lies] which indicates that, if the ball is in two specific areas of the course, it is treated as lying in the specific area that comes first in this order: penalty area, bunker, putting green.
- 2. True See new Rule 4.1a(2) [Use or Repair of Club Damaged During Round].
- 3. True See the Exception [Adjustable Club Restored to Original Position] to Rule 4.1a(3) [Deliberately Changing Club's Performance Characteristics During Round].
- 4. False Per new Rule 6.3c [Wrong Ball], if you play a wrong ball during the final hole of your round in stroke play, the deadline for correcting your mistake to avoid being disqualified is when you return your scorecard.
- 5. True New Rule 6.2b(6) [When Ball in Play Lies in Teeing Area] states, "If the player's ball in play is in the teeing area after a stroke (such as a teed ball after a stroke that missed the ball) or after taking relief, the player may ...(I) ift or move the ball without penalty ... and (p) lay that ball or another ball from anywhere in the teeing area from a tee or the ground ... including playing the ball as it lies."
- 6. False New Rule 8.1c(1) [How to Restore Conditions Improved by Moving, Bending or Breaking Object] advises, in part, "Before making the stroke, the player may avoid penalty for breach of Rule 8.1a(1) by restoring the original object as nearly as possible to its original position so that the improvement created by the breach is eliminated, such as by ... (r)eplacing a boundary object (such as a boundary stake) that had been removed"
- 7. False See the Exception [Ball on Putting Green Must Be Replaced If It Moves After Having Already Been Lifted and Replaced] to new Rule 9.3 [Ball Moved by Natural Forces].
- 8. True See new Rule 11.1 [Ball in Motion Accidentally Hits Person or Outside Influence].



OUTSOURCING vs. IN-HOUSE Choose Wisely

The Right Partner Can Make All the Difference

Choosing the right club can be the difference between mediocrity and greatness. It's no different in business. The **right cleaning partner** can make your facility shine while others never live up to the hype.

Get the facts about saving time and money when you outsource your facility cleaning services to Jani-King.





Official Cleaning Company of The PGA of America

GET THE FACTS

MEMBER UPDATES

				PREV
EMPLOYEE	CLASS	CURRENT FACILITY	PREVIOUS FACILITY	CLASS

None

UPCOMING JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Name	Birth Date
Justin Arlt, PGA	1/1
Alex Janssen, PGA	1/1
Ryan Norman, PGA	1/6
Casey Richardson, PGA	1/8
Kurt Karcher, PGA	1/9
Ryan Vermeer, PGA	1/11
Tony Pesavento, PGA	1/12
Matt Nice, PGA	1/13
Dennis Fruchtl, PGA	1/14
Tyler Leffler, PGA	1/20
Scott Brunzell, PGA	1/21
Steve Ritz-Woller, PGA	1/21
Matt Shaner, PGA	1/21
Bill Thomas, PGA	1/22
Scott Carlson, PGA	1/23
Derek Jensen, PGA	1/25
Matt Meuret, PGA	1/27
Scott Larson, PGA	1/29
Terry Heskett, PGA	1/30
Casey Wroot, PGA	1/30
Alex Hobelmann	1/31









SLEEKER? Yup
FASTER? Yup
MORE ACCURATE?
Ask the pros





