NEBRASKA PGA SECTION NEWSLETTER





September 2019

INSIDE 5 THINGS TO KNOW:

- Save The Date—Fall Meeting
- District 8 Director Position Opening
- Foundation Updates
- Junior Golf Updates
- Membership Matters



Champions Run Hosts Day of Hope

Nebraska Section PGA | 610 J Street., Ste 10 | Lincoln, NE 68508 | Ph: (402) 489-7760 | Fax: (402) 489-1785 |

Officers

President

Nathan Kalin, PGA Fremont Golf Club nathan.kalin@fremontgolfclub.org

Vice President

Gil Russell, PGA Norfolk Country Club gilrussell@norfolkcountryclub.biz

Secretary

Dawn Neujahr, PGA Champions Run dneujahr@championsomaha.com

Honorary President

Tony Pesavento, PGA Omaha Country Club tpesavento@pga.com

Staff

Executive Director/CEO

David Honnens, PGA dhonnens@pgahq.com

Tournament Director

Sean O'Neill, PGA soneill@pgahq.com

Director of Nebraska Junior Golf/ Player Development

Seth Scollard, PGA sscollard@pgahq.com

Operations Manager

Renee Tyson rtyson@pgahq.com

Development Officer

Bob Danenhauer bdanenhauer@pgahq.com

Tournament Assistant

Kurt Karcher, PGA kkarcher@pgahq.com

Digital Sports Media Director

Brett Renner brenner@pgahq.com

Table of Contents— September 2019

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NEBRASKA PGA SECTION

Fall Meeting Save the Date	Pg. 3
District 8 Director Position Opening	Pg. 4-5
Foundation News	Pg. 6-7
CCC Pro Am / Women in Golf	Pg. 8-9
Membership Matters	Pg. 10-11
Tournament News	Pg. 12-13
Family Golf / Youth Caddies	Pg. 14-15
Junior Golf News	Pg. 16-17
Member Updates & September Birthdays	Pg. 18-19

Contact the Section

Nebraska PGA 610 J Street, Suite 10 Lincoln, NE 68508

Phone: (402) 489-7760 Fax: (402) 489-1785 E-mail: nebraska@pgahq.com





We are planning a great day on Monday, Nov. 18th for our annual Fall Meeting.

Things to look forward to:

- Nebraska Section PGA Officer Elections
- PGA of America Secretary, John Lindert, PGA
- Special Recognition to Duane and Chris Lietske
 - Afternoon Education

More information coming.....

District 8 Director Position Opening

PGA of America Announces District Director Position Opening

TO: The Membership of the Nebraska Section of the PGA of America

FROM: Secretary, Dawn Neujahr, PGA

Dear Nebraska PGA Membership:

The purpose of this notice is to alert you that the position of District Director for District 8 (Minnesota, Iowa and Nebraska) of the PGA of America will commence in January 2020.

As a Member of the Nebraska Section of the PGA of America, you are invited and encouraged to apply.

Below is a description of the District 8 Director position.

District 8 of the PGA of America encompasses the Iowa, Minnesota and Nebraska Sections. The term of service is 3 years, plus an additional year prior to the actual term to "shadow" the incumbent District 8 Director. This person will become a PGA Incoming District Director after the 2019 PGA Annual Meeting, serve their incoming year in 2020, and be installed onto the PGA Board of Directors during the 2020 PGA Annual Meeting.

As described by the PGA of America, the responsibilities of the District 8 Director include, but are not limited to:

- Having the desire and dedication to serve the Association and its Members
- Knowing what the mission of the Association is
- Exchanging ideas with Members and outside constituencies
- Be available to travel 45-70 days during the year
- Be available to attend at least one Section Membership and Board of Directors Meeting for each Section of the District, annually
- Be prepared to speak to the Sections on Association and industry issues
- The PGA of America will pay direct and reasonable expenses related to administering the position of District 8 Director including phone, fax and postage, and related expenses in conjunction with PGA business and attendance at meetings as Incoming Director.

Interested candidates shall submit a cover letter and resume to the Section offices by Friday, October 4, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. Interviews are scheduled for Tuesday, October 15th at Quarry Oaks G.C.

Please submit a cover letter and resume attention to:

Nebraska Section PGA Attn: Board of Directors 610 J Street, Suite 10 Lincoln, NE 68508

Career Consultant Update

Jeff "JD" Drimel, PGA -PGA Career Consultant

Dear District 8 PGA Members & Friends,

Where does the summer go? Fall brings a bag of "mixed emotions" as the summer winds down, golf courses are still busy but losing seasonal employees, events are being completed and the cool, fall air begins to settle in which means...the end is near. As we all know, there really is NO end but everyone is having success at their facilities.

Current Opportunities – As we prepare for the winter season, NOW is the time to make plans for the winter. Many facilities in the southern regions are looking for seasonal



assistance and provides a great opportunity for anyone who is mobile and wants to stay in the warmth. The other opportunities are local and may provide the necessary income while staying close to home...GOLFTEC, Simulator Facilities, and Golf Retail stores are always in need of PGA expertise.

(I know for a fact that many are already looking for help this winter.) If you are looking for off-season employment, check some of these out or contact me and I will do what I can to connect you.

This month's update will cover two areas.

1) What are the key ingredients for a facility to be successful? (Borrowing the research and expertise from a fellow PGA Professional, Thanks CF!) ... Each month I will address one or two of the ingredients..

A) Affordability – "Affordable access to the golf facility and golf instruction needs to be available. This is demographic dependent and can vary greatly on where someone lives and their economic situation. It means something very different in inner city Minneapolis than it does in Indian Wells, CA. However, before a player can get hooked on the game, they need to be able to have affordable access for play, practice and instruction. If the player, or parents, can't afford green fees or programs, the golfer has no chance to become enthralled with the game." This begs the questions:

-Is your facility affordable for those in your area? What creative ideas can you implement to help?

-Are your programs and leagues affordable? Group and Series discounts? -How can you lead the charge in pricing strategies to make more affordable?

2) "Because we Care!" Do you ever wonder why you put so much pressure on yourself? I do! I've noticed first hand that playing competitive golf is one area where I put undo pressure on myself to perform. Playing in Section events is not an easy task, but we should relish our time together with fellow Professionals while also putting our games to a test. Peak performance can happen when we "get out of our own way" and have fun! This also carries over to other areas of golf, the events we conduct, interviews, and other areas. However, when we do our homework, prepare in the best way possible, and do all that is necessary BEFORE the actual event, our hard work will more than likely be rewarded.

Have a great rest of your summer and here's to a nice, long fall golf season!

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

Foundation News

PGA REACH Nebraska Raises Money For Programs That Impact Lives In Our Communities



Omaha, NE – PGA REACH Nebraska, the charitable foundation of the Nebraska Section PGA held its annual Pro-Am today at Champions Run. This annual fundraising event was presented by The Patterson Family Foundation, adidas, Pinnacle Bank and supported by over 20 supporting sponsors. Founded in 2013, PGA REACH Nebraska is positively impacting the lives of those in our communities through three pillars; youth, military and diversity and inclusion.

In addition to many corporate companies coming together to support PGA REACH Nebraska these players were paired with 18-Nebraska PGA Professionals on a near perfect day for golf. Justin Herron of Pacific Springs G.C. capitalized on these conditions to post an impressive 4-under-par 68 to capture the low professional division. Herron's round featured five birdies and one eagle but a few untimely bogeys prevented this round from being really special. Finishing one stroke back at three-under-par 69 was Ryan Vermeer, PGA, Director of Instruction at Happy Hollow Club. Vermeer's

round featured seven birdies and his first double-bogey of the season slowed down his chances of capturing another low professional title. Rounding out the top three with a couple solid rounds of golf at two-under-par 70 was Steve Friesen, PGA, Director of Instruction at Firethorn G.C. and Andrew Storm of Shadow Ridge G.C. The team portion of this event featured a one-net best ball shamble format where amateur golfers could take advantage of the PGA Professionals tee shots and their amateur partners. This format allowed for some great scores as Matt Shaner, PGA of Golf USA and his amateur partners, Greg Davis, Doug Mitchell, Doug Duda and Dave Keiter posted an impressive 23-under-par. Amateur's Davis and Mitchell each had seven birdies while Keiter had five birdies. Finishing two strokes back in second place was the team of Vermeer and his amateur partners.

The camaraderie amongst all the groups was evident and they all played in support of raising money for PGA REACH Nebraska. Upon the completion of play scholar-athletes from the Boys & Girls Clubs shared their appreciation and passion for the game. Retired Veteran, David Karl, a 2018 PGA HOPE Graduate concluded the event by sharing how golf shaped his passion to get back into the swing of things on and off the course while also meeting passionate PGA Professionals who inspired him to stay the course.



PGA HOPE (Helping Our Patriots Everywhere) is a free program provided by PGA Reach Nebraska and is designed to provide local veterans, with an opportunity to learn the game of golf in a fun and healthy environment.



IN THE NEWS:

PGA HOPE Nebraska is back in full swing as the Fall 2019 classes have begun. Eagle Hills Golf Course will play host to the Omaha branch and Holmes Golf Course will host the Lincoln branch.

Channel 8 Eyewitness News covered our Lincoln program with a featured story last week.



Champions Run Hosts PGA Day of Hope

On Monday, Sept. 2, during the observance of Labor Day, PGA REACH Nebraska President, Greg Neujahr, PGA, General Manager, Andy Reetz and USAF Colonel, Doug Mang hosted a golf outing benefiting PGA HOPE Nebraska. Twenty two veterans, of whom many were PGA HOPE graduates from 2018, took part in a wonderful day of golf, food and comradery with the members from Champions Run. Over \$5,000 was raised to benefit our PGA HOPE Nebraska programs.









Central Community College Foundation Pro Am



29th Annual Pro-Am

Golf Tournament

Monday, September 16, 2019

Riverside Golf Club • Grand Island, NE

Check-in: 9:30 a.m. • Shotgun Start: 10 a.m. Awards and Social following the event



Contact: 201 Foundation Pl. Ste. 200 Hastings, NE 68901Cheri Beda (308) 398-7437Nichole Olson (402) 460-2150Sharon Liske (308) 398-7577cheribeda@cccneb.edunicholeolson@cccneb.edusliske@cccneb.edu

Pros we need your help to make our event a success!

Currently we need 17 pros to play in our tournament. The event is full with the maximum of 28 teams. This event is free for our pros with a minimum payout of \$50 and the winner takes home \$1,000!

The tournament will consist of (28) four-person amateur teams playing a scramble with one professional playing alongside each team. The team may use whichever score is lower. Check-in will begin at 9:30 a.m. with a shotgun start to follow at 10 a.m. A box lunch is included and we offer FREE entry at no charge for our Professional Golfers.

Please contact Dean Moors or Cheri Beda at the CCC Foundation to register by Friday, Sept. 6th. dmoors@cccneb.edu or cheribeda@cccneb.edu

Thank you for your consideration. Should you have questions, please feel free to call us at (402) 460-2153 or (308)-398-7437

Women in Golf

By Anya Alvarez

We don't just need more women playing golf, we need more women working in golf

When discussing the future of golf, enticing more women to play is often brought up as a means to increase the total number of participants in the game. Seldom, however, do we discuss the idea that if we're going to increase the number of women playing golf, it would be helpful to have more women working inside the golf industry.

Consider, for example, PGA teaching professionals. Golf instructors hold one of, if not the most public-facing roles in golf but comparatively few growth of the game.

women fill these positions that are essential to the growth of the game.

Consider that less than 1,000 of the PGA of America's 29,000 members are women. At the end of 2015, the LPGA Teaching and Club Pros program had only 1,700 members total, some of whom are dual members of the PGA and LPGA. The membership data suggests that women make up less than 5% of those teaching the game. And since most golf courses and clubs require that a Pro be certified by the PGA of America, it also means that there are considerably fewer women in Director of Golf and other senior golf management positions.

Now, I know some of you are going to chime in by saying, "Well, maybe women don't want to work in the industry. And if they wanted to work in golf, they would do it." This is the go-to excuse for any industry where few women work.

Let's talk about Title IX for a hot second. Title IX was a critical piece of legislation that gave women

and girls an equal opportunity to play sports in schools. Pre Title-IX, only 1 in 28 girls participated in sports. Post Title IX, 2 out of 5 girls play sports. This highlights the fact that opportunity and accessibility are critically important to growing participation. It wasn't that girls didn't want to play sports; they simply didn't have programs in their schools that encouraged or gave them the opportunity to play.

The same is almost certainly true for industries like golf that have traditionally done a poor job of recruiting women – whether it's as teaching professionals, golf club designers, club fitters, media personalities (outside of those used primarily as eye candy), or in golf tech. Is it that women aren't interested in golf, or is the issue that golf has shown very little interest in women?



So what happens when a sport that is dominated by men struggles to connect with women? That sport grows stagnate, and efforts to attract women in any significant numbers will fail. Only about 20% of women have shown any interest in golf. That's a liability. As an older, predominantly male demographic slowly ages out of the game, one would think the industry would be scrambling to do everything it can to improve diversity inside the industry to make the game more appealing to women on the outside.

Study after study shows that diverse companies produce 19 percent more revenue. Why should it be any different for companies in the golf space? It's also true that companies where women worked in top management generated more profit. This doesn't mean that companies need a female CEO, but increasing the percentage of women in senior positions from 0 to 30 percent correlated with a 15 percent jump in profits. <u>Continue Reading...</u>

Membership Matters

New Member Benefit From Omni Hotels



Omni Hotels & Resorts is offering PGA Members room discounts, room upgrades, complimentary green fees, award credits and an upgrade to Platinum Level Status.

Antigua to Offer Merchandise that Benefits



The <u>PGA HOPE-logoed apparel</u> on Antigua-branded caps and shirts will be sold by PGA Professionals in green-grass locations. A portion of all sales will support PGA HOPE.

RetailTribe Partners with PGA of America



RetailTribe offers PGA Members <u>discounted access</u> to a marketing solution specifically designed for and aimed at driving demand for player development and coaching.

Friendships Benefit your Mental Health



According to SupportLinc, loyalty can have powerful positive effects on our health. Learn about the <u>five</u> <u>benefits</u> of having friends at any age.

25% off NFL gear from Cutter & Buck



Be ready for the season with new NFL® gear! Rain or shine, you can show your team pride with our premium logo polos, sweaters and outerwear.

Take 25% off your team's apparel with code TOUCHDOWN at checkout.

Offer valid through 9/12/2019 exclusively on cutterbuck.com for NFL Fan Shop and NFL Americana items only. Non-transferable. Orders must be received by 11:59 PT on 9/12/19.

Tune in to PGA of America Radio



Tune in to Sirius/XM channel 92 or 208 every <u>Wednesday from 4:00-</u> 5:00 p.m. (ET). Each week, host David Marr III talks with PGA Members and industry Professionals about a variety of topics related to the game. Call 866-469-0026 to chat about any golf topic.

Tournament News

RYAN VERMEER, PGA REPEATS AS NEBRASKA SECTION PGA PROFESSIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP



VERMEER FIRES COURSE RECORD AT CLUB CAR/MIZUNO PRO 3-AM



Read Full Article

Tournament Schedule—2019

DATE
9/13-9/15
9/23
9/30
10/7
10/11
season long
season long
9/23 9/30 10/7 10/11 season long

REGISTER FOR ALL EVENTS HERE

VERMEER & SCHNEIDER CAPTURE MIZUNO PRO/ASSISTANTS CHAMPIONSHIP



Read Full Article



Family Golf

NGF Research Snapshot: Family Golf

by National Golf Foundation

GOLF'S FAMILY TIES

Almost two-thirds

of golfers say they played a round of golf with family members last year **(63%)**

(e.g., parents, spouse, children, grandparents, grandchildren, siblings)

Golf is a game that spans generations

2.5 million Junior golfers (ages 6-17)

4.2 million

Golfers 65-and-over



23% of golfers say they played with a spouse or significant other last year.

While golf can be a solitary game, golfers play with family or friends more often than not. Approximately two-thirds of golfers say they played golf on a course with a friend/colleague in the last 12 months and a similar percentage reported playing with a family member. Family plays a major role in the game of golf, particularly in the early stages. NGF research finds that kids in a household where dad or mom plays golf have a 1-in-4 chance of playing the game themselves. But for those children without a parent who plays golf, the odds of playing is 250-1.

Youth Caddie Academies – A Growing Niche

Shaping Kids' Outlook on Golf and Life One Loop at a Time

by Mike Buteau



There was a time when caddying helped grow golf, bringing in generations of youngsters through a job that started and shaped their relationship with the game.

Today, in an era when most teenagers would rather pick up a phone than a golf bag, youth caddying has been fighting to stay as relevant as it was in years past. However, organizations like the Solich Caddie & Leadership Academy, Youth on Course Caddie Academy, and the Western Golf Association's Carry the Game advocacy group are helping to put more bags on more shoulders every year.

These efforts are the byproduct of former youth-caddies-turned-dedicated-golfers who recognize how caddying can make an immeasurable impact on a kid's life, including developing social skills, work ethic, financial responsibility and overall maturity.

"I'd love to see more kids have opportunity to have access to caddie programs," says Ed Mate, who helps run the Solich Academy's three Denver-area chapters as executive director of the Colorado Golf Association. "I don't see caddying or caddie programs as a way to develop new golfers in large numbers, but it certainly can do it in small numbers. I see caddie programs as really leadership and vocational training. We talk so much about the life skills that golf entails."

Mate has experienced it first-hand. He grew



up caddying at Denver Country Club and is a graduate of the University of Colorado, which he attended on a Chick Evans Caddie Scholarship. Mate acknowledges that it's hard to change culture, and that the culture of golf in the U.S. is based on having a cart rather than the tried-and-true traditions of the game. But he firmly believes there's a pocket of golfers who really want to employ a caddie, particularly a youngster. Thus, the role of the Solich Academy (and others like it) is to make it as easy as possible for that person to enjoy the benefits of a youth caddie. <u>READ MORE...</u>

Junior Golf News





Another season of Nebraska Junior Golf wrapped up, and it was another successful season of growing the game.

Over 1,100 junior golfers from our Section tee'd it up in Nebraska Junior Golf events across several different programs.

The NJG Tour featured 45 18-hole events in addition to 42 9-hole events. Along with the regular tour events, the Tour featured 4 premier events for the more competitive players along with three 2-day championships, with one being new in 2019, the Kearney Junior Classic.

The tour wrapped up with the end of the year championships being held at Champions Run and Field Club of Omaha, and the Player of the Year awards were handed out

TEAMGolf welcomed 64 teams from around the state and we enjoyed one of the best seasons yet. After 24 regular season events, each the North and South Divisions welcomed 16 teams to the playoffs. Holmes Lake Golf Course and Fremont Golf Club played great hosts to the first round before Country Club of Lincoln hosted the Final Four Championship, where the Wilderness Ridge Divot Dogs brought the trophy back home.

The Belt Returns to the Wilderness Ridge Divot Dogs!

Lincoln, NE – The Country Club of Lincoln played host to the NJG TEAM GOLF championship presented by Five Points Bank on Friday, August 9th, 2019. Through 9-hole team competitions, TEAM GOLF serves as an introduction to tournament play for junior golfers, age 7-13. Designed to serve the beginning golfer with minimum experience, TEAM GOLF's format can be played by anyone regardless of skill. TEAM GOLF helps young golfers learn the game with a set of beginner friendly



rules such as no hazards, stroke limits, and the ability to drop a ball out of a bunker. Along with these rules, TEAM GOLF is also played through a scramble format allowing the golfers to have fun competing together as a team.

The Divot Dogs from Wilderness Ridge GC are your 2019 TEAM Golf Champions! They scored 41 points to get the job done and cap off their tremendous season. The team out of Wilderness Ridge is coached by PGA Professionals, Chris Thomson, Mike Schuchart, Alex Carper and Sarah Pravecek. The champions of this event were Carson Thurber, Carter Honnens, Walker Nannen, Bobby Li, Ben Kottmeyer and Eddie Zhang. Finishing runner up in the championship was the Fremont Express, and finishing in 3rd and 4th were the Happy Hollow Hotsticks and the CCL Blackshirts. Each of these teams had a great season and rightfully earned their spot into the TEAM Golf championship. Congratulations again to this year's TEAM Golf champions, the Wilderness Ridge Divot Dogs.

Special thanks to our season long presenting sponsor, Five Points Bank and to host PGA Professional, Nick Muller, PGA as well as the entire Country Club of Lincoln staff for hosting such an incredible season ending event!

TEAM GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP PREVIEW VIDEO



Leaderboard Updates





Ted DiGiacomo 292.50

Ryan Vermeer 282.50

3 Sam Jonell 275.60

2

Vebraska Section

- 4 Kyle Schellpeper 267.75
- 5 Mike Coatman 262.00
- 6 Shane Zywiec 215.50
- 7 Steve Friesen 198.75
- 8 Jim White 191.50
- Tony Baranowski 182.00
- 10 Kevin Drew 172.50

- Jon Petersen 164
- 12 Justin Herron 163.10
- 13 Nick Wanderscheid 151
- 14 Scott Holly 145.50
- 15 Tom Hearn 142.50
- 16 Brad Bailey 130.25
- 17 Jon Moore 109.60
- 18 Justin Onken 108.50
- 19 Greg Gilg 106.50
- 20 Jonathan Beaver 104.25

- 21 Mike Cornell 98.50
- 22 Andrew Storm 96
- **23 Troy Harder 93.50**
- 24 Judd Cornell 92.50
- 25 Joe Finnegan 91.50
- 26 Dominick Mitchum 91
- 27 Alex Carper 88
- 28 James Weaver 87



MEMBER UPDATES

EMPLOYEE	

CLASS

CURRENT FACILITY

PREVIOUS FACILITY

PREV CLASS

Kendall J Palu, PGA A-13 Scottsbluff Country Club Cathedral Canyon Golf Club A-1

UPCOMING SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Randy Carlson, PGA	09/01
Bob VanderZee, PGA	09/03
Brian Kuta, PGA	09/05
Judd Cornell	09/05
Kevin Chesnut, PGA	09/06
Owen Schuette, PGA	09/06
John Craw, PGA	09/09
Jerad Palmer, PGA	09/09
Jackie Stevens, PGA	09/10
Brian Winge, PGA	09/11
Kirk Stanzel, PGA	09/13
Sean Riley, PGA	09/13
Skip Tredway, PGA	09/14
Bradley Goetsch, PGA	09/14
Dan Fox, PGA	09/15
Don Graham, PGA	09/16
Anthony Thiner, PGA	09/18
Casey Schiel, PGA	09/18
Dakota Loudner, PGA	09/19
Austin Miller, PGA	09/19
Jeff Nielsen, PGA	09/20
Dan Shull, PGA	09/21
Ted DiGiacomo, PGA	09/21
Paul Murcek, PGA	09/22
Nick Onken	09/22
Tim Fox, PGA	09/25
Mike Zadalis, PGA	09/25
Ryan Kiewiet	09/27
Scott Ethington, PGA	09/29
Devon Kastler, PGA	09/29
Adam Coates, PGA	09/30
Jonathan Benson, PGA	09/30





If your club is considering an upcoming renovation, learn about exclusive benefits to reduce energy costs and save money



Save on KitchenAid® appliances with the INSIDEPASS Program using the PGA group code.



Save on essential business needs and enjoy low prices and exclusive discounts on the supplies and services you use most