

Dear Special Awards Committee,

Thank you for your time and efforts with being involved with one of our Section's greatest traditions, the Special Awards. This great tradition recognizes our PGA Professionals for their outstanding efforts and service to the game of golf in the Section. I am truly honored to have been nominated for the 2020 Patriot Award. I would like to thank Jake Burling, PGA and Sonya Freese, PGA, for nominating me for this award.

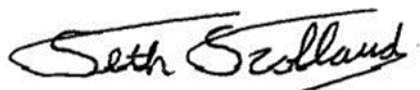
Over the past 4 years my family and I have been very blessed for the opportunity to work for the Nebraska PGA. Under the leadership of our CEO, David Honnens, and the support of our amazing team, I have learned so much and have I have grown as a PGA Professional and a person. The reason I got into this business is because I love people and I love creating positive experiences for everyone. Whether it was the members at my club, the 8-year-old junior golfer playing golf for the first time, or my fellow teammates, my goal every day is to make a difference in people's lives. PGA REACH Nebraska and specifically PGA HOPE has given me the chance to create these experiences every day and I will be forever grateful for that. On the following page I highlight some of our outstanding achievements with the PGA HOPE program, but I want to quickly share how this program has affected my life personally.

Growing up, I was raised to always give respect to our nation's Veterans as they have sacrificed their lives for our freedom we get to enjoy every single day. We should never take that for granted. PGA HOPE has given me the opportunity to give back to our local heroes in a unique way. As PGA Professionals, we are trained to teach the Veterans about the game of golf. However, I strive every day to make the Veterans experience with PGA HOPE more than just a golf lesson. Sure, the golf lessons are nice and improving anyone's game is fun, but this program means so much more to me and to them. Knowing that many of the Veterans we impact through this program are suffering from PTSD or dealing with a life altering injury, I have learned that the golf component is almost secondary for them. The real impact is creating the safe and fun environment for these people to be a part of. Having that cup of coffee 30 minutes before the program starts, and listening to their stories, introducing them to new people, exposing them to a healthy outdoor environment, creating challenges for them to overcome, creating the comradery they once had in the military, shaking the hand of every Veteran that shows up, that is what I enjoy the most about bringing to this program. I am forever grateful for the friendships I have created with our PGA HOPE Graduates and I look forward to the impact we will make together across the state with this program.

I have learned many life lessons from PGA HOPE and this group of Veterans. We all know that life can get busy but taking the time to do the small things such as sending a text or email to these people means so much to them. Listening to their war stories or simply asking how their week has gone can go a long way. I've learned that being a good listener can change lives and possibly save lives. I've learned the meaning of being truly grateful. When told the stories about the defeats and challenges our Veterans faced in the military, it really makes me stop in life and be truly grateful for the opportunities and blessings I have in my life. They have taught me how to triumph over adversity. Some of our Graduates had a tragedy strike early in their life. When that happens, these people spend years trying to pick up the pieces. They have taught me to overcome adversity in life by embracing adversity as a chance for opportunity, refusing to give up, having a purpose, and finding a sense of humor.

Every single PGA Professional who has raised their hand and actively helps with this program deserves this award. There is no doubt that the success of PGA HOPE would not be possible without the help of our PGA Professionals. I am honored to be considered for this award and have the opportunity join the list of our past Patriot award winners and the future award winners. At the end of the day, I am truly blessed to be a part of this amazing Section, Staff, and program, and I will continue to strive every day to create a positive impact with people's lives.

Thank you for your consideration,



Seth Scollard, PGA



“A Proud PGA Member”

As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them. -John F. Kennedy



First PGA HOPE Nebraska Class –2018



PGA
Nebraska Section

“The Nebraska PGA Patriot Award 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.”

2020 Patriot Award



NEBRASKA

PGA HOPE Highlights

- ♦ I am responsible for executing and growing the PGA HOPE program for PGA REACH Nebraska.
- ♦ Since 2018, we have impacted over 60 Veterans.
- ♦ We have run 5 total programs.
- ♦ Creating engagement events after the PGA HOPE program continues to be a high priority for me as we need to keep our Veterans engaged all year long.
- ♦ I submitted David Karl's name to become a PGA HOPE Ambassador and be represented at the Inaugural National PGA HOPE Golf & Wellness week. He was chosen by the National PGA REACH team and is now Nebraska's PGA HOPE Ambassador. He is currently one of only 20 Ambassadors in the country!



PGA HOPE Graduation Pictures



2018 PGA HOPE—Eagle Hills
Papillion, NE



2019 PGA HOPE—Eagle Hills
Papillion, NE



2019 PGA HOPE—Holmes
Lincoln, NE



2020 PGA HOPE—Holmes
Lincoln, NE



2020 PGA HOPE—Eagle Hills
Papillion, NE



2020 PGA HOPE Nebraska Cup
Ashland, NE



AMBASSADOR

David J Karl, PGA Hope Ambassador
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January 5, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

I have known Seth Scollard, of the Nebraska Section of the PGA, for the past 3 years. I have nothing but positive things to say about Seth.

I was invited to the first training session of the PGA Hope Program taught by Judy Alvarez, PGA/LPGA Master Professional. I was the demonstrative example of a 'Handicapped' Military Person.

I have been a golfer since 1965, a Retired Master Sergeant with over 21 years of service in the United States Air Force, retiring in 1992. I became a "Below-the-Knee" Amputee in 2013 after breaking my leg, so golf has become especially important to me.

Seth Scollard, lead Professional of the PGA Hope training program, evaluates each participant with a personal touch that makes the class feel welcome whether they have played golf or are just starting. He has helped me and other veterans with an understanding of the mechanics and rules of the game.

I have found Seth Scollard to be deeply knowledgeable of the game, extremely friendly and respectful to the Military Members. These members are active duty, retired or veterans from all branches of Service. Seth has gone the extra mile to make sure that after graduation, the graduates have opportunities to get additional "Tune-up" sessions with the Professionals.

There is no doubt in my mind that Seth Scollard is one of the leading Professionals in the Nebraska Section of the PGA.

If further information is needed, please contact me.

Thank you for your consideration.

David J. Karl

David J. Karl

Shawn Donald
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04 Jan 2021

Dear Nebraska PGA,

Hello, my name is Shawn Donald, I am a US Marine veteran, I first met Seth Scollard at an PGA Hope event, matter of fact it was the first one being held in Lincoln, NE at Holmes Lake Golf Course during the fall of 2019.

Mr. Scollard in my mind is a person who is true patriot in every sense of the word. He works hard in his position with the PGA Hope Program he vigorously supports this program and the veterans in which this program is designed to help. He is always looking for ways to bring Veterans together and providing the best of instructions and gatherings possible.

When I met Seth, I was on my last thin hope and I was told about this program through my mental health physician stating that this could be a way out of my shell of PTSD, depression and anxiety. On that day he was very energetic and had an outgoing personality he walked around and met with everyone in the clubhouse and when we were out on the driving range, he just basically fixed my swing within 15 mins since it has been a while since I golfed, and I was ready to call it quit on everything. I have also learned from Seth you do not always need a wedge to chip it's OK to grab and use the 8. Seth would also be there to check on everyone else and give pointers along with the other instructors. Making sure we were all ok and if we needed anything he was there to help. From the smallest thing from a bottle of water to equipment to make golfing fun again.

What really impressed me about Seth is that he is always looking for ways to get veterans together whether it is on the golf course or at a simulator like TopGolf he wants to continually see veterans improve their game or just get out among other veterans for comradery and good times. For we are all a brotherhood of servicemembers from various services and I would welcome with open arms Seth into our band of brothers.

In closing, I now look forward to the end of winter, so I can meet with other veterans on the golf course or in the next PGA Hope event where I can share my experiences with them and who knows maybe save them from harm as Seth has done for me. For I would love to return the favor to Seth and be ambassador for the program that he so desperately loves and wants to see it grow into the four corners of the State of Nebraska. A quote I keep to heart from Jack Nicklaus could also be applied to the way Seth applies his devotion to PGA HOPE.

"Resolve never to quit, never to give up, no matter what the situation" -**Jack Nicklaus**

Shawn Donald

Seth,

I would like to share with you a few of my thoughts on why I think you and PGA HOPE have made such a big impact in my life. Back in July 2020, I heard about a golfing organization that helped veterans with disabilities, through my VA Prosthetics office. I showed up for the first meeting and immediately knew that this group was for me. I had not golfed since the 80's due to an accident which broke my back and left me with a bad right leg which I lost 10 years ago. The first person to greet me when I arrived, was you. You had a smile a country mile long and a handshake and a welcome that was truly genuine. You introduced us to all the other golfers and teachers and made us feel right at home. Throughout the meeting your message was loud and clear. HAVE FUN, be yourselves and if we needed help, the team was there to help. That day changed my outlook on my life forever. You stayed in touch with each and every player throughout that outing. You took the time to check in with me and others to see if we needed anything. You noticed in the first day that I was struggling with my swing so you suggested longer clubs. We worked on my swing with the longer clubs and this made all the difference. The other practices and golf rounds we played were always well thought out and with your guidance, were a blast to be a part of. Because of your dedication to helping people and the game of golf, you made all of our outings fun and challenging all at the same time. Seth, I would personally like to say that people like you, make veterans like me, happy to be able to get back into the swing of life. You are a true champion to us all!

Sincerely,

Joe Frederick

Disabled United States Air Force Veteran