









Spring Meeting at Wykagyl Country Club on April 7th

We expect another strong turnout of over 200 members for our upcoming Spring Meeting on Thursday, April 7th at Wykagyl Country Club. We are still expecting to play golf, but a construction project will prevent us from using the practice range. Registration will get under way at 7:45 and we will have an opportunity to greet and welcome our 2016 Sponsors and Partners before the meeting starts. Our supporters will also come back for lunch prior to the shotgun start.

In addition to a review of our Committee plans for the upcoming season, we will also continue to promote the importance of PGA Junior League and Drive, Chip & Putt, introduce our Foundation's new purpose and mission, discuss new sponsors and new initiatives, and get caught up on National PGA reports and affairs with Dan Pasternak. Committee reports are available now on the web site.

Butch Harmon to Draw a Huge Crowd at Met PGA Educational Forum on April 12th

Our 54th Annual Met PGA Spring Educational Forum returns to the Westchester Dinner Theatre on Tuesday, April 12th with one of the most renowned golf instructors the game has ever seen.

The list of Butch Harmon students is an incredible collection of the game's best players including current stars Dustin Johnson, Rickie Fowler, Brandt Snedeker and Jimmy Walker. He has also worked with Phil Mickelson, Greg Norman, Nick Watney, Gary Woodland, Fred Couples, Adam Scott, Ernie Els, Davis Love III, Darren Clarke, Stewart Cink, Justin Leonard, Mark Calcavecchia, Natalie Gulbis and Tiger Woods. In all, his students have amassed over 140 tour wins worldwide. The day's program will close with the always motivational Special Awards presentations honoring our 2015 Professional of the Year (Nelson Long), our Player of the Year (Matt Dobyns) and our Sam Snead Award winner (John Kennedy). The combination of our Awards presentation and two outstanding speakers will make this a great day. Please register in advance and avoid the penalty for paying at the door.

Old Oaks to Host the Assistants Meeting and Opening Tournament on April 11th

Old Oaks Country Club will continue their history of supporting Met PGA events with this year's opening event for the Assistants. The Assistants will start the meeting at 9:00 am and this year's meeting will also include some of the features from our Orientation program that will now be folded into the business meeting. The golf tournament returns to individual stroke play after a few years as a team event.

John Kennedy To Be Presented with the Sam Snead Award

The Met PGA's Special Awards Committee is proud to announce the selection of John Kennedy as our Sam Snead Award winner to be honored at the Spring Forum on April 12th. John joins an illustrious list of honorees that only includes 4 Section members in the last decade. The Sam Snead Award recognizes contributions to golf, the PGA and the Met Section. Mentor to so many, service is synonymous with John Kennedy. From managing the vast operation at Westchester Country Club, to mentoring employees and fellow head professionals alike, to spending valuable time and energy giving back to military and his community, John's contributions are unmatched. We are pleased to honor JK and proud of everything he does for the game of golf.

The Met PGA & Lincoln "Race for the Lease" Starts With 2016 Pro Ams

We are excited about the schedule of new and returning Lincoln Pro-Am events for 2016 and a fresh start to another two-year Race for the Lease. The points system has been modified slightly and everyone has a fresh start to win a lease on a Lincoln based solely on Pro Am participation.

Monday, May 9
Thursday May 19
Monday May 23
Monday June 6
Monday June 13
Thursday June 23
Pound Ridge
Metropolis
Tuxedo
Pelham
Montauk
Sands Point

Tuesday August 16 The Mitch at Innis Arden

Thursday September 29 Seawane

Our Lincoln Pro-Ams will not include test drives this year but we will be working on some new wrinkles to promote the significance of the amateur participation. We will also continue our Stripes vs. Sox Challenge Match with the New England Section with winners of each of the combined competitions in the Pro-Ams invited to compete at Mohegan Sun Country Club in the Mohegan Sun Tournament of Champions in October.

TaylorMade adidas Golf Met PGA Pro-Assistants at Cold Spring & Patriot Hills

The biggest day of golf for the Met PGA is our annual Pro-Assistants. Long Island will be at Cold Spring Country Club on Monday, April 18th while that same day Westchester, CT and Upstate teams will converge on Patriot Hills. Both events are double shotguns with the choice of shotgun times on a first-come, first served basis. Our thanks as always to our annual sponsor,, TaylorMade and adidas Golf for their support and involvement.

MasterCard Match Play Championships

Our Championship season and Player of the Year race gets under way on April 25th as professionals will compete at Engineers Country Club on Long Island in the MasterCard LIPGA and at Sleepy Hollow Country Club for our Westchester, CT and Upstate professionals in the MasterCard Westchester PGA. As we did last year in order to expand playing opportunities and the number of players in both fields, we will exempt players in the top 50 overall on the 2015 Player Of The Year list into their respective event (not to exceed 32 in either event) from the qualifying and still qualify a minimum of 32 additional PGA Members into both fields. The match play events will begin with the first round on Monday, May 2nd followed by 2 rounds of matches conducted on May 3rd, May 4th and the finals on May 5th. The April 25th qualifying rounds will also be used for our MasterCard Met PGA Senior Match Play Championship at Whippoorwill Club on May 10th – 12th. The match play schedule at Whippoorwill will be 2 matches on Tuesday May 10th, one afternoon match on Wednesday May 11th, and 2 matches on Thursday May 12th.

Drive, Chip & Putt National Finals

Tune in to Golf Channel from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM ET on Sunday April 3rd to watch the 2016 Drive, Chip & Putt Championship. Kyra Cox and Sam O'Hara will represent the Met PGA in the finals. Kyra is from South Salem, NY and plays out of Centennial. Sam splits time between Maisdstone and Round Hill. We will be watching closely and wish them all the best!

Lenox Advisors New York State Open Returns to Bethpage Black

Our 2016 Lenox Advisors NY State Open Championship will be July $19^{th} - 21^{st}$ at Bethpage Black. We anticipate that entry information will be posted and available by mid-April.

Met PGA HOPE

Met PGA HOPE was one of the most impactful programs of 2015. We anticipate significant growth, and with that will be a need for more volunteers. In order to get involved, we ask you to attend one of the PGA HOPE traning sessions offered in the coming weeks.

April 13th Met PGA HOPE Training at Westchester CC

Click to register.

April 14th Met PGA HOPE Training at Huntington CC

Click to register.

New Staff at the Met PGA

In March, we announced the arrival of Kevin Rodine as the Assistant Tournament Director, and many of you have already spoken with Kaitlin Sabbagh, our new Player Development Manager. Kaitlin started work on March 17th and was immediately immersed in PGA Junior League and trying to help PGA members navigate getting themselves registered as captains, and also start the process of getting their participants to register online. There have been some challenges with this process and we are thrilled to have Kaitlin filling the void created when Jonathan Gold was promoted to PGA Employment Consultant. Kaitlin is a product of the Met PGA Junior Golf Tour and has worked for the WMGA and USGA.

Upcoming Educational Opportunities

We have been advised of the following upcoming educational offerings:

April 1st Ryan Burke of *My Swing Golf* at GlenArbor.

To register please email David Gagnon at:

dgagnon@glenarborclub.com.

April 13th Titleist Club Fitting Seminar at Huntington Country Club.

To register please email Paul Deedy or Bill Kent at:

pauldeedy@acushnetgolf.com
bill kent@acushnetgolf.com

April 19th US Kids Golf Certified Coach Seminar

at Westchester Country Club

Register here.

2015 Year in Year in Review Returns in Digital Format

The Met PGA staff has worked hard to get our 2015 Year in Review Magazine ready. The Magazine is packed with images, stories and results from the 2015 season and previews what is ahead for 2016. It is also a great opportunity to represent the Partners and Sponsors and their brands. We expect the Magazine to be released on the web site during the week of April 4th.

Golfwriters Dinner at Tarrytown's Westchester Marriott on July 25th

Davis Love III, one of the best players of his generation and widely respected for upholding the finest ideals of the sport throughout an illustrious career, will receive one of golf's most important honors—the Gold Tee Award—from the Metropolitan Golf Writers Association at the 65th National Awards Dinner on Monday, July 25, at the Westchester Marriott in Tarrytown, New York. Contact Kate Keller at the MGA for more information.

PGA Member Accomplishments

Newly Elected Members

• Timothy Kearon, A-8, on the staff of Chris Crenshaw at St. George's.

Quarter Century

Terence Hughes, A-1 at Mahopac Golf Club has joined the Quarter Century Club.

Certified Professional

- Frank Abatino, A-8 at Westchester Hills, certified in Golf Operations and Teaching & Coaching
- Alex Bardani, A-8 at Quogue Field Club, certified in Teaching & Coaching
- Jeffrey Calais, A-8 at Lawrence, certified in Teaching & Coaching
- Andy Crane, A-1 at West Point, certified in Teaching & Coaching We also wish Andy luck in his upcoming car race on the road course at Daytona.

Congratulations to all of these Met PGA Professionals on their accomplishments.

USGA Rules of Golf Workshops

Congratulations are in order to Village Club of Sands Point Director of Golf Karl Obermeyer and our own Dan Kiley. Karl scored a 93 on the Rules exam and Dan notched 90. Those who have attended the workshop and taken the exam know how strong these achievements are!

Classified Ad

Tom Lupinacci is offering a \$21,000 Commission to any golf professional who may have a member who might enjoy a World Class, Museum Quality Antique Golf Collection with 565 Items. Please review Tom's Website www.Timelessgolfantiques.com for details! Price for package is \$215,000.

Tom is looking to purchase Used Yellow Factory range balls in Very Good Condition. Tom also has For Sale Used Factory White Range Balls in Very Good Condition starting at \$2.75 per Doz with free delivery in Westchester or Long Island for orders of 3000 balls or more! Tom also has High Quality Used Golf Balls for Re-Sale. Tom also has hit away golf balls @.15 each. Free delivery on orders over 3000 balls to Long Island or Westchester. Call Tom @ 904-233-1023 for questions or Information.

For Sale

1,000 dozen TITLEIST NXT 'Practice' White Range Balls for sale......One and two years old ONLY.

If interested or for more information, contact John Schob at glfpro77@aol.com.

PGA Championship / PGA REACH Charity Pro Am

The PGA of America is offering spots in their PGA REACH Pro Am at Baltusrol Golf Club on Tuesday May 17th. This is a rare opportunity to play the PGA Championship golf course just a few short month prior to the tournament. Please contact the Met PGA office for more information.

Propourri

The Northeast NY PGA Section has invited our members to participate in an educational offering with Henry Brunton on Monday April 18 at Saratoga National Golf Club. Visit new-pga.com for more.

The First Tee Fairfield County (a joint collaboration between First Tee of Metropolitan NY and First Tee of Connecticut) will be staging the 3rd gala *Taste of the Tee* at Greenwich Country Club on Wednesday, June 15th. Michael Breed will be the program's emcee.

PGA Update

Check your PGAorg online profile before the May 1st PGA Dues billing to make sure your employment, classification and contact information is all correct. You will also get 1 MSR credit for updating the information....Only PGA Class A Members, Life Members and Master Professional Members are granted complimentary access to The Masters as a courtesy extended by Augusta National Golf Club....MSR from the Merchandise Show has been posted....he PGA Annual Operations Survey to help provide our PGA Professionals with key statistics and benchmarking capabilities. The survey is currently available for the highest-ranked PGA Professional at each facility, or to any other golf professional with proxy rights for their facility. To participate please visit the following link....The PGA of America has decided to discontinue the Grand Slam of Golf....PGA Trade-In- Network provides bonus cash, promotional support and incentives for Demo Day Sales and Trade-Ins....IBM Southeast EFCU, the PGA's credit union partner is offering financial planning and social security and investment strategies through TransAmerica Financial Advisor s. The credit union partner is offering financial planning and social security and investment strategies through TransAmerica Financial Advisor s. The credit union is also offering savings on Home Equity Lines of Credit through April 30th. They also offer special "No Fee" document prep (a \$300.00 value) on loans and business lines of credit

Employment Listings

The Met PGA Newsletter has gotten a facelift and with it has come an important change to employment information. The employment listing is now a separate document that will be updated continuously and managed separately from the newsletter. The employment listing can always be found by accessing the newsletter, but it can now also be found under the "Important Links" on the main page of www.met.pga.com.

You can access the always-up-to-date employment listing <u>here</u>.

Zero Friction

Kirk & Matz

Thank you 2016 Partners & Sponsors

Ahead **Lenox Advisors Anheuser Busch** Lincoln **Associates Golf Car Service** Mastercard **Bettinardi Golf** Mercedes Benz **Blast Motion** Middleton Golf Group/Cleveland Srixon Mizuno **Bushnell** Mohegan Sun Callaway Carr Golf **Morell Studios** Club Car Terry Murphy Cobra/Puma Golf **National Car Rental Cure Putters OMEGA Cutter & Buck - Paul McManus** Par Bar **Destinations Golf & Leisure** Peter Millar **Donald Ross Sportswear PGA National Resort & Spa Empire Casino PGA Tour Evolve Golf PING** EY Polo **Prospect Mortgage EZ-GO** Fairway Golf Car **Rivers End Trading** Fennec Golf/Martin Golf Brooks Brothers, Page & Tuttle Streamsong Resort Game Golf **Golf Genius Software** Stonehouse Golf **Summit Brands** Golf Max **Golf Professionals of America** Fairway & Greene, EP Pro, Zero **Players Association** Restriction Sun Mountain **Golf Scoreboard Company Golf Slot Machine swingOIL** TaylorMade - Adidas - Ashworth -**Greg Norman Collection/Dunning Golf** Haas Jordan Adams Titleist/Footjoy **Heritage Creations** Hermitage Club, The **Travis Mathew** J. Lindeberg **Treiber Insurance** Michael Hebron UnderArmour Jani-King **VPAR** JBA Awards WeatherBug

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