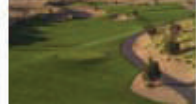




PGA Newsletter

Sun Country Section



January/February 2012

From the Desk of the President

Fellow Members & Apprentices,



I hope the Holidays went well for everyone and the 2012 golf season is shaping up to be upbeat and prosperous. This is the first newsletter of

the year and already there is a lot to tell you about.

In December the Board of Directors developed the Business Plan for 2012. Some of the items on the agenda for 2012 include Golf in Schools, the new GOLF 2.0 program, a new Section Golf Pass, junior access to courses, the Golf Marathon, promotion of our members for National Awards, positive changes to the tournament program and much more.

At the Spring Meeting in March we are scheduled to get an update from the National Office on the Golf 2.0 program. The hope is that this new program will give all of us more resources and ideas to better help grow the number of rounds we see at our courses. The meeting will include educational opportunities to help members satisfy their MSR requirements as well.

The meeting will also have a presentation on the new Section Golf Pass being developed. This pass has the ability to significantly impact the Section budget but also help courses realize some rounds and business they may not have captured in the pass. I encourage each course to find some "special" they

can add to the pass to help increase its value, thereby supporting the Section and our programs.

Once again this year we will also ask you to participate in the Golf Marathon. This event can be held at your course on a day you choose and its potential is tremendous. Last year we realized over \$16,000 for the Junior Foundation and an additional \$11,000 for charities the Professionals chose to support for a total of over \$27,000. Our goal this year is \$50,000 and we will need your help to accomplish that goal. Please consider hosting a Marathon in 2012. Thanks to Matt Molloy for all his work on this great new program.

In other news, the Executive Committees of the SCSPGA & SCAGA had a meeting in early January to discuss the Golf Pass and the Revenue Sharing agreement and other items. I am very pleased with the positive relationship of these two associations that are so vital to golf in New Mexico. These two associations have committed to programs that will grow the game not just for 2012 but well into the future. A BIG Thank you to Ron Mercer and all of the SCAGA Executive Committee as well as Derek & Matt for such out-of-the-box thinking.

That's all for now. Until next time....Get out and PLAY!

Grant Dalpes, PGA
Sun Country PGA President

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NEWS & NOTICES

Roth in Top 100 Senior Golfers

Sun Country PGA Professional Jeff Roth of Farmington, N.M., is ranked 89th in the world in the Senior World Golf Rankings.

Jeff is currently ranked ahead of Major winners Fuzzy Zoeller, Ben Crenshaw, and Craig Stadler.

Congratulations Jeff Roth on this amazing accomplishment and good luck in 2012!

2012 Pro-Ams

Some dates are still available for pro-ams. If you are interested in hosting a pro-am in 2012, please contact Andrew at the Section Office: (800) 346-5319 or Andrew@suncountrygolfhouse.com

Board Updates

Check out recent updates on the Board of Director's Blog:

- Tourism Alliance Update
- 2011 Fall Meeting Minutes
- Junior Committee Update



Board Blog

[Log into the Sun Country website](#) and click on the "Board Blog" icon in the right sidebar

2011 1099 Tax Forms

1099 forms for your 2011 Section purse winnings will be mailed from the National Office on January 30.

Note: 1099's from the Section *do not* include your winnings from most pro-ams. You are responsible for tracking your pro-am/outside event winnings. Results from last year are available on our website if you need to look up how much you won. If you won more than \$600 at any event, you should receive a separate 1099 from that course.

2011 Tournaments included on the Sun Country Section 1099:

- Pro-PGM at NMSU
- Nike Matches at Desert Greens
- Pro-Scratch Team Champ. at Tanoan
- Pro-Pro Team Champ. at Sandia
- Sun Country Senior PNC at Paa-Ko
- Players Championship at the Inn of the Mountain Gods
- Assistant Pro Champ. at the Links at Sierra Blanca
- Senior NM Open at Isleta
- NM Open at Santa Ana
- Sun Country PNC at Las Campanas
- Pro-Assistant Team Champ. at Towa
- Senior-Junior Team Champ. at Lone Star
- IMG Cup at Sonoma Ranch
- Yamaha Closest-to-the-Hole Prizes

CLICK HERE

COMPLETE THE 2012 PGA COMPENSATION SURVEY



Complete by March 15 and receive up to two MSR credits
***Provided the maximum for this category has not been met**



PGA

Official Card of PGA Professionals

PGA OF AMERICA, USGA ENCOURAGE GOLFERS TO TEE IT FORWARD IN 2012

Palm Beach Gardens, Fla. – The PGA of America (PGA) and the United States Golf Association (USGA) want golfers to have more fun by “teeing it forward” all year long.

Following the successful pilot launch of TEE IT FORWARD in July 2011, The PGA and the USGA are encouraging golfers to continue to tee it forward and play from tee markers that match their average driving distance. More than 1,900 facilities registered in 2011, with an average of 123 golfers per facility (nearly 237,000 nationwide) playing from forward tees during the promotional period. Additionally, a survey of more than 3,000 golfers who experienced the program showed that 70 percent found their round more enjoyable and more than 90 percent said they would recommend TEE IT FORWARD to a friend. The survey also found nearly 50 percent of respondents saying the program helped them play faster.

“These golfers told us that they found golf more enjoyable by playing courses at shorter lengths than usual. At the end of the day, that’s what we want...golfers to have more fun, which, in turn, hopefully means they will play more and stay in the game,” said PGA of America President Allen Wronowski. “This initiative also generated incredible buzz through traditional and social media, as well as at golf facilities across the country.”

The PGA partnered with the USGA to support TEE IT FORWARD in 2011 and the organizations are once again teaming up to make this a year-round promotion.

“Simply put, TEE IT FORWARD can make golf much more fun for millions of people, while contributing to the growth of the game,” said Jim Hyler, USGA President. “We are encouraged by the results of our pilot, and believe this new approach to the game is really beginning to catch on with golfers of all skill levels.”

TEE IT FORWARD was brought to the forefront by industry veteran Barney Adams, retired founder of Adams Golf. Adams was a strong advocate and ambassador for TEE IT FORWARD in 2011 and will continue in that role.

“I’ve been around the game for more than 30 years and continue to be amazed as golfers make it much harder than it should be by playing golf courses at distances that don’t come close to matching their abilities,” said Adams. “By playing from forward tees, amateur golfers have the chance to play the course at the same relative distance as a touring professional would over 18 holes. We need golfers to be hitting 8-irons and wedges into par fours like the pros...not fairway woods.”

While it was highlighted during a specific time period in 2011, TEE IT FORWARD is now being promoted as a year-round initiative. Courses can set up additional tees to provide golfers with more options or simply encourage golfers to use existing forward tees to potentially have a more enjoyable experience on the course.

The PGA and the USGA will be developing educational and promotional materials to be distributed to golf facilities across the country. World Golf Hall of Fame member Jack Nicklaus, PGA Tour star Dustin Johnson and LPGA star Paula Creamer have been utilized on materials to carry the TEE IT FORWARD message. Both organizations will also leverage PSA and other promotional opportunities around their respective championships to support the initiative.

For more information, visit PlayGolfAmerica.com/TEEITFORWARD.

SANDIA GOLF CLUB PROMOTES MATT LONG TO HHEAD GOLF PROFESSIONAL

ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO - [Sandia Golf Club](#) and OB Sports recently announced the promotion of Matt Long to Head Golf Professional. In his new role at the award-winning Sandia Golf Club, Long will oversee golf shop operations, guest services and tournament operations. Prior to his position as the Head Golf Professional, Long served as Sandia Golf Club's 1st Assistant Golf Professional and tournament director for the past two years. Born in Denver, CO and raised in Albuquerque, NM, Matt attended Highland High School and started his career at Puerto Del Sol GC and Four Hills CC. A Member of the PGA of America since 2008, He is PGA Certified in General Management. Matt also currently serves as a member of the Board of Directors for the Sun Country PGA Section.



"It is always rewarding to see the career growth and advancement of our internal team members," said Matt Molloy, General Manager of Sandia Golf Club. "To that end it gives me great pleasure to announce Matt's appointment as the Head Golf Professional. Matt has worked tirelessly to enhance the golf experience at Sandia Golf Club and his promotion to Head Golf Professional is very much deserved. He is a consummate professional and we are blessed to have him," added Molloy.

Located in Albuquerque, New Mexico, Sandia Resort & Casino features an award winning golf experience that offers a visually stunning and strategic 18 hole golf course designed by Scott Miller, complete practice facility and a 16,000 square foot "Pueblo" style clubhouse featuring restaurant, golf shop and expansive patio. The golf club at Sandia is a key amenity to the Sandia Resort & Casino that is already a popular gaming and entertainment venue. In 2006, Sandia opened a world-class resort that features 228 luxurious, oversized guest rooms including over 30 suites. Every guest room and suite are highlighted by awe-inspiring views of the Albuquerque skyline or the rugged wildness of the Sandia Mountains.

The award winning Sandia Golf Club was ranked 4 ½ stars out of a total possible rating of five stars by Golf Digest's "Best Places You Can Play" and has garnered a number of other national awards including "Development of the Year" by Golf Inc Magazine, Top 100 Golf Shops in the Country, Golf World Business, Top 100 Resort Course rankings by Golfweek Magazine and being selected as one of the Top 10 Best New Courses in the Country by Golf Magazine.

The golf facility at Sandia Resort & Casino is professionally managed by OB Sports Golf Management, a diversified, golf-oriented company with a long history of success. OB Sports currently manages 43 premier golf courses and country clubs throughout the United States. Known for its comprehensive and personalized services since 1972, OB Sports has become widely acclaimed as the leader in boutique-style golf course management. For more information on OB Sports, visit www.obsports.com or call (480) 948-1300. You can become a Fan of OB Sports on Facebook at www.facebook.com/obsports or follow OB Sports on Twitter at www.twitter.com/OBSportsGolf

For information about the Sandia Resort & Casino visit www.sandiacasino.com or call 877.272.9199.

For more information on Sandia Golf Club visit www.sandiegolf.com or call 505.798.3990.

Sandia Resort & Casino is a business enterprise of the Pueblo of Sandia and is part of a master-planned development on Sandia land just outside of Albuquerque. Located at I-25 and Tramway Road, Sandia Casino employs 1,900 New Mexicans, 1,300 of them employed by the casino.

PGA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM—APPLY BY MARCH 15

The PGA of America is pleased to announce that the PGA Financial Assistance Fund Scholarship Program is available online on the homepage of PGALinks.com. The application must be completed online.

PGA Financial Assistance Fund Scholarship Program Fact Sheet

Graduating high school seniors and college students who are the children or grandchildren of PGA members are invited to apply online at the home page (before you log in) of PGALinks.com to be considered for financial support for college through the PGA Financial Assistance Fund Scholarship Program.

The scholarship program is an academic-based scholarship program that takes into account the following depending on the class level of the student:

High School Graduating Senior

High School Cumulative Grade Point Average – must be at least 3.0 (60% of the scholarship weighting scale). This number is to be an unweighted GPA based on a 4.0 scale.

ACT and/or SAT test scores (30% of the scholarship weighting scale)

Extracurricular activities in high school such as sports, clubs, student government, community service, part time employment, etc. (10% of the scholarship weighting scale).

Current College Student (has not reached their senior year in college)

College Cumulative Grade Point Average – must be at least 3.0 (60% of the scholarship weighting scale)

Most recently completed college semester or quarter GPA (30% of the scholarship weighting scale)

Extracurricular activities in college such as sports, clubs, student government, community service, part time employment, etc. (10% of the scholarship weighting scale)

The amount and number of scholarships is determined by the availability of funds, and may vary from year to year based on these factors and IRS guidelines. Scholarships are awarded at the discretion of the PGA Scholarship Committee. The scholarship is for accredited Universities or Colleges in the United States only.

The application process is live online between November 15, 2011 and March 15, 2012 and students are asked to wait until they are in possession of their most current grade report (first semester) or transcript before applying. The applicant must enter the student's Social Security number and the PGA affiliated parent or grandparent's PGA ID number to gain access to the application.

After submitting the online application, the applicant must have postmarked by March 15, 2012 to the below address a sealed official school grade transcript that shows their GPA information and ACT/SAT test scores (if a high school applicant) to:

PGA Financial Assistance Fund Scholarship Program
Attention: Linda Bennington
Grant and Scholarship Specialist
100 Avenue of the Champions
Palm Beach Gardens, Florida 33418

The online application deadline date and receipt of the transcript is 5:00 p.m. (ET), March 15, 2012. Recipients will be announced in May. If you have any questions concerning the application, please contact Linda Bennington at (561) 624-7612 or via e-mail at lbenning@pgahq.com.

Sun Country PROfiles



Year Turned Pro: 2006

Facility and Job Title: Head Professional, Lone Star GC, El Paso

Background and credentials

I started playing golf as a sophomore in high school and my first job was as a cart attendant at Cielo Vista Golf Course. I worked in the cart barn for 2 years and left the game in 2002 to attend culinary school. After

realizing I was no Emiril Lagase, I left school and moved back to El Paso in 2003. Between 2003 and 2004 I was an assistant manager at a Denny's restaurant in El Paso. I returned to the game in 2004 and began working as a cart attendant at Lone Star Golf Club. I worked in every department of the facility and in 2006 was moved in as the Assistant Golf Professional. I joined the PGM program in 2006 and finished this past April.

What was your motivation to become a PGA Professional? Golf has been a passion of mine since I was in high school. When I lived in California, I was unsure of what to do with my life and found myself spending time at Brookside Golf Club in Pasadena. The pro there allowed me to play for free as long as I assisted them with shagging balls at night. It was a conversation with him one night, and a conversation with Mike Singleton that inspired me to turn my passion into my career. Business was always my goal in college, and golf was my passion. I came back to El Paso, went to UTEP and worked my tail off to improve my game to pass the P.A.T. Before I passed my P.A.T, a position opened at Lone Star so I decided to drop out of school and chase my goal.

What is your specialty in the golf business? That's a question that I think depends on who you ask. I've been told by many that my people skills and my customer service is my strongest suit. I feel that my knowledge of the equipment and my ability to custom fit players is my specialty.

What was your greatest moment in golf? My greatest moment is funny but not at all exciting. In one round of golf at my home course, Lone Star Golf Club, I eagled

holes 9, 10, and 11, and still managed my way to a round of -1. I really feel I'm the only person you'll ever meet that can be 6 under on 3 holes and barely break par.

What or who has had the greatest impact on your career?

I have had the blessing of working with and for 3 great individuals. Mike Singleton has had the biggest impact on my career. Since I was a teenager Mike has always taken the time to teach and educate me about the business, swing, and game of golf. Bill Eschenbrenner also made sure to take the time to teach me about the golf business. Benjamin Vanecek, who is the current owner of Lone Star Golf Club, has had the most recent impact on my career. Through Benny, I have learned new management styles and the importance of continuing to want to grow in any business. These three gentlemen mean a lot to me and hopefully I can continue to learn from them and their experiences.

Besides golf, what else do you enjoy? I am an avid bowler. One day I bowl a 300, I've bowled a 299 so I've almost made it. Another hobby I enjoy is guitar. I just started with the guitar but one day I will get it down.

If you could play any golf course in the world, which one would it be and who would complete your foursome? I would love to play the Old Course at St. Andrews with my wife and my 2 kids. I'd have to wait about 13 years for my kids to be able to enjoy it, but it would be worth the wait.

If you could give lessons to anyone in the world who would it be and what advice would you give? I would love to tell Barack Obama to take up the game of golf and enjoy a nice retirement on the links and not to worry about anything. I would convince him he could qualify for the Champions Tour by explaining how change is good.

What is your favorite golf instruction tip? My favorite tip to give is one taught to me by Mike Singleton. I enjoy using the split grip to teach players how to release the club through the hitting area.

Want to be featured in a PROfile?

Contact Shirly Glesil at sglesil@pgahq.com

Sun Country Birthdays

★HAPPY BIRTHDAY!★

January 1

Joe Tiano, PGA

January 2

Miguel Griego

January 3

Tom Velarde, PGA

January 4

Mike Olson, PGA

January 10

Sig Dalen, PGA
Benny Gallegos, PGA

January 12

Tom McClurg, PGA

January 17

David Nowell, PGA

January 18

Michael Rice, PGA

January 19

Alberto Lovato, PGA

January 24

Bob Meiering, PGA

January 30

George Trujeque, PGA
Tony Hidalgo, PGA
Larry Webb, PGA

February 2

Fadel Nahle, PGA
Michelle Palmber

February 4

Doug Wayne, PGA

February 13

Larry Beem, PGA

February 14

Val D'Souza, PGA
Dennis McCloskey, PGA
Ross Nettles, PGA

February 17

Eric Chavez

February 19

Wayne Rice, PGA

February 21

Scott Gates, PGA
Ron Ulibarri, PGA

February 26

Colby Reddoch, PGA

Members

on the Move

Classification Changes

Name	Class	Facility
James Davison	A-1 (from A-8)	Albuquerque CC

Newly Elected Members

Name	Class	Facility
Mark Gerhardt	A-8	Picacho Hills CC

Employment Changes

Name	Class	Facility
Ryan Flamm	A-4	Red Hawk GC

New Apprentices

Name	Class	Facility
James Wagner	B-8	Alto Lakes G & CC



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Charley Carlson

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