

CLUB ASSOCIATION CONTINUES TO BE A SUCCESS

The Philadelphia Section's Club Association Program may only be in its third year but it has grown tremendously since its inception. The program, created in 2008, helps increase assistance in funding for both the Greater Philadelphia Junior Golf Foundation and the Philadelphia Junior Tour. Section facilities can contribute to the Club Association through a \$200 membership fee, which is then distributed evenly to both organizations to help with their operations. The Club Association, which began with ten charter facilities in 2008, grew to include over sixty facilities in 2009 combining to raise over \$12,000 (over \$6,000 each) for the Greater Philadelphia Junior Golf Foundation and the Junior Tour. To date the 2010 Club Association Program has matched the number of participating facilities from 2009 and with more than half of the year to go the Section is hoping to surpass that number. For more information on the Club Association Program, please visit, www.phillypga.com/clubassociation.

On May 6th, the Section held its annual Sponsor Day at the famed Atlantic City Country Club in Northfield, NJ. Sponsor Day is a chance for the Section to thank all of our sponsors for their continued support of the Philadelphia Section. Everyone in attendance was treated to lunch, golf, cocktails and hors d'oeuvres as well as personalized tee gifts. More than forty Section sponsors teed it up along with members of the Section in the friendly competition. During the post round awards ceremony, prizes were distributed in various categories including low gross and net scores. The Section will be hosting a second Sponsor Day at Concord Country Club on Tuesday, September 21st, in conjunction with the Philadelphia Section Championship.

During the second week of May, the Section's tournament schedule kicked into high gear. The Spring Pro-Pro, presented by Tour Edge and Sun Mountain, was held at Fieldstone Golf Club in Greenville, DE. Neither tournament lacked in drama.

The pair of John Pillar (CC of Woodloch Springs) and Brian Kelly (Bucknell GC) went off in the first hour of the event and carded seven birdies against only one bogey to post an early low round of 6-under par (65). The duo waited around all day only to see their score surpassed by a pair of seniors in the final hour of the event. Mike Mack

(Burlington CC) and J.R. Delich overcame a bogey on the first hole to finish the tournament at 8-under par (63). Mack and Delich finished their round with four straight birdies to work out the victory.

On Monday, May 10th the Head Pro Championship (Connelly Cup), presented by Tehema, Bushnell and Pukka, was held at Whitemarsh Valley Country Club in Lafayette Hill, PA. Brian Kelly once again found himself atop the leaderboard. However, this time he finished the tournament tied with three other players all posting scores of 2-under par (70). Needing to determine a winner, Kelly, Greg Farrow (Deerwood CC), Mike Ladden (Whitford CC), and Rich Steinmetz (Spring Ford CC) returned to the first hole to begin a sudden death playoff. Farrow and Ladden bogeyed the first hole while Kelly and Steinmetz made par and moved on to the second playoff hole. On the second playoff hole, Kelly made par, which was good enough for the win and the Connelly Cup.