



Assistants Get Season Started with PAO Spring Meeting

One week removed from the Philadelphia PGA Spring Meeting the Section Assistants' Organization got things kicked off with their own Spring Meeting. The Philadelphia Assistants' Organization (PAO) held their opening event on Monday, April 10 at Manufacturers Golf and Country Club in Fort Washington, Pa.

Leading the way for the PAO was new Co-Chair Steve Frederick (Lehigh CC) who took over for the group's previous co-chair Bryan Kienke who accepted a Head Professional position outside of the Section. However, Frederick is no stranger to the PAO Board after previously serving as the group's Tournament Chair.

Once underway, Frederick led the group through the new initiatives of the PAO. A priority for leadership was the involvement of all Assistants in a volunteer capacity during the 2017 season. Frederick outlined the programs the PAO supported including the Philadelphia Junior Tour and H.O.P.E. Programs as well as the Marathon Golf Days and consumer events. Becoming involved in Section programs would help to ensure the success of the PAO this year and beyond. Also presenting were fellow PAO Board Members Robby Bruns (Merion GC), Ron Pine (Whitemarsh Valley CC), and Jeff Herb (Waynesborough CC).

Following the meeting, PAO members were treated to a very informational education seminar presented by a two-time Philadelphia PGA Teacher of the Year and nationally recognized instructor and coach, Bob Kramer (Indian Valley CC). Kramer focused his seminar on the short game and putting. Kramer also emphasized the importance of understanding proper coaching for players of all abilities. With a hands-on approach, Kramer shared a variety of putting drills and ability tests that will help the PAO members with both their personal games and their teaching repertoires.

Following the seminar, the PAO held their first event of the 2017 season, the PAO Spring Meeting Scramble. The event featured two-person teams and allowed for an easy transition into PAO tournament play. Leading the way in the opening event was the team of Ashley Grier (Overbrook GC) and David Morano (CC of York). The pair carded a team score of 10-under (61) which gave them a two-shot victory over the field. Finishing in a tie for second at 8-under (63) were the teams of Kyle Miller (Rivercrest G&CC) and Andrew Turner (Sunnybrook GC) as well as David Henry (Huntingdon Valley CC) and Dan Marz (Huntingdon Valley).

The PAO would like to thank Mr. Bob Fritz and the entire membership of Manufacturers Golf and Country Club for their support of their event. The next event on the PAO calendar is the PAO Classic at Kennett Square Golf and Country Club.