

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT...

Welcome fellow Philadelphia Section Professionals to my report entitled, "A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT". As your 42nd President, it is with great pleasure to rekindle this opportunity to connect with each member through this newsletter. This report will be published quarterly highlighting the events and news from around the entire Philadelphia PGA. Additionally, I will include an area devoted to a selected Past President for his views, thoughts, and concerns pertaining to the Section and the overall outlook of the golf industry.

I like to begin with thanking the staff at the Section Office for their continued efforts in keeping the affairs and concerns of our membership in such high regard. It is a tribute to our Executive Director Geoffrey Surette and his leadership that allows our Section to be one of the top Sections in the Association. I would like to welcome **Lewis Harry** to the Section as a full-time tournament coordinator. As many know, Lewis, who attended New Mexico State PGM, served two internships with us and will now join Brian, Bobby, and Ellen assisting with the administration of both Professional and Junior Tour programs.

In terms of a few Section plans for 2018, we are beginning a relationship with **Mastro Communications**, a public relations and marketing firm from New Jersey to assist us with all communications highlighting our members, our events, and our initiatives. One of those initiatives will be rebranding our Foundation to become our PGA REACH PHILADELPHIA. Their efforts will guide the Section as we roll out PGA REACH PHILADELPHIA under the three pillars of:

Youth Development, Military Support, and Diversity and Inclusion

As a reminder to each Professional, I encourage everyone to take the time and "thank" our sponsors supporting our Section, whether that is at a tournament, an education seminar, or a business meeting. Candidly speaking, this Section cannot enjoy the benefits and high-quality programs without our sponsor's support.

The Executive Committee traveled to Atlanta earlier this month to greet the candidates for Secretary of the PGA of America's election later this year. One of these four candidates will become Secretary and in six years beyond will become our President of the PGA of America. The experience of getting their insight and hearing their concerns about the future of the Association was truly educational. I thank the members of the Executive Committee for their time and expertise in representing the Philadelphia Section in Atlanta. Our Executive Committee members are:

Jeffrey Kiddie- Vice President Patrick Shine- Secretary Chip Richter- Director of Section Affairs

Bob Hennefer- Tournament Director Ian Dalzell- Honorary President

In closing, I thank you for taking the time to read my report and I urge each Section member to inform me of any exceptional news from your region relating to any Professional or facility. I would be happy to share that information in upcoming newsletters. In the next portion of this newsletter, please read the report from Past President Jim Smith, Jr. PGA Director of Golf at the Philadelphia Cricket Club.

Regards,

John J. Rogers, President