



# PHILADELPHIA

2026 Spring Membership Meeting Reports

## Philadelphia PGA Section

The Philadelphia PGA Section, covering eastern Pennsylvania, southern New Jersey and Delaware, is one of 41 geographical managing entities of the PGA of America. This Section manages nearly 900 PGA Members and Associates who are employed at over 590 golf facilities in our region.

### Officers

<b>President</b>	Bob Hennefer, PGA
<b>Vice President</b>	Eric Kennedy, PGA
<b>Secretary</b>	Dustin McCormick, PGA
<b>Director of Section Affairs</b>	Anthony Malizia, PGA
<b>Director of Tournaments</b>	Michael Caldwell, PGA
<b>Honorary President</b>	Chip Richter, PGA

### Board of Directors

<b>District 1</b>	Curtis Kirkpatrick, PGA
<b>District 2</b>	Michael Rushin, PGA
<b>District 3</b>	Jeffrey Breiner, PGA
<b>District 4</b>	Mike Molino, PGA
<b>District 5</b>	Tom Michaels, PGA
<b>District 6</b>	Scott Chisholm, PGA; Tom Gilbert, PGA
<b>Independent Director</b>	Meron Yemane

### Central Counties Chapter

<b>President</b>	Jeff Breiner, PGA
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### Philadelphia Assistants' Organization

<b>Co-Chairs</b>	Kyle Jackson, PGA; Chip Richter, PGA
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### Staff

<b>Executive Director</b>	Geoffrey Surrette, PGA
<b>Assistant Executive Directors</b>	Barbara Creveling, Courtney Curcio
<b>Director of Operations</b>	Matt Frey, PGA
<b>Operations Manager</b>	Cassie Vogel
<b>Tournament Director</b>	Luke Montalbano
<b>Assistant Tournament Director</b>	Joe Sponheimer
<b>Junior Tour Director</b>	Zac Zerbo
<b>Assistant Junior Tour Director</b>	David Messina
<b>Foundation Coordinators</b>	Erin Martin, Emmett Noone
<b>Tournament Manager</b>	Ryan Conroy
<b>Controller</b>	Nardimar Koch

## President's Report

Fellow Philadelphia PGA Members and Associates,

It is a tremendous honor to serve as your president, and I was extremely humbled to be elected at our Fall Membership Meeting. I would first like to recognize our Honorary President Chip Richter for his years of dedicated service to our Section and Chapter. Chip is a great leader, a great PGA Professional, and an even better friend.

Since we last met in the fall, our Section leadership and staff have been busy. Our leadership team attended the PGA Annual Meeting in Frisco, Texas, where we participated in several outstanding breakout sessions and heard an inspirational presentation from Captain Charlie Plumb. Kerry Haigh also led an in-depth discussion on the behind-the-scenes planning at Bethpage in preparation for the Ryder Cup. Our Association has taken seriously some of the challenges associated with the Ryder Cup and has implemented new media measures for future events.

Another significant piece of Association news has been the resignation of Derek Sprague, and the appointment of Terry Clark as our new CEO. While this change was unexpected, I am excited about the future under Terry's leadership and would like to thank Derek for his service to our Association. Through my service on the PGA of America's Education Committee, it has been encouraging to see that the number of Associates has reached its highest level since 2008. We have also been reviewing our Specialized programs, and I strongly encourage anyone interested in continuing education to consider participating. These programs are informative and provide valuable tools to help you grow in your profession.

Locally, our Executive Committee held a strategic planning session at the Section office this past January. I am extremely excited about the direction of our Section and the strength of our future leadership. One of the key initiatives discussed was increasing brand awareness for the

Philadelphia PGA Section in the local golf market. As part of that effort, we are proud to be the new presenting sponsor of Inside Golf and are excited about this long-term partnership. We look forward to regular segments on the show, co-branded logos and apparel, and working closely with Jack Flanagan and the entire Inside Golf team.

We are fortunate to have an outstanding Section staff led by Executive Director Geoff Surette, PGA. This offseason has been emotional as two long-time and highly respected team members announced their retirements. Barb Creveling and Sue Unger will certainly be missed. With a combined tenure of more than 50 years of service to the Section, it is hard to imagine the Philadelphia PGA office without them. Congratulations to both of you on your well-earned retirements.

With change also comes new opportunity, and we are excited to welcome Nardimar Koch as our new controller. Please be sure to welcome Nardimar when you see her at Section events or talk to her at the Section office. Congratulations to Courtney Curcio, our new assistant executive director and to Matt Frey, PGA, who assumes the role of director of operations. I'm excited for all of them! I would also like to welcome Mike Rushin, PGA, to our Board of Directors as District 2 director. Mike will be serving the remainder of Mike Caldwell's term. Welcome, Mike.

Recently, Mike Caldwell, Geoff Surette, Matt Frey, Cassie Vogel, and I partnered with Drexel University to participate in their Marketing Crisis Challenge. We visited the Drexel business school and delivered a presentation about who we are as a Section, what we do, and why we do it. Students then worked in teams to develop brand awareness campaigns for the Philadelphia PGA, and we had the opportunity to judge their presentations. It was an outstanding exercise and a tremendous experience to engage with such bright students who were being introduced to our Section for the first time. We're thankful for the partnership opportunity with

## President's Report

another community leader in Drexel University.

When you are active on social media, please remember to tag the Philadelphia PGA. We are always looking for stories, updates, and content to share. Our members are what make this Section thrive, and we want to highlight the great work all of you are doing.

We were also proud to recognize our Award winners at our annual Awards Banquet at Union League Liberty Hill. Congratulations to all of this year's honorees, led by PGA Golf Professional of the Year Mike Caldwell. We are also excited to recognize another national award winner at the upcoming PGA Annual Meeting in November. Congratulations to Sean Palmer, the PGA of America's Executive of the Year.

The year 2026 is shaping up to be an exciting one for our Section. The PGA Championship will return to Aronimink this May. This is our championship, and I strongly encourage you to volunteer—even if it is just for a day—and represent yourself, the PGA of America, and the Philadelphia PGA Section. Opportunities like this are truly once in a generation. If you are unable to volunteer, we encourage you to visit the PGA Member Club hospitality and still be part of the experience.

We are also honored to host the PGA HOPE Secretary's Cup at Chester Valley Country Club on May 11. If you cannot make the PGA Championship, I encourage you to come out to the Secretary's Cup and be part of an incredibly inspiring event. Thank you to Chester Valley for hosting this prestigious competition.

Thank you to everyone who serves on committees, hosts junior tour events, supports PGA HOPE programs, hosts tournaments, and contributes in so many other ways. The strength of our Section is built on the dedication of nearly 900 members working together to grow the game.

The start of my term as your president has already been inspiring, rewarding, and humbling. I look forward to seeing even more success stories and accomplishments from this remarkable group. I am here for you, and I aim to be present, to show up, and to serve this membership to the very best of my ability.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve and for everything you continue to do to advance our profession, grow the game of golf, and make the Philadelphia PGA Section the best in the country.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Hennefer, PGA  
Philadelphia PGA President

## Vice President's Report

Welcome to another Philadelphia PGA season. I hope everyone had an opportunity to enjoy some time this winter with family and friends before we return to another busy year across our Section.

I would like to begin by recognizing and thanking our Section staff for the incredible work they do each day on behalf of our membership. Geoff, Courtney, Matt, Luke, Cassie, and the entire team continue to provide tremendous leadership and support to nearly 900 PGA Professionals across our region. The scale of what our Section accomplishes each year is remarkable and is a direct result of the dedication of both our staff and our membership.

This year also marks an important transition for our Section as we recognize the retirements of Sue Unger and Barb Creveling, two individuals who have contributed enormously to the stability and success of the Philadelphia PGA for many years. Their work behind the scenes has helped guide our Section through years of growth and financial stability. On behalf of our entire membership, I want to thank Sue and Barb for their years of service and wish them the very best in their well-deserved retirements.

As we look ahead, we are excited to welcome Nardimar Koch who has joined the Section as our new controller. Nardimar brings strong financial expertise and an understanding of the golf industry, having worked at the Country Club of Scranton, Glen Oak Country Club, Glenmaura, and the Ohoopee Club, and we are excited to have her help guide the financial future of the Section.

From a financial perspective, the Philadelphia PGA continues to operate from a position of strength. Our restricted fund remains a key part of that stability, and the board continues to review how those funds should be managed and utilized responsibly to support the long-term health of the Section. Maintaining strong reserves while continuing to invest in programs that serve our membership remains a top priority.

Looking ahead to the upcoming season, the Board recently reviewed the forecasted operating budget for the Section. The current projection reflects a modest operating surplus of approximately \$30,000, with total revenues and expenses both approaching the \$3 million range. As has been the case in recent years, junior golf continues to be the primary positive contributor, helping offset operational costs across the Section. While tournament operations and administrative functions carry significant expenses by design, the strength of our Junior Tour program and responsible financial management continue to keep the Section in a healthy and sustainable position.

One of the programs that continues to set our Section apart is the Philadelphia PGA Junior Tour, which remains one of the most successful junior programs in the country. Its continued growth is made possible by the many PGA Professionals and facilities who generously host events and support youth golf throughout our region. Your commitment to the next generation of players is one of the reasons our Section continues to thrive.

I would also like to recognize the continued work of the Philadelphia PGA Women's Committee, now led by Megan Leineweber, PGA, of Stonewall Links. The committee continues to provide valuable leadership and opportunities for women within our Section, and we appreciate the work that Megan and the committee members are doing to support and strengthen our membership.

Looking ahead, our Section will also play an important role in supporting the 2026 PGA Championship at Aronimink Golf Club. This will be a tremendous opportunity for our membership to showcase the professionalism and leadership of Philadelphia PGA Professionals on a national stage. We will have many opportunities for members to volunteer and be involved, and I encourage everyone to consider participating as we represent our Section.

## Vice President's Report

Another important area of focus continues to be PGA REACH Philadelphia, our charitable foundation built around the pillars of Youth, Military, and Diversity. With changes to funding at the national level, our Section's involvement in fundraising, volunteering, and advocacy will be increasingly important as we continue to grow these programs and expand our impact within the communities we serve.

Finally, I would like to thank all of you for the role you play in making the Philadelphia PGA one of the strongest Sections in the country. Whether you host tournaments, support junior golf, volunteer with PGA HOPE, serve on committees, or represent the PGA Profession at your facilities each day, your commitment is what makes our Section so special.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to serve as your Vice President. I look forward to another great season and to continuing to work alongside all of you to strengthen our Section and grow the game.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Kennedy, PGA  
Philadelphia PGA Vice President

## Secretary's Report

The role of Secretary is an executive officer position within the Section and primarily oversees three main committees in addition to sitting on the Board of Directors: Junior Golf, Education, Membership / Communications. I would like to take a moment to thank each of those PGA Members who have taken the time and put forth the effort to further the cause in each of these areas. I can tell you that each of these individuals has put their best foot forward to try to make our Section better. The following are the committees and their members.

**Youth Golf:** Chair Dustin McCormick, PGA; Matt Bonanno, PGA; Scott Allen, PGA; Matt Finger; Cole McCook, PGA; Bryan Mattingly, PGA; Tom Michaels, PGA; Dan Mrozinski, PGA; Kyle Miller, PGA; Tom Gilbert, PGA; Geoff Surette, PGA; Zac Zerbo; David Messina; and Ryan Conroy.

**Education:** Chair Dustin McCormick, PGA; Matt Frey, PGA; Nick Iacono, PGA; Dean Kandle, PGA; Thomas Link, PGA; Brian Soulé, PGA; Andrew Surette, PGA; Geoff Surette, PGA; Tessa Teachman, PGA; Mark Walder, PGA; Matt Walbert, PGA; and Eric Williams, PGA;.

**Membership / Communication:** Chair Dustin McCormick, PGA; Nick Biondi, PGA; George Ancuta, PGA; Patrick Ascherl, PGA; Ryan Boitz, PGA; Kevin Nicholson, PGA; Sean O'Keefe, PGA; Greg Rhoads, PGA; Jack Scholz Jr., PGA; Matt Sim, PGA; Jack Kelly, PGA; and Brent Wallace, PGA;.

The Philadelphia PGA Section would like to inform you of the following changes in membership since the 2024 Fall Meeting as of March 15, 2025:

**Attained PGA of America Membership (as of 3/31/26):** Logan J. Diehl, PGA; Tyler S. Franks, PGA; David Grey, PGA; Brady F. McDonald, PGA; Andrew M. Quirk, PGA; Jackson D. Wredberg, PGA

**Achieved Half Century Status:** Bob Nickey and Ken Peyre-Ferry, Robert Hibschan, PGA.

**Achieved Quarter Century Status:** Joseph D. Hughes III, PGA; Sara L. Muldoon, PGA; Paul V. Viola, PGA; Steve M. Wager, PGA; Donald DeMasters, PGA; Darin M. Peart,

PGA; Ryan Shaughnessy, PGA; Bryan Armstrong, PGA; William M. Smith, PGA; Darryl Welman, PGA; Chris R. Brosius, PGA; James A. Shukdinas, PGA

**Deceased PGA of America Golf Professionals:** Bob Luhr, PGA; Steven Richardson, PGA; Jay Sigel

**First Time PGA Head Golf Professionals:** Gregory A. Wolfe, Austin R. Erdossy, Chris J. Fairbanks, Daniel J. Hipp, PGA, Alex J. Suchy, PGA, Nicholas P. Lemieux, PGA, Todd Prohammer

**New PGA Professional Transfers into the Section Since 2025 Fall Membership Meeting:** Heather M Weil, PGA; Kenneth L. Taras, PGA; Michael R. Scott, PGA; Alexander J. Smiarowski, PGA; Paul J. Schaub; Quinn J. Grennan, PGA; Dean J. Halterman, PGA; Lauren M. Hickam William L. Horn Benjamin J. Franjione, PGA; Alex J. Suchy, PGA; Nicholas P. Lemieux, PGA; Hillel S. Mindlin, PGA; Griffin J. Schuetz, PGA; Chris R. Wegner, PGA; Christian P. Sheehan, PGA; Eric T. Pevoto, PGA; Liam J. Idsardi Vaughan E. Abel, PGA; Alexandra C. Carr, PGA

**New PGA of America Associates to the Section Since 2025 Fall Membership Meeting:** Gregory A. Wolfe; Robert Crimi; David Pender; Ryan D. Stolpe; Christopher J. Gray; Chris J. Fairbanks; Cole J. Boyan; Curtis T. Geiger; Ryan Rosenfeld; Quinn Murphy; Robert W. Ford; Kyle Coffey; Cameron Sadreameli; Charles Jeter; Garrett L. Pepper; Jason C. Mustapich; David B. Carey; Tate C. Greenplate; Bradley Boyson; Todd Prohammer

**Achieved Certification:** Nick Biondi, Teaching & Coaching; Chris Perry, Teaching & Coaching; Todd Roy, Teaching & Coaching

**Achieved Senior Status Since 2025 Fall Membership Meeting:** Keith Bless, Charles Luis, Chris Wegner

Respectfully submitted,

Dustin McCormick, PGA  
Philadelphia PGA Section Secretary

## Director of Section Affairs' Report

The Director of Section Affairs oversees various committees including the Awards, Instruction and PGA REACH Philadelphia Committees. The role helps to create programs and opportunities for the PGA of America Golf Professionals in our Section, as well as to extend our reach into the community. The PGA Professionals listed in this report have all helped greatly and volunteered a significant amount of time and I am very thankful for their service.

**Philadelphia PGA Awards Class of 2025:** Golf Professional of the Year: Michael Caldwell; Teacher & Coach of the Year: John Dunigan; Professional Development Award: Lou Guzzi; Deacon Palmer Award: Kevin Duffy; Player Development Award: Jon Flint; Youth Player Development Award: Eric MacCluen; Merchandiser of the Year - Private Category: Jameson Wallace; Justin Riegel Assistant Professional of the Year: Derek Feinberg ; and Salesperson of the Year: Conor Grandin.

The Awards Committee met on December 3, 2025, to determine this year's recipients. I would like to thank the committee members for their time and thoughtful consideration in selecting this year's award winners.

**Awards Committee:** Sara Muldoon, PGA; Tom Gilbert, PGA; Tom Michaels, PGA; Matt Bonanno, PGA; Scott Chisholm, PGA; Jeff Breiner, PGA; Chris Duckett, PGA; Curtis Kirkpatrick, PGA; and Mike Molino, PGA.

**PGA of America REACH Foundation Philadelphia:** PGA of America REACH Foundation Philadelphia is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit founded in 2018 as the charitable arm of the Philadelphia PGA Section, one of the 41 Sections within the PGA of America. PGA REACH Philadelphia is committed to serving our communities and growing the game of golf through our three pillars: Youth, Military, and Diversity.

**PGA of America REACH Foundation Philadelphia Committee:** Chair Anthony Malizia, PGA; Jeff Breiner, PGA; John Carpineta, PGA; Bob Lennon, PGA; Sean Palmer, PGA; Scott Reilly, PGA; Alex Scarlett, PGA;

Dom Frassinelli, PGA; Patrick Keefe, PGA; Chandlir Pinkham, PGA; and Josh Tremblay, PGA.

**2026 PGA Championship:** The 2026 PGA Championship at Aronimink Golf Club will provide significant opportunities for the Section and PGA REACH Philadelphia to showcase our programs and the impact of PGA Professionals.

**Secretary's Cup – May 9–11:** Twelve teams consisting of one PGA Professional and four Veterans will compete at Chester Valley Golf Club. Rick Flagler (Five Ponds Golf Club) will represent Team Pennsylvania after winning the 2025 PGA HOPE Cup.

**Career Exploration Day – May 9:** Hosted at Aronimink Golf Club to introduce students to career opportunities in the golf industry.

**PGA Jr. League Day – May 16:** Junior golfers will attend the PGA Championship wearing PGA Jr. League uniforms and will have the opportunity to take photos with the Wanamaker Trophy.

**Veteran Participation:** PGA HOPE Veterans will serve as Marshals on Hole #5 and Standard Bearers during the Championship.

**PGA Professional Volunteers:** More than 90 Philadelphia PGA Professionals will volunteer throughout the Championship supporting the Member Center, Inside the Ropes operations, and Practice Facilities.

**PGA Jr. League:** The 2025 Jr. League Section Championships were held at Penn State Golf Courses (13U) and DuPont Country Club (17U). 13U Champions: Delaware Beach – Corey Phillips, PGA; 17U Champions: Baywood Greens – Tony Hollerback, PGA. Both teams advanced to the Regional Championship in September and represented the Section well.

**PGA HOPE:** In 2026, PGA HOPE Philadelphia will



## Director of Section Affairs' Report

conduct 28 sessions at 19 locations across the region with 71 PGA HOPE-trained professionals supporting the program. Due to budget changes from PGA National: Instruction will now be compensated for 90 minutes per session; The traditional graduation dinner will no longer be held. The PGA HOPE Philadelphia Tour enters its second season with more than 85 Veterans registered and over 10 events scheduled.

### **Youth and Community Programs: Golf in Schools**

Through a partnership with the Golf Association of Philadelphia, golf has been introduced into physical education programs at more than 60 schools and districts during the 2025–2026 academic year.

**REACH Impact Scholarship:** The scholarship provides Philadelphia PGA Junior Tour membership and entry into up to seven tournaments annually until age 18. Five new recipients will join the program for the 2026 season. A partnership with First Tee of Philadelphia & Delaware also provides additional tournament opportunities.

**Youth Mentor Program:** Since 2020, scholarship recipients have been paired with PGA Professional mentors who provide instruction, on-course experiences, and personal guidance. In 2026, a partnership with the Watson Links Foundation will introduce dedicated mentorship days.

**PGA WORKS Fellowship:** PGA REACH Philadelphia welcomed Grace Stetler as the 2026 PGA WORKS Fellow, gaining hands-on experience across multiple areas of the golf industry.

### **Fundraising initiatives:**

**Club Ambassador Program:** Ambassadors serve as the liaison between their club and PGA REACH Philadelphia and are currently meeting with club leadership to strengthen engagement.

**Grassroots Giving Initiative:** A new \$100 annual donor program for Section golfers is being developed, with a targeted launch during the PGA

Championship.

**REACH Putter Raffle:** With 40 participating clubs, the raffle has raised over \$40,000 for PGA REACH Philadelphia programs.

**Golf Marathon:** Scheduled for October, benefiting PGA REACH Philadelphia and the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

**7th Annual PGA REACH Philadelphia Pro-Am Championship:** July 14 at Union League Liberty Hill. Registration opens May 1.

**Liberty Hill Pro-Am Classic:** PGA REACH Philadelphia is one of nine charitable beneficiaries of this event on May 18, featuring 24 professionals and 72 amateurs. The winning professional will designate a charity to receive an additional \$50,000 donation.

**REACH Spring Auction:** Opening April 6, featuring golf experiences, lessons, and equipment from Section facilities and partners.

**PGA Championship Ticket Raffle:** Two tickets for each day of the 2026 PGA Championship will be raffled, along with special Inside the Ropes and Play Like the Pros packages.

On behalf of PGA REACH Philadelphia, we extend sincere appreciation to the PGA Professionals, host facilities, and ambassadors who support our mission of positively impacting youth, military Veterans, and diverse communities through the game of golf.

Finally, a huge thank you to our Section Staff led by Geoff Surette. They are the best in our business!

Respectfully submitted,

Anthony Malizia, PGA  
Philadelphia PGA Director of Section Affairs

## Director of Tournaments Report

The director of tournaments is responsible for overseeing the Section tournament program along side the team at the Section office. Together, we work to put together one of the most comprehensive, competitive and lucrative playing schedules in the country. Our tournament program reputation has brought in some of the best playing professionals in the PGA of America to compete in, one could argue, the most densely populated area of high-quality golf courses in America. The level of competition has often been described as the "Philly mini tour," and all of us benefit from the notoriety paid to our Section due to the efforts made by our Section staff and former tournament directors to bring us to this point.

As we look ahead to the 2026 season, we have a lot to look forward to. Our Tournament Director, Luke Montalbano, and Assistant Tournament Director, Joe Sponheimer, have been working non-stop to put together one of the best schedules of courses we have had in recent memory. Here is just a small list of some of the courses we will be visiting this year: Aronimink G.C., Atlantic City C.C., C.C. of York, Galloway National G.C., Huntingdon Valley C.C., Lancaster C.C., LedgeRock G.C., Lehigh C.C., Lookaway G.C., Manufacturers' G. & C.C., Rolling Green G.C., Sunnybrook G.C., Waynesborough C.C., White Manor C.C., and Whitemarsh Valley C.C.

We have no shortage of quality courses on the schedule for us to enjoy. With that being said, it is not our right to be invited. These facilities, and every other club we will visit this year, have offered access to their club to give back to our section professionals and amateur partners. The only thing being asked of us in return is our grace and gratitude. Please take the time to send thank you notes after each event you participate in. It goes a long way in helping us secure sites for future events.

In addition to great golf courses, we are blessed to be supported by numerous partners for every event we play. Many of those partners invest a lot of time and resources into the Philadelphia PGA Section

tournament program. It is the responsibility of our PGA Professionals to extend your appreciation for their efforts to enhance your experience on and off the golf course. This is an example of a thank you note that will take you about two minutes to send.

*Dear Partner,*

*Thank you for sponsoring the Caldwell Invitational today at DuPont Country Club. Your support of the PGA Professionals in the Philadelphia PGA Section is greatly appreciated. Your efforts are a big reason why the Philadelphia PGA is so highly regarded for our tournament program. Thank you again for all you do!*

*Best Regards,  
Michael Caldwell, PGA*

If you have already signed up for a tournament in 2026, you probably noticed an increase in tournament pricing. Event pricing was increased by \$10 for the 2026 season. This was voted on and approved by the Tournament Committee with final approval coming from the Board of Directors. This is the first time in several years the fee has increased. Despite popular belief, the tournament program does not fund other programs being run by the Section. We have been running the tournament program at a deficit, and it is necessary to share the expense with the players who participate in the events. Managing the tournament program requires the largest amount of time and resources from the Section staff when compared to the other programs they are managing, and the players utilizing those resources will help create a balanced budget with the minimal increase in fees.

**Tournament Committee:** Andrew Turner, PGA; Bill Kindoll, PGA; Dustin McCormick, PGA; Jeff Fick, PGA; Jim Shukdinas, PGA; Joanna Coe, PGA; Kyle Jackson, Michael Rushin, PGA; Mike Wood, PGA; Scott Chisholm, PGA

As a committee we are tasked with ensuring the tournament program continues to evolve and

## Director of Tournaments Report

surpass the standards that have been set in the past. Should you have any questions about the tournament program, please do not hesitate to reach out to me or any of the members of the committee. As stewards of this great game, we are here to serve the members of the Philadelphia PGA Section.

I could not be more proud of my affiliation with the Philadelphia PGA Section and the PGA Professionals I come in contact with at our events. Thank you to all of you who continue to support our Section events. Please reach out if I can ever be of any assistance.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Caldwell, PGA  
Philadelphia PGA Director of Tournaments

## Executive Director's Report

I hope this finds everyone doing well and rested from a heavier-than-normal winter break!

As you may have seen, we have had some changes to the Section team moving into the new season. First, I would like to repeat my appreciation for the hard work and dedication that Barb and Sue have shown me, the Section, and our membership for over two decades. Their contributions are too numerous to mention, and they will be sorely missed.

With these changes taking place, it gave me the opportunity to look at how we handle our operation and utilize the talented team members we have to improve how we serve the membership. With that in mind, we distributed the tasks that were handled by Barb and Sue to other team members to give them more responsibility and some upward movement within the operation.

Courtney Curcio is our new assistant executive director. She will continue to lead PGA REACH Philadelphia but will also take on a key leadership role assisting in team and office management along with strategic planning. Her direct team will consist of foundation coordinators Erin Martin and Emmett Noone. Emmett accepted a new full-time role with the team after serving as our PGA WORKS fellow last season. Courtney's team will be rounded out by our new WORKS fellow, Grace Stetler, who will be starting with us in June for her six-month fellowship.

Matt Frey, PGA, is our new director of operations. He will continue to lead our communications team and, similar to Courtney, take on a leadership role assisting in team and office management along with strategic planning. His direct team will consist of Cassie Vogel,

taking on a new position of operations manager, and they will take the lead on membership and partner management. They will be joined by David Messina in his new role as assistant junior tour director, along with a communications intern starting in May.

On the Junior team, Zac Zerbo is starting his new role as junior tour director. He is joined by David Messina and Ryan Conroy, our tournament manager. They will be bringing in two junior interns also starting in May. There are no changes to our professional events tournament team, with Luke remaining as our tournament director and Joe as our assistant tournament director.

We would like to welcome Nardimar Koch as our new controller. She will be taking over Barb's role overseeing our day-to-day finance operations for the Section and PGA REACH. She comes to us with an extensive background in finance and golf. She most recently served as the GM at Glen Oak C.C. and also spent time as the controller at Glenmaura C.C., C.C. of Scranton, and the Ohoopee Match Club. Barb will remain on as an hourly consultant for us at least through the Section Championship to assist Nardimar through the first half of the season.

I believe we are in a really good place with the team as we move into the season and folks get settled into their new roles. We have been very lucky to keep tenured staff within the operation for quite some time and I believe these changes set us up for the future. It is helping to keep the continuity of the staff which is a benefit to the membership at large and the success of our operation.

Financially, we finished the year over \$30,000 ahead of our budgeted net income, and our

## Executive Director's Report

Haverford Portfolio saw an increase of over \$69,000. Our 2026 budget will be impacted by some additional time for Sue and Barb as we get the new team in place. We will keep Barb on as an hourly employee at least through the Section Championship to give Nardimar some support during our busy season. We are also a little pessimistic about how the PGA Championship will ultimately impact us from a budget perspective. We do receive \$30,000 in funding from the PGA of America for additional expenses incurred, and we are planning to operate as conservatively as possible, but the event does require a substantial amount of time and resources from the team.

As we close in on one month until the 2026 PGA Championship at Aronimink GC, our team's activity around the championship has certainly ramped up. If you haven't already signed up to volunteer during the week, we could still use a few volunteers to cover the shifts we are responsible for. We look forward to seeing all of you in the PGA Member Center and showing the rest of the PGA how great our Section and membership are!

Our junior team is already on the move having kicked off the season on March 7th at Five Ponds Golf Club in Warrington. We have already passed 700 members on the tour and over 80 events on the schedule. For the 2026 season we did add one additional Junior Intern to assist with PR/marketing and social media in an effort to boost that area for the Tour.

Our biggest concern with the junior tour is the availability of tee times at our events. We are so thankful for all of the facilities that host our kids, but we can always use help to provide more playing opportunities throughout the season—even just providing the opportunity

for our nine-hole groups to use the back nine in the morning or some later afternoon times. Whatever you could provide would be greatly appreciated!

Our professional tournament schedule is set to provide some great venues and playing opportunities throughout the year. Thank you to all of our host facilities, especially our championship sites; Section Championship: Whitemarsh Valley C.C. and Sandy Run C.C., Senior Championship: Bellewood C.C., Women's Championship: Green Valley C.C., Assistant's Championship: Laurel Creek C.C., and Match Play Semi-Final and Final: Aronimink G.C. We can't have one of the best tournament programs in the country without the support of our amazing partners. Their contributions to our programs are closing in on \$600,000. Please take a moment to thank them and do whatever you can to support them.

On the communications side, the board approved an investment in our engagement with Inside Golf as we signed on to be the presenting partner of the show. This will give us more brand recognition along with the opportunity to tell more about the great work that our PGA Professionals do and the impact we are making with PGA REACH Philadelphia and the Philadelphia PGA Junior Tour.

PGA REACH Philadelphia is set up for another great year of impacting lives through golf. We are entering into the second season of our HOPE Tour, which has become a great ladder program for our HOPE veterans. If anyone is able to host one of our events, please reach out to the team to get one scheduled. The PGA HOPE spring season is underway with 19 programs getting up and running and will finish the season with 21 programs in total. We announced the latest

## Executive Director's Report

recipients of the REACH Impact Scholarship, and that puts us over 50 recipients that are now currently active in the program. As you have hopefully seen, the REACH team is doing fantastic work in our communities, but we could use all the help we can get. Please take an opportunity to find a way to support the cause. That can be giving some of your time or finding a way to help raise funds for our programs.

In closing, I would like to thank our entire team for all of the hard work they have done getting us ready for one of the busiest seasons we will ever have! They have settled into their new roles really well and have been exceptionally collaborative and unselfish throughout this transition, which has ensured we are prepared to deliver another great season for our membership. Thank you also to our officers, board, and committee members for all of the direction and support they have given to me and the entire team. It's comforting to know that your leadership has the best interests of the membership and the team in mind as they help set the direction for the future success of the Section.

Sincerely,

Geoffrey Surette, PGA  
Philadelphia PGA Executive Director

## Central Counties Chapter President's Report

I am pleased to say that the Central Counties Chapter is in a good financial situation. We have covered all our expenses again this year and we look to use the money we made to help offset some of the food costs for the Spring and Fall Meetings, which will allow us to play for a few more dollars without substantially raising the prices of our events.

Thanks to Jeff Fick, our tournament director, we have added more events to the Central Counties schedule. The current schedule is up on the Section website, and some events are open to register for

This year after listening to some complaints about course set-ups we are sending a course set-up guide to each host course so that we can be more consistent with our course set-ups, especially for those events taking place in early spring or late fall when weather can be an issue. We are also adding a Super Senior Division for those PGA Professionals, 60 and over. Those PGA Professionals will play in their own division and will play from a shorter set of tee boxes. Our goal is to always listen to our members and consider that we all don't hit it 300 plus yards. We just ask that you keep in mind that this is a new division we are adding and we are trying to follow the Section guidelines as far as tournament set-up goes. The board will be looking at each event and working to find the right path forward as we get a complete season under our belt.

On a personal note, I would like to thank all the current board members that have stepped in to help with the last couple months as I continue my battle with cancer. While I missed the Fall 2025 meeting due to surgery Jason and the team didn't miss a beat, kept me in the loop on everything that went on. I am extremely proud of the leadership on this board, and you should be as well. I also want to thank all of you that reached out while I have been out of action. The calls, texts helped during the recovery process, while I still have a long way to go those texts and calls help keep me motivated. Thank You!

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeffrey Breiner, PGA  
Central Counties Chapter President

## Philadelphia Assistants' Organization Report

Annual Update – The PAO is once again looking forward to a great season in 2026. The organization has reviewed its bylaws over the winter and has made some changes to the way that the organization is organized and the tenure of the PAO board members. The mission of the Philadelphia Assistants' Organization is to help assistant golf professionals achieve career success through education, networking, and tournament play. Those three pillars are what the PAO will strive to improve in 2026 and going forward. After review of the 2025 season, we have expanded our board from four members to five with each member having a purpose and plan for 2026.

The 2026 PAO Board is as follows: Co-Chair Kyle Jackson; Rocco Sgrillo, tournaments; Tessa Teachman, education; Jason Duckworth, networking; Greg Rhoads, communications.

We do want to acknowledge both Andrew Turner and Laura Schiavo, who were board members in 2025 and laid the groundwork and ideas for the PAO for 2026 and beyond. We thank both of them for their service and wish them success in their careers.

**Tournament schedule:** Our tournament schedule this year will be very similar to years past. We are looking forward to working with Luke and Joe and getting a schedule together. As usual we will have our combined events with the Section events at, the Delaware Valley Open, TaylorMade Classic, Conestoga Classic, William D. Hyndman III Memorial Classic, Doylestown Open, and the Jack Jolly Championship. The PAO will also host a Spring Meeting, Match Play, Tour Championship, one to two standalone events, and the Philadelphia PGA Assistant's Championship. Patrick Shine and Doylestown Country Club have graciously agreed to host the ever-popular Doylestown PAO Women's Pro-Am for the third time.

At the end of the year, the PAO will host the Middle Atlantic PGA Section's Assistant Professional Association as Philadelphia attempts to reclaim the title in the Independence Cup. Most everyone who plays this event considers it one of the most fun events they get to play in.

If your facility has the ability to host a PAO event this year or in the future, please reach out to Rocco Sgrillo.

**Education:** The PAO board has set a goal of at least three educational events this year, that will be centered around three different topics. The first of three will be a communication workshop during the PAO Spring Meeting where PGA Professionals will learn to build and grow a brand at a club. Second, we will be hosting a panel of TPI certified instructors to talk how the human body functions in relation to the golf swing and how assistants can apply it to their teachings. Third, we will host a mock interview day where assistant professionals can sign up to practice interview with head professionals, directors of golf, club board members, and industry leaders.

If any PGA Professionals are interested in volunteering for the TPI or mock interview workshop, or if you would like to be involved in an educational offering, please reach out to Tessa Teachman.

**Networking:** The PAO is committed to providing three networking opportunities throughout the year for its member to just get to know each other, bounce ideas back and forth, and create connections that will last their career. One of the greatest things in our Section is how tight-knit the Philadelphia PGA is and we want to foster that for the future through the PAO. Our first event of the year will be a spring indoor simulator social event to welcome back our seasonal PGA Professionals and newcoming professionals to the Philadelphia area. Second, we will be acquiring Philadelphia Phillies tickets for a



## Philadelphia Assistants' Organization Report

game in July to allow professionals to network and socialize in a non-golf atmosphere. Lastly, we will be hosting a Mentorship BBQ in early fall. This event has the goal of allowing assistant professionals to meet head professionals, directors of golf, teaching professionals, and industry leaders and grow their network.

If any PGA Professionals are available to attend our September Mentorship BBQ or would like to volunteer for any of our networking events, please reach out to Jason Duckworth.

**Communications:** We have updated the PAO Patron Program to make it easier for PGA Professionals to sponsor eligible assistants for PAO Membership. By sponsoring your assistants, they will be able to actively participate in tournaments, networking, education, and volunteer opportunities. In the spirit of professional growth, and a pay it forward mentality, we hope you will consider supporting the PAO Patron Program. For more information on this program, please visit the PAO tab on the section website or reach out to Greg Rhoads. The PAO is eager to continue to grow membership and increase overall involvement in 2026. In an effort to offer an engaging and rewarding membership experience, the more members who join and participate in our community the stronger it can become!

Be sure to stay up to date on the current happenings of the PAO by visiting the section website or by following along on social media. Regular updates related to our various events and programs will be highlighted on our official Instagram and through email communication. Please check out our Instagram page @philadelphiaPAO1921 and like/share to help our following grow.

We are looking forward to a great 2026 and will provide members of the PAO with more details concerning these events in the near future as the

schedule solidifies.

Respectfully submitted,

Kyle Jackson, PGA  
Philadelphia Assistants' Organization Co-Chair

## Youth Golf Report

Thank you to everyone who continues to support youth golf within our Section. We have one of the largest and most successful programs in the country, and it is something we should all be very proud of. Below are some highlights for the upcoming junior golf season. Please take a moment to familiarize yourself with these offerings and consider introducing them at your facility.

**Drive, Chip & Putt:** The 2025 Drive, Chip & Putt season was a great success for the Philadelphia PGA Section, with a record 1,007 participants at the local qualifiers and 235 at the subregionals. In 2026, the Section will once again host 11 local qualifiers and two subregional qualifiers, with hopes of surpassing last year's numbers. The qualifiers are open to boys and girls ages 7–15, competing in separate divisions across four age categories. For more information, please visit the Drive, Chip & Putt section on our website.

**Philadelphia PGA Junior Tour:** The Philadelphia PGA Junior Tour had 923 members in 2025 and hosted 87 events, with 4,845 rounds played (up from 4,686 in 2024). This season, we aim to exceed those numbers. We have once again partnered with Operation 36 to grow the FUNdamental Tour alongside our regular junior tour. The FUNdamental Tour is designed for boys and girls ages 7–18 who are just beginning their journey into tournament golf, providing opportunities for players to compete at their preferred yardage with a caddie while developing their skills. In 2025, the FUNdamental Tour had 66 members (up from 60 in 2024) and hosted 17 events. For more information, please visit the Tournament Information section on our website.

The junior tour wouldn't be possible without the support of our host professionals and facilities. The Section sincerely thanks everyone who hosted events in 2025 and extends our gratitude to those hosting in 2026. The 2026 tournament schedule is now available on our website, and all events are open for registration. Our staff is still finalizing the fall and summer schedules, as some dates remain

available.

Patron partners for the 2026 year consist of Valley Forge Tourism, Moyer, and Visit Delco.

Motivate and inspire a new junior golfer at your facility by participating in the Philadelphia PGA Junior Tour Affiliate Program. Each year, you can award a free Philadelphia PGA Junior Tour membership (valued at \$195) to a promising junior at your facility. The only requirement is that the membership goes to a new tour member, but PGA Professionals are free to choose how they award it. Affiliate Member facilities are recognized on [phillyjuniortour.com](http://phillyjuniortour.com), and in the past year, 51 facilities participated. Philadelphia PGA Section Professionals are our best ambassadors for growing the tour, so please consider adding a link to [phillyjuniortour.com](http://phillyjuniortour.com) on your facility's website.

The junior tour is committed to growing the game of golf. In 2025, the staff is taking steps to highlight our female members. The Girls Summer Championship will return as a two-day event, and in all non-Major tournaments, a portion of the field will be reserved for the Girls 13–18 divisions. Additionally, we plan to host six tournaments nationally ranked by AJGA PBE and 17 tournaments ranked by Junior Golf Scoreboard.

In addition, the Tour is dedicated to supporting members as they prepare for college golf and their plans beyond high school. In 2026, we will host five educational seminars covering key topics, including the PGM program, Rules of Golf, NIL education, college preparation, and AJGA opportunities. For more information on these topics or to watch seminar recordings, please visit the education page on our website.

We sincerely thank all Junior Golf Committee members who served in 2025 and those serving in 2026. We also extend a special thank you to our Junior Tour staff—Zac Zerbo, Ryan Conroy, and David Messina—as well as the many interns and

## Youth Golf Report

field staff for their dedication and effort toward the Philadelphia PGA Junior Tour. Our program is one of the best youth golf programs in the country, and that success is entirely due to their hard work and tireless commitment.

If you are not already hosting a Jjunior tour event and would like to, please reach out to our staff. We are always in need of facilities and can be very flexible with dates that work best for you. While we understand it can be challenging to host an event, many of the membership offerings from the Section would not be possible without the Philadelphia PGA Junior Tour.

Respectfully submitted,

Dustin McCormick, PGA  
Philadelphia PGA Secretary

## 2026 Philadelphia PGA Spring Membership Meeting Agenda

Call to Order

National Anthem

Invocation

Introductions

Motion to Dispense

Special Recognition: Sean Palmer, PGA

Salesperson of the Year: Conor Grandin

Justin Riegel Assistant Golf Professional of the Year: Derek Feinberg, PGA

Merchandiser of the Year - Private Category: Jameson Wallace, PGA

Partner Recognition

PGA REACH Philadelphia Report

Executive Director's Report

Partner Recognition

Youth Player Development Award: Eric MacCluen, PGA

Player Development Award: Jon Flint, PGA

Deacon Palmer Award: Kevin Duffy, PGA

Partner Recognition

Break

Breakout Sessions

Partner Recognition

Secretary's Report

Partner Recognition

Professional Development Award: Lou Guzzi, PGA

Teacher & Coach of the Year: John Dunigan, PGA

Golf Professional of the Year: Michael Caldwell, PGA

Partner Recognition

PGA of America Report

PGA Deferred Compensation

President's Report

Old Business

New Business

Open Forum

Tournament Announcements

Adjourn