



PHILADELPHIA

2026 Fall 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 1,000 PGA Members and Associates who are employed at over 590 golf facilities in our region.

Officers

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

Board of Directors

District 1	Curtis Kirkpatrick, PGA
District 2	Michael Rushin, PGA
District 3	Jeffrey Breiner, PGA
District 4	Mike Molino, PGA
District 5	Tom Michaels, PGA
District 6	Scott Chisholm, PGA; Tom Gilbert, PGA
Independent Directors	Joanna Coe, PGA; Meron Yemane

Central Counties Chapter

President	Jeff Breiner, PGA
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Philadelphia Assistants' Organization

Co-Chairs	Kyle Jackson; Chip Richter, PGA
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Staff

Executive Director	Geoffrey Surrette, PGA
Assistant Executive Director	Courtney McGrath
Director of Operations	Matt Frey, PGA
Tournament Director	Luke Montalbano
Controller	Nardimar Koch
Operations Manager	Grace Stetler
Assistant Tournament Director	Joe Sponheimer
Junior Tour Director	David Messina
Foundation Coordinators	Erin Martin, Emmett Noone
Assistant Junior Tour Director	Ryan Conroy

President's Report

As I reflect on 2026, I feel an incredible sense of pride in our Philadelphia PGA Section, our PGA Members, our staff, and everything we have accomplished together. From welcoming a major championship to our region to celebrating the impact of PGA REACH Philadelphia, and the accomplishments of our fellow PGA Professionals, this has been a remarkable year.

One of the year's defining moments was the 108th PGA Championship at Aronimink Golf Club. More than 100 Philadelphia PGA Professionals volunteered during Championship week, supporting practice facilities, inside-the-ropes operations, and the PGA Member Center. Their time, expertise, and enthusiasm reflected the very best of our Section. My sincere thanks to every volunteer and to Aronimink Golf Club, host PGA Professional Jeff Kiddie, its leadership, membership, and staff for representing our region so exceptionally. It was an experience that made me immensely proud to serve as your president.

Another unforgettable highlight was the PGA HOPE Secretary's Cup at Chester Valley Golf Club. Twelve teams of veterans and PGA Professionals from across the country gathered to celebrate service, friendship, and the healing power of golf. Special thanks to Sam Ambrose, PGA, and the Chester Valley team for their hospitality and leadership. Pennsylvania Governor Josh Shapiro's recognition of May 11 as a Day of HOPE made the occasion even more meaningful. PGA REACH Philadelphia changes lives, and I encourage every member to get involved, whether through PGA HOPE, youth programming, mentoring, volunteering, or fundraising. There is no better reminder of the good we can accomplish through this profession.

We also have much to celebrate in professional achievement. Congratulations to Jim Smith Jr., PGA, on his induction into the Philadelphia PGA Hall of Fame's Class of 2026, and to Sean Palmer, PGA, on being named the 2026 PGA of America Golf Executive of the Year. Both represent exceptional

leadership and service to our profession.

Our tournament champions deserve special recognition. Braden Shattuck, PGA, successfully defended his Philadelphia PGA Professional Championship, finishing 18-under-par, and proudly represented our Section at the PGA Championship at Aronimink. Congratulations to Jennifer Cully, PGA, of Honeybrook Golf Club, our Women's Philadelphia PGA Professional Champion, and to Jeff Kiddie, PGA, who captured the Philadelphia Senior PGA Professional Championship just weeks after helping host the PGA Championship. Congratulations as well to all of our tournament winners and award recipients. Your excellence makes our Section stronger.

I want to express my appreciation to Executive Director Geoff Surette, PGA, and our outstanding Section staff, including Courtney McGrath and Matt Frey, PGA. The behind-the-scenes work required to deliver our tournaments, educational opportunities, member services, and foundation programs is enormous. Their professionalism, commitment, and teamwork are invaluable.

I also thank outgoing District directors Scott Chisholm, Tom Gilbert, Mike Molino, and Jeff Breiner for their time, judgment, and dedication to our Board of Directoes. Jeff, congratulations on your outgoing Central Counties Chapter presidency, and on the remarkable courage and perseverance you have shown through your battle with cancer. You have the support and admiration of your fellow PGA Professionals.

Looking ahead, our Section officers have submitted a letter of support for Larry Kelley, PGA, in the upcoming election for PGA of America Secretary. We appreciate every candidate's willingness to serve and remain committed to the future of our Association and its PGA Members.

I encourage each of you to participate beyond your own facility: volunteer, mentor, attend a

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meeting, support PGA REACH, or serve on a committee. I hope you enjoy a restful offseason, a happy and healthy holiday season, and meaningful time with your families. It is an honor to serve as your President and an even greater honor to belong to the Philadelphia PGA Section.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Hennefer, PGA
Philadelphia PGA President

Vice President's Report

It is hard to believe we have already reached another Fall Membership Meeting. As I reflect on 2026, I believe this will be remembered as a historic year for the Philadelphia PGA Section. From hosting one of golf's major championships in our own backyard to another outstanding season of Section programming, tournaments, and junior golf, we have much to be proud of.

As your vice president, I would first like to thank my fellow Executive Committee and board members for their continued leadership and commitment to our PGA Membership. I would also like to recognize our incredible Section staff, whose dedication continues to set the standard for what a PGA Section can and should be.

We can't reflect on 2026 without recognizing the PGA Championship at Aronimink. The championship provided our Section with an extraordinary opportunity to showcase the Philadelphia PGA and our PGA Professionals on one of golf's biggest stages. Our staff took on the enormous responsibility of welcoming and supporting PGA Professionals from around the world, and they represented our Section exceptionally well throughout the week.

Our PGA hospitality was widely regarded as one of the best to date and reflected the hospitality and professionalism of the Philadelphia PGA Section. A special thank you goes to Geoff, Courtney, Matt, and our entire Section staff for the countless hours of preparation and execution that made the week such a success. They made all of us look good, and we should be proud of how our Section was represented. The championship's impact extended beyond the tremendous exposure it provided our Section, as it also contributed positively to our financial performance in 2026.

Financially, I am pleased to report that the Philadelphia PGA Section remains strong, stable, and well-positioned for the future. Based on our most current projections, we anticipate finishing 2026 with an operating surplus of approximately \$25,000. Revenue associated with the PGA

Championship provided a meaningful boost this year, while increased Tournament Department expenses and higher travel reimbursements have added pressure on the expense side. Our restricted fund also remains in a strong position and continues to provide the Section with important protection against unforeseen circumstances. Maintaining strong liquidity is important. It gives our Section the flexibility to navigate challenges and take advantage of opportunities from a position of financial strength.

This year also represented a significant transition within our financial operations. With the retirements of Barb Creveling and Sue Unger, our Section lost more than 50 years of institutional knowledge. In her first year with the Philadelphia PGA, Nardimar Koch has done a fantastic job navigating that transition. She spent much of 2026 learning our operation, observing our processes, making incremental improvements, and identifying areas where we can become more efficient in the future. Her work to improve the consistency of our financial reporting, accounts receivable tracking, sponsorship allocation, and utilization of our financial systems will benefit our Section well beyond this year. Nardimar has been a tremendous addition to our team, and she would also be the first to thank our staff and the entire Philadelphia PGA Section for welcoming and supporting her throughout her first year. Her goal is simple: to continue making our Section more efficient while carrying the momentum of this historic year forward.

As we begin the budgeting process for 2027, one of our primary challenges will be continuing to grow our partnership revenue while also diversifying our partner base. Our partners play an essential role in the success of our tournaments, programs, and member opportunities. Building a broader and more sustainable foundation of support, while becoming less reliant on individual contributions, will be an important priority moving forward.

The vice president role also includes responsibility for our Hall of Fame Committee, and I am proud to announce the election of Jim Smith Jr. to the

Vice President's Report

Philadelphia PGA Hall of Fame as a member of the Class of 2026. Jim has long been recognized as one of the most important voices in our industry, and his influence extends well beyond the Philadelphia PGA Section. Throughout his career, he has been instrumental in the lives and careers of golf professionals across the country. His commitment to our profession, his willingness to mentor others, and the impact he has made on generations of PGA Professionals make this recognition especially meaningful. Congratulations to Jim on this well-deserved honor, and thank you to our Hall of Fame Committee for its continued commitment to recognizing and preserving the individuals who have shaped the history of the Philadelphia PGA Section.

Finally, I would like to thank each and every member of the Philadelphia PGA Section for your consistent dedication to our Section, our events, and the important work of PGA REACH Philadelphia. The strength of our Section directly reflects the PGA Professionals who continue to participate, volunteer, host, support, and give back throughout the year.

I would also like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our Section staff. Their tireless efforts, often behind the scenes, are what allow us to provide the programs, tournaments, education, and opportunities our members enjoy throughout the year. We are incredibly fortunate to have a team that takes such pride in serving our membership and continually works to make the Philadelphia PGA Section the best in the country.

It has been an honor to serve as your vice president, and I am incredibly proud of what we accomplished together in this historic year. Thank you for your continued support of our Section, one another, and our profession. I wish everyone a safe, enjoyable, and well-deserved offseason.

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. 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. Here are the committees and their members:

Employment: Chair Kevin Wiest, Bob Hennefer, Jeff Kiddie, Dean Kandle, Jonathan Gold, Joe Doughty, Scott Nye, Michael Shank, Sean Palmer

Hall of Fame: Chair Eric Kennedy, Mike Cole, John Poole, Bob Hennefer, Tom Carpus, Jack Connelly, John Pillar, Leo DeGisi, Harry Hammond, Peter Micklewright, Jeff Kiddie, Pete Trenham

Junior Golf: Chair Dustin McCormick, Cole McCook, Matt Bonanno, Kyle Miller, Dan Mrozinski, Bryan Mattingly, Tom Gilbert, Matt Finger, Tom Michaels, Scott Allen

Membership: Chair Dustin McCormick, Jack Kelly, Matthew Sim, Sean O'Keefe, Ryan Boitz, Brent Wallace, John Scholz, Nick Biondi, Kevin Nicholson

Nominating: Chip Richter, Joey Pohle, Jeff Kiddie, Michael Rushin, Ian Dalzell, Patrick Shine, Sam Ambrose,

Philadelphia Assistants' Organization: Co-Chair Kyle Jackson, Co-Chair Chip Richter, Tessa Teachman, Jason Duckworth, Andrew Cornish, Rocco Sgrillo

Rules of Golf: Chair Alice Miller, Ben Debski, Tom Carpus, Jeff Kiddie, Mark Monahan, Andy Watters, Clark Luis

Teaching & Coaching: Chair Eric Handley, Nick Biondi, Steve Sieracki, David Zimmaro, Steven

Chalmers, Anthony Mailizia, Dom DiJulia, Meg Donohue, Jim Parella

Tournament: Chair Michael Caldwell, Joanna Coe, Michael Wood, Andrew Turner, Dustin McCormick, Jim Shukdinas, Scott Chisholm, Michael Rushin, Bill Kindoll, Jeff Fick

Women's: Chair Megan Leineweber, Eric Kennedy, Becky Dengler, Laura Schiavo, Leila Mackie, Victoria Petrosky, Sara Muldoon, Jenna Soranno, Jennifer Cully

The Philadelphia PGA Section would like to inform you of the following changes in membership since the 2026 Spring Meeting as of 10/9/2026:

Elected to PGA Membership: Austin Barbin, Andrew Barbin, Ryan Barley, Burleigh Dayna, Nicholas Dalessandro, Jonathan Dario, Dominic Frassinelli, Jack Fenwick, Jared Foltz, Matthew Finger, Andrew Geesey, Joseph Gil, Joshua Kelley, Kory McElvaney, Matthew Masiejczyk, Victoria Petrosky, Nathan Przestrzelski, Robert Rowe, Lamar Saxon, Brett Shumock

Achieved Half-Century status: Bob Hays, Robert Hibschan, Howard Hirsch, John Piotrowski, David Rupp, Frank Wright

Achieved Quarter-Century status: Chris Brosius, Kim Kleinle, Peter Lovenguth

In memoriam: John Ehresman, Robert Luhr, Robert Pfister, Douglas Steffen, Robert Wheeler

Achieved PGA Certification: Nick Biondi, Teaching & Coaching, Executive Management; Chris Smith, Golf Operations

Respectfully submitted,

Dustin McCormick, PGA
Philadelphia PGA Secretary

Director of Section Affairs' Report

The director of Section Affairs oversees the Awards, Education, and PGA REACH Philadelphia Committees. These committees create opportunities for our PGA of America Golf Professionals and extend our impact throughout the community. I sincerely thank everyone who volunteers their time, experience, and leadership to serve our Section.

The Awards Committee will meet virtually in December to determine our 2026 award winners. I thank the committee in advance for the time, effort, and thoughtful consideration they will dedicate to recognizing the outstanding accomplishments and service of our Section PGA Professionals.

Awards: Chair Anthony Malizia, Matt Bonanno, Christopher Duckett, Mike Molino, Sara Muldoon, Tom Michaels, Tom Gilbert, Curtis Kirkpatrick, Jeff Breiner, Scott Chisholm

The Education Committee has worked diligently to develop a comprehensive education calendar in response to member requests for more opportunities to learn and grow professionally. Offerings include Coaches Corner, Golf Ops Corner, the Teaching & Coaching Summit, and a new certification program through Drexel University. Thank you to the committee for its commitment to delivering relevant opportunities that support our members' continued development.

Education: Chair Matt Walbert, Dustin McCormick, Eric Williams, Andrew Surette, Dean Kandle, Tessa Teachman, Thomas Link, Brian Soule, Mark Walder, Nick Iacono

PGA REACH Philadelphia, the charitable arm of the Philadelphia PGA Section, positively impacts lives through its three pillars: Youth, Military, and Diversity. Thank you to our PGA Professionals, host facilities, donors, volunteers, and ambassadors for making this mission possible.

Foundation: Chair Anthony Mailiza, Jeff Breiner, Chandlir Pinkham, Josh Tremblay, Scott Reilly,

Patrick Keefe, Sean Palmer, Alex Scarlett, Kyle Monahan, Dominic Frassinelli, Bob Lennon, Jason Lamp, Steve Frederick, John Carpineta

Youth - PGA Jr. League: Penn State hosted both the 13U and 17U Section Championships. Delaware Beach's 13U team and Penn State's 17U team advanced to regional competition. Participation included more than 100 players in 13U and more than 30 in 17U.

Youth - Drive, Chip, & Putt: The 2026-2027 qualifying season featured 11 local qualifiers across the Section. Advancing participants competed at sub-regionals at DuPont Country Club and The Berkshire Country Club, followed by the regional qualifier at Laurel Valley Golf Club.

Youth - Golf in Schools: The program reached 70 participating schools. Through its partnership with The First Tee of Delaware, the Foundation also continues to supply equipment supporting 12 schools across Delaware.

Diversity - REACH Impact Scholarship and Mentorship: The REACH Impact Scholarship, formerly the Philadelphia PGA Junior Tour Scholarship, welcomed six new recipients. Grants from Women Golfers Give Back, Watson Links, and the 1854 Foundation supported scholarship efforts. The Watson Links partnership also introduced group Mentor Days connecting PGA Professionals with scholarship recipients, including programming at Cobbs Creek and an autumn indoor session.

Military - PGA HOPE: PGA HOPE Philadelphia has now served more than 2,000 individuals since its inception, with 20 locations and more than 180 trained PGA Professionals throughout the Section. Programs maintained a 5:1 Veteran-to-professional ratio. We also thank Scott and Karen Hutchinson for their generous support of PGA HOPE at Saucon Valley and Lehigh.

Riverton Country Club hosted the PGA HOPE Cup on August 24. The Harrisburg team, led by

Section Affairs Report

PGA Associate Golf Professional Tyler Shank and veterans Scott Wullbrandt, Marc Guerrisi, Chris Pfahl, and John Friedman, earned the opportunity to represent PGA REACH Philadelphia at the 2027 Secretary's Cup at PGA Frisco during PGA Championship week.

The PGA HOPE Tour, sponsored by PGA Tour Superstore, returned with more than 150 registered Veterans and 12 scheduled events. The rescheduled Tour Championship will take place November 4 on the Grace Course at Saucon Valley Country Club.

Diversity - PGA WORKS Fellowship: Grace Stetler joined PGA REACH Philadelphia in June as the 2026 PGA WORKS Fellow. This six-month program provides recent graduates from diverse backgrounds with hands-on experience in the golf industry. Upon completing her fellowship, Grace will transition to a full-time role as the Philadelphia PGA Section's operations manager.

Fundraising: Club Support and Annual Giving: More than 80 clubs joined the Club Association program for 2026. Club Ambassadors are helping expand local fundraising, and donors contributing \$100 or more through the bag tag campaign receive a custom bag tag.

Golf Marathon: Staff and participating golfers played 100 holes in support of the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) and PGA REACH Philadelphia. As of September, the campaign had reached approximately half of its \$50,000 goal.

Charity outing and online auction: The October 22 outing at Union League National brings together professionals, amateurs, and sponsors to support Foundation programs. The accompanying online auction features foursomes, lessons, and equipment contributed by our membership and partners

REACH for Birdies: Refreshed for 2026, the program allows PGA Professionals to create personalized fundraising campaigns through Pledge

It, with supporters making flat donations or pledging per birdie or eagle. The initiative has raised more than \$20,000 since its inception.

Scotty Cameron Putter Raffle: Participating facilities offer 100 entries at \$20 each, raising funds for PGA REACH Philadelphia while giving participants an opportunity to win a Scotty Cameron putter.

Delaware Cup: The November event has a fundraising goal of \$15,000. A special thank you to Mike Caldwell for his efforts in support of the Delaware Cup and PGA REACH Philadelphia.

Appreciation: A special thank you to Assistant Executive Director Courtney McGrath for all of her work and efforts on behalf of PGA REACH Philadelphia. Her leadership and dedication are instrumental in supporting our programs, professionals, volunteers, and the communities we serve. Also, please join me in thanking Geoff Surette, PGA, and the entire Section staff for their daily commitment to our membership. We are extremely fortunate to have such a dedicated team. Please join me in thanking them for all they do for our Section and the game.

Respectfully submitted,

Anthony Malizia, PGA
Philadelphia PGA Director of Section Affairs

Executive Director's Report

What an exciting year it has been! Our region and the Philadelphia PGA Section have gained incredible national and global exposure, and I am immensely proud of our entire team. They put in countless hours and dedicated effort to represent our Section and the PGA of America as a whole. As detailed across several other reports, the collective commitment of our membership, officers, board, and staff helped deliver one of the finest PGA Championships in the history of the event. A special thank you goes to Jeff Kiddie, his entire team, and the membership at Aronimink. Hosting a major championship requires significant sacrifice, and they join an esteemed roster of host venues across our Section over the past two years, including Lancaster Country Club, the Philadelphia Cricket Club, Merion Golf Club, Philadelphia Country Club, and Saucon Valley Country Club.

I have often noted that the golf IQ in the Philadelphia area is second to none, and our community continues to prove that time and again. Thank you to everyone who helped represent the Philadelphia PGA Section and our broader golf community so exceptionally well. You have made us all extremely proud.

Financial Position: Financially, we entered the year with some uncertainty given significant staffing transitions alongside the extensive preparations required for the PGA Championship. Despite these unknowns, we are in a strong financial position as we enter the final quarter of the season. I want to extend my sincere gratitude to Nardimar for her hard work. Adapting quickly to a complex and unique financial framework is no small task, yet she has streamlined our accounting processes and kept us firmly on track. As outlined in Eric Kennedy's report, our August close shows us trending approximately \$30,000 ahead of budgeted net income. Additionally, our Haverford Trust restricted fund has grown by approximately \$33,600 year-to-date, net assets have increased by roughly \$180,000, and we maintain zero outstanding debt. In summary, our financial standing remains exceptionally strong as we look toward 2027.

We have also enjoyed another outstanding year of partner support. The quality of our programming would not be possible without their commitment. Please take every opportunity to express your gratitude to our partners. We strive to make connecting with them seamless, and even a quick note of thanks goes a long way. Where appropriate, prioritizing our partners when making purchasing decisions adds tremendous mutual value and reinforces the strength of our Section network.

Team and Leadership: We experienced a few more operational transitions than anticipated this year. The season began with the retirements of Barb Crevling and Sue Unger, representing a loss of nearly five decades of invaluable institutional knowledge. This shift prompted us to evaluate our operations, reorganize responsibilities, and refine our management approach. We were fortunate to recruit Nardimar as controller and bring Emmett on board as a full-time team member. Crucially, elevating Courtney McGrath and Matt Frey, PGA, into expanded leadership roles has had a profound positive impact on our daily operations. Their leadership and hard work have been instrumental in positioning the team and Section for long-term success.

Midway through the year, Cassie Vogel and Zac Zerbo departed for new professional opportunities, and we wish them the very best. Grace Stetler, our current PGA WORKS Fellow, stepped in to fill the operations manager role. On the Philadelphia PGA Junior Tour side, David Messina and Ryan Conroy were promoted to junior tour director and assistant director, respectively, while two-time intern Coleman Zamborsky joined us as tournament manager. Across every transition, the entire staff has demonstrated remarkable adaptability and teamwork. I am deeply grateful for their dedication and look forward to our bright future together.

Philadelphia PGA Junior Tour: The Junior Tour continues to serve as the benchmark for junior golf across the region. This year set new historic

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benchmarks across all key metrics: 90 conducted events; nearly 1,000 active members; and over 4,600 individual tournament entries. Special thanks go to Zac, David, Ryan, and our host facilities and PGA Professionals for maintaining high operational standards amidst this record volume.

Call to Action - Tee Time Inventory: Waitlists remain our primary operational bottleneck. If your facility can accommodate a two-to-three hour window on its tee sheet during the season, please reach out to assist our expanding junior player base.

The introduction of the FUNdamental Tour has created an excellent developmental pipeline for our broader Junior Tour. We have seen consistent growth each season, and these events offer a flexible opportunity for facilities to host smaller groups. Because these events require only nine holes and fit into condensed timeframes, they are easy to integrate into facility schedules. If you are interested in hosting, please reach out to David or Ryan.

Professional Events: We are nearing the conclusion of another highly successful tournament season. My thanks go to Luke and Joe for their dedication in stewarding one of the premier tournament programs in the country. Executing over 40 Section events at a consistently high level requires incredible teamwork and skill. We also owe immense gratitude to our field staff and volunteers, who collectively assist in operating over 150 total events annually.

Special recognition is due to our host facilities and PGA Professionals, in particular, Whitmarsh Valley Country Club, Sandy Run Country Club, Green Valley Country Club, Bellewood Country Club, and Laurel Creek Country Club.

Season Highlights: Jennifer Cully captured her first Women's Philadelphia PGA Professional Championship title; Jeff Kiddie claimed victory in the Philadelphia Senior PGA Professional Championship, marking his first Section title; Zac Barbin shot a record-breaking 62 at Whitmarsh Valley C.C., eclipsing tour players' long-standing course record;

Braden Shattuck continued his outstanding play to lead the Section points race, successfully defended his Philadelphia PGA Professional Championship title, and competed in the PGA Championship as part of the Corebridge Financial Team.

If you are interested in hosting a future Section event, please contact Luke or Joe as we begin building upcoming schedules.

Membership and Communications: Congratulations to all of our new and tenured PGA Members on their achievements since the Spring Membership Meeting. With nearly 1,000 PGA Members and Associates across the Section, standing out is a significant accomplishment, and our professionals continue to set high standards year after year.

We extend special congratulations to Jim Smith Jr. on his induction into the Philadelphia PGA Hall of Fame—a well-deserved honor recognizing his lasting commitment to our Section and PGA Professionals nationwide. Additionally, we will celebrate Sean Palmer as the PGA Executive of the Year at our upcoming Annual Meeting. In a short time, Sean has established himself as one of the country's most accomplished golf executives, and our Section continues to benefit immensely from his time and talent.

Matt Frey and the communications team delivered another outstanding year, keeping our membership connected and positioned at the forefront of the Philadelphia golf community. Highlights included an expanded presenting partnership with NBC Sports Philadelphia's "Inside Golf," significantly increasing media visibility for our PGA Professionals and programs.

PGAREACH Philadelphia: PGAREACH Philadelphia experienced a milestone year, highlighted by elevated visibility and fundraising tied to the PGA Championship. The foundation raised an additional \$100,000 through championship-related activities, providing crucial support for core initiatives

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including PGA HOPE, the REACH Impact Scholarship, Golf in Schools, and the PGA WORKS Fellowship.

Our Section also had the privilege of hosting the PGA HOPE Secretary's Cup, bringing together 12 teams of Military Veterans and PGA Professionals from across the nation for a memorable weekend of golf and camaraderie. Sincere thanks to Sam Ambrose and the Chester Valley Golf Club team for hosting this impactful event.

Courtney, Erin, Emmett, and Grace did an outstanding job in expanding and managing our foundation outreach. Key impacts this season include serving over 2,000 veterans across 20 PGA HOPE chapters, hosting 150 veterans across 12 HOPE Tour events, supporting 50 REACH Impact Scholars, and engaging 60 schools through our Golf in Schools program.

In closing, this has been an incredibly rewarding and educational year. Navigating operational transitions challenged us to refine our approach and build a stronger foundation for the future. It has been an honor to support our staff's professional growth, and I am deeply grateful for their hard work and devotion to our membership.

I also want to express my sincere appreciation to our officers, Board of Directors, committee members, and entire membership for your continued trust and support.

Sincerely,

Geoffrey Surette, PGA
Philadelphia PGA Executive Director

Tournaments Report

The 2026 season further proved just how competitive and accomplished the players of the Philadelphia PGA Section are. We saw record-setting performances throughout the year from a number of our PGA Members and Associates. Thank you to everyone who teed it up in 2026 and supported one of the premier PGA Section tournament programs in the country.

I would like to thank the Section staff for their continued dedication to improving the tournament program we offer year after year. From building the schedule to marking the courses and running the events, Luke Montalbano, Joe Sponheimer, and the entire team work tirelessly to ensure our events run seamlessly from start to finish. They are led by Executive Director Geoff Surrete, PGA, who is at the forefront of the fundraising efforts that make the purses we compete for possible. Another important piece of the puzzle is our communications team, led by Matt Frey, PGA. Matt and his team work tirelessly to promote our tournament program through a variety of media outlets and platforms. None of the success we achieve would be possible without every member of the Section staff. Thank you for all you do to help us enjoy the game we love in a competitive environment throughout the season.

As much as we need our players and staff, we would not have a tournament program without the generosity of our host facilities and valued partners. Our success depends on maintaining those relationships while continuing to build new ones. Please take a moment to express your gratitude to our hosts and partners for their continued support of Philadelphia PGA Professionals.

A special thank you goes to a few of our most generous contributors, Scott and Karen Hutchinson and Conrad Radcliffe. Together, they contribute more than \$100,000 to the Section annually. Their generosity supports our tournament program, PGA REACH Philadelphia, and the PAO. This support provides our Section PGA Professionals with the opportunity to compete for elevated purses while

also providing significant funding for our outreach programs.

Our Philadelphia PGA Professional Championship host sites also deserve special recognition for putting on two fantastic championships. Thank you to Dave Padgett, PGA, and his team at Whitemarsh Valley, along with Pete Lovenguth, PGA, and his staff at Sandy Run, for hosting another exciting Section Championship.

The 2026 season once again confirmed the tremendous depth of talent among Philadelphia Section Professionals. Zach Barbin broke the course record at Whitemarsh Valley with a 62 in the final round of the Section Championship. We also saw four holes-in-one during the season and several first-time winners, including Jeff Kiddie, Jennifer Cully, and Austin Barbin. Perhaps the most memorable moment of the season came in late August at Manufacturers Golf & Country Club, when five members of the same family—the Barbins—teed it up in a Section event. The memorable round ultimately resulted in Zach and Austin facing off in a playoff for the title.

Congratulations to all of our Philadelphia PGA Section champions and national championship qualifiers. Good luck to each of you as you move forward to compete on the national stage. A special congratulations goes to Braden Shattuck for successfully defending his Section Championship title and once again earning Player of the Year honors—his fifth consecutive Philadelphia PGA Player of the Year award.

Philadelphia PGA Professional Champion: Braden Shattuck; Qualifiers: Zach Barbin, Riley Wheeldon, Tony Perla, Brett Walker, Zac Oakley, Anthony Sebastianelli, Parks Price, Rich Steinmetz, Joanna Coe, Joe Kegelmann, and Brian Bergstol

Philadelphia Senior PGA Professional Champion: Jeff Kiddie; Qualifiers: Dave McNabb, Hugo Mazzalupi, Frank Benschel, Dave Quinn, Chris Krueger,

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Brendan Post, and John Pillar

Philadelphia Assistant PGA Professional Champion:

Anthony Sebastianelli; Qualifiers: Logan Hay, Zach Oakley, Austin Barbin, Trevor Bense, and Zach Barbin

Women's Philadelphia PGA Professional Champion:

Jennifer Cully

Thank you to the members of the Philadelphia PGA Section's Tournament Committee for their hard work and dedication throughout the season. Your insight, experience, and connection to our membership are vital to the continued success of our tournament program.

Tournament Committee: Chair Michael Caldwell, Joanna Coe, Jeff Fick, Bill Kindoll, Andrew Turner, Dustin McCormick, Michael Rushin, Scott Chisolm, Mike Wood, Kyle Jackson, and Jim Shukdinas

If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions about how we can continue to improve our tournament program, please reach out to me or another member of the Tournament Committee. Your feedback is important as we look to build on the success of the 2026 season.

Have a safe and enjoyable offseason with your family and friends.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Caldwell, PGA
Philadelphia PGA Director of Tournaments

Central Counties Chapter President's Report

It has been an honor to serve as the Central Counties Chapter president these last two years. As I finish up my presidency, I am happy to say that we have the Chapter in very good financial shape. The Chapter is making money each year, including this one. We have not needed to dip into our restricted fund to cover Chapter expenses over the last two years. We have our restricted fund balance at a point to cover all Chapter expenses for two years in the event of a serious downturn such as COVID.

We have continued to improve the tournament offerings for Chapter members and have worked with Trinity Golf for a separate prize pool for those who use their services for their member golf trips. We have created a Super Senior playing category for all Chapter events, which has helped with participation of all our pro-ams.

This hard work in keeping the Chapter financially sound would not have been possible with the buy-in from the entire Chapter Board of Directors and their commitment to make the Chapter better. I wish Jason Gebhart and the rest of the board all of the best and continued success for years to come.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey Breiner, PGA
Central Counties Chapter President

Philadelphia Assistants' Organization Report

The mission of the Philadelphia Assistants' Organization (PAO) is to help assistant PGA Professionals achieve career success through education, networking, and tournament play. This mission statement was updated prior to this season and the PAO has accomplished goals in each of those areas throughout the year. We are looking forward to an offseason where we can continue to evaluate what is best for our members and work towards implementing those things going forward. I want to thank Rocco, Tessa, Jason, and Andrew for their hard work this season in making the PAO a better organization!

At the start of the year, Greg Rhoads chaired our communications for the PAO, and he is no longer on the board due to accepting a job at Sleepy Hollow Country Club. Andrew Cornish has stepped into his role and has done a fantastic job. I would like to thank Greg for helping us lay the groundwork for the PAO this year and years to come. – *Kyle Jackson*

Once again Conrad Radcliffe was a major sponsor for the PAO and we want to thank him for his immense generosity through the years. This season we had our usual dual events at select tournaments throughout the season, as well as two stand-alone events and the Philadelphia Assistants' Organization Championship. We want to congratulate the winners of all of our events throughout the season and the race for our 2026 PAO Player of the Year is as tight as ever. Two events remain, the PAO Season-Long Match Play and the PAO Tour Championship at Merion West, and we hope to crown our season long points champion by the end of the month. The PAO will be heading to Union League National at the beginning of November looking to take home the Independence Cup against the Mid Atlantic PGA's Assistant Professional Association.

Each year we are in search of host facilities for our tournaments and we hope you might consider hosting the PAO if it fits your calendars. These events provide assistants an opportunity to get tournament experience and the ability to get to know other

assistants in the PGA community. Please feel free to reach out to Rocco Sgrillo if you are interested in hosting an event in 2027. – *Rocco Sgrillo*

The PAO Board of Directors had hosted three amazing education events throughout the season. Our education series kicked off at our PAO Spring Meeting where PAO members interviewed the 2026 PGA of America Golf Executive of the Year, Sean Palmer. Our next event, a TPI Education held at Aronimink Golf Club, PAO members witnessed live and interactive lesson with the Dew Sweepers (Tony Ruggiero and Morgan Hale). Lastly, we hosted a PGA PGM Level 1 workshop at Sunnybrook Golf Club. Three PGA Professionals, Tessa Teachman, Alexandra Carr, and Nicholas Biondi, volunteered their time to teach Level 1 PGA PGM Associates and allowed them to complete the teaching and coaching portion of their Level 1 bookwork.

Education continues to be a major focus for the PAO and we are always looking for opportunities to grow member's careers. Next year we hope to continue to the success of all our education opportunities. If you are interested in hosting an educational event or willing to mentor our members, please feel free to contact Tessa Teachman. – *Tessa Teachman*

The PAO has a commitment to helping its members meet, befriend and create lasting relationships. While some of this happens on the course in tournament play, sometimes we just need to step back and have fun together. I think I can speak for anyone who went to it, that the PAO networking event at the Phillies game was one of the highlights of the season. Tickets were purchased at a discount and PAO members were able to take in a Phillies win over the Dodgers! With more networking events to come this fall and winter we truly are cultivating a camaraderie among the members. – *Jason Duckworth*

This year, we had a record number of assistants in the Philadelphia PGA Section join the PAO. This increase in membership is largely due to the

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revamping of our PAO Patron program. We made it easier for PGA Professionals to sponsor eligible assistants for PAO membership. The PAO is eager to continue to grow membership and increase overall involvement in 2027. 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! In the coming months, we will also be sending out surveys to our PAO members to see where we can improve upon for the future and gather ideas for future PAO events.

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.

With 2026 in the books, we are looking forward to a little downtime this off season and start planning for a great 2027. The PAO has continued to strengthen over the past few seasons and we look forward to continuing that process. – *Andrew Cornish*

Respectfully submitted,

Kyle Jackson
Philadelphia Assistants' Organization Co-Chair

PGA REACH Philadelphia Report

PGA REACH Philadelphia, the charitable arm of the Philadelphia PGA Section, positively impacts lives through its three pillars: Youth, Military, and Diversity. Thank you to our PGA Professionals, host facilities, donors, volunteers, and ambassadors for making this mission possible.

Foundation: Chair Anthony Mailiza, Jeff Breiner, Chandlir Pinkham, Josh Tremblay, Scott Reilly, Patrick Keefe, Sean Palmer, Alex Scarlett, Kyle Monahan, Dominic Frassinelli, Bob Lennon, Jason Lamp, Steve Frederick, John Carpineta

PGA Jr. League: The All-Star season finished up in August of 2026 with Penn State hosting both 17U and 13U Section Championships. The Penn State 17U team moved on to the regional hosted in the Middle-Atlantic PGA Section, and the Delaware Beach 13U team moved on as well. We had over 100 players play in 13U and over 30 play in 17U this season.

PGA HOPE Philadelphia: In 2026, PGA HOPE Philadelphia continued its strong momentum following the conclusion of spring sessions while maintaining a 5:1 veteran-to-professional ratio. Major support from Scott and Karen Hutchinson was dedicated to PGA HOPE programs at Saucon Valley and PGA HOPE Lehigh. Since inception, we reached our goal of over 2,000 individuals who have gone through the program, featuring 20 locations and over 180 trained PGA professionals in our section. The 2026 PGA HOPE Cup was hosted at Riverton Country Club on August 24, the winning team was Harrisburg, lead by PGA Associate Golf Professional Tyler Shank and U.S. military veterans Scott Wullbrandt, Marc Guerrisi, Chris Pfahl, and John Friedman are set to represent PGA REACH Philadelphia across all 20 regional chapters at the 2027 Secretary's Cup, hosted at PGA Frisco throughout PGA Championship week in Texas.

PGA HOPE Tour: The PGA HOPE Tour returned for 2026 sponsored by PGA Tour Superstore, featuring over 150 registered Veterans across 12

scheduled events. The season culminates in the Tour Championship on the Grace Course at Saucon Valley Country Club for a rescheduled championship on November 4.

Drive, Chip & Putt: The 2026/2027 Drive, Chip & Putt qualifying season featured 11 local qualifiers across the Philadelphia PGA Section. Nine section-run local events were hosted at Union League National, Trump National Golf Club - Philadelphia, Country Club of Harrisburg, Honeybrook Golf Club, Wyoming Valley Country Club, Regents Glen Golf Club, Lancaster Country Club, Lehigh Country Club, and Sunnybrook Golf Club, along with two facility-run local qualifiers at Kings Creek Country Club and Penn State Golf Courses. Advanced participants competed in sub-regional qualifiers hosted at DuPont Country Club and The Berkshire Country Club, leading up to the regional qualifier at Laurel Valley Golf Club.

Golf in Schools: Our Golf in Schools program expanded to 70 participating schools. In partnership with the First Tee of Delaware, the Foundation continues to supply equipment to schools in need, supporting 12 schools across the state of Delaware.

REACH Impact Scholarships: The REACH Impact Scholarship (formerly the Philadelphia PGA Junior Tour Diversity Scholarship) awarded six new scholarship recipients this year. The foundation received grants from Women Golfers Give Back, Watson Links, and the 1854 Foundation to support scholarships for this year. Through a partnership with Watson Links, group "Mentor Days" were introduced to pair PGA Professionals with scholarship recipients, including events at Cobbs Creek and an autumn session at an indoor facility.

PGA WORKS Fellowship: In June, PGA REACH Philadelphia welcomed Grace Stetler as the 2026 PGA WORKS Fellow. Designed for recent graduates of diverse backgrounds, this six-month program offers comprehensive, hands-on exposure to the golf industry. Upon concluding her fellowship, Grace will

PGA REACH Philadelphia Report

transition into a full-time role with the Philadelphia PGA Section as operations manager.

Fundraising: Ambassador & Bag Tag Campaign - Launched to engage individual club memberships, the Club Ambassador Program enlisted dedicated ambassadors across regional facilities to champion peer-to-peer fundraising and expand local support. Donors contributing \$100 or more receive a custom bag tag.

Golf Marathon - Partnering with the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP), staff and participating golfers played 100 holes to help reach our \$50,000 campaign goal, benefiting both CHOP pediatric care and PGA REACH Philadelphia programs. As of September 2026 we are half way to that goal.

PGA REACH Philadelphia Charity Outing - The 2026 Charity Outing was scheduled for October 22nd at Union League National, bringing together professional and amateur teams and sponsors to raise critical funding for Foundation initiatives. In conjunction with the Charity Outing we will be hosting an Online Auction showcasing foursomes, lessons and equipment from our membership, courses, and partners.

REACH for Birdies - Refreshed for 2026, this initiative allows PGA Professionals to create personalized fundraising campaigns on Pledge It rather than requiring pledges themselves. Supporters and network members can choose to donate via flat donations or by pledging per birdie or eagle made during the season. Since its inception, the program has raised more than \$20,000, with all funds supporting REACH Foundation programs that empower youth, assist Veterans through PGA HOPE, and create opportunities for diverse communities.

Scotty Cameron Putter Raffle - Participating facilities offer 100 raffle entries at \$20 each to benefit PGA REACH Philadelphia, providing the opportunity to award a brand-new Scotty Cameron

putter.

Club Association - Over 80 clubs have joined the Club Association program and are supporters of PGA REACH Philadelphia for the 2026 season.

Acknowledgements: On behalf of PGA REACH Philadelphia, we extend our sincere appreciation to the PGA Professionals, host facilities, and ambassadors of the foundation. Your dedication and support are the driving force behind our mission to positively impact the lives of youth, military Veterans, and diverse communities through the game of golf.

Youth Golf Report

I would like to thank our entire junior team for their hard work this season. Last year, the Committee tasked this department with increasing the number of events and we're happy to share the success of this season. They are hardworking and deserve our gratitude for their dedication all season long. They put in long hours, are on the road constantly, but are doing great things!

The team has a really cool responsibility of helping shape the future of golf. Our Section hosts over 4,500 youth rounds of golf. These junior players are future collegiate, elite amateur, professional players, or simply utilizing golf as a part of their future career. Either way, they will have lasting memories for a lifetime from their experiences on our junior tour. We could be hosting our last junior event of the season, but it could be someone's very first tournament or experience with golf. We have the ability to impact that young person's life!

The Philadelphia PGA Junior Tour is pleased to have continued its success with the 2026 season. 89 junior tour events, 17 FUNdamental Tour events, and 13 Drive, Chip, & Putt events were scheduled between the months of March and November. Continuation of AJGA PBE recognized events, nationally ranked JGS events, seven total Majors, and Junior PGA Championships are an example of the junior tour's success. Below is a summary of the 2026 season:

- 981 Total memberships (as of 10/1/26) vs. 923 in 2025
- Fourth year of the FUNdamental Tour – 86 Memberships as of 10/1/26 (66 in 2025); 264 total entries as of 10/1/26 (248 in 2025); 17 events in 2026 to 17 in 2025
- 62 facilities took advantage of the free affiliate membership in 2026; only 51 facilities in 2025
- 4,530 tournament applications (rounds of golf played) as of 10/1/26 (Lost 2 scheduled events due to weather)
- 840 additional entries waitlisted, total of 5,367 total with registered and waitlisted

- Only 4,314 tournament applications as of 10/1/25 in 2025
- 16 events ranked nationally by JGS (16 in 2026) and 6 ranked AJGA PBE status events (6 in 2025)
- 11 Drive Chip and Putt local qualifiers, 1,122 total participants in 2026; 1,007 total participants in 2025
- Two Drive, Chip and Putt sub-regional qualifiers, 248 total participants in 2026; 235 total participants in 2025
- Seven facilities hosted a junior tour event in 2026 who did not host in 2025

One of the biggest highlights of the 2026 season was our participation, with 981 members we had a total of 4,530 registrations over the course of the season in PJT and 264 for the FUNdamental Tour. We also had 840 registrations waitlisted for our events. We are averaging roughly 61 confirmed players per event during the 2026 season. We are planning on increasing the amount of foursome events, and having more stand alone and separate 9 & 18 hole events this upcoming season to get as many players off the waitlist as we can. We also plan to continue to grow our FUNdamental Tour.

New in 2026, the Junior Tour has expanded more events from threesomes to foursomes in an attempt to get as many players possible off waitlists and into events.

Continued in 2026, the Junior Tour holds a percentage of spots for the Girls 13-18 division to increase female participation. Additionally, we continued to host our two-day Girls-Only Summer Championship which was nationally ranked by AJGA in 2026

The Junior Tour also had a total of 16 participants who qualified for the DCP regional qualifier held at Laurel Valley Golf Club on October 3.

What it takes to host a Philadelphia PGA Junior Tour event: two-to-four hours of tee times at the

Youth Golf Report

time of the facility's choosing, weekends during the spring and fall (\$25 a player we pay the facility), weekdays in the summer (donation of tee times); we bring everything we need to host an event, nothing needed from the course day of event; we do not need the course for the whole day, have member play before & after groups go off; can run day to day golf course operations, we play around all grounds crew and maintenance; golf course's involvement on day involvement is very minimal.

With such an active program with an incredible number of tournaments on the schedule each season, it is critical to have the support of golf professionals and their facilities. If you have hosted a Philadelphia PGA Junior Tour event in the past, thank you! If you have not hosted and would like to help and showcase your facility, please contact the PJT Staff at (267) 622-6170 or info@phillyjuniortour.com. **The financial success of the Junior Tour depends on PGA Professionals and your facilities, thank you.**

The Junior Tour continues to thrive due to the generosity of our vital junior tour partners, all of which deserve sincere thanks, including: Adidas, Hurricane Junior Golf Tour, Notah Begay III Junior Golf National Championship, Gatorade, Cobra Puma Golf, Precision Pro Golf, Valley Forge Tourism and Convention Board, Visit Delco, Moyer, Influential Athlete, Radnor Golf Foundation, Bridgestone, Mizuno and Under Armour/Gear for Sports.

2026 Philadelphia PGA Junior Tour Tournament and Award Winners

48th Junior Tour Championship at Chester Valley G.C.: Boys 16-18: Cole Powell, - 66; Boys 13-15: Brody Campbell, - 75; Girls 16-18: Megan Choi, - 37 (weather shortened); Girls 13-15: Valerie Danby, - 37 (weather shortened); Boys 12 & Under: Joey Charpentier, - 24 (weather shortened); Girls 12 & Under: Katelyn Burks, - 27 (weather shortened)

Junior PGA Championship at Bellewood C.C.

(Boys) / DuPont C.C. (Girls): Boys 13-18: Logan McGinn, (69, 71); Girls 13-18: Kayley Roberts, (69, 68)

Harry Hammond Invitational at Penn Oaks G.C.: Boys 16-18: Ty Sheftic, - 69; Girls 16-18: Corinne McReynolds, - 71; 12 & Under Championship at McCall G.C.; Boys: Niko Muego, - 32; Girls: Trisha Lobo, - 39

20th Under Armour Jon M. Pritsch Cup at Trump National G.C.-Bedminster: New Jersey PGA 11 - Philadelphia PGA 7

Congratulations to all of our Junior Tour winners! I would like to thank our entire Junior Tour Staff, David Messina, Ryan Conroy, and Coleman Zamborsky for their dedication to the Tour this past year. I look forward to their continued success!

Respectfully submitted,

Dustin McCormick, PGA
Philadelphia PGA Section Secretary

2026 Philadelphia PGA Fall Membership Meeting Agenda

Call to Order

National Anthem

Invocation

Introductions

Motion to Dispense

Education: Golf Business Academy Powered by
Drexel LeBow

Secretary's Report

Partner Recognition

Hall of Fame

Section Operations Report

Partner Recognition

Break

PGA of America Report

Tournament Awards

Partner Recognition

Jennings Scholarships

President's Report

Executive Director's Report

Partner Recognition

Old Business

New Business / Elections

Open Forum

Tournament Announcements

Adjourn