



PGA

Western New York Section



January 2014

Western New York
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Letter from Jeff Mietus, Western New York PGA President

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Western New York PGA:

The Section office is starting to get prepared for the upcoming season and we have a lot of exciting things happening. Joe Bertino, Tim Fries and I have been having lunch in the various regions of our section members, and have received some great ideas and feedback. We are looking forward to meeting in Erie and the Southern Tier soon. There are some good things to look forward to for the 2014 season:

Ben Wilson is working on getting a couple of multi-day AJGA golf tournaments for our better junior players in the section.

We are working on setting up H.O.P.E. golf education programs for our wounded vets in each region of our section.

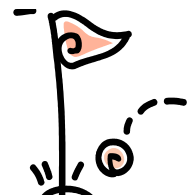
We are currently working on creating a partnership with the B.D.G.A. that will benefit both organizations and golf in WNY. One of our goals is to start a series of Amateur events in our section to provide higher quality golf events for more people.

Golf in the schools is also moving forward and PGA Professionals all over our section have been jumping in to help as much as possible.

One of my favorite quotes is "A rising tide floats all boats"; in other words, the more we do to move player development forward, the better it is for all of us. The next couple of months should be busy preparing for all the work we have ahead of us. Please feel free to call me with any suggestions at anytime, and I look forward to seeing all of you soon.

Sincerely,

Jeff Mietus PGA



NOTE FROM JOE BERTINO, WESTERN NEW YORK PGA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear WNYPGA Professionals,

We've certainly seen our share of winter weather the past month or so, and now it is time to really get focused on the upcoming season. A good many of you will be heading to Orlando in a few short days to attend the **2014 PGA Merchandise Show**. Hopefully you'll enjoy some fine weather outside for Demo Day on Tuesday January 21, prior to your time indoors at the Orange County Convention Center. While you are at the show (dates 1/22-1/24), please take just a few seconds to stop by the PGA Section Short Game Challenge located right next to the indoor range. This event is hosted by Callaway, Nike Golf, & Ping. **This year, any WNYPGA Professional who racks up a cashing score will receive \$100 for their efforts on behalf of our section!** Of course, in addition to checking out all the new apparel, clubs and gadgets, the show also offers a tremendous number of education sessions that can prove extremely valuable and also offer you some needed MSR hours as well.

PGA Financial Assistance Scholarship applications are being accepted online only through March 17th, simple and easy to follow details can be found on page three of this newsletter.

We're currently working on our **2014 WNYPGA Directory**, if you have any assistants that are currently working out of section that you know are joining your staff for this year, please notify the office so that we can make sure their information can be included in the hard copy to be distributed at our Spring General Meeting @ Transit Valley CC on April 21st.

There is a big push for the **2014 Drive, Chip, & Putt Competition**, supported by the **PGA of America, The USGA, and The Masters Tournament Foundation**. We are looking for one local site each in Rochester, Buffalo, & Erie in June or July, along with a sub-regional (2nd stage) qualifier in August as well. The pilot editions of these events last year boasted between 150 and 200 youths per site, and have proven to be a super way to promote your facility as part of a very high profile competition. If you are interested in hosting one of these events, please contact me at 716-626-7095 for details and site requirements.

As **Jeff Mietus** mentions in his article, we are expecting to expand the **WNYPGA HOPE program** into all of our areas, if you are interested in participating, please contact your WNYPGA Area Director to find out what you can do to help our Vets! Finally, we are very excited to announce that we will be switching our entire tournament and junior golf operations to **BlueGolf**, the state-of-the-art tournament package that a majority of PGA Sections are now using. You will find it much more easily to be able to navigate registration, and the end results are extraordinarily professional (think pgatour.com). Stay tuned for more details on the new system coming in early February!

Wishing all of you the best of luck in all of your endeavors in 2014!

Joe Bertino, PGA

WNYPGA Executive Director





PGA Financial Assistance Fund Scholarship Program Fact Sheet

Graduating high school seniors and college students who are the children or grandchildren of PGA members are invited to apply online at the home page (before you log in) of PGALinks.com to be considered for financial support for college through the PGA Financial Assistance Fund Scholarship Program.

The scholarship program is an academic based scholarship program that takes into account the following depending on the class level of the student:

High School Graduating Senior

High School Cumulative Grade Point Average – **must be at least 3.4** (60% of the scholarship weighting scale). This number is to be an unweighted GPA based on a 4.0 scale.

ACT and/or SAT test scores (30% of the scholarship weighting scale)

Extracurricular activities in high school such as sports, clubs, student government, community service, part time employment, etc. (10% of the scholarship weighting scale).

Current College Student (has not reached their senior year in college)

College Cumulative Grade Point Average – **must be at least 3.4** (60% of the scholarship weighting scale)

Most recently completed college semester or quarter GPA (30% of the scholarship weighting scale)

Extracurricular activities in college such as sports, clubs, student government, community service, part time employment, etc. (10% of the scholarship weighting scale)

2 New Changes for 2014!!! 20% of funding will take in to account financial need, please see details in Financial Need Section of application AND beginning with 2014 graduating high school seniors (incoming Freshman in Fall of 2014) the total number of scholarships a student can receive will be limited to 2 total scholarships over the 4 years of undergraduate college attendance.

The amount and number of scholarships is determined by the availability of funds, and may vary from year to year based on these factors and IRS guidelines. Scholarships are awarded at the discretion of the PGA Scholarship Committee. The scholarship is for accredited Universities or Colleges in the United States **only**.

The application process is live online (www.PGALinks.com) between **November 15, 2013 and March 17, 2014** and students are asked to wait until they are in possession of their most current grade report (first semester) or transcript before applying. The applicant must enter the students Social Security number and the PGA affiliated parent or grandparents PGA ID number to gain access to the application.

After submitting the online application, the applicant must have postmarked by March 17, 2014 to the below address a sealed official school grade transcript that shows their GPA information and ACT/SAT test scores (if a high school applicant) to:

PGA Financial Assistance Fund Scholarship Program

Attention: Linda Bennington 888.532.6661; 561.624.7612 or e-mail: lbenning@pgahq.com

Grant and Scholarship Specialist

100 Avenue of the Champions

Palm Beach Gardens, Florida 33418



Welcome to new WNYPGA Members!

Scott Ellender, A-14, Monroe Golf club, Pittsford, NY

Jason Ballard, A-1, Oak Hill Country Club, Rochester, NY

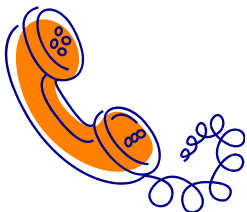
Condolences to the families and friends of

Jack Henrich, PGA, who passed away November 30th.

Dennis Bradley, PGA, who passed away January 7th.

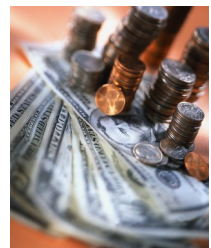
Both of these outstanding gentlemen were members of the Western New York PGA Golf Hall of Fame following truly remarkable careers as PGA Professionals. You can view their complete career profiles are available at westernnewyork.pga.com-Home-Section History.

PLEASE NOTE:



THE PGA MSR Cycle ends June/2015. If you are not sure of where you stand regarding satisfying mandatory requirements, please contact the section office at 716-626-7095 and we will be happy to help you acquire the credits you need!

The PGA Compensation Survey will go live on Monday January 13th. Simply log in to PGALinks.com and take a few minutes of your time to fill out this simple but vital PGA survey. This not only helps ensure accurate compensation reporting for employment services but you may receive up to two MSR credits for completion of PGA surveys.





Proud Sponsor of the 28th Annual Coors Western New York PGA Section Championship

Seneca Hickory Stick Resort

Lewiston, NY

August 19-20, 2013

Champion - Lonnie Nielsen

Runners-Up - Tim Fries & Jeff Kaye

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WRIGHT BEVERAGE DISTRIBUTING Leroy, Seneca Falls & Rochester, NY

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PGA

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The Western New York Section, PGA would like to thank all of our 2013 Event Sponsors



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the WNYPGA



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