The Official Digital Magazine of the Mississippi State PGA Golf Management Program

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May 2018

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Most successful Family Weekend yet Page 15 Bulldogs Win Their 9th Heritage Cup Page 17





## **A Letter from the Director...**

Finals are over, commencement ceremonies completed, and students are off to their work experiences...summer is here! But before we move on to prepare for the 2018-2019 year, we want to take time to celebrate what was a great 2017-2018 academic year!

I guess you could categorize this past year as the year of staff changes for the PGA Golf Management program and the University Golf Course. Program Assistant, Daniel Soehren, PGA, accepted a position at a club in Virginia. This move allowed for he and his wife to be closer to family and for him to pursue career aspirations. We are grateful for Daniel's service to our students and alumni and wish he and Kelly all the best. We welcome back fellow alumnus, Zach Tate, PGA, who has returned to serve as the Assistant Director. Zach brings an unequaled passion and enthusiasm for the game of golf, Mississippi State, and the students. Since his return, he has hit the ground "running" and not looked back. We also had recent alumnus, Luke Millhouse, PGA, join the team as the Program Assistant. Likewise, Luke has made a seamless transition to the position and has done great things in just his first semester. The final piece to the team is the hiring of our new Head Professional at the University Golf Course. You may have seen the announcement we made regarding Mike Hammond, PGA, returning home after 3 years of service to the University Golf Course. We will miss Mike, but are happy he is closer to home and for the wonderful career opportunity he has at his new facility. Our new Head Professional is none other than Adam Scott, PGA Certified Professional, Adam is returning to Starkville following his tenure as Director of the UCCS PGA Golf Management program. He and his wife, Erika, will be back in Starkville and in place June 1. We are excited to have Adam back and the entire team in place.

As we look back over the year, the MSU PGA Golf Management program also had a great year! The students continue to perform in many areas and contribute in a number of ways to the University, Starkville, and PGA communities. Some of their efforts include: fundraising for the Folds of Honor and PGA Disaster relief efforts (weather disasters in Houston, Florida, California); Relay for Life; Pros for Clothes; Section events; cumulative GPA of 3.02; PAT passing percentage of 55% (fall 2017); Heritage Cup victory vs. Sam Houston State; 100% job placement; creation of new student awards; most successful family weekend in its near 20-year history; success on PGA exams; and on and on... We are very proud of the work they are doing in the classroom, on the golf course, and in the community!

You will read more in this publication, but I do want to note the creation of our student honors for the PGA Golf Management program. The honors center around excellence in a number of areas and are accompanied with the names of some notable alumni. The highest honor, The Dr. S. Roland Jones Student of the Year, bestows special recognition on a Mississippi State PGA Golf Management student who has performed outstanding services as an overall PGA Golf Management student during their collegiate career. Candidates must possess outstanding qualities of leadership, strong moral character, and a substantial record of service to the program and the game of golf. Individuals honored with the Roland Jones Student of the Year award will be held as a model Mississippi State University PGA Golf Management student. The inaugural recipient of the Roland Jones Student of the Year was a graduating senior (Dec. 2017) from GA: Sally Morgan.

Other awards recognizing student excellence include: The Joe Assell Leadship Award, The Ryan Coyle Academic Award, and The Rod Perry Player of the Semester.

In November, Hayden Lewis, a graduating senior from Texas, was selected to attend the PGA Annual Meeting as the Mississippi State



Hayden was selected through a rigorous interview process, with 7 most deserving candidates in the running to attend the meeting in Austin, TX. Hayden attended a number of events and functions and returned from the meeting more inspired than ever before. He has indicated that his most memorable experiences were attending the Special Awards program and the networking opportunities presented throughout the week.

Just a few weeks ago we rolled out our new, more interactive website – <u>www.</u> <u>pgagmu.msstate.edu</u>. We included a number of new things for the site and are proud to list student and alumni honors/recognitions, as well as news, upcoming events, employer requests, and our Student Association site. Please take a look and be sure to send us your feedback!

I would be remiss if I failed to mention the success our graduates continue to have in their respective career paths. We continue to have a number of graduates complete requirements for PGA Certification and for Section and Chapter award recognitions. Keep up the great work and be sure to let us know of your accomplishments!

On a personal note, I want to offer my most sincere thank you for reaching out and offering your well wishes on a most special year. Hearing from so many of you was special and brought back great memories! But I must say, as special as the year was, my greatest moments of the year were seeing the students graduate and having the opportunity to work with some of them to secure jobs they set as their goals!



Here's to a great summer and 2018-2019 year!

JW. Al

Jeff Adkerson, PGA Master Professional Director

> \*Click on the website link to check it out!\*

### If you would like to make a contribution to the PGA Golf Management Program, please click on this link!

\*\*Please designate your contribution for the PGA Golf Management Program\*\*





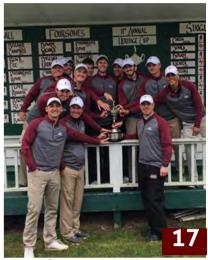




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## A Letter from the Dean...

As the 2017-2018 school year comes to an end, we again look back on the many achievements of the College of Business at Mississippi State University. In the 2017 spring semester, we had a reaccreditation visit from AACSB International and received full five-year accreditation for both the College of Business and the Richard C. Adkerson School of Accountancy.

The College of Business was rated among the nation's Best Undergraduate Business Schools by U.S. News & World Report, and our Distance programs were recognized in several categories. Our Distance MBA program came in at No. 18, and our Distance Master of Science in Information Systems (non-MBA) program was ranked No. 43, up 11 spots from the previous year. The Distance MBA program has now been in the top 25 of the U.S. News online rankings for three consecutive years and is the highest-ranked program in Mississippi. To top it off, U.S. News listed the Distance MBA program at No. 10 for Best Online MBA Programs for Veterans.

The 36th annual CCH Public Accounting Report once again ranked the Adkerson School of Accountancy in the top 25 for



undergraduate and graduate accounting programs for schools with fewer than 17 fulltime faculty. The School's undergraduate and graduate programs were also ranked in the top 25 by region regardless of size.

Additionally, the Center for Entrepreneurship and Outreach Succeeded in securing more than \$4 million in external funding this past year. Through one grant in particular - from the National Science Foundation (NSF) - the Center is helping the University broaden the economic reach of its research and innovation. As an NSF I-Corps site, the Center's personnel are providing infrastructure, advice, resources, networking opportunities, training and modest funding to enable MSU researchers to transition their innovations into viable businesses.

At the university level, the Infinite Impact campaign is now a billion dollar campaign. If you would like to make a contribution to the capital campaign, please know that you would be making an impact on the PGA Golf Management program through a designated gift.

Our PGA Golf Management program continues to be one of the best in the country. And, as you know, the University Golf Course is now part of the College. Alumni tell me all the time that the Golf Course never looked so good —thanks to Mike Hammond and Pat Sneed.

And once again, the College of Business experienced record enrollments this past fall. There is a great deal of momentum in the College. We would love to see you if you are in town, and by all means, let us hear about your accomplishments.

Dr. Sharon Oswald Dean, College of Business



Hayden Lewis (Sr.), posing with the PGA of America's Championship trophies at the PGA Annual Meeting in Austin, TX

# **101st PGA Annual Meeting** Leadership Session

By: Hayden Lewis

Being a student representative for Mississippi State University's PGA Golf Management Program at the PGA of America's 101st Annual Meeting is an experience that I will cherish for the rest of my career. Having the opportunity to gain insight and knowledge on the industry that you're passionate about, to me, is invaluable to any student. The PGA Golf Management Leadership Conference allowed me to grow both personally and professionally. I hope to take what I have learned and use that knowledge to become a more competent and confident leader.

One of the most valuable experiences I received from attending the 101st PGA Annual Meeting was getting to collaborate and discuss the game's current trends with

fellow PGA Golf Management students like myself. Most, if not all, of the other students in attendance have served or currently serve their program in a leadership position. I enjoyed hearing from fellow students about ideas that have been successful for their program. Anything from special events to tournament operations, and even philanthropic outreaches were all discussed amongst the attending students. Seeing the level of commitment and dedication each student had for their own program showed the future of this industry and the game of golf is very promising. I was also impressed with all of the different backgrounds and experiences the group of students had through their internships and other opportunities within the industry. Golf, both as a sport and a business, is as diverse and transformative as it has ever been, and all of the students in attendance were eager to



take on the challenges and opportunities the industry presents.

I believe that leadership is a natural choice that people must make in order to better those around them and the organizations they are a part of. Additionally, leadership is a life-long process - one that is full of victories and learning curves. The Leadership Conference in conjunction with the PGA's 101st Annual Meeting was an incredible experience. During this session, the **Executive Chair of YUM! Brands, David** Novak, spoke to the importance of recognition in an organization. Whether in recognizing individual team members or the value of a completed project, he discussed how connecting with your team should be at the forefront of any organization's core values. Showing employees and team members how much they matter to the overall operation can create a unique culture that allows



everyone to be truly successful in their own positions and have authentic ownership to their work. Novak also emphasized selfawareness and how this can play a major role in navigating your own personal leadership ability. I find this information very helpful because I understand the importance of discovering who I am as a leader and what I value most as a PGA Professional during the early stages of my career.

Another aspect I enjoyed being in attendance for was the National Awards Dinner. Having the opportunity to learn about the best the industry has to offer in their respective fields was truly special. I was especially grateful to see my then Director for the PGA Golf Management Program at Mississippi State, Jeff Adkerson, receive the National Horton Smith Award. Seeing him receive this award and being recognized for all of his hard work and dedication to both current students and graduates of the program was motivating for me to continue pushing myself to maybe one day receive a national honor as well. Jeff is a special individual whom I look up to even now as a graduate from Mississippi State. Seeing him receive one of the highest honors the industry has to offer was just icing on the cake for what was an incredible week in Austin!

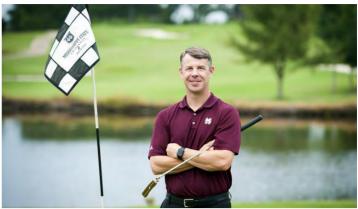
I am truly grateful for all of the opportunities I was given as a student in the PGA Golf Management Program at Mississippi State. I hope to continue to push myself, learn and grow as a leader and a PGA Professional. I believe, even in leadership, you are never done growing and never done learning. Golf as a business and a sport is constantly evolving and this is what makes me most excited about working in this industry. I hope to continue to help those around me grow and continue to push myself as a leader in both current and future positions that I hold as a PGA Professional.

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# MSU's Adkerson Receives National PGA Honor

STARKVILLE, Miss.—Jeff Adkerson, director of Mississippi State's PGA Golf Management program, is the 2017 recipient of the Professional Golfers' Association National Horton Smith Award. The honor recognizes golf professionals for outstanding and continuing contributions to professional education.



Adkerson was recognized during an awards

ceremony in conjunction with the 101st PGA of America Annual Meeting in November 2017. The two-time MSU alumnus has received the Gulf States PGA's Horton Smith Award four times.

"It is a tremendous honor to be recognized by the PGA of America as the National Horton Smith Award recipient," Adkerson said. "Supporting PGA Professionals and those aspiring to become PGA members through education only grows our profession and the game of golf. Professionally, there is no greater reward than seeing our students achieve the goals they have established in their careers. To think I may have played a small part in their development and growth is a true honor."

In early 2017, Adkerson became one of approximately 350 people since 1969 to earn the PGA's Master Professional designation, given to PGA Professionals that demonstrate the highest degree of excellence. Adkerson joined the MSU College of Business' PGA Golf Management program in 2003 and became the program's director in 2007. He currently serves as Honorary President of the Gulf States PGA and was named Gulf States PGA Golf Professional of the Year in 2013.

MSU's PGA Golf Management program, housed in the university's College of Business, is the second oldest program sanctioned by the PGA in the country and boasts 100 percent job placement among its graduates. Adkerson is the second graduate of MSU's PGA Golf Management program to receive a national PGA award. Alumnus Rod Perry was named PGA Professional Player of the Year in 2012 and 2013. For more on MSU's PGA Golf Management program, visit www.pgagmu.msstate.edu.

The PGA of America is the world's largest working sports organization, comprised of 29,000 men and women golf professionals who are the recognized experts in teaching and growing the game. Founded in 1916, the PGA of America has enhanced its leadership position by conducting premier spectator events – PGA Championship, Ryder Cup, Senior PGA Championship presented by KitchenAid and KPMG Women's PGA Championship – as well as significant philanthropic outreach initiatives and award-winning golf promotions.



# Alumni Sp<sup>4</sup>tlight: Sarah Dant

#### Q. What is your fondest memory from your time at Mississippi State?

Any PGM graduate would agree it's the lifelong connections and friendships you make with people all over the country. I grew up in Minnesota and the transition south was scary. I tried to pledge a sorority, so I could meet a few girlfriends knowing I would be meeting so many guys in the program. The first week was horrible and I wanted to go back to Minnesota. My dad suggested I go out to the golf course to practice. I meet one of my best friends, Ryan Johnson, that first day and never got homesick again. After 5 years of crawfish boils, football games and late nights at The Grill, my dad said it was time to graduate and get out of there!

#### Q. When and how did you identify what career path in the golf industry you were passionate about?

In high school I knew I wanted to teach in some field, and golf was a great option for me. My golf pros growing up were instrumental in my development as a junior golfer. I worked at the country club where my dad was a member and I was involved in the golf operation. They inspired me to begin a career in the golf industry. After college I spent 2 years as an assistant behind the counter folding shirts and taking tee times and realized that was not an option for me. I worked hard to fill my lesson books and I spent all my spare time learning how to become a better instructor. Right away I knew my passion was going to be in teaching and helping people learn the game.

#### Q. What aspect of being a Golf Instructor do you enjoy most?

My business has developed over the years into more of a coaching role and a holistic approach to worked for out of college. He taught me teaching the game. I love getting to know my clients on a personal level and helping them believe in their true potential. . Most of the time I work on changing their emotions and managing mindsets, so they can play

better golf and reach their goals. Whether it is watching a student win the Club Championship or just witnessing a golfer's excitement when they experience hope for the first time is amazing to me. I really enjoy watching the development of a player when they put in the hard work and commitment to my program. It's rewarding for both of us.

#### Q. What is the coolest experience that your career in golf has provided you?

The opportunity to travel and meet so many wonderful people. My business has been expanding into golf schools around the country and I love meeting new people and sharing my coaching concepts on how to play better golf and enjoy the game of golf. Teaching in Naples, Florida allows me to have access to people all over the country and to travel to new locations. This past winter I was able to play Pebble Beach as a XXIO staff member which was really cool.

#### Q. Describe your proudest moment as a PGA Professional.

Being recognized by Golf Digest as a Best in State Instructor in 2017 would be the highlight of my teaching career so far. Being recognized and voted on by your peers is a huge boost to the confidence level. It shows hard work and persistence pays off. It's an honor to be on the list with so many incredible teachers and coaches. I'm also very proud of the business I have built over 10 years. It was a struggle in the beginning, but I'm getting to enjoy the benefits of having my own business and the flexible lifestyle.

#### Q. Is there a PGA Professional that you would like to say "THX" to that impacted your career or life? How did they do so?

Rob Hary was my first golf professional who helped develop my love for the game of golf. He made sure I stayed active in competitive play during high school and helped me through the pains of growing up playing golf. He also helped me develop as a PGA golf professional by including me in the golf operation.

Willie Gibbons was the first golf professional I everything I needed to know about the business and developing a successful long-term career. He also believed in me when I wasn't sure about myself and the golf business. I would say he's the reason I'm still a PGA Professional today.



# **Dr. S. Roland Jones Student of the Year**

Dr. S. Roland Jones was the first Director of the Mississippi State PGA Golf Management program. He served in this position until his untimely passing in 1997. Dr. Jones cared deeply for his students and challenged them to become better students and better people, knowing this would lead to successful PGA members. A mentor to so many, his legacy continues today on campus and throughout the golf industry.

The Dr. S. Roland Jones Student of the Year award bestows special recognition on a Mississippi State University PGA Golf Management student who has performed outstanding services as an overall PGA Golf Management student during their collegiate career. As the highest honor the Mississippi State PGA Golf Management program can bestow, candidates must possess outstanding qualities of leadership, strong moral character, and a substantial record of service to the program and the game of golf. Individuals honored with the Roland Jones Student of the Year award will be held as a model Mississippi State University PGA Golf Management student.

"Being selected as the first ever Roland Jones Student of the Year was incredibly humbling and a tremendous honor. This not only has meant a lot to me personally but I hope inspires other students to push themselves to accomplish all they are capable of. The culmination of internships, school work, and other extracurricular activities provide a solid base for all students to grow and develop and I can testify to the fact that it surely does. This award topped off an incredible four and a half years at Mississippi State. I developed myself personally and professionally more than I ever imagined possible and was able to find my strengths (and weaknesses) to help me find my right path in the industry. While being awarded this honor seemed like a testament to the end to my time at State, it has only been a launch board into the beginning of the rest of my career. I hope others perceive that I have represented my program well throughout school and that I can continue to do so moving forward. As did the name on the award, I hope to serve and inspire others to help grow this great game we all love!"

2017 Winner: Sally Morgan



Sally Morgan and our Director, Jeff Adkerson



-Sally Morgan

# Joe Assell Leadership Award

Joe Assell, PGA, is a graduate of the Mississippi State PGA Golf Management program and has a successful career in the golf industry. He is the founder, President and CEO of GolfTEC, an innovative teaching and coaching company that has grown to over 200 instruction centers in the United States. GolfTEC is the second largest employer of PGA members and has taught 2.5 million golf lessons since its founding.

The Joe Assell Leadership Award is an annual award that bestows special recognition on a Mississippi State University PGA Golf Management student who personally displays outstanding integrity, character, and leadership. This individual is an unsung hero/heroine at their University, facility, and in their community, who serves to inspire, empower, and assist others, both in and out of the game of golf.

# 2017 Winner: Robbie Fields



Robbie Fields and our Director, Jeff Adkerson

"Throughout my college career I have been encouraged to lead and serve others. The Joe Assell Leadership Award is an honor that I am truly proud to receive, but seeing others succeed is far more important than any award. I have been extremely blessed with opportunities to lead and serve my fellow classmates and community. Receiving this award is a testament to the leadership before me and I only hope to pass that along." -Robbie Fields



# **Ryan Coyle Academic Award**

Ryan Coyle, PGA, is a graduate of the Mississippi State PGA Golf Management program, who graduated with the highest cummulative GPA in program history. To top off this great accomplishment, Ryan also double majored during his time on campus.

The Ryan Coyle Academic Award is a semester award that recognizes Mississippi State University PGA Golf Management students for their outstanding achievements in the classroom. This honor is awarded based on the highest GPA by class.

#### Spring 2018 Winners

Graduating Senior: Francis Robinson Senior: N/A (class was on internship) Junior: Hunter Hargrove Sophomore: Skyler Cochran Freshman: Samuel Kuntz

#### Fall 2017 Winners

Graduating Senior: Sally Morgan Senior: Austin Moeller Junior: N/A (class was on internship) Sophomore: Skyler Cochran

## **Rod Perry Player of the Semester**

Rod Perry, PGA, is a graduate of the Missisippi State PGA Golf Management program and has one of the most decorated playing careers of any PGA member. A two-time PGA of America Player of the Year, Rod has also won his Section Player of the Year award seven (7) times and has won the PGA of America Professional Championship. He has represented the United States in two (2) PGA Cup matches, competed in four (4) PGA Championships, and numerous PGA Tour events. Rod is also the first PGA Golf Management University graduate to win PGA Player of the Year honors!

The Rod Perry Player of the Semester award recognizes our most outstanding men and women players for their success on the golf course. This award is presented to the student who accumulates the most points throughout our semester tournament series, for both men and women. Points are earned based on finishes in each tournament.

### Spring 2018 Winners

Men's Division: Brock Dowdy



#### Fall 2017 Winners

Men's Division: Cameron Chhim Women's Diviosn: Sally Morgan





Each year, numerous graduates make great contributions to their respective facility, community, and PGA Section. This past year, there were 6 alumni to earn the nod for one of these distinguished awards.

In honor of the accomplishments of our alumni, the PGA Golf Management staff designed PGA Section Awards boards that are displayed in the GolfTEC-Hansberger Simulator Room to recognize our alumni who have won a Section Award. An individual board was hung in honor of Rod Perry, PGA, and his National PGA Professional Player of the Year Award in 2012 & 2013. In addition, there is one for our Director, Jeff Adkerson, PGA, and his National Horton Smith Award in 2017. These boards serve not only as recognition, but also as inspiration for current students to work hard and strive to be the best.

**Golf Professional of the Year** Tim Basel, PGA Reunion Golf and Country Club Gulf States Section

Merchandiser of the Year Matt Fraser, PGA The Alotian Club South Central Section

Youth Player Development Chris Altese, PGA Diamondhead Country Club Gulf States Section Asst. Golf Professional of the Year Daniel Byrd, PGA Southern Hills Country Club South Central Section

> Horton Smith Award Billy Pomeroy, PGA Northwood Country Club Gulf States Section

Horton Smith Award Patrick Nuber, PGA GolfTEC Headquarters Colorado Section

Congratulations to each of you, and we encourage you to continue to pave the way for current and future PGA Professionals!



# 2018 Alumni Weekend



### Friday, October 5th - Alumni Golf Tournament

**WHAT:** An 18-hole, fourball match play event in which alumni will play against students. The size of the field will vary depending on how many people sign up.

WHEN: 1:00p Shotgun Start

WHERE: University Golf Course

### Saturday, October 6th - MSU vs Auburn

WHAT: Tailgating, food, drinks, and good company!

WHEN: TBA (Game time will be announced one week prior to game day)

WHERE: Ben Nelson Outdoor tailgate tent (Northwest Stadium entrance)

\*more details will be sent later this summer







By: Zach Tate, PGA

**Starkville, MS**- The 2017 PGA Golf Management Family Weekend was one for the record books! The weekend of November 3rd-5th provided great food and weather and best of all a great game day experience. This year's family weekend shattered the previous attendance record with over 230 family members and friends. We were also honored to have PGA President Paul Levy, PGA as our featured speaker.

Similar to past events, this year's Family Weekend provided three days of excitement. The three day event kicked off in McCool Hall for a dinner and silent auction. The silent auction benefits both the PGA Golf Management Club and the Folds of Honor Foundation. There were several exciting items auctioned off that included MSU signed sports balls from current coaches, and memorabilia from the PGA Championship.

In 2016, a new tradition was started by having a live auction at the end of the festivities on Friday evening. This year, we were able to auction off a Dak Prescott Dallas Cowboys autographed jersey. The jersey was a popular item that went for over \$1,300! The proceeds from this live auction went to the Folds of Honor Foundation.

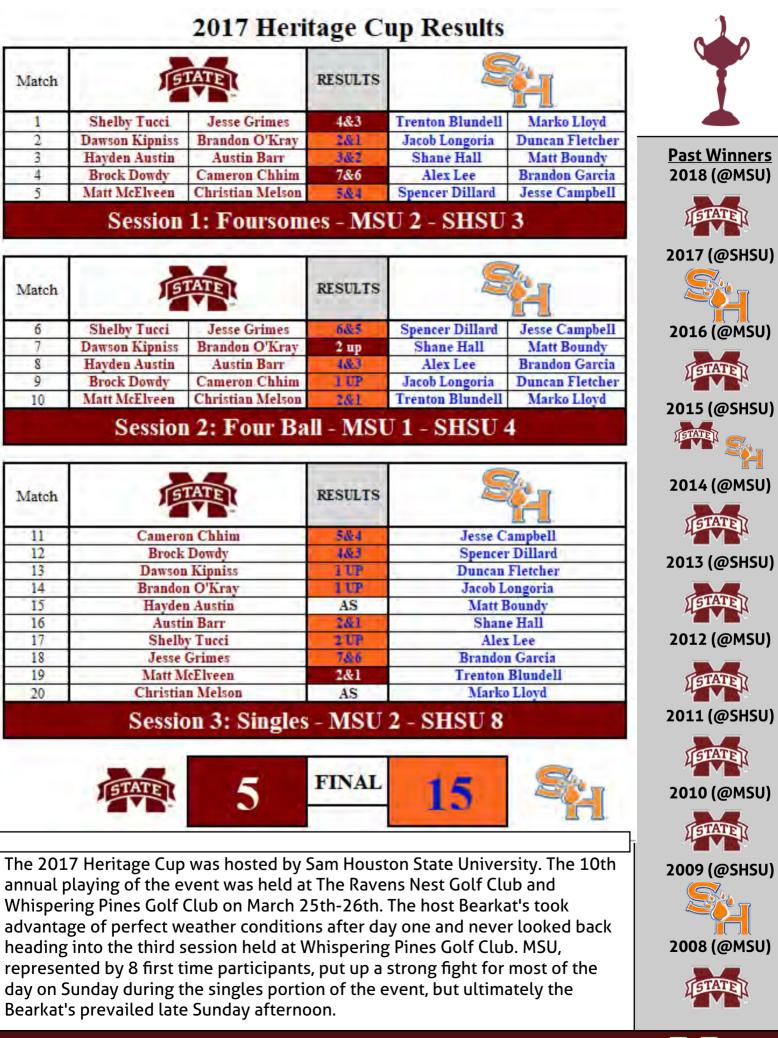
Per Program tradition, each family in attendance received a gift respective to their class standing. Freshman families received a MSU PGA Golf Management logo cowbell; Sophomore families received a MSU PGA Golf Management logo maroon sweatshirt blanket; Senior families received a set of laser-etched MSU PGA Golf Management drinking glasses; and Graduating Senior families received a wooden sign carved to match the state of Mississippi. We look forward to seeing each family return every year to collect all four gifts!

Following Friday's events, the Bulldogs took the field against fellow SEC rival Kentucky at a sold out Davis Wade Stadium. Before kickoff, family and friends joined in the Junction enjoy some great weather and tailgating. The game was a highly anticipated match up for both teams, with the Wildcats arriving to Starkville with a 5-1 overall record. Fortunately for the Bulldogs, the game was never in question. MSU scored on their opening possession and never looked back. The Bulldogs won the contest 45-7 and improved to 5-2 overall.

On behalf of all PGA Golf Management students and staff, we would like to thank all of the family members and friends that were able to attend this year! We appreciate your time, effort and support of the Program and your student. We hope to see you all again at our next Family Weekend!



## 2017-2018 Heritag



## e Cup Results

Match	TE	TATEL	RESULTS	2	PHI -
1	Austin Barr	Zach Tate	2&1	Spencer Dillard	Jesse Campbell
2	Frank Jones	Cameron Chhim	3&2	Matt Black	Alex Lee
3	Brock Dowdy	Zach Weaver	2&1	<b>Rhys Phinnessee</b>	Dylan Rowe
4	Jackson Koenig	Matt Voss	3&2	Marko Lloyd	Shrey Bhakta
5	Ryan Dyleski	Jesse Grimes	7&6	Chase Bacon	Sarah St. John
6	Will Heirtzler	Luke Millhouse	1 Up	Lake Fischer	<b>Rich Ballinger</b>

### 2018 Heritage Cup Results

\*Foursomes were canceled due to inclement weather

Match	STATE	RESULTS	See.
7	Cameron Chhim	3&2	Rhys Phinnessee
8	Frank Jones	483	Dylan Rowe
9	Brock Dowdy	1 Up	Alex Lee
10	Zach Weaver	1 Up	Matt Black
11	Ryan Dyleski	2 Up	Marko Lloyd
12	Will Heirtzler	1 Up	Shrey Bhakta
13	Matt Voss	3&2	Spencer Dillard
14	Jackson Koenig	1 Up	Jesse Campbell
15	Jesse Grimes	6&5	Chase Bacon
16	Austin Barr	7&6	Lake Fischer



The 11th annual playing of the Heritage Cup featured a determined MSU team. After a tough result in 2017, the Bulldog's were ready to bring the trophy back to Starkville. Similar to 2017, MSU featured 6 new team members. MSU was represented by two freshmen, five sophomores, two juniors and one senior. Unlike 2017, the conditions were extremely difficult for both squads. The weekend weather featured strong wind, flash flood warnings, and cold temperatures. Saturday morning's fourball session included a 5 hour rain delay. When play resumed Saturday afternoon, MSU came out firing and won the first session 5-1. Due to the weather delay and course conditions, the foursome matches were canceled, leaving the Bulldogs just 3.5 points shy of winning the Heritage Cup. Much like Sam Houston State University the year before, MSU never looked back and brought the Heritage Cup trophy back to Starkville following a strong singles performance.



## 2017-2018 PGA Golf Management Tournament Results

The 2017 and 2018 spring semester tournament schedules each included three (3) 36-hole majors and (2) Sunday Games. The fall semester schedule included three (3) 36-hole majors and two (3) 18-hole Sunday games for all PGA Golf Management students. We also held Singles and Doubles Match Play throughout each semester. The format for Doubles in the spring semester is Foursomes, and Four-ball for the fall semester. Below are the top finishers and their scores in each of those events.

## **SPRING 2017**

#### Cowbell Classic, Jan. 21-22

		<b>D</b> '			
Me	n's	DI	/19	51C	n

73-72-145 (+3)
72-74-146 (+4)
<mark>68</mark> -78-146 (+4)
77-71-148 (+6)
73-75- 148 (+6)

#### **Bulldog Classic, February 4**

#### **Men's Division**

Picit 5 Division	
Cameron Chhim	70 (-1)
Shelby Tucci	73 (+2)
Garrett Bernhardt	74 (+3)
Griffin Diamantis	76 (+5)
Austin Barr	76 (+5)
Women's Division	
Taylor Kennedy	82 (+11)

### Sunday Game #1, (Stableford), February 19

#### Men's Division

Brock Dowdy	36 points
Austin Barr	35 points
Ryan Mundine	34 points
Matt McElveen	32 points
Brooks Bultemeier	31 points

#### Spring Championship, Feb. 25-26

#### Men's Division

Cameron Chhim	76-71-147 (+5)
Brock Dowdy	77-74-151 (+9)
Hayden Austin	79-75-154 (+12)
Shelby Tucci-	76-78-154 (+12)
Michael Ferrer-	78-76-154 (+12)
Women's Division	
Taylor Kennedy	82-92-174 (+32)

#### Sunday Game #2, Apr. 9 Men's Division

Matt McElveen	70 (-1)
Chris Meyer	72 (+1)
Brock Dowdy	72 (+1)
Brandon O'Kray	73 (+2)
Christian Melson	73 (+2)
Women's Division	
Taylor Kennedy	77 (+6)

### Singles Match Play Champion

Shelby Tucci

#### **Doubles Match Play Champions**

Brandon O'Kray/ Chris Meyer

## FALL 2017

#### Sunday Game #1, Aug. 20th

Men's Division	0
Frank Jones *	71(E)
Women's Division	
Elise Pope	90 (+19)
*won in a playoff	

#### Elaine Cup, Aug. 26-27

Men's Division	
Cameron Chhim	69-68-137 (-5)
Garrett Bernhardt	<mark>70</mark> -73-143 (+1)
Jeremy Forster	72-72-144 (+2)
Colin Meyer	72-72-144 (+2)
Paxton Tidwell	71-74-145 (+3)
Women's Division	
Rachael Kirkpatrick	82-77-1559+17)

To view the 2018 Spring MSU PGA Golf Management Club Tournament page, click the Golf Genius icon!



#### Fall Championship, Sept. 9-10 ......

Men's Division	
Austin Barr*	71-69-140 (-2)
Hayden Austin	70-70-140 (-2)
Keifer Clary	<mark>68</mark> -73-141 ( <b>-1</b> )
Cameron Chhim	72- <mark>70</mark> -142 (E)
Garrett Bernhardt	71-72-143 (+1)
Women's Division	
Elise Pope	90-82-172 (+30)
* won in a playoff	

#### Sunday Game #2, (Stableford), Oct. 1

Men's Division	
Luke Millhouse	35 points
Women's Division	-
Sally Morgan	21 points

Sunday Game #3, (Fourball), Oct. 15 Garrett Bernhardt/Keifer Clary

#### JWA Invitational, October 28-29

#### **Men's Division**

71-73-144 (+4)
76-78-154 (+14)
78-76-154 (+14)
78-78-156 (+16)
78-79-157 (+17)
80-95-175 (+35)

#### **Singles Match Play Champion** Cameron Chhim

**Doubles Match Play Champions** Eric Voss/ Matt Voss

## **SPRING 2018**

#### Cowbell Classic, Jan. 20-21

#### **Men's Division**

Brock Dowdy Matt Voss Ryan Dyleski Cameron Chhim Christian Melson Women's Division Taylor Ross

76-70-146 (+4) 74-74-148 (+6) 74-76-150(+8) 76-75-151 (+9) 76-76-152 (+10)

81-85-166 (+24)

To view tournament pictures, view awards presentaionts, and stay up-to-date on Program and Club events, follow all of our social media outlets!

#### **Bulldog Classic, Feb. 3**

Men's Division

Brock Dowdy	73 (+2)
John David Cunningham	ı 74 (+3)
Tim Trembath	75 (+4)
Paxton Tidwell	76 (+5)
Jesse Grimes	76 (+5)
Women's Division	
Elise Pope	99 (+28)
*Round 2 canceled due	to inclement weather

#### Spring Championship, Feb. 17-18

1en's	Division	
Prock I	Dowdy	

Brock Dowdy	73- <mark>66-139</mark> (-1)
Jesse Grimes	<mark>70</mark> -72-142 (+2)
Austin Barr	73-70-143 (+3)
Derek Sewell	71-72-143 (+3)
Ryan Dyleski	74-70-144 (+4)
Women's Division	
Taylor Ross	81-86-167 (+25)
*Par 69 for Round 2	

#### Sunday Game #1, Feb. 25

Men's Division	
Jesse Grimes	<mark>64</mark> (-5)
John David Cunningham	<mark>67 (-2</mark> )
Matt Voss	<mark>67 (-2</mark> )
Zach Weaver	67 (-2)
Zach Tate	69 (E)
*Par 69	

#### Sunday Game #2, Mar. 4

Men's Division	
Zach Weaver	<mark>69 (-2</mark> )
Brock Dowdy	71(E)
Christian Melson	71(E)
Jackson Koenig	72 (+1)
Ryan Dyleski	72 (+1)
Women's Division	
Elise Pope	83 (+12)
-	

**Singles Match Play Champion** Cameron Chhim

**Doubles Match Play Champions** Brock Dowdy/Zach Weaver





# **Bulldog Family News**

### **Eric Voss receives the Owen Compton Scholarship**

The Owen Compton scholarship was created in memory of one of Honours Golf's finest team members, Owen Compton. A graduate of Mississippi State University, started his career with Honours working his way to the Director of Golf position at Highland Park. Owen passed away in a fatal car accident in 2003 and is survived by his wife and daughter. To continue his legacy within Honours Golf, they established an annual \$2,500 scholarship in Owen's name. The scholarship is awarded to an outstanding PGA Golf Management student who displays all of the characteristics and traits of a team leader.

Eric Voss, a graduating senior, was awarded the scholarship for the 2017 Fall semester. Eric was very engaged in the program, an outstanding player, and worked to help his fellow students. In addition to these attributes, Eric displayed an exceptional work ethic on his internships, thus his selection as the Owen Compton Memorial Scholarship recipient.

### Chad Parker, PGA selected to the Leadership Atlanta Class

Chad Parker, PGA is a 1994 graduate of the PGA Golf Management Program at Mississippi State and is currently the General Manager of East Lake Golf Club in Atlanta, Georgia. Having joined the staff at East Lake as an Assistant Professional, Chad has displayed his leadership ability as he progressed through the ranks to his current position. This leadership ability is confirmed through the multiple section awards he has received through the Georgia PGA Section.

The core of Leadership Atlanta's programming is the signature nine-month, executive-level series. Each year, approximately 80 established leaders are selected to represent a broad crosssection of metro Atlanta. Through retreats, fullday seminars, service projects, discussion groups and community tours, members explore



critical community issues, examine themselves as leaders and build relationships of trust and mutual understanding. Each year's class programming is created and executed by a dedicated team of hundreds of Leadership Atlanta alumni volunteers, under the direction of the organization's staff. Each of these volunteers donates his/her time, experience, and expertise in order to create the best possible experience for class members.



# **Bulldog Family News**

### Joe Assell, PGA Runs The NYC Marathon for PGA REACH

Joe Assell, PGA, a graduate in 1994, is the CEO and co-founder of GolfTEC. Joe, along with six other PGA Professionals, ran in the 2017 NYC Marathon in an effort to raise money for PGA REACH, one of PGA of America's largest charitable foundations. Joe helped raise over \$8,000 for the foundation, crushing his goal of \$2,500. To go along with raising the money, he also ran all 26.2 miles of the marathon in less than four hours.

PGA REACH is the 501(c)(3) charitable foundation of the PGA of America. The mission of PGA REACH is to positively impact the lives of youth, military, and diverse populations by enabling access to PGA Professionals, PGA Sections and the game of golf. To target the three populations, there are three flagship



pillar programs: PGA Junior League, PGA Hope, and PGA Works. PGA Junior League has the goal of making the program accessible to all interested kids in the United States and around the world. PGA HOPE introduces golf to Veterans with disabilities to enhance their physical, mental, social and emotional well-being. The PGA WORKS Fellowship desires to establish a pool of diverse talent that is prepared to ascend to key employment positions within golf.

# Rod Perry, PGA qualified for the PGA Championship at Quail Hollow

Rod Perry, PGA, a 1997 graduate, qualified for and played in the 2017 PGA Championship at Quail Hollow Club in Charlotte, North Carolina, won by Justin Thomas. Rod unfortunately missed the cut, but it is certainly impressive to even make the field for this event. Only the Top 20 out of a 312 man field in the PGA Professional Championship qualify for the PGA Championship. That means only 6% of the PGA Professionals advance, and Rod has done it on four different occasion, including a victory in the 2013 PGA Professional Championship. He continues to make our program proud with his playing career and wish him the best in future events.

### Will Oesterreich, PGA sadly passes away in September 2017

William Jacob "Will" Oesterreich, 30, of Dacula, Georgia, formerly of Springfield, Illinois, died Saturday, Sept. 16, 2017, in Georgia. Will was born March 19, 1987, in Springfield, Illinois, the son of Bill and Jean Schafer Oesterreich. He married Sarah Tostevin on May 16, 2015, in Charleston, South Carolina.

Will was a 2009 graduate of Mississippi State University. Will was a huge fan of the Mississippi State Bulldogs and the Chicago Cubs. Will loved golf and life and will be greatly missed by his friends and family. He had resided in the metro Atlanta area for the last eight years.



# 2017-2018 Graduates

Hayden Austin Assistant Golf Professional Reunion Golf and Country Club Madison, MS **Will Heirtzler** Assistant Golf Professional Mountaintop Golf & Lake Club Cashiers, NC

Garrett Bernhardt Championship Operations Coordinator PGA of America West Palm Beach, FL

Adam Burkett Assistant Golf Professional Vestavia Country Club Birmingham, AL

Keifer Clary Assistant Golf Professional The Honors Course Chattanooga, TN

**Alex Clemens Assistant Golf Professional** Quail Valley Golf Club Vero Beach, FL

Ben Hartsell Assistant Golf Professional Country Club of Jackson Jackson, MS

**Casey Harvey Tournament Manager** Iowa PGA Riverside, IA Austin Henderson Sales Representative Peter Millar Golf Denver, CO

**Rachel Kirkpatrick Assistant Golf Professional** Horseshoe Bend Country Club Roswell, GA

**Tommy LeRoy Assistant Golf Professional** Philadelphia Cricket Club Philadelphia, PA

Hayden Lewis Operations Manager Alabama/NW Florida PGA Birmingham, AL

Justin Masinko Golf Instructor The Swing Factory Roswell, GA

Luke Millhouse Program Assistant, PGA Golf Management Mississippi State University Starkville, MS Sally Morgan Director of Marketing Carolinas PGA Browns Summit, NC

**Elise Pope Assistant Golf Professional** University Golf Course Starkville, MS

Martin Powell Assistant Golf Professional Sea Island Golf Club St. Simons Island, GA

James Rainwater Assistant Golf Professional Windyke Country Club Memphis, TN

Francis Robinson Head Golf Professional Keeton Park Golf Course & Driving Range Dallas, TX

**Eric Voss Assistant Golf Professional** The River Golf Club North Augusta, SC





Team Members (L-R): Brock Dowdy (So.), Cameron Chhim (So.), Austin Barr (So.), Jeff Adkerson, PGA, Keifer Clary (Sr.), Hayden Austin (Sr.), Zach Tate, PGA

## Campbell wins 5th Title

By Bob Denney, PGA of America

Published: Wednesday, November 15, 2017 | 7:22 p.m. PORT ST. LUCIE, Fla. — Whoever was responsible for nicknaming the Campbell University athletic teams of Buies Creek, North Carolina, was a visionary.

Campbell's Camels plodded their way over soggy PGA Golf Club to reach their longawaited oasis of an unprecedented fifth national title in the 16th PGA Jones Cup.

Led by fifth-year senior Kyle Akins of Chesapeake, Virginia, who earned medalist honors at 1-under-par 143, and senior Ian Illig of Homer City, Pennsylvania, who closed with a 71, the Camels finished with a 36-hole total of 591. It was enough to hold off two-time defending champion New Mexico State (595).

Coastal Carolina University was third (597); followed by Florida Gulf Coast University (598), and University of Colorado-Colorado Springs and Sam Houston State University sharing fifth (605).

The "Drive for Five" was Jones' season-long theme as he hosted weekend Tournament Series in Buies Creek to challenge his team. In the end, Camels had the right quintet to journey to Port St. Lucie and tack on the fifth crown to those earned in 2007, '09, '12 and '14. No other PGA Professional Golf Management University has won four.

New Mexico State's Aggies, who had rallied the past two years, but found a sixstroke deficit to start the day insurmountable. Senior Cole Lorenz of Billings, Montana, who had an opening-round 69 in his fourth consecutive Jones Cup appearance, struggled in with a 77.

"I'm proud of the guys," said Aggies PGA Professional Golf Management Program Specialist Josh Salmon. "It's tough to swallow. You don't want the streak to end. It was tough conditions today and Campbell played well. It's tough to not win, but you got to keep your heads high."

All participating universities in the PGA Jones Cup are schools accredited by the PGA of America to offer the PGA Golf Management University Program for aspiring PGA Professionals. There are currently more than 1,800 students enrolled in the program nationwide.

## PAST **CHAMPIONS** 2017 2016 2008 2015 2007 2014 2006 2013 2005 2012 2004 (C) 2011 2003

2010

2002



# **Hail State Updates**



# Mississippi State's season ends with NIT loss

**NEW YORK, NY** - Tony Carr scored 21 points, Shep Garner added 18 while breaking a school record for career 3-pointers and Penn State routed Mississippi State 75-60 in the National Invitation Tournament semifinals Tuesday night.

After the score was tied 9-all, Penn State ended the first quarter on a 9-2 run. From there, the Nittany Lions opened the second with a 19-0 spurt capped by Garner's 3 off an assist from Carr to make it 37-11.

Penn State was up 42-23 at halftime and led by as many as 27. Mississippi State (25-12) wasn't able to get within 20 until there was 7:56 left in the game. Abdul Ado's dunk made it 65-47, but that was the closest the fourth-seeded Bulldogs got before the waning moments.

Mississippi State was led by Tyson Carter's 19 points off the bench. Ado had 13 points and seven rebounds.

### TaxSlayer Bowl: Mississippi State holds off Louisville, Lamar Jackson 31-27

JACKSONVILLE, FL - It likely was Lamar Jackson's farewell performance. It definitely was Keytaon Thompson's coming-out party.

Thompson, a highly touted freshman making his first start in place of injured quarterback Nick Fitzgerald, ran for 147 yards and three touchdowns to help No. 24 Mississippi State beat Jackson and Louisville 31-27 in the TaxSlayer Bowl on Saturday.

"He was phenomenal," Bulldogs interim coach Greg Knox said.

Thompson completed 11 of 20 passes for 127 yards, with an interception. He was more effective as a runner, carrying on 27 of the team's 55 running plays.

"We knew that's what he did best," Knox said. "If you go back and look at Mississippi State over the year, when Nick Fitzgerald ran the ball for a hundred yards, we were winning games. So we knew he had to run the ball today.



"We didn't care if he was a freshman. We didn't care if he was starting his first game. We knew we could scheme some things up for him to run the ball, and he could have success."

Thompson scored twice in the fourth quarter, including a 1-yard plunge with 3:39 remaining that put the Bulldogs (9-4) ahead for good.

Jackson had the Cardinals (8-5) on the move late, but safety Mark McLaurin intercepted his third pass of the game. Jackson got another chance in the waning seconds following a failed, fourth-down conversation. But his desperation heave was batted away in the end zone.



# Hail State Updates



### **MSU Drops Heartbreaker In NCAA** Title Game

**COLUMBUS, OH -** For the Mississippi State women, it was simply not meant to be.

The Bulldogs held a 15-point lead early in the second half but could not hang on, falling 61-58 to Notre Dame in the national championship game at Nationwide Arena.

Arike Ogunbowale hit a three-pointer with 0.1 seconds left to lift the Fighting Irish to their first national championship in 17 seasons.

MSU finished as the national runner-up for a second straight season. The MSU senior class finishes with a school-record 126 victories and four NCAA Tournament appearances.

Both Victoria Vivians and Teaira McCowan were named to the All-Final Four team. Vivians averaged 23 points and 6.5 rebounds, while McCowan averaged 19.5 points and 21 rebounds.

"This is the toughest, most resilient team I have ever seen," MSU head coach Vic Schaefer said. "Their competitive spirit is second to none. Congratulations to Notre Dame, but I am awfully proud of my group. When you are up five with 1:40 to go in the game, it's my job to get them home and I didn't get them home. I will wear that maybe for the rest of my career.

Full article available at HailState.com.

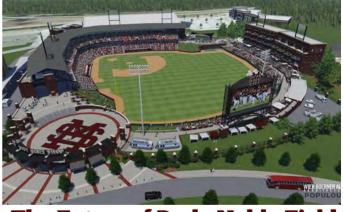


### **Cohen Names Moorhead Head Football Coach**

**STARKVILLE, MS** – Joe Moorhead, the 2016 National Offensive Coordinator of the Year State's powerful offense the past two seasons, has officially been named Mississippi State's 33rd Head Coach in Nov. 2017.

"Joe is a winner, a man of integrity with a blue-collar work ethic and an ability to motivate others that our student-athletes will gravitate to" Cohen said.

"It's a tremendous honor to be a Mississippi State Bulldog," Moorhead said. "I am thrilled to take the reins of an SEC program that has been as successful as this one has the past decade. I look forward to getting to know the young men on our team, hiring a staff and hitting the recruiting trail quickly. My family and I are excited about being a part of the Starkville community. I am and the brains behind Penn grateful to John Cohen and Dr. Mark Keenum for giving me this opportunity, and I am proud to be your coach."



**The Future of Dudy Noble Field** 

In the fall of 2014 Mississippi State Athletics unveiled the Dudy Noble Field Master Plan, an ambitious \$55 million facility project that aims to remake the Bulldogs' home ballpark into the finest in college baseball.

In June 2017, the stadium began its reconstruction and it will be officially finished before the start of the 2018-2019 baseball season.

Full article available at HailState.com

## **New Positions**

Andrew Bradberry, PGA Assistant Golf Professional The Governors Club Brentwood, TN

Jake Fryer, PGA Sales Representative Your Leaderboard Marietta, GA

Marcus Hrpcha, PGA Assistant Golf Professional Sycamore Hills Golf Club Fort Wayne, IN

Seth Merz, PGA Assistant Director of Instruction Carmel Country Club Charlotte, NC

Roger Myers, PGA Assistant Golf Professional Cherokee Town & Country Club Atlanta, GA

**Ryan Oliver, PGA** Assistant Golf Professional Chicago Highlands Club Westchester, IL Scott Primm, PGA Assistant Golf Professional Brentwood Country Club Brentwood, TN

Luke Reilly, PGA Assistant Golf Professional Windyke Country Club Memphis, TN

Adam Scott, PGA Head Golf Professional University Golf Course Starkville, MS

Alec Skidmore, PGA Assistant Golf Professional Minnehaha Country Club Sioux Falls, SD

Taylor Smith, PGA Assistant Golf Professional Brook Hollow Golf Club Dallas, TX

**Dean Tennille, PGA Sales Representative** Mizuno Golf Memphis, TN





## **PGA Golf Management Staff**



Jeff Adkerson, PGA Director PGA Golf Management EMAIL



Zach Tate, PGA Assistant Director PGA Golf Management EMAIL



Luke Millhouse, PGA Program Assistant PGA Golf Management EMAIL



Angie Chrestman Director, Career Center Cooperative Education EMAIL



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