

North Florida PGA Members Earn Prestigious National Awards From The PGA of America



BILL HUGHES, PGA – BILL STRAUSBAUGH AWARD TPC Sawgrass – Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida

Bill Hughes, PGA Master Professional and the General Manager at TPC Sawgrass in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, is the winner of the 2015 Bill Strausbaugh Award, which acknowledges a PGA Professional's outstanding display of integrity, character and leadership in their commitment towards mentoring others within the Association. Hughes, a PGA member for 32 years, and a PGA Master Professional since 1995, has served at TPC Sawgrass for the last nine years.

A two-time winner of the Bill Strausbaugh Award at the North Florida PGA Section level, Hughes has mentored hundreds of aspiring and current PGA Professionals. Hughes has maintained a strong voice on local advisory councils, which includes serving on the North Florida PGA Foundation Board for the past nine years. During his tenure on the Foundation Board, Hughes has aided in transforming it into one of the nation's leading non-profit junior golf organizations. He helped shape the current junior tour, which provides numerous levels at an affordable cost.

Drawing from his own experiences in junior golf as a teenager, Hughes credits the enjoyable and educational benefits of the program as key factors in contributing to the growth of the game of golf. Hughes also serves as a board member of several non-profit organizations in North Florida,

such as Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF), Heal Every Autistic Life (HEAL) and True Blue: Navy Families Benefactors.



RUSS LIBBY, PGA – HORTON SMITH AWARD
Hidden Hills Country Club – Jacksonville, Florida

Russ Libby, PGA General Manager at Hidden Hills Country Club in Jacksonville, Florida, is the recipient of the 2015 Horton Smith Award. The Award recognizes PGA members who exhibit exemplary contributions toward the education of PGA Professionals. Libby has spent 12 of his 23 years as a PGA Professional at Hidden Hills, where he has earned four North Florida PGA (NFPGA) Section Awards, including PGA Professional of the Year (2000), the Bill Strausbaugh Award (2012) and the Horton Smith Award (2014, 2015). He was elected to the NFPGA Hall of Fame in 2011, for his ongoing contributions to the Section.

Libby has served for 19 years continuously on the Chapter, Section and National levels of the PGA of America. He has been the chairman of the Mentoring and Education committees of the Northern Chapter of the NFPGA since 2011, and has held all of the governing chairs at the Chapter and Section level. From a national standpoint, Libby has served on the Board of Control (2007-2011) and is in his first year on the PGA Employment Committee. He also has taken past roles on the PGA Special Awards Committee, Golf 2.0 Strategic Team and PGA PerformanceTrak Committee, among others.



DAVID WINDSOR, PGA – PATRIOT AWARD
Adaptive Golf Academy – Sarasota, Florida

In recognition of his personification of patriotism through the game of golf, David Windsor, PGA Director of Golf at the Adaptive Golf Academy in Sarasota, Florida, was honored with the 2015 Patriot Award. He has instructed adaptive golf classes every week for the past 15 years, designed for physically or cognitively challenged juniors, adults and disabled Veterans. The idea was sparked after being invited to work alongside a local therapist to introduce golf as a means of rehabilitation. Gaining extensive knowledge and program experience in these processes, Windsor developed the Adaptive Golf Academy in 2006, as the education platform to train PGA Professionals (and physical/occupational and recreational therapists) on the underlying attributes of the game.

He also gave instruction on how to conduct community programs with continuity, safety and effectiveness. Ultimately, the developing programs allow for veterans and individuals with mobility and cognitive challenges to enjoy golf and seamlessly assimilate into their communities. The Adaptive Golf Academy often collaborates with PGA REACH, the charitable foundation of the PGA of America. As golf is a proven activity that positively impacts the lives of military veterans nationwide, Windsor was integral in the growth of PGA HOPE (Helping Our Patriots Everywhere), the signature military program of PGA REACH.

Windsor is often responsible for training PGA Professionals in new PGA HOPE markets, to ensure all instructors are comfortable working with Veterans that may be dealing with challenges, such as TBI (Traumatic Brain Injury), PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder), SCI (Spinal Cord Injury) or the loss of limbs. Windsor began the Tampa VA Hospital adaptive golf

programming in 2007, with the help of PGA Professional Ken Juhn of Terrace Hill Golf Club, and has since expanded programming to 11 locations across the country, including eight VA hospitals. Windsor received the North Florida PGA Section (NFPGA) Patriot Award in 2011 and 2014, along with recognition as NFPGA Teacher of the Year in 2008.