

PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference

Key Data Points

- Attended by over 176 unique PGA Golf Professional of the Year winners over the past 8 years.
- A premier location: Bandon Dunes Golf Resort, at no cost to attendees.
- Networking opportunity, reputation of Bandon Dunes Golf Resort and reputation of PGA Magazine Conference Series were top factors that influenced attendance.
- 100% of attendees would recommend the PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference to others who are eligible to attend.



PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference

The PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference was one of the best experiences I've had as a PGA Member. The attendee list allowed for outstanding networking and the opportunity to develop new friendships. I know that I'll stay in touch with many of the PGA Professionals and sponsors that I met during the POY. The discussions were focused and extremely helpful as we all shared our best practices, ideas, challenges and successes. The POY Conference would have been memorable if it was held at a local park, but having it at Bandon Dunes made it unforgettable. I'll encourage every POY winner from our Section to make sure that they attend this POY Conference - especially since our Section covers the costs to attend.

Aaron Krueger, PGA

Director of Golf
Wakonda Club



The Golf Professional of the Year Conference, hosted by *PGA Magazine*, will be one of the most educational and enjoyable conferences you will attend as a PGA Professional. I have implemented many new programs at my facility that I first heard about during the round table discussions held each morning of the conference. These conversations continue out onto the magnificent Bandon Dunes golf courses each afternoon. By the end of the conference, you will have a new network of award-winning golf professionals that you call friends. I have made and received many telephone calls with them after the conference to bounce ideas off of or to learn more about something they are doing at their facility. I would encourage all section Golf Professional of the Year award winners to not pass up this valuable benefit you receive by winning the award.

Chip Essig, PGA

Head Professional
Hickory Stick Golf Club



PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference

Thank you to *PGA Magazine* for the opportunity to attend the 2018 Professional of the Year Conference. It was an amazing week of professional growth and building lifetime friendships. I personally learned a great deal from the partners, moderators and PGA Professionals. It is very rare to have a group of Professionals that are best in class in their Sections to share ideas and best practices together. One key takeaway is the influence that we have to change culture and behaviors at our clubs and industry. Thank you to Bandon Dunes, *PGA Magazine*, and the partners for a special experience from start to finish. I encourage all future Section Professional Award winners to attend the conference. As a PGA Professional, it will be one of the most rewarding experiences of a lifetime. You'll leave refreshed with insights to improve your facility, Section and a network of amazing PGA Professionals.

Matt Borocz, PGA

Assistant General Manager & Director of Golf
TPC Sawgrass



Sawgrass

The 2018 POY Conference at Bandon Dunes was, without question, the single most beneficial event that I have attended in my career as a PGA Professional. The collaboration of PGA Professionals and Industry Leaders in an environment of total immersion created a unique opportunity to dedicate energy to “Moving the Needle.” The format allowed for a productive exchange of ideas in a respectful, yet passionate, arena. The reflection of topics and thoughts prior, during and post-event is the key to the success of the event and the participants. The circle of influence that was enhanced at the event will continue to be enhanced with future collaboration. This continued collaboration has reignited my passion for our industry and my small efforts, when combined with the others in the circle, will “move the needle.” I encourage every award winner to accept the challenge to grow by attending the *PGA Magazine* Conferences.

Carol Rhoades, PGA

Teaching Professional
Cog Hill Golf & Country Club

Cog Hill
GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference

The Professional of the Year Conference at Bandon Dunes was one of my very best few days as a Golf Professional. I felt very honored to be part of it. I have already started to use many of the ideas I took back to my club. The conviviality amongst the POY attendees was a bonus. If invited, this is a can't miss event!

Dick Stewart, PGA

Head Professional
Kalamazoo Country Club



I was absolutely thrilled with the format and forum provided by *PGA Magazine* at the POY Conference. The ability to speak with and spend time with the best of the best PGA Professionals in the country was priceless. I benefited greatly from not only the conversations and networking, but more so the energy that is present in each and every session. I would highly recommend any invitee attend - if you don't, you are certainly missing out on a wonderful opportunity.

Bill Abrams, PGA

Owner
Golf Solutions Academy



The POY Conference is a meeting of some of the best golf minds in the country. It was invaluable as to the camaraderie and new ideas that we all received.

Steve Carney, PGA

Director of Golf/Summer Operations
Holiday Valley Resort



PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference

I thought the POY Conference was one of the best events I've ever attended. The combination of the breakout sessions, camaraderie, and golf was a great experience. To hear the reflections of a successful career by the panelists and the ideas shared by the current class gave me plenty to absorb and figure out how to execute and get better. I was recently at our Awards Banquet and made sure our new award winner knew to be on the lookout for his invitation. Thank you for providing such a forum to enjoy and learn from.

Larry Dornisch, PGA

Head Professional
Muirfield Village Golf Club



Muirfield Village Golf Club

The POY Conference was the highlight of my year. The daily schedule was the perfect mix of networking with the other award winners and great golf. I'm very glad I attended.

Brian Dumler, PGA

Director of Instruction
SentryWorld Golf Club



I thoroughly enjoyed every aspect of the *PGA Magazine* 2016 POY Conference at Bandon Dunes. This conference is a "best of the best" idea exchange between some of the most engaged and talented PGA Professionals in our industry. The *PGA Magazine* staff, in coordination with the sponsors, ensured that every aspect of the Conference is first class. This is a can't miss opportunity for any PGA Section Professional of the Year award winner.

Eric Gilliland, PGA

Head Professional
Audubon Country Club



PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference

The PGA Professional of the Year Conference at Bandon Dunes was the most beneficial conference I've ever attended as a PGA Member. I was able to personally connect with Professionals from across the country that I otherwise would not have had the opportunity to spend time with. All of these professionals have different backgrounds and unique stories of how they have become successful in our industry. The follow up experience came at this years' annual PGA Merchandise Show. While walking the floor, I again crossed paths with at least 12 to 18 of the Professionals I spent time with at the Conference. In past years, we would have just walked past each other not knowing anything about the other. This year we stopped, spoke and quickly reconnected. These relationships are what enable me to grow as a PGA Professional. I would highly recommend that all future PGA Professional of the Year award winners attend the Conference.

Graham Cliff, PGA

Head Professional
Colorado Golf Club



I want to thank you for inviting me to the POY Conference at Bandon Dunes this fall. It was truly a memorable experience and one I will not soon forget. The speakers and breakout sessions were inspiring, to say the least. In addition to the many great ideas that were exchanged, there was the opportunity to meet and spend time with the most influential and successful people in our industry. I certainly recommend this conference to anyone interested in improving his or her career and the opportunity to tee it up on a great golf venue like Bandon Dunes was awesome!

Jim White, PGA

Manager
Pro-Fit Performance Clubfitting



PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference

The *PGA Magazine* Golf Professional of the Year Conference is probably the most rewarding part of being selected by your peers as the Professional of the Year! It's a special opportunity to learn and share ideas with like-minded PGA Professionals in the world class setting of Bandon Dunes. The staff at *PGA Magazine* does a great job of determining relevant subject matter, is well-prepared and does a fantastic job of facilitating the discussion. The "POY" is a must-attend event!

Cary Cozby, PGA

Director of Golf

Southern Hills Country Club



It's hard to put in words just how amazing the entire PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference at Bandon Dunes was and how it continues to give back. I went there with my eyes wide open and had no idea what to expect. It was incredible. The shared knowledge during the breakout sessions, the constant opportunity for networking, the golf events, the vendors, and the housing were beyond my expectations. It has been a few weeks since the conference and I have been in contact with several of the other attendees, including a few of the vendors. As a Section Officer, I went back and presented a plan to the Section Board, which was approved, to allocate travel funds moving forward to allow our section's "Golf Professional of the Year" the opportunity to experience this conference. Thank you, *PGA Magazine*, for continuing to make this valuable conference available!

Pat Gavin, PGA

Director, PGM Program

New Mexico State University



PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference

The Golf Professional of the Conference is the opportunity of a lifetime. Obviously, it's an honor to be named Professional of the Year, but what a treat it is to share it with your fellow PGA peers as well. It was quite honestly the best conference I've ever attended. I've learned so much and made so many lifelong friends at the conference. *PGA Magazine* arranges the greatest speakers in the industry and engages the sponsors to create the best learning experience possible. I can't thank *PGA Magazine* and its staff enough for all of their hard work and dedication. If you ever get the chance to attend - please don't miss it - you will regret it.

Ron Osborne, PGA

Head Professional
Binder Park Golf Course



I was fortunate to be voted as the 2012 Golf Professional of the Year for the Southern Texas PGA Section. I was able to attend the Golf Professional of the Year Conference hosted by *PGA Magazine* that next October at Bandon Dunes. This conference was three of the most beneficial and fulfilling days I have spent in my career. The opportunity to spend time, share ideas, and discuss industry trends with fifty of the top PGA Professionals in the country not only allowed me to grow as a Professional but allowed me to significantly increase the industry contacts we all cherish. The *PGA Magazine* team does an amazing job with every last detail for this incredible trip. Since the Conference, I have encouraged eight different golf groups from our club to experience Bandon Dunes. In addition, our Head Professional went with one of the groups. I would encourage all of our Professionals to experience Bandon Dunes as one of their annual member trips.

Glenn Lee, PGA

General Manager
Escondido Golf & Lake Club



PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference

Very few experiences in my life have exceeded my expectations. The 2018 Professional of the Year Conference accomplished it in every area. The Professionals in attendance were just great to be with, golf with, learn with, and talk with about our industry and game. Excellent discussions and topics- both formal and informal. To have so many shared experiences with so many sides of our business was invaluable. I've never been in a forum with such a mix of Professionals and industry leaders. I would advise that anyone who is fortunate enough to be invited to this conference should attend. Clear your calendar and prepare for a conference that will be like no other you have ever attended. Thank you, *PGA Magazine!*

Doug White, PGA

Director of Instruction
On the Dunes Sports



The *PGA Magazine* POY Conference at Bandon Dunes was a wonderful experience and one I am so happy I took the time to attend. All of the *PGA Magazine* staff members were incredible, and they ran a fantastic conference. All of the presentations were useful, informative, and the round table discussions with your peers were invaluable. Without question, the venue is a special place and a perfect environment to bond with and learn from your peers. The staff at Bandon Dunes were terrific. Having the opportunity to play golf with fellow POY winners and have the time to get to know them better on the course was very special for me. My favorite aspect was being able to meet many Professionals you knew before the Conference only by name and now call them friends. This is a must do adventure for all POY winners. Thank you, *PGA Magazine!*

Heidi Wright-Tennyson, PGA

Director of Golf
Moss Creek Golf Club



PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference

I departed the POY Conference honored, energized and with my tool box filled of all the new best practices I could not wait to implement. I can't thank *PGA Magazine* enough for the invitation.

Keith Clark, PGA

Head Professional
Hillcrest Country Club



I believe the diversity of the PGA Professionals (facility type, size and locations) attending gave me some great insight as to some different ways to look at my business model. The multitude of ideas offered were sometimes out of my normal train of thought, which I believe was extremely beneficial.

Scott Jenkins, PGA

Head Professional
Lawrence Park Golf Club



Attending the POY conference was a three-fold experience: Inspirational, informative, and "making new friends," or getting to know acquaintances much better through a round of golf or sharing a meal. One departs with a feeling of having taken part in a most worthwhile accomplishment!

Nelson Long, PGA

Head Professional
Century Country Club



CENTURY
COUNTRY CLUB

PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference

The POY Conference is a high-powered exchange of ideas and networking with some of the best minds in the industry. It is a “must attend” event for every Golf Professional of The Year winner, not only to learn from the best, but to share your expertise with others while forging lasting relationships.

Larry Drehs, PGA

Head Professional
Hyde Park Golf & Country Club



Being honored as the Professional of the Year is an amazing recognition, which can only be topped off by an invitation to the POY conference at Bandon Dunes for a week of unforgettable golf, round table discussions and fireside chats with the nation’s best-of-the-best! Thanks to *PGA Magazine*, I enjoy enduring memories and cherish life-long friends with whom I can call and get advice any time I need to.

Ed Winiecki, PGA

General Manager
Baylands Golf Links



If you are into spending time with the brightest minds in the PGA, spending time at a world class golf resort, and spending time with the most innovative golf product specialists, then the *PGA Magazine* POY Conference is a must attend.

Tim Basel, PGA

Head Professional
Reunion Golf & Country Club



PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference

Should you be fortunate enough to win your Section's most prestigious award, I would highly recommend attending the Annual Golf Professional of the Year Conference. As a Professional, who is well aware that I have much to learn, this conference provides a wealth of knowledge dealt out by the best minds in the business. The best thing is that the learning did not stop when we left Bandon, as the connections built provide a network to reach out to whenever there is a need to bounce an idea off someone. I can't foresee any situation in which someone in this network cannot provide a perspective from first-hand experience. Congratulations on winning this award, now do yourself a favor and book this trip to Bandon.

Kevin McKinley, PGA

Director of Golf and Ski Operations
Treetops Resort



The 2014 POY gathering at Bandon Dunes was truly a gathering of some of the PGA of America's most talented, experienced, and humble PGA Professionals. A panel of six national POY recipients responded to a number of relevant lifestyle and experiential questions to launch this year's Conference. Breakout sessions included best practices relative to Growth of the Game, "Rainmaking," and Special Events. Highlights of the conference were giving all attendees at POY commemorative coin and special recognition of the national 2014 POY honoree- Ray Cutright from Idle Hour Club in Macon, Georgia. Finally, Wesley Baugess (Folds of Honor Foundation recipient) shared her ability to summon strength and courage to raise two young daughters following the death of her husband, Major Larry Baugess, in Pakistan in 2007.

Brent Krause, PGA

General Manager
Wynlakes Golf & Country Club



PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference

I was fortunate enough to have the great opportunity to attend the *PGA Magazine* Professional of the Year Conference at Bandon Dunes Resort. The POY Conference was by far the best event I've attended professionally in my 20-plus years of being in the golf industry. The caliber of PGA Professionals attending, the *PGA Magazine* staff, the guest panel of PGA Professionals we're second to none. The Conference was an exceptional learning experience with a wealth of ideas that will enhance my career as a PGA Professional and elevate the customer base at our facility. I would highly recommend any of my peers who receive this prestigious invitation to please attend, as it's the professional development opportunity of a lifetime. Those contemplating on not attending will be missing out on a red-carpet experience like no other. Kudos to *PGA Magazine*!

Brian Tolnar, PGA

Director of Golf
Mill Creek Metroparks



I want to thank you and the entire team at *PGA Magazine* for putting together the recent Golf Professional of the Year Conference in Bandon. I can honestly say it was one of the most informative, most transparent and most significant dialogues I have had in the industry in years. We started under the cover of darkness in the early morning, and the great sharing of ideas and best practices continued all the way to the late evening fire pit gatherings. From dawn to dusk, literally, it was fantastic! To have the current GPOY and sitting PGA President in attendance just added to the stamp of approval for me. I have years-worth of material to bring back to Huntingdon Valley. Thanks again.

Ian Dalzell, PGA

Head Professional
Huntingdon Valley Country Club



PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference

Being one of the younger Professionals at the POY Conference, it was an extremely rewarding experience for me to network and share ideas with the top PGA Professionals from around the country. The staff at *PGA Magazine* were outstanding and put on a first-class conference.

Josh Tremblay, PGA

Head Professional
Springfield Golf & Country Club



I never imagined that I would gain such knowledge and insight from all the former and current Golf Professionals of the Year. I would encourage all Golf Professionals of the Year winners across every Section of the PGA to attend this wonderful event. Besides the great program that *PGA Magazine* puts together, you'll make so many new friends that will last a lifetime.

Leslie Core-Drevecky, PGA

Head Professional
Murphy Creek Golf Course



Being able to meet and learn from the top Golf Professionals in the industry is an experience that is invaluable and to do it at Bandon Dunes was a true bonus!

Michael Summa, PGA

Director of Golf
The Stanwich Club



PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference

The POY Conference is a fantastically unique experience that collects the top performers in each Section of the PGA of America complemented by a panel of National POY award winners. This formula creates very applicable topics of discussion, sharing 'Best Practices' by the best Golf Professionals in our business. The break-out sessions challenge you to become a better individual as well as a better Golf Professional, while building friendships and contacts from all over the country. I strongly recommend each POY award winner to make this a priority.

Tim Frazier, PGA

Head Professional
Sycamore Hills Golf Club



The 2018 Professional of the Year Conference at Bandon Dunes was a once-in-a-lifetime experience! The ideas and networking that I received will be very beneficial to me and my facility for many years to come. The small group discussions with all the great Professionals from across the country were a fantastic way to get and share new ideas in the golf business. Also, I can't imagine a better venue than Bandon Dunes, the courses and facilities were second to none! I would highly recommend any future POY winners to attend this once-in-a-lifetime event!

Dennis Fruchtl, PGA

Head Professional
Riverside Golf Club



PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference

I have gone to many educational seminars in my 34-year golf career and the PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference is by far the best I have ever attended. The networking and educational opportunities, as well as team building and overall camaraderie, are unmatched in the industry. This is possible due to the incredible attention to detail provided by the *PGA Magazine* staff. I am sure all of the invitees are appreciative of the opportunity to attend the conferences, especially PGA Members like myself, who don't have time to be with other Professionals during our busy seasons. Thank you for a great job and extraordinary experiences and memories.

Hill Herrick, PGA

Head Professional
The Greenbrier



My experience at the POY Conference at Bandon Dunes was absolutely great. I valued and enjoyed the opportunity to meet and explore the minds of the best PGA Professionals. I thought the programing and breakout sessions were outstanding. I also loved the chance to discuss our business in small groups or one-on-one. I would be the first to recommend to any PGA Professional that has the opportunity to attend to do so. I will accept their thanks later!

Dean Hurst, PGA

Head Professional
Bayville Golf Club



PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference

he POY Conference is the most beneficial educational and idea sharing opportunity that I attend. The breakout sessions, product testing and product knowledge from the various sponsors is priceless. Playing golf at the No. 1 golf resort in the world, with the top PGA Professionals from around the country, is second to none. Of all the great opportunities that we are exposed to during the Conference, the No. 1 takeaway of mine is the networking of the Professionals. It is so inspiring to meet, watch, and learn from them on how they represent themselves, their facilities and the game. This is what makes the PGA Professionals so valuable to our industry. The POY Conference is the highlight of my year!

Jack Barber, PGA

Head Professional
Meridian Hills Country Club



The 2016 Professional of the Year Conference was a great opportunity for me to meet, share, and network with some of the brightest and most respected PGA Golf Professionals in the industry. I truly benefited personally and professionally from the sessions and the interaction with my peers throughout the week. I was so impressed with the Conference that I have recommended to our PGA Section Executive Director and Section Board, that they strongly encourage and support future Professional of the Year recipient's attendance at the conference.

Jeff Hollis, PGA

Golf Courses Director
Mangrove Bay Golf Course

Mangrove Bay

PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference

The PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference provided a phenomenal experience at one of the great golf resorts. Wonderful sharing of ideas and thoughts by the top Professionals in the county.

Bruce Carson, PGA

Head Professional
Onwentsia Club



The POY Conference is an opportunity that does not come along often in one's career. To spend time with fellow PGA Members that represent the "Best of the Association," is humbling and exhilarating all at the same time. The openness and camaraderie are way beyond expectations. By attending, you have created a bond with everyone in attendance.

Dennis Johnsen, PGA

General Manager/Head Professional
Pine Meadow Golf Club



The POY Conference hosted by *PGA Magazine* was the most eye-opening experience of my professional career. Having knowledge and experience being shared openly from some of the greatest minds in golf was simply priceless. The takeaways from the conference have given me new energy and passion to lead my facility into the future.

Chad Ayres, PGA

Head Professional
Hillcrest Golf & Country Club



PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference

The PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference hosted by *PGA Magazine* at Bandon Dunes was one of the greatest experiences of my professional career. Spending quality time, in this setting, with outstanding PGA Professionals leaves you with a renewed perspective of the impact we have with our members/customers, our staff, and the communities we serve. I left this conference with numerous ideas to implement in our operation, and created many new friendships that will last a lifetime!

Jeff Adkerson, PGA

Director of Golf & PGA Golf Management
Mississippi State University



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UNIVERSITY™

To be able to sit in a room filled with the best PGA Professionals in their Sections that are voted on by their peers, six National POYs, the staff of *PGA Magazine* and the corporate sponsors is truly amazing. The information that is gained sitting in breakout sessions or social settings that you can bring back and put into place can only benefit you and your facility.

Gideon Smith, PGA

Head Professional
Quincy Country Club



PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference

It was my greatest professional honor to be recognized as the 2010 NCPGA Golf Professional of the Year. One thing I didn't anticipate was being invited to the PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference. The relationships made and the lessons learned have helped me be more successful at work and will be with me the rest of my career. The POY Conference is a career highlight for me. Thank you, *PGA Magazine* team.

Gus Jones, PGA

Head Professional
Martis Camp Club



The opportunity to attend the POY Conference was definitely well worth the time. No other place in the world can a group of Professionals meet together from all over the county to share their best practices with each other. I have tried to implement some of the ideas from the conference at my facility and feel they have added to our success.

Jon Schneider, PGA

Head Professional
Schneider's Bluff at West Point



PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference

I had an amazing experience at the Golf Professional of the Year Conference! I can't think of anything that I would do differently. I learned more in four days than I learned all year. You put on a great program for us and I was very lucky to be able to attend and meet so many great people. You and your staff should be commended as every detail was perfect. I was very proud of how well you represent us and the PGA.

Mike Montgomery, PGA

Head Professional
Sahalee Country Club



I thought the POY Conference was a once in a lifetime opportunity for me. There were so many ideas from so many outstanding Professionals that I could never get that from any educational seminar. So many great Professionals from a broad selection of clubs and courses. No two clubs are the same in any way. That's what made it's information unbelievable.

Richard Specht, PGA

Head Professional
Timberline Golf Course



PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference

PGA Magazine did an outstanding job comprising a comprehensive event that was truly beneficial to me and my facility. Since the conference, I have put several best practices in place that were shared at the Conference. I have been in contact with the 2014 Dixie Section PGA Golf Professional of the Year to make sure he attends the conference this year. I told him he can't afford to miss out!

Casey Smith, PGA

Director of Golf
Northriver Yacht Club



What an awesome experience! An absolute must for every award winner. The exchange of valuable information, the professional networking and the new friendships made all make the POY Conference one of the more valuable experiences of my PGA career. The four days playing golf at Bandon Dunes was just the icing on the cake.

Gary Sassu, PGA

Head Professional
Chippanee Country Club



PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference

The PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference at Bandon Dunes was truly the best conference I have been to as a PGA Member. The three days spent with the other award winners and the staff of *PGA Magazine* provided great ideas, camaraderie, and valuable insight into our unique industry. This is a can't miss experience for anyone earning the invitation!

Brian Bishop, PGA

Head Professional
Maple Bluff Country Club



The Professional of the Year Conference and golf at Bandon Dunes was the greatest golf experience of my life! I have been able to bring back and implement tips from the best in the business on merchandising, customer service, junior golf programming and life lessons that have had a tremendous positive impact on not only the bottom line, but also the excitement level at our golf course! We are the place to play! The POY Conference is the greatest conference in the golf business.

Joe Grohman, PGA

Head Professional
Navy Golf Course



PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference

had high hopes for the POY Conference after speaking with my peers and friends who had attended. Even with those expectations, the week surpassed them easily. Bandon is a special place and I can't think of a better home for this annual celebration of the PGA Professional. The *PGA Magazine* staff had every detail planned so well. They provided a great environment for networking and catching up with old friends or making new ones. I look forward to attending at a future date as my career progresses and will promote the opportunity to future POY honorees from the Gateway Section.

Brett Moomey, PGA

Head Professional
Old Hickory Golf Club



The POY Conference at Bandon Dunes was one of the highlights of my career. Having the opportunity to interact with my peers from around the country in group discussions and on those wonderful golf courses was something I'll never forget. The conference is a must for those fortunate enough to be selected, and I will strongly encourage future POY winners from the Carolinas Section to attend.

Jeff Dotson, PGA

Director of Golf
Country Club of North Carolina



PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference

The PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference brings the best Golf Professionals together to discuss a variety of subjects. It is a great way to experience other Professionals thoughts and opinions regarding the state of the industry, and the very real issues each of us face at our own facility. A wonderful week to make new friends, renew old friendships and gather with PGA Professionals who have chosen to be contributors and not consumers.

Chad Seymour, PGA

Head Professional
Westfield Group Country Club



The PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference was a terrific experience in every way. Having the opportunity to share and learn from the distinguished group of PGA award winners was a career highlight for me. Exchanging successful programs and practices with PGA Professionals and guests on and off the golf course was a wonderful reminder of the excellence, support and friendship that defines the PGA. I hope sharing these experiences with my community of golfers will benefit the game, the golfers and the industry. I want to express my gratitude to Rick Summers and the *PGA Magazine* staff for being the voice of the PGA in sharing and promoting our PGA Mission, PGA Principles and PGA Programs with his *PGA Magazine* publication.

Dick Wagley, PGA

Professional Emeritus
Indian Hill Club



PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference

My time at the Conference was an extremely rare opportunity. To be able to converse with many diverse and talented PGA Professionals from around the country was tremendous. Several of their ideas that I have implemented have allowed me to become a better PGA Professional for my Club.

Dan Antonucci, PGA

Head Professional
Niagara Frontier Country Club



POY is one of those must-do conferences. To build life-long relationships, gather operational information and to interact with some of the best PGA Professionals in our industry is something that cannot be quantified. For those that are lucky enough to be invited for their own contributions to the game of golf, the Conference is another invaluable tool that you should use when presented that opportunity. Thank you to *PGA Magazine* for affording us this great and honored Conference.

Greg Mason, PGA

Head Professional
The Lodge at Spirit Hollow



The PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference allowed for high-level discussion and idea-sharing amongst some of the most highly regarded Professionals in our industry. It has given me perspective that will benefit my facility, my association and myself.

Ed Kageyama, PGA

General Manager
Kaanapali Golf Courses



PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference

The Professional of the Year Conference was a great experience. It is always great to get together with some of the greatest minds in golf and take their ideas back to your club. I just wish every PGA Member could be a part of this great get together!

Joe Boros, PGA

Director of Golf
Treesdale Golf & Country Club



The Golf Professional of The Year Conference is one of the most rewarding experiences I have had as a PGA Professional. To interact with fellow Professionals and vendors at Bandon Dunes, a premier resort destination, can't be put into words. The relationships built over four days will last a lifetime. Sharing ideas with the best-of-the-best and to be able to bring those ideas back to your club is priceless.

Jon Fowler, PGA

Head Professional
Oswego Country Club



The pride and passion of the Professionals I attended with and their desire to continue to improve themselves and their careers is the focus I took home for 2015.

Gordon Johnson, PGA

Head Professional
Houston Country Club



PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference

I would like to encourage every Section Professional of the Year award recipient to make every effort to attend *PGA Magazine's* annual conference at Bandon Dunes. All who attend will be rewarded by new friendships, new ideas and some help identifying trends in our profession that we hold so dear. On top of *PGA Magazine's* superb facilitating and hosting of this event, if you have not seen Bandon Dunes on the Oregon coast you must. Put this conference at the top of your "not to be missed" list if you're fortunate enough to be awarded this top honor and gain an invitation.

Jerry Mowlds, PGA

Master Professional
Pumpkin Ridge Golf Club



My experience at the 2014 PGA Professional of the Year Conference was truly enlightening. To be surrounded by 40 leaders in our industry was incredibly valuable. The leadership, knowledge, and experience at the Conference was invigorating to my career. In fact, many of the lessons learned and stories shared have already allowed me to share them with my General Manager and several things have been instituted at Brookside G. & C.C. An experience I wish all fellow PGA Members could share in. *PGA Magazine* did a tremendous job. Many thanks go out to them and the staff at Bandon Dunes.

Brad Zeitner, PGA

Head Professional
Brookside Golf & Country Club



PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference

The trip to Bandon in 2012 was in a word – euphoric! The opportunity to rub shoulders, converse and exchange ideas with many of the greatest minds in the business and game resonates to this day as the highlight trip of my 40-year PGA Professional career. Meeting and speaking with Mike Keiser was a treat indeed, but I'm most grateful for the sponsors who made it all possible--Broken Earth Winery, FootJoy, and in particular, Rick Summers and his fellow *PGA Magazine* staff members. It was incredibly well choreographed from stem to stern!

Bobby Baldwin, PGA

Head Professional
Winchester Country Club



This past October was my first opportunity to attend the POY Conference at Bandon Dunes. It was an educational and networking experience beyond my already high expectations. The quality of the attendees, varied educational format, and choice of topics kept a high level of attention and involvement. I certainly went away with more than I brought to the conference. On top of the educational experience I went away understanding why the facilities and courses at Bandon Dunes are so highly regarded.

Mike Schultz, PGA

Founding Partner
Four Under Golf Partners



PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference

The Golf Professional of the Year conference at Bandon Dunes has had a tremendous effect on my career. I was lucky enough to hear and share ideas with 40 of the best PGA Professionals throughout the country, and we still keep an email chain going to this day. The ideas, experiences and friends acquired at the Conference are literally priceless.

Andy Brock, PGA

Head Professional
Metuchen Golf & Country Club



The *PGA Magazine* POY Conference is truly a bucket list item. What more could you ask for than fantastic educational topics, interesting breakout sessions, golf at Bandon Dunes and leisure time with your peers? If you haven't been to a *PGA Magazine* conference, the attention to detail is spot on and the venues are fantastic. The friendships made and the lessons learned have certainly been instrumental in my growth as a Professional and an enhanced value to my employer.

Randy Towner, PGA

General Manager
Firekeeper Golf Course



PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference

The PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference is a wonderful experience that no one should miss if they have the opportunity to attend. Everything there is absolutely perfect. The entire facility to all the meetings could not be better. And what a group of knowledgeable Professionals that are so willing to share their thoughts, ideas, experiences and wisdom. It is impossible to leave there and return home without a ton of enthusiasm, energy and lots of new friendships.

Rick Reed, PGA

Head Professional
Oaks Country Club



Attending the Professional of the Year conference at Bandon Dunes was one of the highlights of my professional career. The networking and educational opportunities were outstanding, and I learned a number of things that I took back to my facility that will help our operation improve. The facility and golf courses were phenomenal, and I was able to play a couple of the newer courses, which was important to me. This allowed me to help my members who often inquire about a trip to the Pacific Northwest.

Marc DeWall, PGA

Director of Golf
The Clubs of Cordillera Ranch



PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference

The POY Conference held last October at Bandon Dunes Resort was a great experience for me, as I was able to connect with some of our best PGA Professionals in the country. The breakout sessions were exceptionally beneficial in filtering the many options open to us to improve our facilities and our responsibility as PGA Professionals. Thanks for a great conference!

Rob Steiner, PGA

Head Professional
Highland Park Golf Club



It was a unique networking and mentorship experience to learn from each other. While we all strive to be tuned into key industry practices and trends that promise advantages in the delivery of our products and services, to be exposed to the art of our business was the intangible takeaway. I know the students I currently serve witnessed a rebirth of energy and passion when I returned to the classroom, and I often share the lessons I learned from our association's top Professionals as a method to pay this experience forward.

Chris Cain, PGA

Golf Management Program Director
UNLV



PGA Golf Professional of the Year Conference

The PGA Professional of the Year Conference was an exceptional experience. I was able to connect with PGA Professionals I might not otherwise have the chance to meet and the quality of Professionals at the Conference was incredible. The power in the room and wonderful ideas that were shared were amazing. That amazing couple of days will not only benefit me professionally for years to come, but my club as well.

Casey Brozek, PGA

Head Professional
Crystal Lake Country Club

