

PGA Teacher of the Year Conference

Key Data Points

- Recognition of the best of the best teachers.
- 65 award-winning PGA Teachers of the Year attended one of the four annual events (national and three one-day regionals).
- 100% of attendees would recommend the PGA Teacher of the Year Conference to others eligible to attend.
- Networking opportunity, opportunity to learn and exchange of information were the top three factors that influenced PGA Teacher of the Year award winners to attend.



PGA Teacher of the Year Conference

I wanted to say thank you for putting on an outstanding PGA Teacher of the Year Conference. I enjoyed all aspects of the conference. The best part was the afternoon outdoor instruction sessions. I have been saying for years, other teachers want to watch other teachers in action. Getting to spend time with everyone, learning new ideas and hearing about the PGA was well worth the trip. You all put a great deal of hard work to make this happen and I wanted to say thank you for this. I hope that others will follow.

Mark Sheftic, PGA

Director of Instruction
Merion Golf Club



Thanks for putting together such a great experience for us at Pinehurst for the PGA Teacher of the Year Conference. I chose to attend because I felt that it would be a really good investment in time and expense. It was so much more than a good investment. For me it was a venue to get back engaged in full time instruction after a two-year stint as general manager. Being around that many smart and successful coaches was invaluable. I got equal mixes of affirmation for what I do and new ways to say and present playing golf. And, oh yeah, those guys are all great individuals, open to share and help. There was a lot of fun as well as information. Let your team know how much I appreciate all of your efforts. It is not easy to pull something together away from your own facilities, but everything went well and was first class.

Paul Hooser, PGA

Director of Instruction
Hillcrest Golf & Country Club



PGA Teacher of the Year Conference

I was not sure exactly what to expect before attending the PGA Teacher of the Year Conference. This conference was fantastic! I was very impressed with how well organized it was. The *PGA Magazine* team did a superb job of moderating and engaging everyone to participate. The topics were great and both of you did such a great job of staying to topic. Teaching is a funny thing, it could have turned into big debate and a lot of disagreement, but it did not because of the leadership of your team. I was very impressed with your operation as a whole, it is comprised of much more than I thought. This conference has inspired me to keep learning and to keep growing so I can attend again in the future. Congratulations!

Marty Nowicki, PGA

Head Instructor
Turning Stone Resort

Turning Stone
RESORT | CASINO

I want to thank you for the invitation and for putting on the PGA Teacher of the Year Conference last week in Pinehurst. During the conference, I connected with some old friends and met several new friends. What a great group of golf professionals and teachers. The biggest value to me is the sharing of ideas that we can all take back to our facilities to help make our students better. Thank you to Mike Malaska, Lou Guzzi, Mike Bender and Eric Johnson for sharing your ideas. Thank you to the sponsors for providing the opportunity and showing us your products and services. Thank you to Eric Alpenfels and the staff at Pinehurst for providing first class facilities. Thank you to your team for leading some great discussions.

Ed Oldham, PGA

Director of Instruction
The Ranch Country Club



PGA Teacher of the Year Conference

The PGA Teacher of the Year Conference is a must attend for everyone who received the award. You learn tremendously, and the networking is priceless.

Claude Brousseau, PGA

Director of Instruction
Claude Brousseau Golf



The PGA TOY Conference was a first-class opportunity for me to interact with my fellow teachers. I enjoyed myself very much and would recommend it to any professional who wins the award.

Mike Brisbane, PGA

Director of Instruction
Azalea City Golf Club



The PGA Teacher of the Year Conference is a second to none experience. The camaraderie and storytelling amongst my fellow professionals made it an experience I will remember the rest of my life. I would recommend this conference to any professional for the networking and education. How often do you get 35+ of the top teachers in the same room?

Noah Horstman, PGA

Director of Instruction
Beechmont Country Club



PGA Teacher of the Year Conference

What a terrific experience at the PGA Teacher of the Year Conference! We probably already know each other through social media or through the PGA, but to see, meet, and gain personalities face to face is priceless. This brings the relationships and conversations much closer together. I love learning and communicating. Thank you everyone included and involved!

Kathy Gildersleeve-Jensen, PGA

Director of Instruction
Golf Results Now Academy



The PGA Teacher of the Year Conference was by far one of the BEST conferences / seminars that I have attended. Sharing thoughts, ideas, techniques, challenges, solutions and connecting with some of my mentors and peers was priceless! The opportunity to meet others in our industry is of great value to me. Thank you, *PGA Magazine* !

Helen Kurtin, PGA

Director of Instruction
St. Louis Golf Academy



The PGA TOY Conference is a great opportunity to rub shoulders and share best practices with some of the brightest minds in the industry. That it all happens at a resort like Pinehurst makes it a can't-miss event! Thank you very much for all of your efforts in making the conference a big success.

Shawn Hester, PGA

Teaching Professional
Charles River Country Club



PGA Teacher of the Year Conference

Thanks to everyone for putting together three great days of learning and sharing at the PGA Teacher of the Year Conference. Really fun to be around professionals who have a passion to teach our game and who understand without those who love to teach there will be no long-term growth in golf and the many other things it teaches. Can't say enough about what *PGA Magazine* does to make sure the PGA professional has the opportunity to develop a long-term learning and educational experience, so they can grow and continue to reach for higher goals!

Ray Cutright, PGA

Director of Golf Operations
Idle Hour Club



Thank you for pulling this Regional Teacher of the Year event together. The Minnesota section is struggling to get groups of teachers together. This was the best in the last 10 years. Thank you again.

Ryan Bonser, PGA

Golf Instructor
Ryan Bonser Golf

Ryan Bonser PGA
Golf School

Thank you so much for the organization of the PGA Teacher of the Year Conference. It was great to meet everyone and share ideas over a couple of days with some of the best golf instruction minds in the game. I came away with some valuable information that will help my teaching in the future. I felt the schedule and flow was spot on. As well, it was really nice to get a chance to meet my peers and here what they had to say on the variety of subjects.

Tim Cusick, PGA

Director of Instruction
Four Seasons Resort and Club



FOUR SEASONS
RESORT AND CLUB
DALLAS AT LOS COLINAS

PGA Teacher of the Year Conference

I didn't know what to expect from the PGA Teacher of the Year Conference before attending, but I'm so glad I went. Being able to validate ideas and learn what other professionals are doing was priceless. The discussions being led by the industries best really had everyone involved and able to share ideas. I can't wait to go back.

Jeff Goble, PGA

Instructor/Owner

Jeff Goble Golf

Jeff Goble Golf

I just wanted to thank the *PGA Magazine* staff for a wonderful PGA Teacher of the Year Conference at Pinehurst this week. You guys were tremendously organized, and things went so well with the great interaction you all created from everyone. You didn't allow anyone to sit there and not contribute and this led to a better flow than a teaching summit, where the experts dominate the scene.

Dan Kochevar, PGA

Director of Instruction

The Players Service at Oak Brook Golf Club



The inaugural PGA Teacher of the Year Conference was truly an amazing experience. Instructors both young and old learned a lot. The sharing of ideas and learning from each other was priceless. I hope I get to attend in the future!

Sarah Bidney, PGA

Director of Instruction

Wakonda Club



PGA Teacher of the Year Conference

This was a fantastic PGA Teacher of the Year Conference. Once again *PGA Magazine* outdid itself. I firmly believe they do more for the PGA Professional than anyone. I hope to somehow slip through the cracks and get invited back next year. This conference was by far the best conference that I have attended since the *PGA Magazine* Clubfitting Conference in Cancun!

Kevin Weeks, PGA

Director of Instruction
Cog Hill Golf and Country Club



It was a privilege to be around 'the best of the best' when it comes to instruction! I am grateful to have been invited to the PGA Teacher of the Year Conference and even more thankful to meet new people, hear new ideas and develop new friendships. Thank you for all your hard work and commitment to growing our game! I hope I am invited every year as this will be one of my "must do's" on my calendar!

Brian Jacobs, PGA

Director of Instruction
Brian Jacobs Golf



I was honored to be invited to the first annual PGA Teacher of the Year Conference in Pinehurst. I gladly accepted and had a fantastic experience. I love sharing ideas with fellow teachers who are as crazy and as committed as me to teaching golf the best I can. We shared great ideas and told a lot of tall tales at dinner. Highly recommend! I hope I am invited back.

Charlie King, PGA

Director of Instruction
Reynolds Lake Oconee



PGA Teacher of the Year Conference

It was great to see so many of the major players in the instruction world come together at the PGA Teacher of the Year Conference. Being a fly on the wall of the room with so many great minds and successful instructors will prove valuable for years to come. Add in Pinehurst as a host and you have a first-class event. Thanks again *PGA Magazine* !

Brian Rogish, PGA

Director of Instruction
The Golf Club at Lansdowne



Thanks for a great week at Pinehurst for the PGA Teacher of the Year Conference. What a privilege it was to participate! You guys did a great job. It was first class. I am a better pro from having attended.

Todd Casabella, PGA

Owner/Instructor
Golf Channel academy with Todd Casabella/Barrington Golf Club



I was very impressed with the way the PGA Teacher of the Year Conference was run, not to mention the attitude of all who were there. It was a tremendous sharing experience! Thank you so much for asking me to be a part of the conference. I meant what I said at the dinner. You all did a great job. That is a hard group to control. You set up the ground rules and kept it under control. I love to hear what others are doing and if I have a question the ability to ask it in person. I also liked having other teachers to be able to see what I am doing and either like it or challenge it. That is the best way to learn and this conference fostered that environment.

Mike Malaska, PGA

2011 National PGA Teacher of the Year
Director of Instruction
Malaska Golf



PGA Teacher of the Year Conference

Thank you for a great PGA Teacher of the Year Conference! I was honored to be included with such a great group of people. First class job!

Jon Sinclair, PGA

Director of Golf
Sinclair's Golf Training Center



I enjoyed my participation in the inaugural PGA Teacher of the Year Conference at Pinehurst. Bringing some of the brightest minds in golf together is certainly a grand idea.

John Hobbins, PGA

Director of Instruction
Greenside Golf Academy at Trinity Centre



Cannot thank you all enough for inviting me to be a part of the PGA Teacher of the Year Conference. I appreciated the opportunity and the ability to connect with many new teachers that I had not met. You guys do a fantastic job making it all run smoothly, so thank you for your hard work.

Mike Bender, PGA

Master Instructor
Mike Bender Golf Academy



Thanks for great week at the PGA Teacher of the Year Conference. The event was well run, and the moderators did a great job of sparking discussion.

Jeff Warne, PGA

Director of Golf
The Bridge



PGA Teacher of the Year Conference

So humbled to be a part of the PGA Teacher of the Year Conference. Thank you to all!

Brent Snyder, PGA

Owner/Instructor
Brent Snyder Golf



As a PGA Member, the Teacher of the Year Conference was the most personally and professionally rewarding complete experience I have had as a teacher of the game of golf. To every sponsor, the organizers of the event *PGA Magazine*, and all my fellow PGA members in attendance, including the four National PGA Teacher of the Year winner and the staff at Pinehurst, thank you!

Mark Egly, PGA

Owner
Mark Egly Sports & Des Moines Driving Range

MARK EGLY SPORTS

It was a great privilege for me to spend time with you all at the PGA Teacher of the Year Conference! I have great respect for each of you, and hope we cross paths again in the future. I would like to thank Mike Bender, Mike Malaska, Lou Guzzi, and Eric Johnson for their time and expertise given this week. It was a wonderful opportunity to hear different ideas that have led to your success as coaches. A special thank you to Ryan, Patrick, Bryant, and Don for putting together such a first-class experience. All your hard work to prepare and execute this week did not go unnoticed. Last but not least, thank you to all the sponsors and Pinehurst for allowing us to take part in such a special week.

Ryan E. Martin, PGA

Director of Instruction
Sunset Country Club



PGA Teacher of the Year Conference

What a gift to be able to spend time with others and discuss ideas. This Teacher of the Year Conference also challenged us to look at ourselves and see how we can continue to grow as well!

Becky Dengler, PGA

Teaching Professional
Ed Oliver Golf Club



Wow - thank you to everyone that had a hand in putting this PGA Teacher of the Year Conference together. A special thank you to Ryan, Patrick, Bryant, and Don for putting together a great event, I will remember this event as a highlight in my career. Thank you, Mike Bender, Mike Malaska, Lou Guzzi, and Eric Johnson, you guys really made this old junior golf guy feel welcomed. Can't wait to visit you at your facilities. To all the award winners thank you for sharing your expertise.

Chuck Scoggins, PGA

Director of Junor Golf
Hamilton Mill Golf Club



Thank you to *PGA Magazine* , sponsors of the week and the PGA of America. What a terrific week of learning and fellowship among some of the best teachers in the country! It was an absolutely privilege to attend the PGA Teacher of the Year Conference and spend time with so many bright and enthusiastic teacher/coaches. For anyone interested in helping people play their best golf, this conference should never be missed.

Ed Ibarguen, PGA

Director of Golf/General Manager
Duke University Golf Club



PGA Teacher of the Year Conference

The PGA Teacher of the Year Conference was nothing short of fantastic. To have the ability to not only listen to, but talk with, the best of the best. Fantastic! If given the opportunity I would attend every year!

Dennis Biedenstein, PGA

Director of Golf
Tapawingo National Golf Club



Exchange ideas with enthusiasm. Nurturing the Coaches. Grow the golf Industry. All in, 100 percent participation and sharing. Golf is fun. Impact and inspire one another. Never stop learning. Go grow the golf industry. Thank you all who were involved for making it an excellent PGA Teacher of the Year Conference.

Doug Weaver, PGA

Director of Instruction
Palmetto Dunes Golf Academy



Thank you for a couple of great days in Pinehurst at the PGA Teacher of the Year Conference. The fellowship and dialogue were outstanding. I really enjoyed the educational opportunities and free flowing conversation throughout the event. I hope to have an opportunity to attend other programs that you put on in my role as PGA Education Chairman over the next two years. Sincere thanks for including me this year.

Ed Ibarguen, PGA

Director of Golf/General Manager
Duke University Golf Club



PGA Teacher of the Year Conference

The Teacher of the Year Conference provides a unique opportunity to learn from and share with the best teachers in the country. The size is perfect to provide value to each attendee. I left as a better teacher.

Gene Powell, PGA

Director of Instructor
Four Bridges Country Club



In life and in golf you are always learning. My experience at the PGA Teacher of the Year Conference is a learning experience I will never forget. I made relationships that will last a lifetime! Thank you for inviting me!

Jon Decker, PGA

Teaching Professional
New Albany Country Club



The Teacher of the Year Conference is the best conference I've attended in 24 years as a PGA Professional.

Chris Rowe, PGA

Head Professional
Whispering Pines Golf Club



PGA Teacher of the Year Conference

The PGA Teacher of the Year Conference was a terrific experience that allowed you to network and share information with a super talented group of dedicated professionals.

Phil Truono, PGA

Director of Golf
Miacomet Golf Club



The PGA Teacher of the Year Conference was a great opportunity to get together with a really fine group of professionals and to share ideas, make new friends, see old friends, and learn a few new ideas that I can put into practice right away. Pinehurst provides an excellent venue and made the experience wonderful.

John Dunigan, PGA

Director of Instruction
White Manor Country Club



WHITE MANOR
COUNTRY CLUB

Anyone who is eligible is doing a disservice to themselves by not attending the Teacher of the Year Conference.

Robert Tays, PGA

Director of Instruction
Gateway National Golf Links



PGA Teacher of the Year Conference

Really enjoyed getting together with such outstanding coaches. The camaraderie and professionalism were great to be a part of at the Teacher of the Year Conference.

Trent Wearner, PGA

Owner
Trent Wearner Golf



What a great PGA Teacher of the Year Conference and well worth the effort to participate.

Eric Alpenfels, PGA

Director of Instruction
Pinehurst Resort



The networking was fantastic at the PGA Teacher of the Year Conference. Pinehurst was very nice, and *PGA Magazine* did a great job with the organization and execution of the plan.

John O'Leary III, PGA

Director of Instruction
Bay Hill Club



PGA Teacher of the Year Conference

The Teacher of the Year Conference was the most meaningful conference I have attended in terms of relationship building and becoming 'joined at the hip' with guys in the trenches building the game on the lesson tee. I truly made several friends that I embrace and do business with in the short and long run.

Bob Dickman, PGA

Lead Instructor
North Shore Elite Golf Performance Academy



I didn't know what to expect coming into the PGA Teacher of the Year Conference. It turned out to be an amazing opportunity to meet some of the best golf instructors in the PGA and to get to know them. Thanks to all of them for sharing their knowledge and time with fellow PGA Professionals.

Barbara Blanchar, PGA

Teaching Professional
Barbara Blanchar Golf at WingHaven Country Club



This was a great experience for us to learn from the top PGA instructors. I would recommend the PGA Teacher of the Year Conference as a must to any section teacher of the year!

Jason Aichele, PGA

Director of Instruction
Meadow Springs Country Club



PGA Teacher of the Year Conference

I love the interaction among all golf professionals at the Teacher of the Year Conference. It was a great platform to learn, discuss, and improve my current practice as a PGA Teacher.

Henry Stetina, PGA

Program Coordinator
New Mexico State University PGM



Thanks so much for amazing week at Pinehurst for the PGA Teacher of the Year Conference! Congratulations on a well-run event filled with some much expertise on teaching and coaching the game! I always look forward learning in these environments.

Warren Bottke, PGA

PGA Master Professional
PGA National Resort and Spa



Thank you for a great couple of days at the PGA Teacher of the Year Conference. The *PGA Magazine* team went above and beyond to make this a successful event - thank you!

Mike Adams, PGA

Director of Instruction
Hamilton Farm Golf Club



PGA Teacher of the Year Conference

The Teacher of the Year Conference was the most meaningful conference I have Thanks so much for an amazing week at Pinehurst for the PGA Teacher of the Year Conference! I always look forward learning more and spending time with so many great individuals in these events.

Glenn Deck, PGA

Director of Instruction
Pelican Hill Golf Club



Fantastic job gentlemen! It was an amazing experience to be part of the PGA Teacher of the Year Conference! Well run event and such a great learning environment! Enjoyed every minute and appreciate everyone's input!

Brian Dobbie, PGA

Director of Instruction
Montclair Golf Club



I really enjoyed being around this group of first-class people with so much knowledge and willingness to share. I have been to four separate *PGA Magazine* conferences now over the years and continue to come away from them energized and ready to try some new ideas.

Ken Schall, PGA

Owner/Instructor
Ken Schall Golf Performance Studio



PGA Teacher of the Year Conference

What I had pictured of Pinehurst before attending was not accurate at all, although I knew it would be great. The discussions with fellow PGA pros are invaluable. I learned so much at the Teacher of the Year Conference that helps me daily at my job at Mountain Brook Club.

Jeff Jordan, PGA

Director of Golf
Mountain Brook Club



As a 40-year member of the PGA the Teacher of the Year Conference is the most valuable learning experience for teaching professionals to attend. If you have the chance and earn the invitation to be there do not miss it.

Mike Malaska, PGA

Owner/Director of Instruction
Malaska Golf



The Teacher of the Year Conference was a fun and outstanding experience with all sorts of opportunities to network and learn from your peers. I highly recommend it to every PGA member who gets invited.

Ed Ibarguen, PGA

Director of Golf
Duke University Golf Club

