



## **Tom Cooksey – 2016**

**Cooksey has served as a rules official in all levels of play, both in Kentucky and across the country since 1976.**

**He was appointed to the Kentucky Golf Association Board of Directors in 1986 and has served the board as Director of Section 9 (Eastern Kentucky), Treasurer, Secretary, Vice-President and President. He also served as President and Honorary President of the Golf House Kentucky and Kentucky Golf Foundation Board of Directors. Cooksey ran the Tri-State Junior Golf Association from 1984-1988, hosting 32 events and serving an average of 400 members per year in Kentucky, West Virginia, and Ohio. Also in 1984, he joined with the**

**American Junior Golf Association and founded the AJGA Bluegrass Junior at Bellefonte Country Club, introducing the concept of a junior-amateur at AJGA events. In 2004, he was appointed to the USGA Junior Championship Committee, which served on for ten years. In 2008, he founded the Eastern Kentucky Junior**

**Golf Association, serving juniors from the 13 easternmost counties in the Commonwealth. He utilized the 501c3 system to raise sponsorships and developed a new revenue sharing program with area high schools. He donated \$5 per participant back to their high school golf program, an amount that totaled more than \$18,000 over five years. He also created a “Just Fore Fun” day for autistic children and their parents. He has received the Digger Smith Award from the AJGA (1997), a lifetime achievement award given for outstanding service to junior golf, the Most Outstanding Golf Official Award from the KHSAA (2005-2006) and the J.W. Janes**

**Award (2007) from the Kentucky Golf Association for outstanding contributions to amateur golf.**