



# PGA

Kentucky Section

## 2014 KPGA TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD NOMINATION

**Name of Nominee:** A. Todd Trimble  
**Facility Name:** The Golf Complex  
**Facility Address:** 5980 US HWY 60W  
**Facility Phone Number:** 270-442-9221  
**Nominee E-mail Address:** ttrimble@thegolfcomplex.com

- 1. Please list all National Teaching Workshops, Seminars and National PGA Teaching & Coaching Summits attended or conducted within the last five years. If Certified in Instruction through the PGA Certified Professional Program, list the date Certification was obtained.**

n/a

- 2. Please describe the nominee's overall performance in teaching at the facility, Section and National level.**

I give an average of 9 lessons per day, 6 days per week, 48 weeks per year. 4 weeks are small vacations 2-3 day breaks, Christmas, Thanksgiving, and a extended family vacation that lasts anywhere from 7-10 days. I sometimes start at 5:30 am with the lights on and quit at 6 that night. Sometimes lunch, sometimes not because lunch is such a popular time. Professional people like to come very early till about 2:00 and desire a regular schedule. 2:00 times -6pm are strictly reserved for the kids. Kids include any school age from kindergarten – college. Lesson scheduling right now is a waiting list. Times are full indefinitely, although you will be accommodated as quick as possible, when a cancellation is received. As a student becomes better and moves their lesson plan from weekly to bi-weekly or bi-weekly to once per month then the next student who is waiting is added.

My rate is \$80 per hour. Many ask why if you are so full you don't raise your rate? It is because I have 30 kids in college that I teach on a regular basis, and countless other kids of all ages. I want them to learn, get college scholarships and become good people. If I can keep my rate lower, see them more often, then I feel that I can have an effect on their lives. I want to be involved not only in golf but in their day to day lives as well. Sometimes a young man or woman will talk to their pro before talking to their mother or father. I always want to be there for them. At \$125 per hour which shouldn't be any problem to charge I won't get that quality time. Lessons may only average 5-6 per day and work load less but then the dedication to the game would be lost. Sorry enough philosophy, but I do think it pertains to the overall performance, so back to the question.

Being a past PGA board member of the Kentucky section, I realize the importance of being involved in the Section. While I am not able to attend a one day volunteer clinic in another part of the state, I do feel I am doing my part in Western Kentucky. Examples: I currently travel on occasion to help other clubs and their teaching programs. I direct the McCracken County Golf Programs with two coaches working under me.

We have a small goal next year to start giving more back to the community. I am going to get my college players involved and run Saturday free clinics at a local public golf course. I not only want to

keep promoting the game but I want to teach my older kids how to give back. One of our philosophies is to always leave the golf course better than you found it. Little stuff like picking up trash, fixing extra ball marks, etc. Teaching my older students the value of giving of themselves is a priority in the future.. I promised Patrick Barry in 2007 that I would help with the growth of the game effort in Western Kentucky. I know I don't do much but certainly try to keep golf moving forward. While there are a few fine pro's around me Western Kentucky has so many golf courses without pro's and need help. As you well know, it is hard to find time to volunteer at the club level because of shrinking budgets, and longer work days. Being on my own now and a full time teacher, certainly gives me more freedom to help when I am asked.

Teaching is my first love and I am very fortunate to be able to be a full time instructor. I do wish I was more involved at the national level but right now Western Kentucky is all I can handle

**3. Please briefly describe any unusual, innovative or special teaching programs the nominee has initiated or implemented.**

The Golf Complex was designed in 2002 and built in 2003. If you would go to the website [www.thegolfcomplex.com](http://www.thegolfcomplex.com) as you review this document you will view a building which actually houses 3 structures on the inside. The south side of the building you will see garage doors which are actually hitting bays. South east corner is a private enclosed room that houses the putt lab. The putt lab is a very high tech machine from [www.scienceinmotion.com](http://www.scienceinmotion.com). We committed over 25k in just this room during the 2007 season. 3 of the bays are 20' by 20' and studios equipped with cameras and computers. I felt there was a strong need for year around teaching, thus the bays are also heated for winter time use. Hopefully this will be my contribution to growing the game of golf for Western Kentucky. Currently we have 4 PGA instructors. One the instructors is only part time. Barry Kight is the part time instructor and also my business partner. Most of his time is dedicated to the management of the entire facility. My belief in PGA and its programs runs strong and in the very near future I hope to have an apprentice with the hope of one day having 5 PGA members employed. Three which are teachers and one will be a full time manager of the Golf Shop and the 5<sup>th</sup> will teach and also operate a recruitment and coaching service. Implementation of teaching programs starts of course with the structure. Lessons are being given on a year around basis and programs are designed around the actual students' goals and objectives. For the first time in our area we are able to set a person in a program of their choice, lay out a lesson plan in advance, and implement that plan in a certain time. Example...I have a person that takes a lesson on the first Thursday of every month at 10:00. Last 2 years he has switched to Fridays at 12:00. He pays for this slot in advance and has been coming since October of 2003. He doesn't get much of a chance to practice because of his profession and only plays once per week in the summer months. Like most of us he has a real passion for the game and would like to get better but doesn't have the time. Through our camera systems, computers, devotion to full time teaching a person like this actually has the ability to get better with minimal effort. He doesn't take a lesson every month because sometimes we just practice together. Goal is to have fun and get a little better.

The complete other end of the spectrum is the person who has the time and resources to establish a goal of being the best possible. Our basic program here starts with a series of 12 lessons, weekly, with structured practice. 2<sup>nd</sup> a fitting for equipment in our fitting bay which includes a launch monitor and of course swing analysis. Then, a recommendation of bi-monthly lessons and establishment of practice program is created. A digital file is kept of each of my students where swings and notes can always be reviewed. We have completed access to our web page which allows them access to review the lesson at any time. We use JC Video in our teaching bays and software is available at a very low price where the student can actually have their swings and PGA pro's. Below is an example of lesson that was emailed. It was me teaching my daughter and getting her ready for the winter lessons. Each student has an account on our website and can listen/watch their lesson or previous lessons before practice.



Trimble\_Sydney\_2013-11-14\_14-53-3.wmv

Another program we are very proud of is our TPI program. We have joined with Hampton's Physical Therapy and currently have a Therapist attaining level two status. He works with all our players of all skill levels.

**4. Please list any instructional articles, videos and/or publications the nominee has written or contributed to.**

Thought I would give you an example below. In our email data base at The Golf Complex we have over 4,000 emails. I frequently write articles for our customers, local magazines, newspapers and anyone who asks for help. I don't solicit myself and probably could do much more than I currently do at the moment. Although I frequently write to our customer email base the question did raise a great point. There are many publications on a local level I could write on a permanent basis and raise the awareness of golf. Would be nice to see informational articles on golf and also the PGA of America. Certainly my area needs more professionals. Below is average example of some of my writings. I also have several without pictures on file that I have written for publications that have space minimums.

***Email article on Wind Play***

Good Morning!!

I had a great question over the weekend about wind play. Certainly as we play and practice through the winter the wind will certainly be a factor. Please take special note that the answer applies to both left and right handed golfers. **I am answering the question from the setup position.** The question was ask "without over complicating the matter give me the simplest steps to wind play." There are so many variations such as grip, ball position, weight, stance, etc... but in simplest terms you should do this:

When playing in wind the ball position will **always be middle** except when the wind is blowing toward the target. When down wind normal ball position will apply, take less club, and swing hard. The reason for swinging hard is to achieve maximum spin thus allowing you a chance to stop the ball on the green. Also the ball will fly straighter when the wind is blowing toward the target.

If the wind is in your face just change ball position and take normal swing. Typically if you have the same body motions the shot may push just a touch and the wind will bring it back on line. Aim is determined by how much wind.

If the wind is blowing from the target club selection is critical. If there is enough wind that you feel you have to lower the ball flight then your swing will actually change. It is very important to have a  $\frac{3}{4}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  motion.  $\frac{3}{4}$  back swing to  $\frac{3}{4}$  finish with ball position middle will start to lower the ball flight. Please take enough club that you can swing easier.

When the wind is blowing at your back I have found it is always a must to swing an extra club or two. Although it is a pure crosswind this is like the putt that breaks away from the body. It is very hard to hold the ball on line. Taking an extra and swinging just a touch easier allows for a little more release. The ball should hold its line, but remember you must also allow for movement versus speed of the wind.

In review please always remember that the golf ball flight is still affected by your stance and lie. Also remember this is from your stance or setup position.

1. Other than down wind shots the ball position is always middle.
2. Down wind shots less club swing hard.
3. Cross wind hitting you in the face normal swing.
4. Cross wind hitting you in the back take an extra club and swing easy. You will stand a much better chance of holding the line of shot.

As you get better with club selection your technique may start changing. As an example: I personally play all wind shots from a  $\frac{3}{4}$  swing and the weight has a 60% tendency toward the forward foot. Of course down wind I swing hard from a normal ball position. I hope these basics helps you as you practice and play this winter!!!

## ***Email article on Back Knee***

The Golf Complex

Todd Trimble

This article will deal with a lower body part. The back knee will be our selection for many reasons but we will discuss two. If you notice in the picture below there is a blue line drawn along the outline of the player's right leg. What I want you to understand is that the line was drawn at setup, not at the top of his back swing. The lower body in the golf swing is your accuracy. Its timing pattern often determines things like circle, speed, swing plane, direction, divot pattern, etc. I wish we had time to discuss these issues but let's talk about circle and speed.

The first key to a back knee is always maintaining the knee flex that you have at setup. If you can hold this flex then your upper body dominates more of the back swing. Big muscles will keep us more circular and more important the same distance. So often you will see a buddy swing the club, back leg locks, and the result is often a terrible shot. If the shot is solid it is often pushed or sliced. If the back leg locks then the upper body has had to counter balance this movement for you to stay on balance. Generally it will cause a dipping of the head and push you toward a reverse pivot. So remember that first learn to hold the flex.

Second key is speed. We all know it takes speed to propel the golf ball a proper distance. Certainly your legs play a major part in developing that speed. Through tests on our camera systems and launch monitor the average player hits the ball in .25-.27 seconds from the start their down swing. Hard to imagine in quarter of a second impact will occur. Amazing how many thoughts the brain can have in that small amount of time. The point is this about the right knee. If it has over flexed, locked, or swayed there is no way it can arrive back at the ball in a quarter of a second. A proper knee that has held position will arrive at the ball with your club head and result in a straighter shot.

The golf complex has a free email system where we send golf tips. If you would like to subscribe please email [tgc@thegolfcomplex.com](mailto:tgc@thegolfcomplex.com). We are always happy to answer your questions. Hoping you have a great golfing year!!  
Todd Trimble

*If you need more I can send as many as you need.*

5. Please list the names of outstanding golfers the nominee has instructed.

I am very fortunate to work with many great players. I will just list those I teach currently other than John Reigger who now resides in Las Vegas. I started The Golf Complex in 03 and as many of you know a new business requires you to stay home and work. List is in no certain order:

Biggest win was this year's US Women's Amateur Championship. Winner was Emma Talley.



Also had a young man named Carr Vernon who made it to the field of 32 in the Men's Amateur. Had multiple students qualify

~ Traveled the PGA Tour for a couple of years back in 00, 01 and 02. I worked with many pros but not on enough of a basis to call my student. I walked every step with John Reigger at Q school and watched him receive his card. This was the same year of the Casey Martin ruling. I was standing on number 15 green at Greeneleaf south course when the rules official asked us if we were riding or walking!

~ Brad Adkins: winner of the Irvin Cobb, many local tournaments in both KY and IL.

~ Jim Brown: KY State Amateur Champion several times, numerous amateur titles.

~Emma Talley: 18 year old, too many wins to list, playing for the University of Alabama, holds the AJGA scoring record, star of the Junior Ryder Cup this year, played Junior Solheim cup, winner of the US Women's Amateur, Kentucky Women's Open Runner-Up, cool picture on our website

~ Carr Vernon: 18 year old played in the US Amateur this year as a 15 year old and last year, played last years' US Open, again too many wins to list.

~Steve Rogers: past State Open Champion, not for sure I can claim him as he does take some lessons but also works in Florida and NC a bunch.

~ Work with the St. Mary's Golf Team: State Champions, this year finished 3<sup>rd</sup>, (I think) soon to be state champions again

~ Josh Teater: spent 2 years with Josh changing his swing, tons of fun, currently not teaching him, as I don't travel at the moment..

~Brett Jones (previous Mr. Kentucky Golf): played for Louisville, although it has been many months since his last lesson, as he now resides mostly in Florida and of course has a new teacher.

~ Nick Newcomb: 2-time OVC champion and numerous titles, working currently on playing professionally in 2014

~ Patrick Newcomb: 2-time OVC Champion, 2 -time Kentucky State Champion, numerous wins. He turned Professional in January.

~ Multiple Junior Champion players both boys and girls.

I am not for sure how many people you want me to list. It seems that my students win a lot of local and regional events but you might not recognize. If you feel you need more names and titles please let me know. I hope the above is sufficient. My website only lists those that are participating in college

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**6. Please describe the nominee's involvement in growing the game of golf through juniors, women, minorities, seniors and the disabled.**

I would like to say we teach over 75 juniors on a regular basis at The Golf Complex. I am including college players in this number 1/2 are my students pretty easily and the others would be split up with Nathan Wolfe and Nick Mills. The number may be higher as I didn't ask them to count. Just with what I see moving in and out of their teaching rooms I have speculated a number. I don't participate in our clinics that include juniors, and women. My book is very full with students but as we all realize the clinics not only grow the game but your lesson book. As the lead instructor and the one who writes the paychecks...lots of clinics are being given. I feel it is very important to introduce new players to the game. The 75 juniors are those taking lessons on regular basis. Regular basis is by my definition includes any regimented program from every other month to weekly. These clinics are mainly just summer work from April-September but we are currently working on a winter program that will be implemented from January – March as people start getting golf back on their mind in preparation for summer. We feel that this is a great time to introduce new players to the game.

**7. Please list any Section or National awards the nominee has received**

Award	Year Received	Section
Merchandiser of the Year	96,97 Employed C.C.of Paducah	Kentucky
Teacher of the Year	06,08,09,13	Kentucky