

KENTUCKY GOLF HALL OF FAME

Jim O'Hern



1997, 2004, 2008, 2011,
2015 Nomination

6-23-015

As one of a
few who is still
alive who personally
knew ^{almost} all of the
members of the Hall
I would like to
continue Tim's
name in nomination
Brown Cullen,



BROWN CULLEN, JR.
PGA Life Member
Kentucky Golf Hall of Fame Member

JIM O'HERN

Let this letter put Jim O'Hern's name in nomination for the Kentucky Golf Hall of Fame.

I'm sure there are guidelines why a person should be selected that the committee has to go by. In making my decision to make this nomination, I have mine. Very simply put, what did an individual do for golf? For me you can divide this by two -- what they do for others, and what they do for themselves. For others, Jim was very instrumental in sectional affairs for many years. For in golf, he has had numerous successes. However, the one that in my mind was the most prominent was as a club professional he qualified to play the Senior Tour and played that tour for six years. At this point in time, to my knowledge, this has only been accomplished by one other person.

Since Jim has been nominated before, and there is considerable information pertaining to his playing accomplishments already on file in the sectional office, I saw no need to repeat that information. I do believe the following few words are easy for me to say: "Kentucky golf is better because he was there."

Yesterday I went for the first time to the new office to see the pictures of the men and ladies who comprise the Hall of Fame. I looked at each and every one. I believe I am correct when I say I have met them all except one, and knew most of them quite well. For me, that time I spent with them will always be a part of me and for that I will be forever grateful.

I have never before made a nomination. This letter I did not take lightly -- my reason for the previous paragraph. With this said, it is an honor for me to nominate my good friend, Jim O'Hern.

Brown Cullen Jr.

Brown Cullen, Jr.
July 21, 2008



Brown Cullen Jr.
7-17-2011

James W. "Jim" O'Hern III

O'HERN, JAMES W. "JIM" III, 72, of Louisville, passed away Saturday, April 9, 2011 at Baptist Hospital East after a long illness.

He was born May 16, 1938 in Louisville to the late James W. O'Hern, Jr. and Marie Voskoetter and was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church. He attended Holy Trinity Grade School, was a graduate of St. Xavier High School and attended Bellarmine University, where he was inducted into the Hall of Fame.

Jim was a professional golfer. His playing achievements alone place him among the best in Kentucky. He was Kentucky Section Champion for the years of 1968, 1969 and 1977, Kentucky Section Player of the Year, the years of 1972, 1973, and 1977, Kentucky Senior Player of the Year for 1988 and 1996 and Kentucky Section Senior Champion from 1988-1995. In 1992, Jim O'Hern was elected to the PGA Senior Tour Advisory Council, and he is a member of the National PGA Rules Committee, elected by his fellow competitor's.

He was the past president of Kentucky PGA, Life Member PGA of America, Veteran Member Senior PGA Tour and Club Professional at Harmony Landing Country Club for many years.

He is survived by his fiancée, Anita Hammond; three daughters, Mary Pat O'Hern, Susan O'Hern and Maureen McDonald (Brian); brother, Pat O'Hern; and his grandchildren, Spec. James Adam Gilliam, Ian Gilliam and Margaret and Will McDonald.

His funeral Mass will be celebrated at noon Thursday at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 1406 E. Washington St., with burial to follow in Cave Hill Cemetery. Visitation will be from 2-8 p.m. Wednesday at Ratterman Bros. Funeral Home, 3711 Lexington Road.

It was Jim's wish that memorial gifts in the form of contributions be made to the Scleroderma Foundation, 300 Rosewood Dr., Suite 105, Danvers, MA 01923.



Published in The Courier-Journal from April 12 to April 14, 2011



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jim O'Hern, professional Harmony Landing Country Club, Goshen, Kentucky, was born May 16, 1938, Louisville. He comes from a golfing family and is one of many golf pros who graduated from Xavier High School. He is married to the former Sue Schoenbaechler and they have two daughters; May Pat, four and Susan, eighteen months.

O'Hern turned pro in 1958 by becoming Jack Ryan's assistant at the Big Springs Country Club. Prior to his professional career, he qualified for the National Publix Links and represented Louisville in "The Hardin Cup." He was Ryan's aide for two and one half years before landing his present assignment at Harmony Landing. As an assistant he won the State Assistant Pro Tournament and once fired a sizzling seven under par 65 to establish a competitive course record at Big Springs.

Since being a head pro he has developed not only into one of the State's top players but an outstanding club professional as well. He is also quite active in P.G.A. Sectional affairs. This year the handsome six foot, 180 lb. O'Hern qualified for the National P.G.A. for the second straight year, finished third in the Kentucky Open, fourth in The Irvin Cobb Championship and more recently fired a five under par 65 to win the Governor's Open.

Jim's pleasing personality and eager to serve attitude makes him very popular with his members and brother professionals. He possesses many rare qualities which are marks of distinction.—He will go far in the golf profession.

PRO TIPS

PLAYING UNDER ADVERSE CONDITIONS

By Jim O'Hern, Professional

Harmony Landing Country Club, Goshen, Kentucky

WIND

The common fault of the average player, when playing in the wind, is club selection. Nine out of ten times he will not use enough club. Under clubbing, as it is commonly called, will result in one or two things. (one) "Pressing" the shot, generally pulling the ball to the left. (two) Falling short of the target. My advise, after selecting enough club, is to keep the weight on the inside of the balls of the feet at address. Play the ball slightly to the right of it's normal position and hit the shot with the same tempo and degree of smoothness used under normal conditions. Never try to play shots you are not capable of executing, such as: hooking or fading the ball into the wind.

REMEMBER for best results, select enough club, position the ball correctly and maintain balance and smoothness.

RAIN

Be prepared! Don't let a sudden cloud-burst wash out what could have otherwise been a fine score. In threatening weather always have in your possession proper rain clothing and equipment. This means, rain jacket, pants, hat and of course an umbrella, extra glove and couple of dry towels. If rain comes, make sure the hood of your bag goes up immediately and by all means keep the grips dry. Keeping your clubs dry is just as import-

ant as keeping yourself dry. Playing in a light rain can be fun and your score should not be affected if simple precautions are taken. Rain, like wind, can cause a player to "press." Here again, select enough club and keep the swing smooth.

COLD

Winter golf can be very enjoyable. If you haven't been a "Snowbird" give it a try this winter and you will have an edge on getting started next spring. Equipment again is most important as to how well you play and how comfortable you are. Wear several light weight garments instead of a heavy, bulky jacket or sweater. Make sure your chest and shoulder muscles stay warm. This is most important for making a full shoulder turn. (Extra clothing tends to restrict such action).

Handwarmers are an important piece of equipment for the winter golfer. Not only do they keep the hands warm, but the golf balls as well, making them easy to compress. I suggest carrying three balls in the pocket with the handwarmer and rotate them on every third hole. Playing in cold weather and the wind are almost synonymous so many playing tips apply to both.

Don't forget to place prime importance on CLUB SELECTION, BALANCE and SMOOTHNESS. By doing so you can play golf under most any weather conditions.

The Kentucky Golfer



PGA

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Jim O'Hern, PGA

PGA Member for 48 years

Don't see in Mr. Demling's letter – Mr. O'Hern was the
1974 KPGA Golf Professional of the Year

Moe Demling is now at Long Run Golf Course
245-9015 or 451-0295

Mr. O'Hern's daughter
Maureen 339-1660

Kentucky Section PGA Contact:
Mark Hill
Executive Director
KGA-PGA, Inc.
523-7660 cell



GEORGE "MOE" DEMLING
PROFESSIONAL, SENECA GOLF COURSE
2300 PEEWEE REESE ROAD
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40205
458-9298



July 12, 2004

Nominating Committee
Kentucky Golf Hall of Fame
P.O. Box 18369
Louisville, KY 40261-0369

Dear Nominating Committee:

As a member of the Kentucky Section of the PGA of America, I would like to nominate Mr. Jim O'Hearn for consideration for the Kentucky Golf Hall of Fame. For nearly 50 years, I have known Jim as a competitor on the course, a colleague in the golf business and a friend in every aspect. I believe that there is no individual more deserving of this recognition than Jim.

Jim has been involved with the PGA for over 40 years now and he has contributed his talent and his time in order to help the growth of the Kentucky Section. As a player, he has accomplished many feats including winning the Kentucky Section Assistant Championship (1959), the Kentucky Section Championship (1968, 1969, 1977), the Kentucky Section Senior Championship (1988, 1995, 1999), the Kentucky Senior Open (1997), the Kentucky Section Senior Match Play Championship (1998, 1999, 2002, 2003) and the Governors Open (1965, 1970, 19972). He was named Player of the Year (1972, 1973, 1977) and Senior Player of the Year (1988, 1996, 1998, 1999, 2002, 2003). Other notable tournaments include winning the Irvin Cobb Championship (1974), the Very Old Barton Championship (1978, 1980, 1981), and the St Thomas Open, US Virgin Islands (1984). Jim has qualified for nine National PGA Championships (1964, 1965, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1978, 1985), four US Open Championships (1971, 1973, 1974, 1977), and fifteen Club Professional Championships. In 1988 Jim finished 5th in the Senior British Open. In 1991 he was runner-up to Lee Trevino in the Charley Pride Senior Classic. In 1988 and 1989 Jim qualified for exempt status on the PGA Senior Tour, and he currently holds the record for the most hole-in-ones in one season on that tour. It is obvious that Jim is an excellent player with the winnings to prove it. He earned \$515,000 in his career on the Senior PGA Tour alone. Most astounding though is his continual contribution to the game at the section level. He won his first Kentucky Section sponsored event in 1958 and he is still competing and winning six decades later.

Aside from his playing abilities, Jim has also given much to the Kentucky Section as a business man both locally and nationally. He graduated from Bellarmine University in Louisville, and has held many positions in various areas of the golf profession. He was the Head Professional at Harmony Landing Country Club in Kentucky from 1961-1980 and served as Director of U.S. Golf Promotions-International Division, Gulf & Western Hotels. His experience as a Tournament Director includes Glenmore Distilleries Corporate Golf Program (Kentucky) from 1982-1985, Kentucky Derby Festival Pro-Am 1975-1988, and President Marcos Invitational, Phillipines, 1981. He was the owner of Champions Travel in Kentucky from 1971-1980 and has been a Golf Marketing consultant for Bozell Public Relations in New York from 1993-Present. He founded the Senior Series Golf Tour, a supplemental tour to the PGA Senior Tour, and organized it from 1994-1995.

Jim has always focused his energy and time to causes that benefit golfers in the Kentucky Section. Jim served as an Officer for the Kentucky Section of the PGA for 6 years (1968-1973) including President (1972, 1973). He has chaired every committee in the Kentucky Section PGA and as served as a delegate or alternate delegate to the National PGA Meeting over 15 times. It is Jim O'Hearn that is responsible for bringing computerized handicapping to Kentucky in 1962. In 1992, Jim O'Hearn was elected to the PGA Senior Tour Advisory Council, and he is currently a member of the National PGA Rules Committee.

Although his accomplishments on the course and in the business arena are tremendous, his character and integrity are unsurpassed. He is generous, dedicated, honest, and a true gentleman whom I am proud to call a friend. Jim O'Hearn has a great love for the game of golf and he is an asset to the golf profession and a credit to the game itself and the character it builds in those that play it. Jim has deservedly earned the respect and admiration of his fellow colleagues, I am asking you to consider him for the Kentucky Golf Hall of Fame; an honor I believe he has also earned. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

George "Moe" Demling

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "George A. Demling". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "G" and "D".



GEORGE "MOE" DEMLING

PROFESSIONAL, SHAWNEE GOLF CLUB
460 NORTH WESTERN PARKWAY
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40212
776-9389



June 3, 1997

Nominating Committee
Kentucky Golf Hall of Fame
P.O. Box 18396
Louisville, KY 40261-0396

Dear Nominating Committee:

As a member of the Kentucky Section of the PGA of America I would like to nominate Mr. Jim O'Hern to the Kentucky Golf Hall of Fame. I have known Jim for over 40 years, and it would be difficult for me to think of a person more deserving of this honor.

Jim attended Bellarmine College in Louisville, and he is a seasoned golf professional with numerous career distinctions including the following:

- Golf Marketing Consultant, Bozell Public Relations, New York, 1993-Present
- Touring Professional, Senior PGA Tour, 1988-1993
- Tournament Director, Glenmore Distilleries Corporate Golf Program, Kentucky, 1982-1985
- Tournament Director, Kentucky Derby Festival Pro-Am, Kentucky, 1975-1988
- Director of U.S. Golf Promotions-International Division, Gulf & Western Hotels, 1977-1982
- Tournament Director, President Marcos Invitational, Phillipines, 1981
- Owner, Champions Travel, Kentucky, 1971-1980
- Golf Professional, Harmony Landing Country Club, Kentucky, 1961-1980

Jim O'Hern's playing achievements alone place him among the best in Kentucky. Jim was Kentucky Section Champion (1968, 1969, and 1977), Kentucky Section Player of the Year (1972, 1973, and 1977), Kentucky Senior Player of the Year (1988 and 1996), and Kentucky Section Senior Champion (1988-1995). He is the winner of more than fifty tournaments in Kentucky, including the Governor's Open (3 times), the Irvin Cobb Championship, and the Very Old Barton Classic (3 times).

Jim has qualified for thirteen major championships, including 9 PGA Championships and 4 US Opens, and he has had two top ten finishes in the National Club Professional Championship. Some of his more recent playing accomplishments include a fifth place finish in the 1988 British Open, Runner-up to Lee Trevino in the 1991 Charlie Pride

Senior Classic, and twice qualifying for the Senior PGA Tour National Qualifying School. Jim O'Hern's Senior Tour career earnings total \$515,000.00 from 1988 through 1993.

Besides his playing accomplishments, he has contributed a great deal to golf, both in Kentucky and nationally. He has been involved with the PGA for over 35 years. Jim was an Officer of the Kentucky PGA for 6 years (1968-1973), including serving as President (1972-1973). He has served as a delegate or alternate delegate to the National PGA Meeting over 15 times, and he has chaired every committee in the Kentucky PGA. In 1992, Jim O'Hern was elected to the PGA Senior Tour Advisory Council, and he is a member of the National PGA Rules Committee.

Not only has Jim O'Hern contributed a great deal to the PGA, he was instrumental in the formation of the KGA-PGA. He was also responsible for bringing computerized handicapping to Kentucky in 1962. Jim was also founder of the Senior Series Golf Tour, a supplemental tour to the PGA Senior Tour which he organized from 1994 to 1995.

Although Jim O'Hern's accomplishments in the field of golf could certainly speak for themselves, his character and personal integrity are unsurpassed. He is a gentleman both on and off the golf course, and he is a true asset to the profession. Jim is a man with a great love for the game of golf, but more importantly, he has earned the respect and admiration of his fellow golfers.

I am proud to call Jim O'Hern a friend, and I hope you will seriously consider him for membership to the Kentucky Golf Hall of Fame. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,


George "Moe" Demling