



PGA

Kentucky Section

2019 KPGA BILL STRAUSBAUGH AWARD NOMINATION

Name of Nominee: Kevin M. Childers
Facility Name: The Club at Olde Stone
Facility Address: 950 Village Way, Bowling Green, Kentucky 42103
Facility Phone Number: 270/393-4666
Nominee E-mail Address: kchilders@olde-stone.com

The nomination form should be typewritten.

1. Please briefly describe the nominee's involvement and contributions through mentoring PGA Professionals and illustrate a significant impact on their careers.

I challenge myself to be persistent in inspiring my assistants to set themselves apart from other professionals within the industry. I have always been an advocate of giving my staff the autonomy and independence to do their job. Throughout my career I have mentored my staffs and continually coached them to help advance their professional careers. All the while stressing the importance of balancing the life of being a golf professional and making time for yourself personally. It's all about the pursuit of happiness and creating an atmosphere that your team and your membership can thrive on. My job as leader is to make a positive and meaningful impact on people's lives both professionally and personally.

The above mentioned philosophies and contributions during my 10-year career as a Head Professional and Director of Golf have groomed several assistant golf professionals and apprentices. Five of those individuals reached their goal of becoming a Head Professional or Director of Golf position.

2. Please briefly describe the characteristics the nominee possesses relative to overall integrity and recognition as a person of outstanding character. How has the nominee furthered the values representative of the Association and the golf profession?

In truth a person's character is who they are, it's what defines them. If I were describing my characteristics it would be one of honesty and positivity. Think about this, negative thinking attracts negative energy; positive thinking attracts positive energy.

I come to work every day with an excitement to make myself better, my staff better and my membership better. Doing the right thing, being open, honest and consistent is not always easy. Those difficult conversations with a member or staff member and being frank with a sales representative can be challenging. I pride myself in keeping my integrity the main focus and always going with my gut instinct, because your character can be injured by temptations and poor decisions. I am very open and honest with my staff and lead by example with the hope that one day these efforts will be remembered for fostering their career as passionate and positive PGA professionals.

I have been fortunate to work for some of the most successful golf professionals our association has to offer. Some of those professional's careers were directly impacted by Mr. Strausbaugh and his approach of Faith, Family and Profession. It is with these values that I represent my life and my profession.

3. Please briefly describe the nominee's level of service to the Section and to the Association.

My support of the Section and Association has been evident in offering our clubs facility for past events to include the Kentucky PGA National Championship and multiple State and Senior State Opens and will continue to do so for future events. I am currently a PGA mentor for the Eastern Kentucky PGA Golf Management Mentor Program.

4. Please briefly describe the nominee's involvement in community and Association activities including civic and charitable activities.

To be involved is to be engaged, whether it's with your professional staff or donating your personal time within your community, church or charity. I have been fortunate throughout my career to have the support and opportunity to participate in multiple PGA Golf Day events raising over \$22,000 for The Kelly Autism School at Western Kentucky University, Susan G. Komen and The Kentucky Golf Foundation. I annually field a team for the Youth on Course Kentucky Pro-Am. I currently sit on the Board of Directors for the Mason Goodnight Foundation. This foundation is in honor of the late Mason Goodnight and supports youth sports for under privileged children in South Central, Kentucky. My wife and I are active supporters and advocates of Young Life Christian Ministry.

5. Please briefly describe the nominee's contributions to building the image of the game of golf, PGA Professionals and the Association.

If I had to describe my contribution in building the image of golf and PGA Professional, it would be my time. Not the tireless amount of hours worked throughout the season but how and where my time is spent. Its time spent garnering relationships with staff and getting in the trenches with them. It's the time spent with members on the practice tee or riding the golf course. It's taking the time to have lunch with a group of members. It's volunteering my time within the community helping area high school golf teams. But most importantly it's taking the time be a consummate golf professional and doing what I love, touching the lives of those I come in contact with on a daily basis. Albeit teaching them the values our game offers or just making their day better.

As golf professionals we must not forget about playing this great game. We must foster the image of ourselves and our club on the golf course and play. Throughout my career I have actively participated in various section events both individually and with members and supported my fellow assistants in doing the same. I have also represented my club by hosting members in countless pro-am events locally, nationally and abroad.

One of the best compliments I have ever been given was the first time a member said, "hey pro". To me that means something, more than words can describe.

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

Award	Year Received	Section
Merchandiser of Year – Private	2012	Kentucky

Deadline – December 10, 2018

Return forms to:
Kentucky PGA
Golf House Kentucky
1116 Elmore Just Drive
Louisville, KY 40245
(502) 243-9266 fax

Email Word documents to:
csaner@kygolf.org



2019 KPGA BILL STRAUSBAUGH AWARD NOMINATION

Name of Nominee: Eric Gilliland
Facility Name: Audubon Country Club
Facility Address: 3265 Robin Road
Facility Phone Number: 502.637.5625
Nominee E-mail Address: golfshop@auduboncc.org

1. Please briefly describe the nominee's involvement and contributions through mentoring PGA Professionals and illustrate a significant impact on their careers.

In 19 seasons as the Head Professional at Audubon Country Club, I have had the opportunity to work closely with 14 assistant golf professionals. Developing young professionals is a priority in our operation and an area in which I take great pride. My assistants are involved in aspects of managing the golf operation. They are given specific areas of responsibility, but contribute in every area. Assistants participate in committee meetings, vendor selection, development of programming, budgeting, and tournament operations. We constantly focus upon why we do things a certain way. If methods can be improved, they are changed. This collaborative, cross-training philosophy has worked very well in preparing staff members for the next step in their careers. Of the ten assistants who have earned PGA membership, six are currently serving as the highest ranking PGA member in their current position. Each of them is a terrific representative of the Association and Audubon Country Club.

2. Please briefly describe the characteristics the nominee possesses relative to overall integrity and recognition as a person of outstanding character. How has the nominee furthered the values representative of the Association and the golf profession?

As PGA Professionals with influence over hundreds of families, we are and should be held to the highest standards of integrity. I strive to be a leader of whom my co-workers, staff, members, and junior golfers can be proud. I lead a staff culture of accountability in which we take ownership of our mistakes and work to make each other better at what we do every day. The bar has been set extremely high for integrity and leadership in the Kentucky PGA. I am hopeful that in the time have served the Association that in my roles at the club, in the Section, and in the community have further raised the image of the badge.

3. Please briefly describe the nominee's level of service to the Section and to the Association.

I currently serve on the KPGA Education Committee and served three terms as KPGA Director at Large chairing both the Tournament and Sponsorship Committees. Since the completion of my terms on the Board, I have worked on a number of special projects for the Section and the Association to include:

- Host of 2018 PGA Magazine Merchandising Summit
- Co-chairman of PGA Connect initiative
- Annual site of KPGA & KGA events
- Pro to Pro Seminar panelist

4. Please briefly describe the nominee's involvement in community and Association activities including civic and charitable activities.

- Presentation Academy Assistant Golf Coach – 2016 to present
- PGA Golf Day/100 Holes \$54,968 raised since 2012 for the Kentucky Golf Foundation and Colon Cancer Prevention Project
- Created Colon One Golf Scramble – raises over \$20,000 annually for CCCP
- Named to CCPP Board of Directors for 2019
- Coached youth basketball for 15 seasons

5. Please briefly describe the nominee's contributions to building the image of the game of golf, PGA Professionals and the Association.

The image of the game of golf and our Association are closely tied to the image of the lead PGA Professional at each facility. I believe a PGA Professional's first responsibility is to be a reflection of the values the game espouses. I work very hard to ensure that the Audubon membership, my staff, family, and the Association are proud of and never embarrassed by my actions. I am mindful of this responsibility in my youth coaching roles (basketball & golf), speaking engagements, and leadership roles within the club.

Secondly, we must teach these values to the professionals and junior golfers that we develop. The art of civility is very difficult to find in our digital, social media dominated culture. The PGA professional has a unique opportunity have unplugged interactions with members and guests. My staff and I use this platform to engage people in a positive, respectful, and service minded manner. I believe this approach is a differentiator, positively impacting the image of the game and of those who display the PGA logo.

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

2017 Kentucky PGA Deacon Palmer Award (National Finalist)
2016 Kentucky PGA Deacon Palmer Award (National Finalist)
2014 Kentucky PGA Co-Merchandiser of the Year
2013 Kentucky PGA Merchandiser of the Year
2010 Kentucky PGA Bill Strausbaugh Award
2008 Kentucky PGA Horton Smith Award
2005 Kentucky PGA Bill Strausbaugh Award
2004 National Finalist, PGA Merchandiser of the Year
2004 Kentucky PGA Professional of the Year
2002 Kentucky PGA Merchandiser of the Year



PGA

Kentucky Section

2019 KPGA BILL STRAUSBAUGH AWARD NOMINATION

Name of Nominee: Steve Shafer, PGA
Facility Name: Persimmon Ridge Golf Club & Polo Fields C.C.
Facility Address: 72 Persimmon Ridge Drive, Louisville, KY 40245
Facility Phone Number: 502-241-0819
Nominee E-mail Address: sshafer@pga.com

The nomination form should be typewritten.

1. Please briefly describe the nominee's involvement and contributions through mentoring PGA Professionals and illustrate a significant impact on their careers.

Steve has had the opportunity to mentor numerous PGA Professionals and apprentices in his 21 years at Hurstbourne Country Club as Head Golf Professional, Director of Golf and Club Manager and most recently as Director of Golf at Persimmon Ridge GC and Polo Fields G&CC. Steve has always tried to lead by example; by treating others with respect, working hard, being passionate about helping others and trying to meet and exceed the expectations of club members and guests.

Steve has always taken the approach of teaching those under him to undertake values that will make them successful regardless of their career path. Core values such as Honesty, Trust and Integrity, having a caring and positive attitude, a commitment to excellence and always acting with a high degree of professionalism. Steve also emphasizes the importance of being observant, responsive, empathetic, reassuring and reliable.

These values are in his opinion traits that will make you successful in any career path. His former employees have gone on to be successful as a Private Club General Manager, Head Golf Professional, Director of Instruction, Sales Manager, Banker, Sales Director, and Mortgage Broker. He hopes that he has had some influence on the many individuals who

have worked for him that have gone on to have successful careers both in and out of the golf business.

2. Please briefly describe the characteristics the nominee possesses relative to overall integrity and recognition as a person of outstanding character. How has the nominee furthered the values representative of the Association and the golf profession?

Steve has always been a person of integrity and professionalism. It is important to Steve to always treat people with respect and he works to instill this trait onto his staff and students. While at Hurstbourne Steve implemented the Junior Sportsmanship Award. He bought the largest trophy for this award and made it clear to the Junior Golfers at the club that how they treated others and the values they learned were the most important lessons in Junior Golf.

3. Please briefly describe the nominee's level of service to the Section and to the Association.

Steve has served the Kentucky Section PGA and the KGA-PGA at all levels. Steve served 12 years on the KPGA Board of Directors, 4 years as a Director then 2 years each as Secretary, Vice President, President and Honorary President. During his tenure on the Board Steve served as Tournament Committee Chairman, Education Chairman and Growth of the Game Chairman.

As part of this commitment he also served on the KGA-PGA Board of Directors including a term as President of that Association. Steve served as a Director for 3 years and President for another 3 years on the KPGA Foundation Board which has since been absorbed into the Kentucky Golf Foundation. Currently Steve serves on the KPGA Finance Committee.

4. Please briefly describe the nominee's involvement in community and Association activities including civic and charitable activities.

Over the years Steve has volunteered for many different civic or charitable activities. Steve led a group of PGA Professionals on a trip to visit the children in Kosair Children's Hospital the evening before the Just Fore Kids Classic fundraiser held at Hurstbourne for several years in a row. Steve also volunteered and served on the Board of Directors for that event for 5 years. Steve has participated in the Don Fightmaster tournament for exceptional children on a couple of occasions. Steve volunteered as the Boys Middle School Golf Coach at Christian Academy of Louisville for two years.

5. Please briefly describe the nominee's contributions to building the image of the game of golf, PGA Professionals and the Association.

Steve is an ambassador for the game of golf and the PGA of America. His passion is sharing his love of golf with others. Whether it's his enthusiasm for running a tournament, helping someone improve their game or helping a young assistant or apprentice learn the business, Steve loves every minute of it. He loves it so much he just left a great club where he has been well liked and employed for 21 years to go back to spending his days 100% in golf.

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

Award	Year Received	Section
Golf Professional of the Year	2007	Kentucky
Horton Smith Award	2005, 2006, 2007	Kentucky

Deadline – December 10, 2018

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