



## 2019 KPGA TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD NOMINATION

**Name of Nominee:** Michael Finney  
**Facility Name:** University of Louisville Golf Club  
**Facility Address:** 401 Champions Way Simpsonville, KY  
**Facility Phone Number:** 502-852-8542  
**Nominee E-mail Address:** mfinney6@icloud.com

*The nomination form should be typewritten.*

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

National Event	Date of Participation
Coach Camp	December 2018
Open Forum (2013-2018)	January (2013-2018)
Golf Swing Kinetics (Hosted)	September 2017
Forces and Motion	November 2016

2. Please list all Section Teaching Workshops, Seminars and PGA Teaching & Coaching Summits attended or conducted within the last five years.

National Event	Date	Section
Launch Monitor Day (Hosted)	December 2017	Kentucky
Joe Mayo Seminar	November 2016	Kentucky
Jon Sinclair Seminar	March 2017	Kentucky

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

Overall, I pride myself on understanding the underlying principles of the mechanics of the golf swing. I am a constant consumer of information produced by scientific researchers in the fields of physics, engineering, and biomechanics. I then do my best to take that information and make it understandable to the student in front of me.

I associate with some of the most respected teachers and researchers in the game today – Chris Como, Joe Mayo, Sasho Mackenzie, and Young Hoo Kwon.

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

Not much in that area – I offer Junior Golf Development programs every month and they work on fundamental development.

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

I have shot close to 100 short instructional videos on my interpretations of golf swing research. They are hosted on Vimeo and Facebook. I also contributed to a Golf Digest article on Jonathon Vegas' golf swing in 2017.

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

Jackson Finney  
Matthew Troutman  
Alex Hadden  
Austin Gutzsell

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

I have spent the last two and a half years growing the Cardinal Junior Golf Academy. I have taught 150 juniors in these programs with a monthly gathering of close to 30 junior families. My goal with this program is to develop boys and girls so they can be recruited by the University of Louisville and other top programs around the country.

The last two years I was lucky enough to be involved with the Semper Fi group which brought together wounded servicemen and servicewomen from around the country. Myself and several other instructors provided two days of teaching and coaching while the group enjoyed the practice area and golf course. This was easily a highlight having the honor to work with people who have sacrificed so greatly for our country.

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

Award	Year Received	Section
Best Teacher List in KY - #8	2017-2018	Golf Digest
Horton Smith Award	2018	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](mailto:csaner@kygolf.org)



# PGA

Kentucky Section

## 2019 KPGA TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD NOMINATION

**Name of Nominee:** Jon Hardesty  
**Facility Name:** Weissinger Hills Golf Course  
**Facility Address:** 2240 Mt. Eden Road, Shelbyville, KY 40065  
**Facility Phone Number:** 502-220-9752  
**Nominee E-mail Address:** jon.hardesty@me.com

*The nomination form should be typewritten.*

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

National Event	Date of Participation
TPI Level 1 Certification	May 2008
Trackman Users Conference	December 2009
TPI Junior Coach Level 2 Certification	October 2011
PGA Teaching and Coaching Summit	Jan. 24-25 2011
TPI Golf Professional Level 2 Certification	December 2011
Functional Movement Systems Level 1 Certification	May 2011
TPI Fitness Level 2 Certification	July 2012
World Scientific Congress of Golf	October 2012



World Golf Fitness Summit	November 2012
Certified Golf Coaches Association Certification	January 2013
TPI Golf Mechanics Certification Level 2	April 2013
Golf Magazine Top 100 Teachers Summit	November 2013
Mike Adams & EA Tischlers Golf Biodynamics Certification Level 1	January 2014
Functional Movement Systems Level 2	January 2014
Golf Magazine Top 100 Retreat	October 2014
World Golf Fitness Summit	October 2014
David Orr Flatstick Putting Certification Level 1	November 2014
I didn't attend many seminars or certifications in 2015 because I was traveling the PGA Tour helping Chris Como with some of his tour players. However, I did get to watch some of top player coaches while I was out on the road. Also, I was traveling back and forth from Dallas, Texas where Chris Como and I taught when we were in town.	Most of 2015
Golf Magazine Top 100 Teachers Summit	January 2016
Assessing and Teaching with Ground Forces	January 2016

Open Forum, held the week of PGA Merchandise Show. It features some of the smartest minds and some of the best teachers in the country	January 2012 January 2013 January 2014 January 2015 January 2016 January 2017 January 2018
<b>National Event</b>	<b>Date of Participation</b>

2. Please list all Section Teaching Workshops, Seminars and PGA Teaching & Coaching Summits attended or conducted within the last five years.

<b>National Event</b>	<b>Date of Participation</b>	<b>Section</b>
Titleist Fitting Workshop	March 2013	KPGA
Trackman/Manzella Seminar at Valhalla GC	August 2013	KPGA
Using the Latest Science to Enhance Your Teaching	February 2014	KPGA
Titleist Fitting Workshop	March 2014	KPGA
DECADE Course Management Seminar	March 2015	Louisiana Golf Association

Less is More, Teaching and Fitting Seminar at Keene Run	April 2015	KPGA
Pro2Pro Workshop on Teaching at Keene Run	January 2016	KPGA
James Sieckman Wedge seminar	February 2016	KPGA
Teaching Summit at Keene Trace	February 2016	KPGA
Day of Learning Seminar at HP Golf Academy	September 2016	KPGA
Jon Sinclair Seminar at Keene Trace	2017	KPGA
Joe Mayo Seminar at Keene Trace	2017	KPGA
Teaching Seminar including David Orr at Keene Trace	2017	KPGA
Launch Monitor seminar at ULGC	2017	KPGA
Golf Kinetics Seminar at ULGC	2017	


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

I feel comfortable teaching anyone at any level. They could be a raw beginner or one of the best players in the world. I believe my understanding of biomechanics, physics, motor learning, brain science, etc. has helped me wade through what works and doesn't work with a student. It gives me the opportunity to help them in a much faster way. I am so grateful that I have spent the last 10 years traveling the country, spending all of the money that I had at any given time so that I could learn from the smartest and brightest minds in several areas of expertise. Some were scientists, some were golf teachers, and some were world class players.

The education and experiences I have acquired over the years has afforded me the ability to "skin a cat" multiple ways, but get the same outcome. I had players and still teach players that are trying to make a living playing golf. My approach to each of them is often times very different. Fortunately, many of them have had success and continue to get better. As a teacher, you have to know that what works for one player, may not work for another. I believe and subscribe to this analogy: A teacher should be like a doctor. The doctor, if he's any good, should know that the medicine he gives to one patient could potentially make another patient very sick or even kill them. You have to know who to give what to and how much. This analogy guides me on the lesson tee with all of my students and has helped my overall performance immensely.

**4. Please briefly describe any unusual, innovative or special teaching programs the nominee has initiated or implemented.** I implemented a Long Term Athletic Development program for out junior golfers at Owl Creek Country Club. This program was designed to aid in their physical literacy and overall performance, not just in golf but in all physical activities. I learned many of these concepts while attending a TPI Junior Coach Level 2 certification. In a nutshell, the program consists of physical activities such as jumping, throwing, catching, climbing, etc. They learn how to use their bodies for physical activities, preparing them for many sports and life. This program ran for approximately 4 years and was attended by several juniors.

Also, starting in 2017, I implemented a workout program for our junior golfers at Weissinger Hills where I currently teach. The age ranges are between 12-18 for both boys and girls. It has been well received by our students as well as their parents. I believe this is due to the strength and speed they are gaining weekly. Some of these gains could potentially be attributed to a nutrition class we held back in 2017. During this class, we discussed what to eat and not eat, how much daily hydration they should be getting, and how much sleep to get daily. To keep track of their nutrition, I had them keep a nutrition and sleep journal so that I could monitor what they were doing weekly. Personally, I think many of the parents learned a few things as well about their dietary and sleep habits.

5. Please list any instructional articles, videos and/or publications the nominee has written or contributed to. I was fortunate to be one of the presenters at a Teaching Summit held at Keene Run (February 2016.) The title of my one-hour presentation was: Why Players Do What They Do. During my presentation, I discussed with the attendees what I have learned over the years while teaching and coaching my students. Also, I contributed to some content that was used by Chris Como for his Golf Channel special that will begin airing over the holidays in 2018.

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

Jamie Lovemark Member of PGA Tour for multiple years. Helped him primarily at 2015 at US Open, where he finished T18.

Graeme McDowell Won 2010 US Open as well as multiple PGA Tour events. Started working with him in 2018.

Lilly Young Won the Big I tournament held at Oxmoor CC in 2017. She attends Northern Kentucky University.

She led with an 80.27 scoring average as one of only two Norse to compete in all 11 events and 26 rounds

Had two top-5 finishes on the season, placing tied-4th at the Golden Grizzlies Invitational at 10-over and tied-2nd at the Braun Intercollegiate thanks to a 4-over total in the rain-shortened affair.

Also tied for 13th at both the Horizon League Championship (24-over) and NKU Fall Classic (17-over).

- Carded three of the teams 10 lowest rounds of the season.

Luke McClellan is a mini tour player. He won a mini tour event in his home state of South Carolina in 2017. He advanced to sectional qualifying for the US Open and also advanced to the second stage of Web.com qualifying school. Luke also gained conditional status on the Mackenzie Tour (PGA Tour Canada) in 2018.

Daniel Iceman was a member of the University of Louisville golf team. He shot -10 to get his way into a playoff for the 2016 Kentucky Open. He has qualified for the Kentucky PGA assistants championship in 2015-2018. Daniel also Monday qualified into a Mackenzie Tour event (PGA Tour Canada) in 2016. He finished 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> out of 3 PGA Winter Series events in Port St. Lucie, Florida in 2017 as well as some wins and top finishes in Kentucky Section Tournaments. In 2018, Daniel gained conditional status on the Mackenzie Tour (PGA Tour Canada) and advanced to Sectional Qualifying for the US Open. He also was the 2018 KPGA Assistant Player of the Year.

Chris Malec was a member of the University of Louisville golf team. He finished T6 in the first stage of Web.com Tour qualifying school in 2015 to advance to second stage. Attended Web.com Tour qualifying school in 2016 & 2017 as well. He gained conditional status on the Mackenzie Tour (PGA Tour Canada) in 2018 and won a major mini tour event in Quebec Canada.

Brandon Brown was a member of the Eastern Kentucky golf team. He has won several Hooters Tour events, Monday qualified into Web.com events, qualified for two PGA Tour events, qualified and played in the 2013 US Open at Merion.

Yarik Merkulov was a member of the Duke University golf team. He Monday qualified for a Mackenzie Tour event in 2016.

Rylee Suttor Junior golfer attending college in 2019. Won several tournaments on KYPGA Junior Golf Tour solidifying her position for KYPGA Junior Tour Player of the Year in 2018. Individually qualified for

KY State Championship in 2018 and finished T17.

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

I was a captain for PGA Junior League teams in 2016 and 2017. I thoroughly enjoyed doing this and personally think PGA Junior League golf is making a big impact in our industry. Unfortunately, my schedule did not allow me to participate in the program in 2018 due to travel and scheduling conflicts. I look forward to participating again as a captain in 2019!

I conduct a ladies clinic on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Most of these ladies are new to the game. We cover all areas of the game and even discuss some fitness and nutrition. They seem to enjoy the clinic very much!

Also, I have discussed doing some minority clinics and small tournaments with our General Manager in 2019. I feel this is an untapped market that should be exposed to our great game!

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

Award	Year Received	Section

Deadline – December 10, 2018

Return forms to:  
Kentucky PGA  
Golf House Kentucky  
1116 Elmore Just Drive  
Louisville, KY 40245  
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## 2019 KPGA TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD NOMINATION

**Name of Nominee:** Grover Justice

**Facility Name:** High Performance Golf Academy

**Facility Address:** 5600 Harrodsburg Rd  
Nicholasville, KY 40356

**Facility Phone Number:** 859-494-6652

**Nominee E-mail Address:** [grover@groverjustice.com](mailto:grover@groverjustice.com)

*The nomination form should be typewritten.*

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

National Event	Date of Participation
PGA Coaching Teaching Summit	2012, 2014
Andrew Rice Coach Camp	2015, 2016, 2018
PGA Magazine Club fitting	2015
U.S. Kids Certified	2015



2. Please list all Section Teaching Workshops, Seminars and PGA Teaching & Coaching Summits attended or conducted within the last five years.

National Event	Date of Participation	Section
Lynn Blake Certified	1/20/2014	PGA Show
Proponent Group Summit	November 2016 November 2017	Arizona Florida
PGA Section Spring or Fall Conference	2014, 2015, 2016, 2017	Kentucky
Charlie King (EKU)	2016	Kentucky
Jon Sinclair (High Performance)	2016, 2017	Kentucky
Andrew Rice (High Performance)	2014, 2015	Kentucky
Joe Mayo (High Performance)	2017	Kentucky
David Orr (High Performance)	2017	Kentucky
Michael Finney (Radar Technology)	2018	Kentucky

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

- \* Instructed 1800-2000 individual lessons per year (2016, 2017, 2018).
- \* Conducted group clinics for corporate events (2016, 2017, 2018).
- \* Conducted group clinics for a middle school program (2016, 2017).
- \* Directed two mega camps per year (2014, 2015, 2016, 2017).
- \* Participated on several panel discussions during section teaching workshops (2016, 2017).

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

- \* A teaching program that guaranteed to lower the player's handicap or the next program was free. The program consisted of 2 group clinics and 2 individual lessons per month for 3 months.

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

- \*Instructional Video – Golf Channel Morning Drive - How To Improve Your Angle of Attack (2018)
- \*Putting tips for PGA Magazine (2018)
- \*Instructional Article – Kentucky Golf Insider Newsletter - The Secret To Fixing Your Slice (2017)

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

\*Denver Haddix, Joe Deraney, Chandler Morgan, Tyler Fields, Evan Davis, Scott Webb, Jeremy Martin, Andrew McKinney, Rachel Fine, Rebecca Fine, Rebekah Upchurch, Jon Kosier, Luke Fuller, Maddie Cecil, and Emille Hill

\*Two students qualified for the US Amateur and US Mid-Amateur.

\*Currently teaching 3 mini tour players, 12 collegiate athletes, and numerous high school and middle school students.

\*Four students have signed to play collegiate golf (2018).

\*Students have won numerous tournaments including: Golf Week Junior Tour, KPGA Tour Championship, Heartland Conference Championship, and Club Championships.

\*Teach students from 7 years old to 90 years old.

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

Through teaching over 1800 lessons in 2016, 2017, and 2018 and directing group clinics and junior camps, I have had the opportunity to work with juniors, women, minorities, seniors, disabled, and veterans. In 2013, I coached the first PGA Junior League at Keene Run. During the 2014 PGA Championship, I instructed juniors at the PGA Junior Day. In 2015, I directed the High Performance Golf Academy's Junior Development Tour. I enjoy working with students at all different skill levels to promote growing the game of golf.

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

Award	Year Received	Section
Player of the Year	2018	Kentucky
Player of the Year	2017	Kentucky
Assistant Player of the Year	2013	Kentucky
Assistant Player of the Year	1999	Kentucky

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# PGA

Kentucky Section

## 2019 KPGA TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD NOMINATION

**Name of Nominee:** \_\_\_\_\_ John M. Kells, PGA \_\_\_\_\_

**Facility Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ Triple Crown Country Club \_\_\_\_\_

**Facility Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ 1 Triple Crown Blvd. \_\_\_\_\_

**Facility Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_ 859-384-5362 \_\_\_\_\_

**Nominee E-mail Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ john@triplecrown golf.com \_\_\_\_\_

*The nomination form should be typewritten.*

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

National Event	Date of Participation

2. Please list all Section Teaching Workshops, Seminars and PGA Teaching & Coaching Summits attended or conducted within the last five years.

National Event	Date of Participation	Section

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

John serves as a great example of teaching to students of all levels. His teaching style is relatable with each of his students and shows in their improvements over the course of the golf season. John caters to a variety of members at Triple Crown, from new members to seniors and especially his junior students and Ryle High School golfers.

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

John began the PGA Junior League in 2014, with 10 players and growing to 52 players in the 2018 season. Each season the club provides a Kids Day that involves various games and activities for all participants.

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

John has not yet contributed to any publications, except to Triple Crown's monthly newsletter.

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

Ryne Burnett – Golf Professional- Runner Up Assistant POY and National Assistant Championship Qualifier

Sarah Kellam- US Women's Public Links participant and NKU golfer

Zach Adams- NKU golfer

Christopher Harpum- Ryle Freshman and Drive, Chip and Putt Regional Qualifier

Ben McDaniel- Ryle Freshman and Drive, Chip, and Putt Regional Qualifier

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

As mentioned above, John has grown PGA Junior League at Triple Crown from 10 to 52 kids since 2014. Recently, a project in the pro shop was completed that gives the junior golfers all of the tools they need to play collegiate golf, should that be their aspiration. This project includes a map in the pro shop of Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee with all university golf programs locations pegged on the board, and a checklist of what is required to attend and play golf for any particular university. Through the creation of Wedge and Bourbon night, members can receive a fun evening of club fitting, bourbon tasting, and valuable information and instruction to improve their golf game.

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

Award	Year Received	Section

Return forms to:  
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## 2019 KPGA TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD NOMINATION

**Name of Nominee:** Mitchell Moore

**Facility Name:** Mitchell Moore Golf Academy @ Hopkinsville  
Golf And Country Club

**Facility Address:** 303 Country Club Ln Hopkinsville KY 42240

**Facility Phone Number:** (270)719-1790

**Nominee E-mail Address:** MitchellMooreGolf@gmail.com

*The nomination form should be typewritten.*

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

National Event	Date of Participation
Fit To Win - Dave Phillips and Greg Rose (PGA Show Education Seminar)	Jan 21 2014
5 Quick Steps to Huge Success with Your Instruction Program - Suzy Whaley (PGA Show Education Seminar)	Jan 21 2014
Learning or Teaching The Golf Swing - Mike Malaska (PGA Show Education Seminar)	Jan 21 2014
Golf Improvement Techniques - Stan Utley (PGA Show Education	Jan 21 2014

Seminar)	
Cracking the Golf Swing Code - Mike Adams (PGA Show Education Seminar)	Jan 21 2014
Coaching Juniors to Peak Performance - Cameron McCormick (PGA Show Education Seminar)	Jan 22 2014
Training Jr Champions - Cheryl Anderson (PGA Show Education Seminar)	Jan 22 2014
Traits of a Great Teacher - Dana Rader (PGA Show Education Seminar)	Jan 22 2014
BioSwing Dynamics Certification Seminar - Mike Adams & Bernie Najjar - Caves Valley GC, Baltimore MD	Feb 9-10 2015
2015 PGA Teaching and Coaching Summit	Jan 2015
2015 KY PGA Instruction Workshop - Larry Ward - Keene Run	Feb 2015
Body Swing Connection - Dave Phillips (PGA Show Education Seminar)	Jan 27 2016
Latest Technology in Teaching - Dave Phillips (PGA Show Education Seminar)	Jan 27 2016
Elements of a Successful Youth Development Program - Tom Morton (PGA Show Education Seminar)	Jan 27 2016
Learning Pathways - Mike Milaska (PGA Show Education Seminar)	Jan 27 2016
Leadbetter Golf Performance - Trevor Anderson (PGA Show Education Seminar)	Jan 27 2016
Junior Performance Training Program - Nancy Quarcelino (PGA Show Education Seminar)	Jan 28 2016
Teaching with the Latest Technologies - Eric Hogge (PGA Show Education Seminar)	Jan 28 2016
Cracking the Code - Mike Adams (PGA Show Education Seminar)	Jan 28 2016
Wedge Play - Mike Adams (PGA Show Education Seminar)	Jan 28 2016
KY PGA Spring Member Conference - James Sieckman	Feb 29 2016
KY PGA Teaching Summit/Workshop - Kevin Smeltz, Jon Hardesty, Scott Sedgwick & Larry Ward - Keene Run GC	March 1 2016
TPI World Golf Fitness Summit - New Orleans, LA - Dave Phillips & Greg Rose	Oct 2016
2017 PGA Teaching and Coaching Summit	Jan 22-23 2017
2018 Open Forum - Orlando FL	Jan 2018
V1 Sports Video Teaching Systems Workshop - Claude Harmon (PGA Show Education Seminar)	Jan 2018
BodiTrak Ground Mechanics Workshop - Sasha MacKinzie and Mark Blackburn (PGA Show Education Seminar)	Jan 2018

- Please list all Section Teaching Workshops, Seminars and PGA Teaching & Coaching Summits attended or conducted within the last five years.

National Event	Date of Participation	Section
2015 KY PGA Spring Member	Feb 2015	Kentucky



Conference - Brian Mandela		
2015 KY PGA Instruction Workshop - Larry Ward - Keene Run	Feb 2015	Kentucky
KY PGA Spring Member Conference - James Sieckman	Feb 29 2016	Kentucky
KY PGA Teaching Summit/Workshop - Kevin Smeltz, Jon Hardesty, Scott Sedgwick & Larry Ward - Keene Run GC	March 1 2016	Kentucky

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

*I have given 1,000+ lessons per year for each of the last three years; averaging 35 hours per week of lessons during peak season. I have started my own Teaching Academy/Facility (Mitchell Moore Golf Academy) Located at Hopkinsville CC. My students range from age 6 to 80, Professional golfers to beginners, 9 different colleges, 20+ different high/middle/grade schools, 30+ cities, and 5 different States. Golf Instruction is my passion and I enjoy living vicariously through my students success.*

*Students Success:*

*KY Womens Am Champ (Anna Moore)  
US Womens Am Qualifier (Anna Moore)  
Top 25 in NCAA Scoring Average (Austin Knight)  
Irvin Cobb Professional Champion (Nick Newcomb)  
PGA MacKinzie Tour/Canadian Tour Member  
Region 2 Girls Champ (Emma Payne)  
West KY Am Champ (Gabe Wheeler)*

*Technology Used:*

*Foresight Launch Monitor/Simulator  
V1 3 Camera system  
BodiTrak Pressure Mat*

*Certification:*

*BodiTrak  
SeeMore Fitter  
SeeMore Instructor*

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

-*(Junior Champs) Elite Junior Program for College Bound Juniors*  
 -*Organized 54 Youth Golfer Group Training Sessions During Summer Break. Ages 5-17 (group size: 3-6 kids)*  
 -*Coducted Tournament Practice Rounds with High School Golf Teams (Trigg Co, Hopkinsville High, University Heights Academy)*  
 -*Clinics conducted for Trigg County High School Golf Team*  
 -*Caddied in Womens US Amateur for Student*  
*Created 8 College Recruiting Videos*

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

*Youtube Channel:*

*Pelvic Tilt vs Turn*

*Callaway Rogue Pro vs Titleist AP2*

*Wedge Bounce*

*Epic 3 Wood vs Rogue 3 Wood*

*Straight-Back-Straight-Through vs Arc Putting Stroke*

*Training Aid Review - THE HANGER*

*Training Aid Review - The Orange Whip Wedge*

*Callaway Rogue Driver Review*

*Instagram - Facebook - Twitter*

*900+ Post*

*200+ Videos (Lesson Recap/Instruction Videos)*

*8 College Gofler Recruiting Videos*

- **Please list the names of outstanding golfers the nominee has instructed.**

*Professionals:*

*-Nick Newcomb (Former Murray State Univ Golfer; Irvin Cobb Pro Champ)*

*-Chris Baker (Former Austin Peay Univ Golfer; 2017 Member of PGA MacKinzie/Canada Tour)*

*-Cameron Carrico (Former Murray Stat Univ Golfer; KY Open Runner Up)*

- Tyler Phillips (Former Austin Peay Univ Golfer)
- Logan Loftus (Former Austin Peay Univ Golfer; West FL Golf Tour)

#### College:

- Austin Knight (Murray State University; 3 College Victories; 2018 Eli Barron Champ (Tournament Scoring Record - Two day 132) Top 25 NCAA Scoring Avg)
- Austin Lancaster (Austin Peay State University)
- Garrett Whitfield (Austin Peay State University)
- Hunter Tidwell (Austin Peay State University)
- Jay Fox (Austin Peay State University)
- Gabe Wheeler (Murray State University; West KY Am Champ)
- Ricky McGraw (Kentucky State University)
- Anna Moore (Murray State University; 2017 & 2018 State Am Champ; US Womens Am Qualifier)
- Taylor Church (Murray State University)
- Wyatt Samuels (Trevecca Nazarene University)
- Carson Holmes (Murray State University)
- Dacie Bolton (Lindsey Wilson College)
- Parker Brown (Brescia University)
- Trevor Brown (Brescia University)
- Hunter Ferrell (College of the South)

#### High School:

- Emma Payne (Owensboro Catholic; Junior; Region 2 Champ)
- Weston Wood (UHA; Junior; State Qualifier)
- Grant Puckett (Webster County; Sophomore; KY Jr PGA Tour Play of the Year 2017)
- Dylan Cottrell (Rossville High (TN); Junior; State Qualifier)
- Billy Atkins (Stewart County (TN); Senior; 12th in 2017 TN State Tourney; Signed with Bethel Univ)
- Hunter Reynolds (Trigg County; Freshman; Made cut at KY State Tourney)
- Sean Gardner (Rossville High (TN); Senior; Signed with Letourneau University)

#### Notable Amateurs:

Chris Griffin (Former Murray State Univ Golfer; Rolling Hills Inv Champ; Paxton Park Club Champ)

Andy Davis

*TJ Ferry (Former Murray State Univ Golfer)*  
*Jonathan Grabara (Former Lindsey Wilson College)*

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

*-(Junior Champs) Elite Junior Program for College Bound Juniors*  
*-Organized 54 Youth Golfer Group Training Sessions During Summer Break. Ages 5-17 (group size: 3-6 kids)*  
*-Assisted in Clinic for Wounded Veterans at Cardinal Club in 2015*

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

Award	Year Received	Section

Deadline – December 10, 2018

Return forms to:  
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# PGA

Kentucky Section

## 2019 KPGA TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD NOMINATION

**Name of Nominee:** \_\_\_\_\_ Josh Snider \_\_\_\_\_

**Facility Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ The Golf Academy @Persimmon Ridge GC \_\_\_\_\_

**Facility Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ 72 Persimmon Ridge Lou., KY \_\_\_\_\_

**Facility Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_ 502-396-5610 \_\_\_\_\_

**Nominee E-mail Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ jjsnider67@gmail.com \_\_\_\_\_

*The nomination form should be typewritten.*

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

National Event	Date of Participation
PGA Instruction Certification	2008
TPI Certified Instructor	2014

2. Please list all Section Teaching Workshops, Seminars and PGA Teaching & Coaching Summits attended or conducted within the last five years.

National Event	Date of Participation	Section
KY Section Summits	2014-Present	Kentucky
IN Section Summit	2014	Indiana
Numerous PGA Show Clinics, Forums & Workshops	2014-2016	Orlando, FL

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

Teaching has always been my passion as a PGA Professional, both as an Assistant Golf Professional and Head Golf Professional, and is the reason that I left my former position to become the Director of Instruction at The Golf Academy at Persimmon Ridge. I have always prided myself to stay in the current loop of modern day instruction and continue to look forward to educating myself more so that I can better assist others with their golf game. I can consider myself fortunate to have been around some of the state's finest junior golfers when leading the junior golf programs at my respected golf facilities while serving as the Assistant Golf Professional, developing a next wave of junior golf and elite amateur champions as a Head Golf Professional through instructional programs, and to now having the opportunity assist those who want to play the game at the highest levels while achieving their goals.

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

My position as the DOI allows me to implement programs and training sessions for golfers at every level. We have focused on building our academy on middle school aged kids through programs with both Oldham and Jefferson County public schools as well as our involvement with local catholic schools during their respected golf seasons. All of our programs, whether for the advance junior or intermediate player, are definitely unusual, innovative and special which have proven results of better golf.

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

I have always contributed to local media outlets and publications with both golf instructional tips and general golf happenings throughout the years. Currently, I have focused on providing that golf information through our Academy and can easily be found on our numerous social media platforms. I have also been responsible for the development of The Golf Academy Handbook with our standards, policies and programs offered through our membership as well as creating a yearly instructional plan for the TGA Instructional Staff.

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

Too numerous to list but does include multiple collegiate, high school and local & national junior tour champions during their respected 2018 golfing calendar. I'm equally proud of the "club golfers" that I have been able to assist with achieving goals and bettering their golf games throughout the season.

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

I have always looked to assist any of the Section's growth of the game programs throughout his 20 year teaching career and have conducted numerous clinics for local charities, community organizations and schools to promote the game of golf. That is what I do.

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

Award	Year Received	Section
Assistant Golf Professional of the Year	1998	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](mailto:csaner@kygolf.org)





# PGA

Kentucky Section

## 2019 KPGA TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD NOMINATION

**Name of Nominee:** Andrew Stephens  
**Facility Name:** The Stephens Golf Academy  
**Facility Address:** 5390 Limaburg Rd., Burlington, KY 41005  
**Facility Phone Number:** 859-630-1206  
**Nominee E-mail Address:** andrew@stephensgolfacademy.com

*The nomination form should be typewritten.*

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

National Event	Date of Participation
SAM Puttlab Level 3 Certification Seminar- Orlando	January 2017
Swing Catalyst Level 2 Certification Seminar- Orlando	January 2016
U.S. Kids Certified Instructor Seminar- Orlando	January 2014
Bioswing Dynamics Level 1 Seminar	January 2014
Golf Teaching Professionals Open Forum @ PGA Merchandise Show	2013,2014,2015,2016,2017,2018



Aimpoint Express Seminar- Orlando	January 2015
PGA Teaching and Coaching Summit	January 2015
Trackman North American Users Conference	November 2013- Phoenix November 2015- Orlando
K-Vest Levels 1-3 Certification Seminars	February 2015 June 2015 November 2015

2. Please list all Section Teaching Workshops, Seminars and PGA Teaching & Coaching Summits attended or conducted within the last five years.

National Event	Date of Participation	Section
KPGA Teaching Summit	March 2018	Kentucky
KPGA Teaching Summit	March 2017	Kentucky
KPGA Teaching Summit	March 2016	Kentucky

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

I have served as the Director of Instruction at the Stephens Golf Academy for the past 5 years. In 2018, I have personally taught 1,010 private lessons year to date, and 3,730 lessons over the past 3 years. Our academy has taught a combined 2,494 private lessons in 2018. In 2018, I have instructed 254 different golfers with skill levels ranging from beginners to division 1 college golfers.

Certified by many technology companies including Trackman, SAM Puttlab, K-Vest, and Boditrak, my teaching style is a combination of old school feel based instruction and new school data and measurement.

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

I run a program called the Junior Elite program for junior golfers that aspire to play in college. The program is full service and includes private lessons, on course lessons, and assistance with college recruiting including a produced recruiting video.

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

I produce content for The Stephens Golf Academy Youtube channel. Our channel has over 1,000 subscribers and growing daily. The most popular videos I have created on the channel are:

- "Finally Learn to Square the Clubface Consistently" with 44,000 views
- "Hit the Ball Farther with One Simple Move" with 40,000 views
- "Golf Myths Debunked: The One Piece Takeaway" with 22,000 views
- "Causes and Fixes for a Negative Attack Angle" with 21,000 views

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC4ZI0u1N9ZLye\\_LnUfgaMrQ/videos?view\\_as=subscriber](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC4ZI0u1N9ZLye_LnUfgaMrQ/videos?view_as=subscriber)

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

- Rylan Wotherspoon, Class of 2022, Cooper High School. Ranked 4<sup>th</sup> in class in KY. Won 3 High School tournaments as a Freshman, finished t-14<sup>th</sup> at State Tournament and was named to 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-State
- Ryan Mitts, Class of 2019, Grant County High School. Named 2<sup>nd</sup> team All-State and signed with Northern Kentucky University in November

- Tyler Mitts, Class of 2021, Grant County High School. Named 2<sup>nd</sup> team All-State and won multiple junior and high school tournaments in 2018.
- Taylor Schwarz. Signed with Northern Kentucky University in November after 3 year absence from competitive golf while finishing her college degree.
- Tyler Lippert. Junior at Eastern Kentucky University. Made the top 5 for the first time this fall.
- Jacob Poore- Senior at Northern Kentucky University. Won the Horizon League Conference Championship in May and became the first NKU golfer in history to compete in the NCAA championship.
- Logan Gamm- Senior at Northern Kentucky University. Qualified for every event in the fall and had stroke average of 74.00, which was more than two strokes better than his previous best semester average.
- Patrick Kennedy- Class of 2019, Covington Catholic High School. Won the 9<sup>th</sup> region championship at Boone Links with a score of 68.

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

Our academy has implemented a Golf in School's program under the supervision of Sara Stephens. That program introduces thousands of Boone county elementary school children to golf through instruction in their P.E. classes.

I also supervise our academy's large PGA Junior League and USGA/LPGA Girl's Golf programs. We had 64 juniors in our PGA Junior League Summer and Fall programs, and 43 juniors in our Girl's Golf Program.

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

Award	Year Received	Section
Teacher of the Year Nominee	2017	Kentucky PGA

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](mailto:csaner@kygolf.org)



## 2019 KPGA TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD NOMINATION

**Name of Nominee:** Sara Stephens  
**Facility Name:** The Stephens Golf Academy  
**Facility Address:** 5390 Limaburg Rd Burlington, KY 41005  
**Facility Phone Number:** 859-414-1791  
**Nominee E-mail Address:** Sara@StephensGolfAcademy.com

*The nomination form should be typewritten.*

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

- 2013 TPI Level 1 Certification Program
- 2014 US Kids Golf Certification Program
- 2014 Trackman North American Users Conference
- 2014 Teaching & Coaching Summit
- 2015 KVEST Level 1 Certification
- 2016 KVEST Level 2 & 3 Certification
- 2016 & 2017 Open Forum @ PGA Show

2. Please list all Section Teaching Workshops, Seminars and PGA Teaching & Coaching Summits attended or conducted within the last five years.

- 2014-2015 Teaching & Coaching Summit (Southern Ohio Section)
- KPGA Teaching & Coaching Summit 2016 & 2017
- 2017 Biomechanics Teaching Seminar with Joseph Mayo, Chris Como, & Sasho MacKenzie (KPGA)
- 2017 Education Seminar with David Orr and HP Golf Academy (KPGA)

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

-From 2016-2017 was able to double lesson business from 700 lessons-1400 lessons,

-Through November of 2018, I have taught a total of 1,003 Individual Lessons. This total does not include those that participated in our Player Development Programs at the Academy.

-In 2014-2017, Recognized as a U.S. Kids Top 50 Instructor Honorable Mention

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

Approximately 65% of my teaching business is done through Monthly Lesson Memberships. I offer Three Lesson Membership Categories to students.

**Committed Player Program --** This Lesson Membership is available to Adults and Juniors. Included is one lesson per calendar month, with a minimum of a 1 year commitment required. CPP Members also receive additional incentives on our Practice Zone (Winter Simulator), as well as a special lower rate on additional lessons

**Junior Elite Membership—**This program is exclusively for Girls 18 & Under with aspirations to play golf after High School. This program includes three individual lessons per month, as well as additional group instruction and on course instruction from me. I currently have 9 Girls in this Program.

**Pee Wee Player Development Program –** This Lesson Membership is designed for Kids 7-13 that want to improve their golf skills, but aren't quite ready for their lessons to be 45 Minutes in length. Member of this program receive two 30 minute lessons per month with a 12 month commitment.

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

I am currently a contributing writer to the Junior Golf Section of WomensGolf.com. My most recent article can be found at: <https://www.womensgolf.com/child-struggling-golf>

I do provide "Instagram stories" during various lessons on our Academy Instagram Page at @StephensGolfAcademy.

6. Please list the names of outstanding golfers the nominee has instructed.
- Caitlyn Richardson- Qualified for the High School State with her Team Ryle High School this season
- Macy Luebbers- Named to First Team GGCL (Greater Girls Catholic League- Cincinnati)
- Lauren Abner- Entering in to ECU's PGM Program next year. Qualified for the State Tournament with Notre Dame Academy this year
- Zoe Luebbers- 1<sup>st</sup> Place in US Kids Golf Golden Triangle Tour Girls 12-14 Division
- Clare Hooper- Advanced to State Tournament with Notre Dame Academy as a Freshman
- Reagan Ramage- Advanced to Drive, Chip, and Putt Regional for the second year in a row at Muirfield Village Golf Club. Finished in 2nd Place in US Kids Golf Golden Triangle Tour Girls 10-11 Age Division

**Madison Hudson-** Came in first in Age Group at Drive, Chip & Putt Local Qualifier at Lassing Pointe. Advanced to Drive Chip & Putt Sub-Regional at Persimmon Ridge Golf Club

**Kathryn Doss-** Sophomore on Northern Kentucky University's Women's Golf Team

**Marcia Mollica & Jan Dorgan-** Advanced to National Finals for LPGA Amateur Association (Formerly EWGA) in Austin, Texas. There were over 400 players at the tournament. Their team finished 4<sup>th</sup> in their Division.

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

- Girls Golf of Northern Kentucky grew program from 9 girls to 43 girls from 2016-2018
- PGA Junior League, 44 kids participated across 3 13u Teams and 3 16u Teams
- From December 2016- Present have taught Golf In School NKY to just over 3,000 Kids in Boone County, KY. This includes One After School Program and also Two Special Needs PE Classes (Kids with Autism, Down Syndrome, Etc)
- 2016- Provided a putting demo at the EWGA Cincinnati Chapter Women's Tee Off Brunch
- 2016 & 2018- Provided a 2 hour clinic to 24 women at the Chamber Of Commerce Women's Initiative Golf Outing
- 2016 Guest Speaker at the Grant County High School Golf Team's End Of Season Banquet
- In 2015 & 2016 Served as guest teaching instructor for The First Tee's Summer LPGA USGA Girl's Golf Program at Reeves Golf Course
- Coached the St Ursula Girls Varsity Golf Team from 2015-2017.

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

Award	Year Received	Section
US Kids Golf Top 50 Honorable Mention	2014-2017	
PGA Lead Cohort III	2017-2019	National
2018 Player Development Award	2017	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](mailto:csaner@kygolf.org)



# PGA

Kentucky Section

## 2019 KPGA TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD NOMINATION

**Name of Nominee:** Corey Stith  
**Facility Name:** Simple Approach Golf Academy – Etown CC  
**Facility Address:** 2606 Hodgenville Rd., Elizabethtown, KY 42701  
**Facility Phone Number:** 270-737-7707  
**Nominee E-mail Address:** corey\_stith@mymail.eku.edu

*The nomination form should be typewritten.*

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

National Event	Date of Participation

2. Please list all Section Teaching Workshops, Seminars and PGA Teaching & Coaching Summits attended or conducted within the last five years.

National Event	Date of Participation	Section



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

*I, unfortunately have never been involved in instruction at the sectional or national level. This is due in large part to the fact golf instruction has always had to be "secondary" to my career as a Head Golf Professional or General Manager. It is also in large part due to the fact, I do not focus my attention on high school, college or professional golfers like the individuals who always win this award. I do not do it for notoriety. My time is spent predominantly on the everyday golfer, the ones who really help grow the game and keep our facilities alive. At ECC, we have gained (5) members in 2018, solely due to my private golf instruction. At the facility level, I have always went above and beyond history at that particular club. My first season at Tates Creek Golf Course, I did over 800 hours of golf instruction, when that facility did less than 20 hours annually for the previous (6) years. Now at Elizabethtown Country Club, I did over 1000 hours of instruction my first year, while growing junior golf numbers from 3 to over 36 participants and PGA Junior League participation from 7 players (1 team) to 20 players (2 teams). Our membership has also had it's highest retention rate ever, while our total number of members is at its peak.*

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

*I think what is unusual about my methodology and approach is the fact that I am "old school" in the sense that I do not utilize launch monitors, force plates, K-vests or any of the other popular technologies. My golf academy is named "Simple Approach" for this reason. I use video with every student, but focus the majority of my time on fundamentals and "negative feedback" drills that have always yielded the best results for me. I always try to have my students leave with more questions answered, versus the common issue today in which students are overloaded and leave with more questions than answers. In today's age, there is too much technical "coach-speak" and only the most advanced students can interpret and improve with this amount of technology and confusing terminology. I firmly believe our industry loses a lot of golfers due to poor instructional experiences and pupil frustration. Nobody likes to participate in things they are not good at or don't understand. A lot of instructors inadvertently make students feel inferior because of the way they verbalize things and their methodology.*

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

*Again, since I cater to the golfers who I feel make the biggest impact on our game, the "everyday" player or average golfer, I have never contributed to any of these public communication channels. I like to spend my time outside of the lesson tee, answering instructional questions for members or offering advice to beginners and juniors.*

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

*A former student of mine for five years when I resided in Louisville (John Marshall Butler) just won the KHSAA State Title although he is not currently my student. But again, outside of that, most of my students are winning club championships and various other club and local events. I had over (20) students break their personal bests this season and numerous junior golfers win local events and earn their highest finishes ever.*

*1) Grant Manion (Grayson County HS) – broke 80 in multiple high school/junior events after never breaking 90 in a competitive round. Average score in 2017 was in the mid-90's.*

*2) Paige Gray (Central Hardin HS) – Broke her personal best (3) separate times this season, while shooting 80 and tying for 1<sup>st</sup> place in the regional tournament. Her average score was in the mid-90's in 2017.*

*3) Chase Childress (Larue County HS) – Broke his personal best multiple times this season, while shooting a 78 (new personal best) and finishing in 4<sup>th</sup> place in the region tournament. His average score was in the high 90's in 2017.*

*4) Katie Gray (Central Hardin HS) – Broke her personal best this season, while shooting 89 her first event of the year and winning the KY PGA Junior event at Elizabethtown CC. Her average score was over 100 last season.*

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

*Junior and women's golf have always been very important to me, as I feel that they are the biggest determining factors of longevity of our game. I am a US Kids Certified Instructor and have grown the junior programs at every facility I have been at. While at Louisville CC, I assisted in growing the junior golf program from 25 players to over 50 when I left. Now at Elizabethtown CC, I offer (2) junior golf camps and had (2) PGA Junior League teams. Prior to my arrival at ECC, there were (3) kids who participated in each camp, while I had 16 and 20, respectively. My PGA*

*Junior League had (10) kids on each team for a total of (20) participants, prior to that only (6) kids participated. I also give private lessons to high school students from every local high school: Central Hardin, North Hardin, Elizabethtown and Larue County. I also spend a lot of my free time around the practice tee and short game areas lending a hand to any junior golfers who may need help.*

*As far as ladies golf goes, while at Tates Creek in Lexington, I taught approximately half of the Fayette Women's Golf Association and offered numerous camps and clinics for these women. At Elizabethtown CC, we only had (8) ladies who actively played and now we have (16). I give lessons to half of these ladies. I offer a Wine Down Wednesday clinic and game in which I give a short clinic and then send the ladies out for a 9-hole game and they eat at the clubhouse after. I also offer "Short Game Schools" to the novice and above ladies and Beginner Clinics to those members who may simply have spouses that play, but do not play themselves.*

*Without juniors or ladies entering and being retained in the game, the golf industry will never see a large incline in participation. These two areas are vital to the growth of our game.*

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

Award	Year Received	Section
Public MOY	2018	Kentucky
Public MOY	2017	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](mailto:csaner@kygolf.org)



# PGA

Kentucky Section

## 2019 KPGA TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD NOMINATION

**Name of Nominee:** Larry Ward

**Facility Name:** High Performance Golf

**Facility Address:** 5600 Harrodsburg rd. Nicholasville, KY 40356

**Facility Phone Number:** 859-321-3364

**Nominee E-mail Address:** larryward@larrywardgolf.com

*The nomination form should be typewritten.*

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

National Event	Date of Participation
*Proponent Group Teaching Summit	11/05/2017
*Andrew Rice Coaches Camp	12/08/2017
*Andrew Rice Coaches camp	1/30/2017
*PGA Magazine Teacher of the Year Conference	12/05/2016
*Proponent Group Teaching Summit	10/23/2016
*Proponent Group Teaching Summit	11/01/2015
*PGA Youth & Family Golf Summit	1/20/2014

2. Please list all Section Teaching Workshops, Seminars and PGA Teaching & Coaching Summits attended or conducted within the last five years.

National Event	Date of Participation	Section
James Siekman Teaching Seminar	02/29/2016	KY
Player Development Section Workshop	10/26/2015	

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

Larry teaches over 2,000 hours of golf lessons a year. He and his staff provide programs for the members and perspective members. In 2018 Larry had students that played in The PGA Tour. The Mackenzie Tour, The European Tour, U.S.G.A Women's Open, The U.S.G.A Men's Amateur, The U.S.G.A Women's Amateur, The U.S.G.A Boy's and Girl's Amateur, The PGA Junior Championship, The Women's British Amateur and virtually every other major amateur and junior event. He taught in 10 different states as well as doing multiple skype/face time lessons all over the world.

"Larry's Academy created programs that serviced every level of our membership in 2018. The Academy was also responsible for an increase of over \$40K of net profit for our merchandise program!" Tyler VanHoose (Keene Trace GM)

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

Larry created a total coaching program that includes a performance coach and strength coach. The program consist of a balanced year round program tailored for each student. The program is full and has a waiting list.



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

\*Load, Store and Go., Keene Scene Magazine

\*High Performance Golf Practice Journal

Larry is also a contributing writer for Golf Channel Academy.

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

Hunter Stewart, Fred Allen Meyer, Jansen Preston, Laney Frye, Sarah Fite, Olivia Cason, Cooper Collins, Austin Squires, Nick Wilkins, Jay Kirchdorfer, Max Mehles, Will Sallee, Noah Combs, Logan Hogge, Cooper Parks, Cayden Pope, Olivia Hensley

\*All listed are current students who have long term coaching programs.

success stories came when he didn't charge a junior for a golf lesson for 4 years starting in 2000. From that program he was able to help 12 students from rural Kentucky move on to play college golf. Another two are now in the golf business.

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

Award	Year Received	Section
Teacher of the Year	2011	KY
Teacher of the Year	2012	KY
Teacher of the Year	2015	KY
Teacher of the Year	2016	KY
Horton Smith Award	2016	KY

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](mailto:csaner@kygolf.org)





# PGA

Kentucky Section

## ~~2016~~ KPGA TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD 2019 NOMINATION

**Name of Nominee:** Nathan Wolfe  
**Facility Name:** The Golf Complex  
**Facility Address:** 5980 US Hwy 60 W, Paducah, Ky 42003  
**Facility Phone Number:** 270 519 4384  
**Nominee E-mail Address:** ndwolfe81@gmail.com

*The nomination form should be typewritten.*

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

National Event	Date of Participation

2. Please list all Section Teaching Workshops, Seminars and PGA Teaching & Coaching Summits attended or conducted within the last five years.

National Event	Date of Participation	Section
	2014	Brian Manzella
	N/A	Jim Mclean
	N/A	Jim Hardy

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

## Facility- The Golf Complex-

I normally give 40 to 60 lessons per week during golf season. I feel that everyone who takes a lesson from me understands what it is that they need to improve on and how to go about the process to improve. I try to make lessons fun and enjoyable while also improving my student's game.

### Section level –

I have a student who has won 2 Kentucky Open Championship during our partnership. I also have some juniors who have performed very well on the Kentucky Junior Tour.

### On a National level –

I have a student complete a successful year on the web.com tour, who earned a fully exempt year in 2016. Another student qualified for the US Amateur this year. I also had another win various small professional events in Florida and make it to second stage of the Web.com tour school.

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

I haven't started any special programs. I teach people who want to get better and that is my motivation. I want to help people be as good as they want to be, when a student has the desire to be great, than I'm glad to go all in with them and work towards that goal.

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

I have sent out articles to membership of The Golf Complex.  
I have also posted videos on YouTube for our membership.

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

Rick Cochran III – My most well known student.

Rick and I began working on March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2011. He had tried playing professionally for 2 years without much to show for it. We spent a few hours together analyzing him swing and I gave him my thoughts about it. We still work regularly together every few weeks. I traveled to some

Web.com tour events with Rick in 2015 to help him prepare Monday thru Wednesday of the events. At one of the events he had the lead going into Sunday's final round. So far our results have been a success. While together Rick has won two Kentucky Opens, a Peach State tour event, 2 Hooters Tour events, finished 2<sup>nd</sup> 6 times on the PGA Tour Latin America, made it thru the Web.com Tour Q-School, and made over \$120,000 on the Web.com Tour in 2015. We are still trying to make it to the PGA Tour. Rick is fully exempt on the web.com tour this year. We are going to give it our best effort to make it to the PGA Tour in 2017.

Mason Jacobs - Not that well known in the Kentucky Section. Mason is from Illinois. He made it thru the first stage of Q-school this year.

Jordan Lewis- Qualified for the US Men's Amateur in 2015.

Trinity Beth – Trinity is becoming pretty well known, I have been teaching her since she was 5, she is currently 9. At age 6 she was winning tournaments in the 9 & under age division. She has competed in national tournaments around the country and has been very successful.

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

I have conducted junior golf camps, women's clinics, couples clinics, and helped with minority clinics. The most interesting thing about that is some people aren't even really interested in the golf instruction. People like to have fun and be around other people. Make these camps and clinics fun and you attract new golfers. Make lessons fun for students and help them improve at the same time.

As students improve and you go along with them it becomes harder to be involved with these types of programs.

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

Award	Year Received	Section

I am much honored to be a nominee for this award. I was a bit confused why there wasn't a section to write about teaching style, beliefs, or influences. In golf instruction there is always a style or influence that came about from someone. I really love to read golf instruction books and I have done so from the day I began playing. The things I teach come from my education in being around the game, and my hunger to study everything I could get my hands on about golf. I have sought out many of the top teachers in our industry and had phone conversations or gone to spend time with them to improve myself. I am also lucky to have grown up and spent many hours around a lot of great golfers.

Unfortunately, the instruction world has a really sour air to it currently. We have a lot of internet golf gurus with overbearing I'm better than anybody else attitudes. It is a really sad thing, I just choose to stay out of all that and just try to help my students get better and enjoy the game.

Deadline – December 14, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. (EDT)

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

Email Word documents to:  
[ehorn@kygolf.org](mailto:ehorn@kygolf.org)



# PGA

Kentucky Section

## 2019 KPGA TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD NOMINATION

**Name of Nominee:** Colby Wollitz, PGA  
**Facility Name:** The Golf Academy @ Persimmon Ridge  
**Facility Address:** 72 Persimmon Ridge Drive, Louisville, KY 40245  
**Facility Phone Number:** 502-241-0819  
**Nominee E-mail Address:** cwollitz@pga.com

*The nomination form should be typewritten.*

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

National Event	Date of Participation
BioSwing Dynamics Certification	Fall 2013
US Kids Certification	2015
Little Golf Train	2016
PGA Certified Teaching & Coaching	2017
BioMechanics of Golf Certification (Penn State)	2017
SAM Putt Lab Certification	2017
Callaway Certified Master Fitter Training	January 2018
Vision 54 Be A Player/Coaching for the Future	February 2018
Decade Golf	Spring 2018

2. Please list all Section Teaching Workshops, Seminars and PGA Teaching & Coaching Summits attended or conducted within the last five years.

National Event	Date of Participation	Section
	Spring 2017	HP Academy
	Fall 2016	HP Academy
	Fall 2015	Nicole Weller
	Spring 2015	HP Golf Academy
	Spring 2014	Man O' War
	Summer 2014	Brian Manzella

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

As Director of Player Development at The Golf Academy @ Persimmon Ridge, my responsibilities include introducing new golfers to the game, continuing to help established golfers improve, and always looking for new ways to make the game easier for our players. In the Kentucky Section, I strive to be a positive role model by conducting myself in a professional manner, being a constant face at educational opportunities, and encouraging assistants, apprentices, and PGM students to reach out for learning opportunities.

Thanks to Persimmon Ridge and our indoor training facility, I have the ability to teach 12 months a year. In the summer, we stay busy with 3-5 week-long PGA Junior Golf Camps where we host up to 20 juniors a week for half/full day instruction. In 2016, 2017, and 2018 we coached St. Patrick's MS team which included more than 90 players/year, St. Aloysius program with 20 players, hosted a MS developmental weekly clinic for more than 40 players, fielded 3 or more PGA Junior League Teams yearly, conducted weekly Saturday Junior clinics at Persimmon Ridge and King Louie's Sports Complex, worked with over 20 college and professional athletes, and have grown to nearly 100 middle school and high school golfers that we see weekly for group training and individual instruction.

I am always looking for ways to improve and be the best possible coach for our players. To me, this includes both growth and learning in the field of golf and also personal growth. On the side of golf, I have traveled to New Jersey to achieve a certification in BioSwing Dynamics under the tutelage of my mentor Mike Adams, spent a weekend in Richmond, VA shadowing the junior golf program at Independence Golf Club, one that



sees over 3,000 juniors each year, gone through multiple online certification programs, completed the Vision 54 “Be A Player” program and Lynn and Pia’s in 3-day Coaching for the Future, and joined top instructor Will Robins and his team of RGX. In my opinion, the greatest personal challenge I have found is Ryan Moran’s 10 Day Challenge. Completing this has led to my desire to continue to learn more about myself and how I can best serve others. I have found that audiobooks and podcasts from mental coaches/life strategists like Tim Ferris, Tony Robbins, Dr. Bhrett McCabe, Dr. Robb Bell, and many more have improved my coaching as much as, if not more than, golf specific learning.

Every Spring, I volunteer at the Louisville Golf Expo PGA Free Lesson booth and speaks on the main stage as a keynote speaker. I continue to reach out to fellow PGA Professionals for guidance and education in order to provide my students the best possible product I can offer. In the Spring of 2018 I had the opportunity to speak to ECU PGM students during their teaching and coaching class.

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

I have implemented the following programs at Persimmon Ridge:

- The Littlest Golfer (Juniors ages 3-5)
- Weekly Junior Clinics (ages 6-13)
- MS/HS Player Program
- Vision 54 Training (4 hour clinic)
- 1-week long Junior Camps
- Supervised Practice- 1 ½ hours a week where each student would receive Colby’s “Perfect Practice” program and work together in a group practice session.
- Course Management Clinics
- AimPoint Green Reading Clinics
- Short Game Golf Schools
- Adult 1-day Golf Schools
- Corporate Golf Schools
- TrackMan yardage gapping sessions- 1-2 hours of hitting balls on TrackMan with each club. Clubs would be altered/fit as needed to create the desired carry yardages for each club.
- SAM Putt Lab sessions- Students would go through an initial measurement and extended training using SAM Putt Lab.



By far the most innovative and effective program we have created is our Committed/Elite program which includes weekly group practices and individual training. Due to its nature as a yearlong program, we are able to tailor the practice schedule to fit the time of year. In the off season (October-January) we focus on club head speed, body pivots, drivers, and TrackMan education. Our juniors have averaged an increase of 2.8 mph/month utilizing our speed training routine. As we get closer to the season, we transition into wedges and putting as well as starting to focus on course management techniques and Vision 54 training. Once back outside, we get into tournament/practice routines, tons of short game, on course training, and dispersions. Once in tournament season, the foundation is set and our focus shifts to making sure all of our players are tournament ready while making minor adjustments to fundamentals as needed but staying focused on short game, course management, process, and feel. In 2017 players from this program combined for more than 60 tournament wins and over 100 top 5 finishes.

I always relish the chance to be on course with our players...especially during tournaments. I especially enjoy when I have the chance to caddy for players in tournaments. As a caddy, I am very good at taking the emotions out of decision making and helping the player make the appropriate decisions for themselves. As a result, most of the players I caddy for shoot career tournament lows while I am with them. Below are a few players who played great while I caddied for them:

Turin Duber, 10: -2 9-hole event at Seneca. Won by 4

Emily Warner, 15: 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Hurricane Tour Major

Frankie Morgan, 19: Nearly qualified for the Barbasol championship after a 32 on his front 9.

Peyton Bonny, 14: Made cut at KY State Am

Be best part of being on the course with our players is after the event when we can take the time to look at places we can improve.

In the summer of 2017 I began using dispersions to help our high school and college players manage their tee shots for tournament rounds. I would use TrackMan to get a players dispersions and carry distances and create a course map for them using Google Earth. This would give players a start line and club selection based on their dispersions and tendencies for each tee shot they would play. Over the past two years, I have made course maps for players at St. Xavier, Trinity, KCD, Floyd Central, University of Kentucky, Indiana University, Dayton, Cincinnati, Moorhead State, Ball State, Bellarmine, and professionals compete on the Mackenzie Tour, Web.com tour and PGA Tour. Players using the course maps averaged 2-3 more

fairways a round and more importantly dropped their scoring average by 1-2 strokes a round. Cooper Musselman used the course maps for this entire season at UK including an individual win at Crooked Stick which propelled him to #33 in the country and through all stages of web.com q-school qualifying in 2018.

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

I have written semi-monthly articles for Southern Gaming Magazine of Indiana as well as shooting 3-5 instructional videos a year with Inside Kentucky Golf. In the Spring of 2015, I published "Learn to Play Golf: A quick and easy guide, from tee to green" on Amazon Kindle.

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

Cooper Musselman (UK), Hayden Zimmerer (Dayton), Clay Amlung (UC), Frankie Morgan (Dayton), St. Xavier golf team, Evan Bone, Macie Brown, Grace Walker, Turin Duber, Michael Long, Griffin Barke, Drew Wallace, Peyton Bonny.

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

I have served on the Player Development Committee for 5 years including chairing the committee for 2 years. The following are programs that we have implemented to continue to grow the game.

Get Golf Ready/Beginning Ladies Clinics- Our GGR program has transformed into weekly beginning ladies clinics for those that wanted to continue playing after the 5 week program.

Golf in Schools- Last Winter/Spring, I visited 6 different elementary schools with his Golf in Schools Program. He visited each school for 1-2 weeks with the attempt of seeing every student (K-6<sup>th</sup> grade) at least once. Since its inception Colby has reached over 3,000 kids.

Drive, Chip, and Putt- To coincide with the national program, I started a DCP Training series at Persimmon Ridge to help prepare his juniors for their

competition. In its second year, the program reached over 20 juniors. 8 juniors made it through the local qualifying stage.

PGA Junior League Golf- In its fourth season at Persimmon Ridge, PGA JLG boasted 45 participants. I was able to create 3 travel teams: 2 Varsity and 1 JV. The JV team consisted of 10-12 juniors that were newer to the game. We continued a Fall league for those that wanted to stay with us and had nearly 20 players. We have since transitioned indoors for winter PGA JLG training and have 16 players still participating weekly.

Junior Camps- In 2018 Colby directed the following Junior Camps:

PGA Junior Golf Camps- 3 camps conducted reaching 50 juniors. Camps ran Monday-Friday and juniors had the choice to participate in either a half day or full day camp.

Weekly Junior Camps- We conduct weekly one-day junior camps year round. These camps totaled over 200 students taught.

EWGA Clinics- Colby offered 2x 5-week clinic series' for the EWGA with a total of 12 women participants.

Louisville Golf Expo- I volunteer yearly at the KPGA Free Lesson booth at the Spring Golf Expo as well as speak on the main stage.

St. Patrick Middle School Team- For the past three years, we have coached the Middle School team at St. Patrick School. The team consists of nearly 90 juniors yearly that meet twice a week during the season. I coordinated with 6-8 other coaches working on athletic development, short game skills, on course learning, full swing, and of course fun games weekly.

The Littlest Golfer- The Littlest golfer consisted of a group of golfers ages 3-5. The program utilized the book "Let's Play Golf" by Nicole Weller and The Littlest Golfer sets were provided to those that did not have their own clubs. I am a certified "Little Golf Train Conductor" which specialized in working with kids in this age range.

Juvenile Detention Center- I began visiting a local juvenile detention center with SNAG equipment in the winter of 2016. The goal is to provide an incentive for the kids to set goals and stay focused on getting their work done. I print out a goals sheet for each participant. In order to get to do golf the next week, they had to come up with a list of goals as well as steps to achieve them. They also needed to get all of their work done and be on good behavior. 100% of the juniors still at the facility the following weeks succeeded in both of these areas.

Semper Fi- In 2017 I spent 2 days working with wounded veterans through a golf school offered to them at U of L Golf Club. I have also been through the PGA Hope certification.

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

Award	Year Received	Section
Youth Player Development	2016, 2017	Kentucky

Deadline – December 10, 2018

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1116 Elmore Just Drive  
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