

Francis X. Hogan III, PGA

Francis X. Hogan III was born on February 22, 1965 in Greenwich, Connecticut to parents Frank and Alice Hogan. He is the middle child of four siblings: John (oldest), Jude, Alice, and Patrick. Fran is very funny and always had people laughing from the time he was very young. His father, Frank, retired as an Actuary with the International Monetary Fund in Washington, D.C. and his mother, Alice, retired from the Marriott Corporation. She is a local artist known for her beautiful water color paintings of landscapes.

Fran's love of golf began as a young boy with a small set of irons and a family tree of accomplished golfers. His great grandfather and uncles were well known players in Connecticut. Fran's parents gave him a set of irons that once belonged to his great uncle and encouraged him to play during weekend family gatherings or vacations on the beaches of Maine. Later, at age 11, he played on golf courses in Connecticut and at Bretton Woods Country Club in Germantown, Maryland.

Being very athletic, Fran played golf and baseball throughout his high school years at Churchill High School in Potomac, Maryland. He started his college career at Plymouth State College in New Hampshire on a baseball scholarship, but then decided to come home to continue his studies at Montgomery College in Rockville, Maryland, where Fran became the captain of the golf team. After college, he played in adult leagues and in various pro/am tournaments in the area.

Fran was employed as an Apprentice Assistant from March, 1990 to December, 1995 at Congressional Country Club in Bethesda, Maryland under Head PGA Professional Kent Cayce; as an Apprentice First Assistant from January, 1996 to February, 1998 at Argyle Country Club in Silver Spring, Maryland working for Head PGA Professional Mike Barillo; and then in March, 1998 as a First Assistant at Montgomery Country Club in Laytonsville, Maryland for Head PGA Professional Mark Sturtz. Fran was elected to PGA membership on July 1, 1998 and has been the Head PGA Professional at Montgomery CC since March, 1999.

Fran has been married to his wife Kim, principal of a private school in Olney, Maryland, for nearly 17 years. They have three children: daughter Olivia (14), son Sean (12), and son Colin (7). Olivia and Sean are competitive tennis players who are regionally and nationally ranked. Colin has cerebral palsy as a result of a virus contracted prior to birth. Watching his youngest son's struggles inspired Fran to help others who have physical challenges by becoming an integral part of the Special Olympics Maryland (SOMD) Golf Program and bringing it to Montgomery CC, where it has grown and thrived. He often speaks of the courage, talent and commitment of the participants who have developed a love of golf. Fran is amazed by the demonstrated determination and spirit shown by the athletes. This has inspired him to encourage those who didn't think they could play a sport, to participate and have fun in doing something one loves.

Some of the ways in which Fran and his colleagues at Montgomery CC have helped the program are: offering tee times and the use of the practice facility at the club to the athletes who are preparing to represent SOMD at the National Invitational Tournament; hosting the SOMD State Golf Championship (a weekend event with over 100 SOMD golfers and Unified Partners participating in the competition); always being available for advice and input to the SOMD Golf Development Team (a group of coaches and volunteers who work to provide the best competition environment for the athletes and create new opportunities for the golfers); sharing his knowledge on coaching strategies and the rules of the game; working with the coaches, Unified Partners, and athletes at training schools toward improving their

short game and their swing; and hosting the “Montgomery Masters,” a charity golf tournament at Montgomery CC. During this “Masters,” Fran and the staff at Montgomery CC welcome over 120 golfers to their course and clubhouse every August where they do an absolutely phenomenal job. He has played an active role during the event, serving as the “guest PGA Professional” on a hole in which golfers participated in a “Beat the Pro – Closest to the Hole” competition. Through the efforts of volunteers, supporters, along with Fran and the staff at Montgomery Country Club, the “Montgomery Masters” golf tournament raised over \$50,000 in 2008 to benefit Special Olympics Montgomery County.

Fran's success is based on his strong work ethic, his love of people, and his commitment to serving them with quality, care, and building a love of golf to all he serves, no matter what talents they bring. He is truly a “people person” who knows how to make other people feel valued and connected. Fran genuinely, and daily, cares for all those with whom he works.