

Patrick J. Bedingfield, PGA
Bethesda Country Club, Bethesda, Maryland

Patrick was born December 19, 1977 in Washington, DC. He shared his childhood with his twin sister, Andrea, and his older brother, David. Their father, James Bedingfield, Ph.D. introduced them to golf in the backyard of their home in Howard County, Maryland where they would hit balls about 100 yards toward a small “temporary green.” As they got older, they would hit balls into a driving net for hours at a time. The kids even designed a mini nine-hole course where they could hit from nine different tees to the same green. Andrea was the best golfer, David was good, and Patrick was the worst, but they had a lot of fun.

As a very shy six year old, Patrick started playing golf at Argyle Country Club in Silver Spring, Maryland. Bob Bilbo, PGA gave Patrick his first lessons, taught him the rules of golf, and over the years showed him how to conduct himself on the course. Even though Patrick was not the best junior at the club Bob kept him interested in the game and spent time encouraging Patrick to continue with golf. They also had a common interest: baseball cards. Both Patrick and Bob had very large baseball card collections and probably spent more time talking about them than golf. Those conversations solidified their friendship. In 1990, when he was 13, Patrick began working for Bob as a bag room assistant. By that time Patrick had overcome his shyness and was very comfortable working with and for the members.

Patrick became a golf professional in 1995 after declaring his professional status on his 18th birthday. He was elected to PGA membership in 2002. From 1995-1996, Patrick worked at Argyle Country Club as a Third Assistant Golf Professional. In 1996 he worked at Montgomery Country Club in Laytonsville, Maryland as a Second Assistant. From 1997-1999 he was back at Argyle Country Club, this time as a Second Assistant. Since 1999, Patrick has been an Assistant at Bethesda Country Club.

Patrick considers himself privileged to have met many PGA Professionals who all bring unique traits to the job. Watching them, he observed which traits brought them success and then attempted to incorporate into himself those characteristics he most admired.

Patrick’s specialties are golf club repair and caddie program management. By taking on those tasks he is a valuable asset to the golf operation. While at Argyle Country Club, Michael Kenny, PGA allowed him to ruin a few club heads, all for Patrick’s education. Jim Folks, PGA gave Patrick the opportunity to develop and improve the caddie program at Bethesda Country Club from something that was lacking and in need of special care to a well functioning part of the golf operation.

Patrick has also used his skills to help other assistants with their PGM Program. He makes himself available to apprentices for guidance or hands-on training with any aspect of the PGM Program. He’s helped over 30 apprentices complete the Golf Club Repair and Assembly work experience portion of level 1.

