

2006 TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Stephen "Slot" Slotterback, PGA *Kinloch Golf Club, Manakin Sabot, Virginia*

Slot was born April 6, 1965 in Bowie, Maryland and raised in a terrific family by parents Ronald and Jeannette Slotterback with his brother, Ken, and sister, Susan. Athletics and golf were a large part of his youth. Both Slot's father and grandfather played and enjoyed the game of golf and Ronald introduced him to the game at Bowie Golf Club in Bowie, Maryland when Slot was eight years old. Slot would accompany his dad to the course and would walk or caddy for him. As Ron played he would let Slot hit a few shots every now and then. He was a great teacher providing the basic fundamentals while letting Slot learn how to swing and play different shots on his own. After his game improved, Ron would let him play along even though they didn't keep score for the first year or so. Slot eventually played in junior interclub matches at Bowie Golf Club. He has fond memories of being dropped off at the course in the morning and playing golf with friends until having to get home for afternoon baseball.

Slot attended DeMatha Catholic High School in Hyattsville, Maryland and went on to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in Sports Management from West Virginia University in Morgantown, West Virginia and a Masters degree in Sports Management from East Stroudsburg University in East Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania.

He worked summers for Superintendent Barry Gilbert on the grounds crew at Bowie Golf and Country Club in Bowie, Maryland during high school and college. Slot was the assistant at Hunting Hills Country Club in Roanoke, Virginia from 1993 to 1996. He then became the director of instruction at Roanoke Country Club in Roanoke, Virginia and was elected to PGA membership in 1998. In 2001, Slot became a golf instructor at the Rick Smith Golf Academy at Tiburon Country Club in Naples, Florida and a member of the Rick Smith Corporate Teaching Team. He is currently the PGA Director of Instruction at Kinloch Golf Club.

In March of 1998, Slot completed Level III of the Golf Professional Training Program (GPTP) tied with the highest aggregate test score ever recorded at that time. He was awarded a Titleist-Footjoy GPTP Apprentice Scholarship in 1999 and was selected for the TaylorMade-adidas Presidential Advisory Staff in 2004. Slot believes the most important trait a teacher can have is caring. To have a passion for helping others improve their game, achieve their game goals, and ultimately increase their enjoyment of the game is key. It is also critical to be an effective communicator and to be flexible enough to be able to assist golfers of all abilities. Slot achieves great satisfaction and enjoyment in helping others enjoy this great game.

Slot and his wife, Christine, have been married for nearly fifteen years. Her support has allowed him to pursue his goal of teaching the game of golf. They have one son, Brooks, age 12, and two daughters, Rachel, age 9, and Grace, age 5.