## Andy Weissinger, PGA

Pines Golf Course, Ft. Eustis, Virginia

Andy was born on November 23, 1976 in Norfolk, Virginia to parents George & Mary-Ellen Weissinger. He has three sisters, Samantha, Jenni & Mary-Virginia.

Andy's dad first introduced him to golf at age nine while they were on summer vacation in Cape Cod. Behind one of the corner stores on Main Street in Chatham is the 6<sup>th</sup> green and the 7<sup>th</sup> tee to the Chatham Golf Links. As they drove by, Andy thought golf looked great and asked his dad if they could do that together - he took him out the next day. Nine holes and about 12 balls later, Andy fell in love. He started playing golf regularly at age 13 because it gave him an opportunity to be outside, to be involved athletically, and spend some great time alone with his dad. Andy's dad taught him many things about life, relationships, integrity and competition during their many golf outings together.

His first volunteer job was for Mike Waugh, PGA Professional at Ocean View GC in Norfolk, Virginia from 1990-1993. Andy was responsible for cleaning the shop and re-gripping clubs in order to play free golf and take golf lessons. His first paid job was working for Andy Giles, PGA Professional at Cypress Point CC in Virginia Beach, Virginia from 1994-1995 where he cleaned golf carts and picked up range balls.

Andy grew up playing baseball, basketball and golf. Baseball and golf were played during the same season at Norfolk Christian High School in Norfolk, Virginia where Andy went to school, so Andy made what turned out to be one of the most important decisions of his life: he decided to play golf instead of baseball. He played on the golf team at Norfolk Christian from the 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades. As a junior in high school, Andy decided to dedicate himself to golf and try to earn a golf scholarship, which meant giving up playing on the basketball team in order to dedicate himself to more practice time and traveling to off-season tournaments. In 1995, Andy earned a golf scholarship to Liberty University in Lynchburg, Virginia where he earned his Bachelor's Degree in Religion with a concentration in Pastoral Studies.

Andy turned professional in 1997 while working at Ivy Hill Golf Club in Forest, Virginia as an assistant golf professional from 1997-1999. He then worked at Chesapeake Golf Club in Chesapeake, Virginia as a PGA apprentice from 1999-2001 and went on to become the Head PGA Professional there. Andy was elected to PGA membership in 2001 and in that same year, he began working at Lake Wright Golf Course in Norfolk as the Head PGA Professional. He then went on to work at the Honey Bee Golf Club in Virginia Beach as the Head PGA Professional from 2001-2003. From 2003-2005, he was the Head PGA Professional at the Pines Golf Course @ Fort Eustis and since 2005, has also been the General Manager. Andy attributes his success to keeping things simple - and fun! He feels that golf is tough enough without needing to make it even more so with swing theories or rigid methods. His philosophy can be summed up by stating two simple facts: people learn by doing and they want to do more of something that is fun to them. The perfect combination of these two facts is golf! Andy tries to touch as many people as he can with the game by going where they are and not waiting for them to come to him. He believes that the more creative programs he has, the more people he can touch. The more he takes care of an area that he has "touched" (or marketed) the more they will spread a positive word and the program will grow. Then he can focus on "touching" another area and before he knows it, he has two successful areas (or programs), and so on and so on. Andy makes sure to listen to his community and take what he has learned to develop programs that meet the undeniable needs they have expressed.

Andy believes that golf is a wonderful avenue to build everything from the relationships in a family to an individual's own self-confidence. He feels truly blessed that he has had the opportunity to help so many

people fall in love with the game that has given him so much. After all, if they have gotten involved and fallen in love, then he knows where they are going to be...at the golf course with him.

Over ten years ago, Andy somehow convinced his wife Jennifer to marry him on May 30, 1998 and they have since been blessed with two boys; Alex, age 8, and Caleb, age 5.