## **Dean Greer, PGA** Laytonsville Golf Course, Laytonsville, Maryland

Dean was born in Montgomery County, Maryland on May 10, 1963 to Dave and Susie Greer. He has a brother, Dave Jr. and a sister Sonja. Dean's father was an avid golfer in his younger days and introduced the game to him, but Dean didn't start playing a lot until he was 18. After meeting Dave Walker and taking lessons from Lloyd Kelley, he was hooked. Meeting other PGA Professionals like his mentor Cary Lee Ferrell made Dean realize that he wanted to play this game the rest of his life and make it his career.

Dean started his golf career as a golf shop assistant, starter, ranger and cart staff at Poolesville Golf Course. In 1987, Dean was Poolesville's 1<sup>st</sup> Flight Club Champion. Dean became a golf professional in 1995 and got his first job as an assistant professional at Poolesville Golf Course. In 1998, he was selected for his current job as the Apprentice Head Professional/Manager at Laytonsville Golf Course. Dean graduated from the PGA Golf Professional Management Program (PGMP) and was elected to membership in The PGA in 1999.

He has hosted an MAPGA junior golf event at the Laytonsville Golf Course every year since he became the Head PGA Professional there. Dean has volunteered countless hours teaching at MAPGA clinics held at East Potomac Golf Course over the past several years. In 1998, he also started a junior interclub team at Laytonsville and has continued to support the program by fielding a competitive team every year since; Dean also serves as the commissioner for his Interclub Division.

In 2002, Dean started a highly successful First Tee Chapter in Montgomery County as part of the nationwide organization that is co-sponsored by The PGA of America, PGA Tour, USGA, LPGA, and Augusta National Golf Club. Countless youngsters have benefited from this opportunity to participate in golf. Dean recently became a First Tee Life Skills Certified Coach.

After becoming a Head PGA Professional, Dean noticed that the girls of Montgomery County were having a difficult time competing against the boys in high school golf tournaments. He suggested starting a girls-only high school golf program. Dean made his idea become a reality! His club now hosts all of the girls' high school golf competitions in Montgomery County including seven tournaments and the annual county girls' championship. All Montgomery County High School girls' golf teams now call Laytonsville Golf Course their home. He also hosts five boys' high school teams.

Dean's leadership is responsible for the junior golf program growing from zero to over 500 golfers each year. Numerous two and three-day junior golf camps are held each year. He recognizes the importance of junior golfers getting on-course instruction. All juniors receive playing lesson opportunities along with lessons on golf etiquette and practice range time.

Dean reached out to several elementary school physical education teachers in order to expose third, fourth and fifth graders to golf. He was tremendously successful once again. After going through all the proper channels, Dean now teaches classes to these grades several times a year using wiffle balls and plastic clubs. The parents, P.E. teachers, and all of the kids love the program. In January 2003, Dean spoke at a physical education teacher's conference introducing 230 Washington, DC area P.E. teachers to the idea of presenting golf programs in elementary schools.

Dean's performance with starting solid junior programs and seeing them grow exponentially over several years is well recognized throughout the area. He is known for his passion in developing junior golf programs and junior golfers. The same high standards of integrity and professionalism passed to him

from his mentors are followed by Dean and passed along to all who have contact with him. "I truly believe that one of the things we are judged on in this life is how we treat our kids and other people's kids."

Dean received a Junior Golf Award from the Montgomery County Recreation Department in 2002 and also a Junior Golf Advocate Award from Montgomery County Public Schools in 2000.

Dean and his wife Angela, have been married for seven years. Their first date was a golf lesson. They have 4 children, Stefanie (18), Brooke (13), Hayley (4) and Dean Jr. (2).