

Stephen C. Greiner, PGA

Fort Belvoir Golf Club

Fort Belvoir, Virginia

Steve Greiner has been awarded the PGA Player Development Award for his strong work in programs for military personnel. Through his partnership with the Warrior Transition Units at both Fort Belvoir and the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, Steve is making a difference in the lives of soldiers and their families, and he is growing the game by creating golfers who are emotionally invested in golf.

Steve was born on July 7, 1959 to Fred and Arline Greiner in the town of Mineola on New York's Long Island. He has one sister, Joanne, and two brothers, Richard (deceased) and Fred. Steve's dad introduced him to the game of golf at Cantiague Park Golf Course in Hicksville, New York, when he was eight years old. While his dad introduced him to many sports, Steve's early success with golf led him to focus on that sport. One of Steve's favorite memories evolved from the craziness of playing public golf in the metropolitan New York City area; lining up with his dad outside the entrance to Bethpage State Park Golf Course in Farmingdale in the dark at three o'clock in the morning to beat the three to four hour wait list. He would also hide in the woods there (without his dad!) and sneak onto the Black Course which he played thousands of times.

Steve broke 80 (78) on a regulation course before the age of thirteen. He also started caddying that year at Bethpage State Park Golf Course and later at Garden City Golf Club in Garden City, New York. Steve made his high school varsity golf team in ninth grade and led them to the Long Island Catholic Championship in tenth grade. He won New York State's Troy Invitational and is a two-time qualifier for the US Amateur Public Links. It was thrilling, after spending most of his childhood and teenage years on Bethpage Park's five golf courses, to finish third on their Black Course, qualify for the US Amateur Public Links, and have his dad forecaddie for the entire 36 holes. Shortly thereafter, he won the Sanka Invitational Amateur.

Steve attended Hofstra University in Hempstead, New York for two years before transferring to John B. Stetson University in Deland, Florida on a varsity golf scholarship. He received a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in Management and Marketing from Stetson. While at Hofstra, Steve won the University of Delaware tournament; finished sixth in the East Coast Conference Collegiate Tournament; was selected to the All East Coast Conference Team; and was invited to qualify for the NCAAAs. While at Stetson, he won the Palm Coast/Embry Riddle Collegiate tournament.

Steve declared his professional status in 1993 and started his own teaching business serving Fairfax County Adult Education and Northern Virginia Regional Parks. He began working at the Fort Belvoir Golf Club in 1999 as the retail manager for their two golf shops while maintaining a large teaching clientele. Steve was elected to PGA membership in 2002. While working towards that membership he was awarded three National Acushnet PGA Apprentice Scholarships for finishing with the highest score in the Section in Levels I, II, and III of the PGA Professional Golf Management program. He also received the Section's AHEAD MAPGA-APA Apprentice Scholarship for his high achievements in Levels II and III.

In 2006, Steve was named Head PGA Professional at Fort Belvoir Golf Club, the position he currently holds. During the time that Steve has been at Fort Belvoir he has served the United States Army with distinction and was inspired to start the U.S. Army/Fort Belvoir Wounded Warrior Golf Program in 2008. This program has grown into an Army "best practices program" that now serves Fort Belvoir Community Hospital, Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, U.S. Army AW2 (Wounded

Warrior) Program, the Warrior Transition Battalion at Fort Belvoir, and the Warrior Transition Brigade located at Walter Reed NMMC.

In 2010, in front of his golf membership at the annual Member-Guest Golf Tournament, Steve was bestowed a Wounded Warrior Challenge Coin signifying honorary membership into the Warrior Transition Battalion as “one of their own.” In 2012, Steve was selected as the Middle Atlantic PGA Section’s sole nominee for The PGA of America’s National Patriot Award. Also, in 2012, Steve was most honored when he was awarded the US Army’s prestigious “Distinguished Civilian Service Medal.” The presentation was made even more special because the presenting official was the Fort Belvoir Garrison Commander, COL Greg Gadson, himself a highly decorated, double amputee wounded warrior.

Steve’s 2012 Fort Belvoir Wounded Warrior Golf Program touched 95 lives (Wounded Warriors of several different services, their spouses and children, and Warrior Transition Battalion Cadre) over the two 8-week sessions. These 16 sessions averaged 28 participants, 7 PGA/LPGA Professionals and 6 Volunteers per week. His vision of using golf as a method of healing for our wounded heroes and their families is what earned him this distinguished player development award.

Steve is also proud that President Barack Obama accepted his invitation twice to speak and participate at two of his Wounded Warrior events. In addition, Steve has regularly hosted our nation’s leaders including President Obama, former Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta, Army Chief of Staff General Ray Odierno, former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, and many other 3 and 4-star generals. Steve has been invited to the White House twice; during the second visit at the Christmas holiday reception, he was recognized as a community leader.

Steve’s parents, Fred and Arline, stressed to their children the importance of finding something they loved and sticking with it. As a result, Steve and his siblings were exposed to many opportunities. Steve found golf and stuck with it. He enjoyed working hard; learning all he could about something he loved doing. That attitude and the support from his family and friends are the keys to his success. Today he is very active in the community and highly involved in Fairfax County, Fort Belvoir’s Youth Services, and Get Hooked on Golf junior programs.

Steve and his wife, Marty, have been married for 14 years. Marty is a very successful senior executive with the US government.