

PGA PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR

This high honor bestows special recognition on a PGA Professional for overall performance as a PGA Professional and for leadership, service, and promotion of the game of golf.

John F. Madden II, PGA

River Bend Club

Great Falls, Virginia

John F. Madden II, PGA has been named the 2016 Professional of the Year, the highest honor paid to an active PGA Professional, for his outstanding service and commitment to the Middle Atlantic PGA. John is the consummate professional dedicated to the PGA mission. His integrity, demeanor and great personality have built a lasting reputation that has won him unequivocal respect from his peers in the industry. John recently served as the 46th President of the MAPGA from 2014-15.

John was born on January 2, 1965 in Washington D.C. to John F. Madden (deceased) and Mary Ellen Madden. The Madden family was relatively small, as it was just John and his younger brother Patrick. At the age of 10, John started playing golf with his dad at Kenwood Golf & Country Club in Bethesda, Md. John cherished the moments of his dad coming home from work and going out to play nine holes together after dinner. During the summers, John would spend his days at Kenwood working on his game and growing his passion for the game of golf.

John attended Ohio University where he was a member of the golf team for four years. He graduated in 1989 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Meteorology. John worked for one year at Kenwood Golf and Country Club before becoming the Assistant Professional at Westwood Country Club in Vienna, Va., in 1990. That same year he became a PGA apprentice and within three years John earned his Class A PGA Membership. In 1998, John accepted his current position as Head PGA Professional at River Bend Club in Great Falls, Va.

While working as the Head PGA Professional at River Bend Club, John oversees the entire River Bend golf operation which includes 5 PGA Professionals and an outside operation staff of 30. John prides himself on being a very good communicator and listener, someone who always has a positive attitude and someone who leads by example. He is very service oriented, and he has worked hard to build a great team and train them in those ideals. John works with each employee individually to put together a road map for their success on a personal and professional level. His professionalism and enthusiasm for the game and the membership are qualities that help lead his staff to be the best they can be. Through his leadership and mentoring, two of his assistants have received the MAPGA Assistant of the Year awards. Several have gone on to become Head Professionals and staff members of the PGA of America.

Since becoming a PGA Professional in 1993, John has been a strong advocate to growing the game of golf. John has been very active at his club and embraces PGA of America Grow the Game initiatives like junior league, Tee It Forward, Drive, Chip and Putt and Get Golf Ready programs. He helps run junior sports camps at the club each summer, offers free introduction to golf seminars to new members at the club, as well as running corporate outreach programs for professional men and women. He is always thinking of new ideas to increase participation and promoting the game at River Bend with creative events such as incorporating golf themes into food and beverage events, skills challenges such as putting contests, closest to the pin, long drive competitions and holiday events. He has increased participation

at River Bend by using fun games such as birdie ball, SNAG golf and other golf related competitions to the juniors and their families. John also developed and ran an Intro to Golf program at Sport and Health Clubs in the Washington, D.C. area and volunteers his time with the local high school community.

While his leadership and passion for growing the game of golf are second to none, it is his passion to serve others that is perhaps John's best traits. John became a PGA Professional because of his enjoyment of the game and the people associated with it. John is continuously reaching out to local professionals helping them pursue their careers by providing advice and guidance, and mentoring his staff and fellow PGA professionals. He is always eager to share his knowledge and expertise of the golf business to help fellow professionals improve and reach their potential goals. That enthusiasm helps inspire others.

John has been active in the MAPGA for the past 20 years. His elected positions started in 1995 as Assistant Professional (A-8) Director on the MAPGA Board. In that position, he helped establish the Assistant Professional Association (APA) of the MAPGA. On a chapter level, he has served as Central Chapter Director-At-Large 2000 – 2001, Central Chapter Vice President 2002-2003, and Central Chapter President 2004-2005. John's service didn't stop there as he moved up in the Section Chairs of Secretary, Vice President and President from 2010-2015. In addition to these elected positions, he has served on many committees at the chapter and section level (Tournament, Assistants, Club Relations, Junior Golf and Sponsors).

John recognizes Rod Thompson, PGA and Glenn Brown, PGA as his mentors within the PGA and for helping him become the PGA professional he is today. Over the last 22 years, John has inspired many individuals to get involved in golf. It's that passion and his ability to organize and oversee a complete golf program suited to the needs and wants of the membership that continue to provide him with career satisfaction.

Happily married for nearly 25 years, John and his wife Julie met while attending Ohio University. The couple have three children, Sean (21), Connor (19) and Kara (13), who all enjoy playing the game their dad has given so much to.