

Bernard Najar, PGA

Woodholme Country Club, Baltimore, Maryland

Bernie was born December 3, 1971 in Bethesda, Maryland to Andre and Bernadette Najar. Growing up in a large family with siblings Cathy, Isabelle, Helene, Carolyn, Valerie, and Kenny made it easy for him to feel comfortable doing things on his own.

Bernie began playing golf at age 13 when he skipped tennis camp to attend his first junior golf clinic at Kenwood Country Club with head PGA Professional Rod Thompson. Rod and his staff at the junior clinics made Bernie's introduction to golf a fun experience. The thrill of playing a new sport and the challenge of hitting the ball to a distant target encouraged him to play more.

Bernie caddied at Bethesda Country Club under Jim Folks, PGA and worked at Las Vegas Golf and Tennis during his senior year at Walt Whitman High School. He made the All-Metropolitan Golf Team 1988-1990. After his high school graduation in 1990, Bernie attended The American University on a golf scholarship and graduated in 1994 with a BSBA degree in Finance.

In 1994, he went to work at The Suburban Club of Baltimore County in Pikesville, Maryland. In 1995, Bernie was hired by The Staples Corporation to teach PGA Professional Charlie Staples' son, Whit Staples, full time in Florida. During the summer, when Whit was traveling to tournaments, Bernie taught lessons at Montclair Golf, Tennis, and Swim Club in Montclair, Virginia. In the Spring of 1996, Bernie joined the staff at Woodholme Country Club in Baltimore, Maryland as a teaching professional. Bernie completed The PGA's Golf Professional Training Program in 1998, at which time he was elected to PGA membership.

Since 2000, Bernie has been recognized by *Golf Digest* in their "Best Teachers in State" listing. He has been a speaker at the MAPGA Teaching and Coaching Summit on Advanced Teaching Techniques and also recently launched his own website, www.parsavers.com. Bernie has received certifications in Fitness Instruction through Greg Rose's Advantage Golf Programs Level 1 and Level 2.

Bernie's success as a PGA Professional is a result of loving his job and being self-motivated to develop and improve his skills as a teacher and as a player. He loves learning new skills and has been very fortunate to learn from some of the best players, teachers, fitness experts, and business owners in the golf industry. In addition, Bernie's wife of almost two years, Susan, and the members at Woodholme Country Club have always been extremely supportive of his work as a PGA Professional. Bernie's always thinking about how he can make his business run more efficiently. He loves learning and implementing the latest technology into his instruction program to help his students learn with greater ease.