## David O. Newsom, PGA

River Creek Club, Leesburg, Virginia

David was born March 8, 1965 in New York, New York to Donell and Lena Newsom. Donell was in the Foreign Service so the family, including brother Daniel and sister Valerie, lived overseas for many years in France, Germany, Philippine Islands, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, and India.

David began playing golf while a high school senior attending boarding school in India. It only cost a dollar to play all day with a caddie. David won the High School Championship in 1983 at Kodaikanal International School, India. There were only four competitors and none were very accomplished, but somewhere in the foothills of southern India is a trophy with his name etched on it.

David was very shy and experienced major culture shock when he returned to the United States to attend college at George Mason University, where he graduated with a BS degree in 1987. Golf allowed him an escape and a way to make friends.

In 1987, David accepted an assistant position at Hidden Creek Country Club in Reston, Virginia. He was elected to PGA membership in 1994. In the winter months from 1988-1996 he worked as an assistant at Bear Lakes Country Club in West Palm Beach, Florida. At Hidden Creek, David was promoted to Head PGA Professional, General Manager, and PGA Director of Golf. He left there in 2000, for River Creek Club in Leesburg, Virginia. In 2002, David became River Creek's Head PGA Professional.

David believes that anyone can and will improve their golf game when they have a conceptual understanding of what they are trying to accomplish. It is his responsibility as an instructor to instill solid tour-proven and time-tested fundamentals, develop in his students a conceptual understanding of ball flight, and communicate in a language that they can understand.

David and his wife, Kelly Cowles Newsom, were married on April 3, 2004. Their son Emanuel is in heaven after a still birth on February 22, 2005, however, David and Kelly feel very fortunate to have another child on the way.