

JUNIOR GOLF LEADER

This award bestows special recognition on a PGA member who is a leader in junior golf, reflects the image and qualities that juniors can emulate, and provides opportunities for juniors to learn and play golf.

TROY BECK- Glenn Dale Golf Club

Troy Beck is Director of Instruction at Troy Beck Golf Academy, Glenn Dale Golf Club in Glenn Dale, Maryland. The Academy's junior golf program is well-known throughout the area, and people travel great distances so their children can participate. Under Troy's direction, the lives of over 800 juniors are touched annually. It may be through the Junior Summer Camp program, with over 400 children participating in one of nine camps. Perhaps it is through one of the free junior golf clinics conducted over four weeks in the spring, where approximately 150 participants per clinic receive free instruction from Troy and other volunteer instructors. Or they may be in the Glenn Dale Golf Club Junior Membership Program, in which over 200 juniors are taught and tested on skill level, etiquette, golf course care, membership rules and lightning safety. Troy administers this program as well as being responsible for teaching and coaching the nine junior golf camp instructors and orchestrating and facilitating all the free clinics. The overwhelming participation is evidence of the positive image and leadership ability required to conduct such a successful program, which has been called the "champion program of the country" by Carl Donner of the USGA.

Troy grew up in Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada where she was active in many sports, most significantly basketball, which she also played in college. As a Pre-Med student, Troy double-degreed, earning a Bachelor of Science in both Biology and Physical Education. Troy was introduced to golf by the father of her best friend, Lynn Cooke, when she was just ten years old. Wanting his daughter to have a golf partner, Mr. Cooke purchased a membership for Troy at Regina Golf Club. She later got a job at the same club; first as a waitress, and then on to working in the bag room, the pro shop and as a member of the greens crew.

Due to the Saskatchewan climate, the golfing season consisted of only two months out of the year, July and August. Troy did not play golf extensively until after she graduated college. She participated in a number of Canadian amateur events, representing Saskatchewan at the Canadian Nationals her last year as an amateur. She worked as a shop assistant at Regina CC in Saskatchewan, Canada before moving to the United States and taking a position in 1979 at Soboba Springs CC in Hemet, CA. In 1980, Troy was one of the first three females to enroll in PGA school in San Diego, CA. She completed the program in just two years but due to issues surrounding her Canadian citizenship, membership into the PGA would not come for some years. Troy moved to Maryland in 1984, when she accepted an assistants position at the Country Club at Woodmore in Mitchellsville, MD. In 1987, she earned her membership into the LPGA. The following year, in 1988, Troy accepted a position as First Assistant at Glenn Dale Golf Club, and in 1989, following a long and tedious immigration process, she was finally allowed to become a member of the PGA of America.

In addition to her busy schedule at Glenn Dale, Troy remains an active Class A member in the LPGA. She has organized two LPGA Girls Clubs (Annapolis, MD and Washington, DC). The LPGA Girls Club is a joint effort of the LPGA, USGA and Girl Scouts of America, and is designed to get girls involved in golf as a lifetime sport. Glenn Dale Golf Club is the homesite and facilitator of the LPGA Girls Club of Greater Annapolis. Troy also publishes a quarterly instructional newsletter for juniors titled *Junior Pinseekers*, and a monthly newsletter that is sent to the LPGA Girls Club. She won the LPGA Teaching and Club Professional National Championship in 1994, and in 1995 she received the LPGA Northeast Teacher of the Year award. Noted for her expert use of video for golf instruction, *Golf for Women* lists her in the "Top 50 Female Instructors in the Country." Troy's ability to develop juniors into good players is witnessed by the 19 juniors she has instructed who have obtained college golf scholarships!

Troy is always willing to assist other golf professionals in starting their own junior golf programs. She has even provided assistance to golf professionals in other countries! The energy she devotes to developing young golfers is unsurpassed. Troy attributes her success to a willingness to give of herself, "*Work has always been my best friend, and I have never been afraid to work hard. I like to learn, and I try to be a good listener. I enjoy people and challenges.*" Troy Beck's countless contributions to junior golf in the Middle Atlantic Region and the goodwill she promotes have earned her the respect of her peers, her community and thousands of juniors who will never forget the difference she made in their lives.