

Sean M. Taylor, PGA
Wintergreen Resort, Wintergreen, Virginia

Sean was born on August 20, 1968 in Hamilton Township, New Jersey to parents Charles and Fay Taylor. He has three older brothers – Marc, Blaine, and Charles. Growing up, no one in his family played golf. Sean grew up playing a variety of sports and narrowed it down to two – running and golf. He began playing golf when he was 13 years old while attending a family reunion in North Jersey. He was taken to a driving range by his father and instantly became hooked on the pleasure of just hitting the ball. He started off playing pitch and putt and worked his way up to a municipal golf course.

Even though Sean's dad didn't play golf, he used his basketball coaching skills (including his knowledge of competition and preparation to compete) toward instilling that work ethic into Sean's golf game as well as his professional life. He used to drop Sean off at the golf course before 7 a.m. so he could pay a \$3 green fee (after 7 a.m. it went up to \$5!). Sean used the two "extra" dollars for lunch money.

Sean soon became good enough to win a golf scholarship to Elon University in Elon, North Carolina where he played on their golf team. He was named Trenton, New Jersey's Junior Player of the Year in 1986 and was named All Mercer County in New Jersey for three consecutive years. Sean graduated from Elon with a double degree in History and Education with minors in math, philosophy and religion. He went back to Elon University for MBA coursework in 2003.

Sean's first golf-related job was at Morrisville Golf Farm (which consisted of a driving range, lighted pitch and putt, and 36 holes of miniature golf) in Morrisville, Pennsylvania where he operated the ball picker for Bill Anderson from 1984 throughout his summers at college. Upon college graduation in 1990, he played professionally traveling the mini tour circuit throughout the southeast. From February 1991 to August 1992, Sean was an assistant golf professional for Brian Crum, PGA at the Country Club of Callawassie in Hilton Head, SC and beginning in September 1992 through March 1993, he was the First Assistant.

Sean was elected to PGA membership in 1994. At Duke University Golf Club in Durham, North Carolina, he was the Head PGA Professional from 1999 to 2004 moving up from his position as Associate Golf Professional there from 1993 to 1999. He was the Director of Golf Operations at Grand Cypress Resort in Orlando, Florida from 2004 to 2006. Since 2006, Sean has been the Director of Golf, Spa and Retail Operations at Wintergreen Resort in Charlottesville, Virginia. His areas of responsibility include: golf operations, golf maintenance, the Golf Academy, the Wintergarden Spa, the Aquatics and Fitness Center (13 treatment rooms, salon, 5 pools and 2 fitness centers), resort wide retail (8 Stores), and tennis maintenance.

Under Sean's leadership, Grand Cypress Resort was named one of the "Top 100 Best Golf Shops" by *Golf World Business* in 2004, 2005, and 2006. He was selected as one of "America's Top Golf Instructors" in *Guide to America Golf Instructors* in 2002, and was nominated for the Presidential Award at Duke University in 2002 and 2003.

Sean has been married to Kris for 13 years. They have two children, Joseph and Ella, 6 year old twins.

His personal golf philosophy is to hire the best PGA professionals, ones who are driven, passionate, honest, and competitive not only for themselves, but also for their team members and to "work hard as well as smart."

