

PRESIDENT'S AWARD

This award bestows special recognition on an individual whose tireless effort, unwavering dedication, and exceptional contributions to the game of golf result in significant benefit to the Middle Atlantic Section, its members and apprentices, and to the entire golf community.

The Section President personally selects the outstanding recipient of this award.

Weldon Higgs, PGA MAPGA Rules Official

Weldon Higgs is well known throughout the section for his dedication, loyalty and selfless support of the MAPGA. He is a familiar sight at section tournaments, volunteering his service as a highly qualified rules official. He has contributed many, many hours to the section's junior golf programs, always exhibiting patience and tolerance while promoting the game of golf to his young protegeses.

Weldon's career began in 1971 when he was hired as Assistant Golf Professional at Shannon Green Golf Course in Fredericksburg, VA. In 1976 he earned his PGA membership. In 1979 Weldon accepted the Head Golf Professional position at Fredericksburg Country Club where he remained until 1985 when he returned to Shannon Green as the Head Golf Professional. From 1994 to 1996 Weldon worked for Cobra Golf Company as an Independent Sales Representative. Then in 1996 he accepted a position at Lee's Hill Golfers' Club as Director of Instruction. In 1998 Weldon became an independent golf instructor, offering golf instruction to all levels of players throughout the Fredericksburg area. He is currently the Golf Coach for Fredericksburg Academy in addition to providing lessons to some of the area's outstanding high school players. Additionally, he serves as a Rules Official for most of the MAPGA's major tournaments. Weldon has served on the section's Junior Golf, Rules and Tournament committees and been an instructor for Junior Golf Day and "Hook a Kid on Golf" programs.

In recent years Weldon has had to deal with some extremely difficult medical challenges, but every time he has a set back, he seems to come back even stronger. His determination and perseverance have been a constant inspiration to his fellow golf professionals. He has faced his personal challenges head-on with never a thought of offering them as excuses. Weldon is tireless in his devotion to the game of golf as he continually demonstrates the lessons of life that can be learned from it. His greatest joy, however, is teaching and working with young people.

Weldon and his wife of 26 years, Susan, are very proud of their two sons. The oldest, Christopher, has an Architectural Degree and is employed by Walt Disney Imagineering. Jeremy, who is currently attending the College of Charleston in Charleston, SC, is majoring in Studio Art. Both young men are golfers, thanks to the influence of their father.