

***MERCHANDISER OF THE YEAR
PUBLIC CATEGORY***

Matthew Arthur Summers, PGA
Bulle Rock Golf Course
Havre de Grace, Maryland

Matthew Summers has been selected as the recipient of the 2021 Public Merchandiser of the Year Award for his outstanding merchandise and professional golf shop management at the Bulle Rock Golf Course.

Matthew was born on January 5, 1980 in Lancaster, Ohio. He and his grandmother played golf together from the time she started him swinging a golf club at 18 months old until 2003 when they played their final hole together. His grandmother was remarkable golfer, who won her Ladies Club Championship many times and was the first women to break 40 at her club. During his summer, he would spend his weekends at his grandparent's house playing golf, fishing, learning to drive a golf cart, and hitting wiffle balls around the yard for practice. One of Matthew's fondest early golf memories was when at eleven years old both Matt and his grandmother beat his grandfather in a round. He went on to play Division II Golf and Baseball for Salem College in Salem, WV.

Matthew's first job in the golf business was working outside service staff at Lancaster Country Club (Lancaster, OH) but he became a golf professional in the Spring of 2003 when he became an Assistant Professional at Bulle Rock Golf Course. He then served as an Assistant Professional and later Head Professional at Mountain Branch Golf Course. Matthew returned to Bulle Rock as the Director of Golf.

He believes that any Director of Golf or Head Professional is only as good as the team around them. He encourages his teams input and makes sure they all have current product knowledge about their current brands. He tries to introduce new brands and creates new branding and logo ideas to give their members and guests a different look. His grandmother also influenced his merchandising philosophy when she would say "if you look good, you will play good and if you don't play good – at least you look good!"

Matthew met his wife Kate, a registered nurse, in 2004 and they have been married since 2012. He believes he is lucky to have Kate as his wife and he can't say enough about her sacrifices throughout the years when it comes to his career. They share a cat Lila and a dog Addie.