

## ***YOUTH PLAYER DEVELOPMENT AWARD***

*This award bestows special recognition on a PGA Professional 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.*

***Gabriella Miller, PGA***  
*University of Maryland Golf Course*  
*College Park, Maryland*

Gabby Miller prioritizes creating an environment where all players feel safe to have their own version of fun at the golf course while respecting the game. She provides and protects space for juniors to play and learn while emphasizing a positive experience for each junior golfer.

Gabby was born February 6, 1993, in Silver Spring, Maryland to parents Harjono and Ivani Gunawan. She has one brother, Nick. She began playing golf at 5 years old as her entire family plays. MAPGA Hall of Fame member Troy Beck at Glenn Dale Golf Club was another significant influence for Gabby as a young golfer.

She received her Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a concentration in PGA Golf Management from Methodist University. Upon graduation she was elected into PGA Membership in 2016 and began her professional golf career that year as an Assistant Professional at Columbia Country Club. In 2019, she accepted her current role as an Assistant at the University of Maryland. She lists the late Troy Beck and fellow PGA professional Ashley Grier as two of her mentors in the industry.

Gabby has been a PGA Junior League captain and coach at UMD GC, growing the program to two travel teams and one in house league with 45 players. She has been a First Tee lead coach for multiple classes within 4 sessions a year. In 2020, Gabby began coaching the Elizabeth Seton High School golf team and it has since grown to 10 active players, which is one of the largest golf teams in Elizabeth Seton's history. She was named as a 2021 and 2022 Top-50 coach for the Operation-36 community. She has run weekly summer camps and created a half day camp for ages 6-10 to introduce young players to golf through fun, game-like activities ranging from designing your own golf cart to a golf course scavenger hunt where you must find items like the starter and the bag drop. In 2022, she started an afterschool golf clinic for 10 6<sup>th</sup>-graders at MLK Jr. Middle School in Beltsville, MD, where a majority of the students come from minority backgrounds.

She believes that as a coach, you must always remember that you're developing a person. People require more than just technical instructions. She thinks that you need to address and support every aspect of their growth in the game. The most rewarding success is when your students trust the tools of your guidance to make their own decisions and reach their goals and overcome their toughest obstacles.

Gabby has been married to her husband Matthew Miller for four years. They met at Methodist University, and he works in the golf industry as a master club fitter.