

**Barry Hinckley, PGA**

*Head Professional - Jefferson Country Club*

**Tell us about yourself.**

First and foremost, I am a loving son, brother, husband, and father. I am blessed to have two boys ages 15 and 12. My faith guides me and plays a prominent role in my life. I have delighted in watching my boys grow over the years and in supporting them in all their endeavors. I am a proud member of the PGA and have a strong passion for the game of golf. I have enjoyed all facets of my career in golf from humble beginnings in junior golf, to playing collegiately and then professionally after graduating college. I have been blessed to work at, and lead some amazing and historic facilities such as Scioto CC, The Concession GC, where I was instrumental in bringing the 2015 NCAA Championships, and for the last decade, Jefferson CC.

While, I have seen my priorities shift and have not participated as much as I would like in our tournament program over the last few years, my role of a husband and father is one that has gladly taken me away from participating as much as I would like. With that said, I am honored to have represented the Section and my family in numerous PGA Professional National Championships both at the regular and senior levels over my career, including the last four Senior PGA Professional National Championships.

Even though my support of the tournament program has seen a temporary decline, I have enjoyed the other facets of my golf career including the growth of our facility, Jefferson CC. I have also found tremendous joy in growing the game outside of my work environment, in such ways as donating my time to coaching my son's middle school golf team over the last few years and by introducing the game to hundreds of children a year by teaching golf for PE class at my kids school (K-8). I worked with Dan Sullivan and the Memorial Tournament Clubhouse Kids program to get free equipment and promised the school that I would donate my time each year if they would add golf to the PE programming at their school. One week a year I am able to reach over 600 kids during PE class and introduce them to the joys of our great game.

I look forward to the future joys this great game will bring and embrace the challenges it presents.

**Please share any prior service to a Chapter, the Section or PGA of America.**

Junior Tour Task Force, Tournament Task Force,, Play Yellow Birdie Bash

**What awards or recognition have you received from a chapter, the Section, PGA of America or from the community?**

- Acushnet Scholarship Winner
- 2010 Member Assistant Professional of the Year - SOPGA

- 2019 Merchandiser of the Year - Private - SOPGA

**Why are you running for a position on the Board of Directors?**

I have a strong love for my association, the PGA of America. I made a commitment to the PGA, when elected to membership, to uphold the mission of our organization, that is, to promote the enjoyment and involvement in the game of golf and to contribute to its growth. I am honored and proud to be a Member of the PGA of America, and want to be a part of its growth, its success, and feel it is my time to serve again in a leadership position.

**What is the biggest challenge our organization/members face and how would you address that as a member of the Board?**

One of the biggest challenges to our organization is staffing. Current work-life balance, quality of life, and pay scale of our profession have struggled to attract new members to our association and we find ourselves in a challenging and serious crossroads in our organization. While the game of golf has seen tremendous growth since COVID, PGA professionals have seen fewer and fewer applicants for open assistant jobs. In many instances, play at clubs has seen dramatic increases as much as 30-50%, without increases in staff levels, creating disharmony in an already overworked industry. PGM students have fallen off. The need to attract new PGA professionals is vital to our growth and sustainability of our industry. There are many reasons why and we as an organization need to look for new ways to structure our jobs, prioritize our time, and to attract new life into our organization.