

**Joe Falardeau, PGA**

*Head Professional - Scioto Country Club*

**Tell us about yourself.**

I am married to my wife of 11 years, Stacey, and have two boys, Logan (5) and Ben (1). I graduated from Ohio State University in 2010 with a Business Administration degree, specializing in Golf Management. Heritage Golf Club in Hilliard, Ohio was my first green grass facility. I then worked at the Ritz-Carlton Golf Club in Orlando, Florida as a PGA Intern, and the Lakes Golf and Country Club in Westerville, Ohio as an Assistant Golf Professional. In 2013, I was hired as an Assistant Golf Professional at Scioto Country Club. I was elected to class 'A' membership in 2013 and became certified in Golf Operations and Retail in 2015. Next year, I will pursue Master Professional status in Golf Operations.

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

- 2015 Education Committee Member
- 2019 Southeast Chapter Secretary
- 2020 & 2021 Special Awards Committee
- 2020-present Director at Large

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

2014 Assistant (Member) Golf Professional of the Year

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

The members of the Southern Ohio PGA are such a welcoming and supportive group of people. They helped me in my journey from entering the golf business to where I am today. None of this happens without leadership; past, present, and future. I've witnessed my peers make a difference and am proud of where this section has come. I want to be a part of it's future. It would be an honor to serve the SOPGA.

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

Our biggest challenge is recruiting and retaining future PGA Professionals. An idea that would improve recruiting would be leveraging our current programming to expose junior and collegiate players to careers in golf. Showcase and spotlight our members to these young individuals and provide them a road map. When it comes to retention, we hear the word "mentorship" a lot. One thing that has become clear to me is that more people look up to us than we realize. We are privileged to be in positions that touch so many lives through the game of golf. Check in on your peers. Talk with them about their career goals and the pursuit of happiness. For the section, I would supplement our Long

Term Strategic Plan to explore what our future meetings, tournaments, and education look like to attract more engagement from our members. We need to be planning for the next generation of golf professionals while continuing to provide the best product possible for our current members. We are well on our way to something great and it would be an honor to be a part of it. Thank you for your consideration.