

Candidate for At-Large Director

Jim Simminger, PGA - Owner/Director of Instruction - ALL IN GOLF



Tell us about yourself.

I reside in Cincinnati with my wife, Erin and our 3 kids, Graham, Lana & Ruby. My life outside of golf includes soccer games, neighborhood grill-outs and picking up toys. My grandfather introduced me to the game when I was 10 and I was a product of the junior golf programs at Little Miami Golf Center. Under the mentorship of Dennis Wells, I was encouraged to keep working in golf through college. I was elected to membership to the PGA of America in 2010 after graduating from Ohio State in 2007. I served my apprenticeship working under PGA Members Dennis Wells, Doug Ledford, George Long, and Gene Powell. I've served at both public and private facilities during my career; all of which helped me become the PGA Professional I am today. Continuing education and Section participation has been important to me since becoming a golf professional. I hold PGA Certifications in Golf Operations '11, Teaching & Coaching '17, Player Development '19. Being a PGA Member is very important to me and I'm thankful for the relationships I've built with fellow PGA Professionals both in and out of the SOPGA. After departing green grass to work as the TRACKMAN Sales Rep for two years, I'm partnering with fellow PGA Member, Ken Kaiser to open the first Indoor Golf & Player Development facility in our local community.

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

Apprentice Committee Chair, SW Chapter Member-at-Large, SW Chapter Secretary, SOPGA At-Large Director, PGA Scholarship Committee, PGA Employment Committee, SOPGA Membership Committee Chair

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

2017 Assistant Professional of the Year
PGA LEAD Cohort II, 2023 Professional Development Award

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

I'd like to continue to serve the Section in a variety of roles. The position allows me to be a voice for all of our members and contribute ideas from many members that may not feel they have a voice in our Section. We are made up of such a variety of vocations within the business and the role of the SOPGA means different things to different members; I'd like to continue to help bring to light the many benefits the SOPGA can provide all of us.

I've found my time in the boardroom over the last 8 years extremely rewarding personally and professionally. I hope that I'm able to provide the type of leadership and mentorship to others that many of my mentors have given me.

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

I believe the biggest challenge for us is to educate current members in how they can show their worth within their respective job category and provide a pathway to the newcomers that want to join our great business. I would like to continue to advocate for education and open communication with our members, associates and future professionals. As a member of the board, I enjoy sharing my PGA experience with newer professionals and helping pave the way for the next generation. The SOPGA is on a positive path with our current staff and leadership. We have a real opportunity to be a great example of best practices among the 41 Sections.