

# ***GolfWorks Illinois* ..... learning through golf!**

## **Background Info:**

The Illinois PGA Foundation's ***GolfWorks Illinois*** is a work-study program for Illinois high school and college students that promotes learning through hands-on experience in the golf industry. Working together with local golf facilities and area golf associations, ***GolfWorks Illinois*** participants will benefit in the following ways:

1. **Experiential Learning** - ***GolfWorks Illinois*** provides a meaningful work experience via an 8-10 week internship that provides career exploration, communication and skill development.
2. **Service Learning** – ***GolfWorks Illinois*** promotes good citizenship via community service projects done through golf that utilizes the participants developing skills and talents.
3. **Classroom Learning** – ***GolfWorks Illinois*** provides financial assistance for higher education via merit-based scholarship opportunities at the conclusion of the internship that are applied toward the participant's tuition or College 529 Plan.

## **Why *GolfWorks Illinois*:**

***GolfWorks Illinois*** was created and inspired by the success of several educational programs including the Metropolitan Golf Foundation's Golfworks program and has a charitable purpose that ties in closely to the PGA of America's motto of "*Experts in the game and business of golf.*" Through ***GolfWorks Illinois***, PGA Professionals and industry leaders act as mentors and provide the next generation an opportunity to learn the business side of golf, give back to the community and earn financial assistance to pursue educational goals.

In 2010, the Illinois PGA Foundation and its participating ***GolfWorks Illinois*** partners hope to accomplish the following objectives:

- Provide Illinois youth meaningful employment in a friendly and mentoring work environment.
- Provide exposure to alternative career choices and the skills and contacts necessary to pursue those choices.
- Provide exposure to positive role models and build self esteem.
- Provide encouragement and opportunity for social and community service.
- Provide alternative resource for financial aid to reduce reliance on student loans.
- Provide regular exposure to the game of golf, an opportunity to develop some level of skill, as well as an appreciation for the game.
- Provide Illinois golf facilities and organizations an opportunity to interact with the community in a positive way.

## **Getting the ball rolling:**

The inaugural ***GolfWorks Illinois*** class of 2010 will be employed with the following golf facilities and organizations:

1. Butler National GC
2. Kankakee CC
3. Westmoreland CC
4. The First Tee of Chicago
5. Illinois Junior Golf Association
6. Illinois Section PGA