



**PGA**

Illinois Section  
Foundation



# Capital Campaign

2021

In Recognition of the **30th Anniversary** of the Illinois PGA Foundation



# President's Letter



## PGA

Illinois Section  
Foundation

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North Shore CC  
President

Hans Larson, PGA  
Westmoreland CC  
Vice President

Chris Gumbach, PGA  
River Forest CC  
Secretary

David Glod  
Tour Edge  
Treasurer

Carrie Williams  
CEO  
Illinois PGA Foundation



Dear Friends,

As the Illinois PGA Foundation celebrates its 30th anniversary in 2021, we're excited to announce a \$1,000,000 capital campaign that will focus on securing necessary funding to create a financial foundation that will support current and new programming well into the future.

The Foundation is responsible for managing several programs including PGA HOPE (Helping Our Patriots Everywhere) which introduces golf to veterans to enhance their physical, mental, social and emotional well-being and PGA Jr. League and Drive, Chip and Putt which are the skills and competition training ground for our future golfers. A new Junior Tour will be launched in 2021 allowing junior golfers to experience tournament play at top facilities throughout the Chicagoland area. In addition, the Foundation hosts the Birdies for Charity fundraising event which has raised more than \$2 million for deserving children's charities in the past 10 years since its inception.

For many years, the leaders, administrators and members of the Illinois PGA have discussed purchasing or constructing a new building to create a dedicated headquarters for the Foundation and Illinois PGA Section. The two organizations are working together to purchase the former Western Golf Association (WGA) building in Golf, Illinois to become its first-ever headquarters and allow the organizations to better serve the community and its membership. The capital campaign will help secure funding for the new headquarters purchase and ensuing renovations.

As you consider joining the campaign, please know that we value each and every donor and appreciate your interest in supporting the Illinois PGA Foundation and its programs.

Thank you,

Tim O'Neal, PGA

President, Illinois PGA Foundation

*The Illinois PGA Foundation is a 501 (c) 3 organization that serves as the charitable arm of the Illinois Section PGA, one of the forty-one geographical regions that comprise the Professional Golfers' Association of America (PGA of America). Our tax identification number is 36-3793380.*

# Case Statement

The Illinois PGA Foundation celebrates its 30th anniversary in 2021 and has launched a \$1,000,000 capital campaign that will focus on securing necessary funding to create a financial foundation that will support current and new programming well into the future.

The Foundation focuses its community efforts on promoting the goodwill and growth of the game with an emphasis on activities that benefit youth. It manages programs such as PGA Jr. League, the Drive, Chip and Putt competition, GolfWorks Illinois internships and PGA HOPE as well as Birdies for Charity, college scholarship programs and the Support Youth Golf license plate program. A new Junior Tour will be launched in 2021 which will allow junior golfers to experience tournament play at top facilities throughout the Chicagoland area.

In addition to this programming, the Foundation is working together with the Illinois PGA Section to purchase the former Western Golf Association (WGA) building in Golf, Illinois to become its first-ever headquarters and allow the organizations to better serve the community and its membership. The capital campaign will help secure funding for the new headquarters purchase and ensuing renovations.

We invite you to partner with us on this capital campaign to elevate the Illinois PGA Foundation by reaching our goal of raising \$1,000,000.



“...promoting the goodwill  
and growth of the game...”



**PGA**

Illinois Section  
Foundation



# Capital Campaign Committee

## **Gary Binder, PGA**

Governor, Illinois PGA Foundation  
Executive Vice President, KemperSports

## **Tim O'Neal, PGA**

President, Illinois PGA Foundation  
PGA Life Member, North Shore Country Club emeritus

## **Louis Brown**

Honorary Governor, Illinois PGA Foundation  
Sr. VP, Monroe-Street Group, Morgan Stanley

## **Nick Papadakes, PGA**

President, Illinois PGA Section  
Head PGA Professional, Onwentsia Club

## **David Glod**

Treasurer, Illinois PGA Foundation  
President and Founder, Tour Edge Golf

## **Don Pieper, PGA**

Governor, Illinois PGA Foundation  
General Manager, Merit Club

## **Chris Gumbach, PGA**

Secretary, Illinois PGA Foundation  
Head PGA Professional, River Forest Country Club

## **Dan Watters, PGA**

Partnership Chair, Illinois PGA Section  
Head PGA Professional, Bob O'Link Golf Club

## **Hans Larson, PGA**

Vice President, Illinois PGA Foundation  
Head PGA Professional, Westmoreland Country Club

# Background

PGA OF AMERICA / ILLINOIS PGA SECTION & FOUNDATION

## National Association and Regional Sections

On January 17, 1916, Rodman Wanamaker hosted a luncheon at the invitation of his business group, the Taplow Club, in Wanamaker's Store in New York City. The agenda: to discuss forming a national association of golfers similar to the British PGA. Less than three months later, on April 10, the PGA of America was founded with 35 charter members.

Today the PGA of America is divided into 41 geographical areas. Each of these Sections conduct playing opportunities for PGA members, associates, and amateur golfers, while providing support for its local golf professionals. Each Section also holds business meetings and continuing educational programs for its members and associates and assists in the fulfillment of the PGA of America's mission to establish and elevate the standards of the profession and to grow interest and participation in the game of golf.

The PGA of America was comprised of seven Sections in April 1916 - Central, Metropolitan, Middle States, New England, North & South Pacific, Northwest & Southwest and Southeastern. The Middle States Section, which was headquartered in Illinois, included: Alabama, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee and Toronto, Canada (The PGA of Canada was founded in 1911).

In 1921, The PGA of America decided to break up the original seven Sections and form individual Sections based on geographical locations. The Middle States Section became the Illinois PGA.

The Middle States Section was renamed the Illinois Section when the other states and Toronto were split off in 1921.

Today, the Illinois PGA is comprised of 698 PGA members and 73 associates working at over 300 facilities. The Illinois PGA conducts more than 70 tournaments annually for its members and apprentices, the largest being the Illinois Open Championship. For over 50 years, the Illinois Open has showcased competition between the finest amateurs and professionals in the "State Championship of Illinois Golf."

**The mission of the Illinois PGA Section is to promote the enjoyment and involvement in the game of golf and to contribute to its growth by providing services to its member golf professionals in the areas of competitions, employment and education.**



# Vision

The vision of the Illinois PGA Section is to empower its members to be the leaders and recognized experts in the game and business of golf. To fulfill this vision, we will work in cooperation with the PGA of America and all allied golf associations in Illinois to:

- **Promote and grow the game of golf**
- **Enhance the skill sets of our professionals**
- **Enhance our Association's philanthropic outreach initiatives through the Illinois PGA Foundation**

The Illinois Section has a history of various office sites including Oak Brook (1980-90), Ruffled Feathers Golf Club (1990-2001) and The Glen Club (2001-current).

# Foundation

The Illinois PGA Foundation is a 501 (c) 3 organization that serves as the charitable arm of the Illinois PGA Section, one of the forty-one geographical regions that comprise the PGA of America. Established in 1991 and celebrating its 30th anniversary in 2021, the foundation focuses its community efforts on promoting the goodwill and growth of the game with an emphasis on activities that benefit youth.

The Illinois PGA Foundation actively partners and supports the following organizations and charities:

- **Illinois Junior Golf Association**
- **Maryville Golf Academy**
- **Ronald McDonald House Charities of Chicagoland and Northwest Indiana**
- **Ann and Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago**
- **JDRF Illinois Chapter**

The Foundation manages several programs including: Birdies for Charity, PGA HOPE, PGA Junior League, Drive, Chip and Putt, GolfWorks Illinois, Illinois Golf Hall of Fame, Ryne Sandberg / Illinois PGA Foundation Pro-Am, Meyer-Brown-Miller Invitational Pro-Am, Illinois PGA Junior Tour and the Support Youth Golf License plate program.



# Foundation Programming



## PGA HOPE

PGA HOPE (Helping Our Patriots Everywhere) is the Foundation's flagship military program that introduces golf to Veterans to enhance their physical, mental, social and emotional well-being. The program introduces the game of golf through a developmental 6-8 week curriculum taught by PGA Professionals trained in adaptive golf and military cultural competency.



# Foundation Programming



## PGA Jr. League

PGA Jr. League is a fun, social and inclusive opportunity for boys and girls, ages 17 and under, to learn and enjoy the game of golf from PGA and LPGA Professionals.

Like many other recreational youth sports, participants wear numbered jerseys and play on teams with friends.

Annually, over 2,000 junior golfers across the state participate in this program.



# Foundation Programming



## Drive, Chip & Putt

A joint initiative founded in 2013 by the Masters Tournament, United States Golf Association and the PGA of America, the Drive, Chip & Putt Championship is a free nationwide junior golf development competition aimed at growing the game by focusing on the three fundamental skills employed in golf. By tapping the creative and competitive spirit of girls and boys ages 7-15, the Drive, Chip and Putt Championship provides aspiring junior golfers an opportunity to play with their peers in qualifiers around the country. Participants who advance through local, sub-regional and regional qualifying in each age/gender category earn a place in the National Finals, which is conducted at Augusta National Golf Club the Sunday before the Masters Tournament and is broadcast live by Golf Channel. Each year, the Illinois PGA administers local, sub-regional and regional qualifiers that play host to over 2,000 junior golfers. In September of 2021, the Illinois PGA will administer a Regional Final at Medinah Country Club that will play host to juniors from around the Midwest.



# Foundation Programming



## Illinois PGA Junior Tour

The Illinois PGA Junior Tour was created to supplement existing junior golf programming around the state and will differentiate itself with a short, 7-event season contested at private facilities. Designed for Illinois state residents, the Tour offers an exceptional tournament experience for junior golfers ages 14-18 and provides competitive opportunities at premier facilities while fostering sportsmanship and integrity among its members.

There is an Illinois PGA Junior Tour of Player of the Year race based on points earned during the season.

The Junior Tour season culminates with the IPGA Junior Masters Championship at Onwentsia Club.

The Junior Masters Championship is for the top Player of the Year point earners each season.

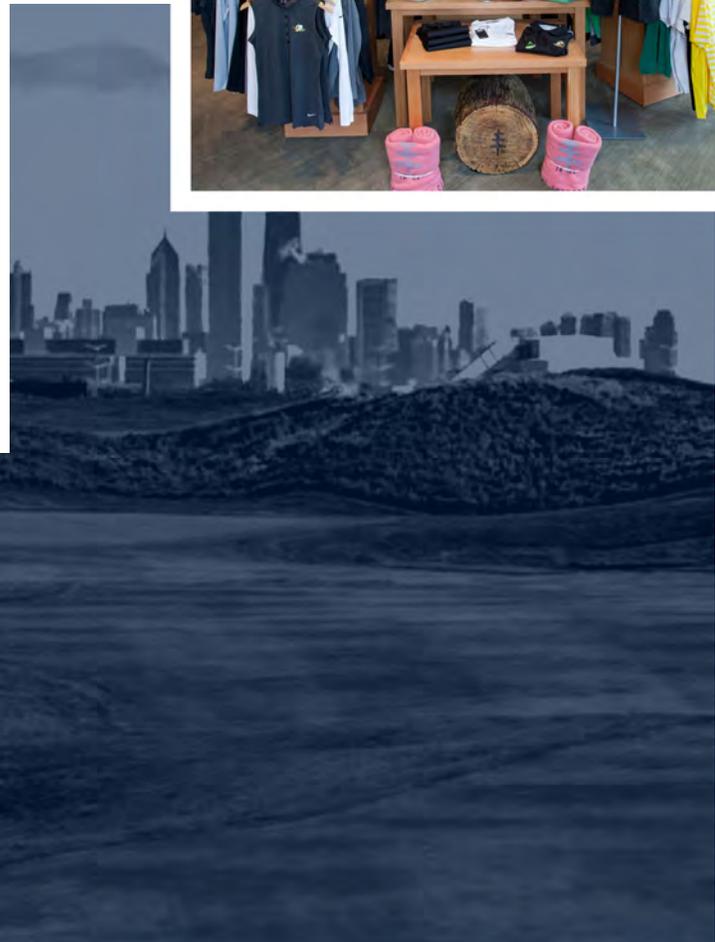


# Foundation Programming



## **GolfWorks Illinois**

Started in 2010, the Illinois PGA Foundation's GolfWorks Illinois is a vocational development internship program for Illinois high school and college students that promotes learning through hands-on work experience in the golf industry. Through GolfWorks Illinois, the Foundation brings together PGA Professionals and industry leaders to provide mentorship for the next generation and an opportunity to learn the business side of golf and give back to the community. Working together with local golf facilities and youth golf organizations, GolfWorks Illinois benefits participants through experiential learning. In addition, the program has a charitable purpose/service learning aspect that highlights the role of PGA Professionals serving as the "experts in the business and game of golf."

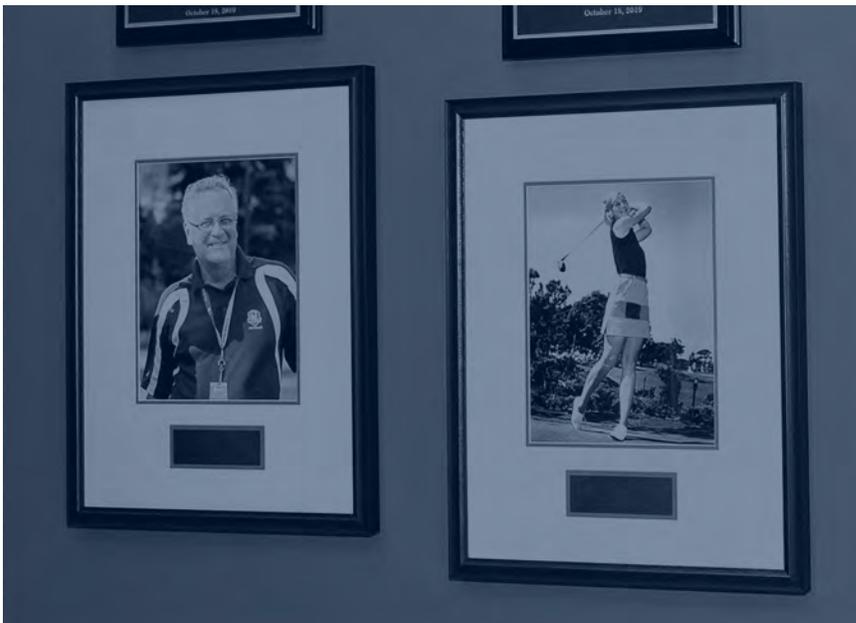


# Foundation Programming



## Illinois Golf Hall of Fame

The Illinois Golf Hall of Fame was created in 1989 by the Illinois PGA Foundation in an effort to recognize and honor those individuals who have contributed to the rich history and tradition of the game of golf here in Illinois. The Illinois PGA Foundation serves as steward of the Hall and representatives from Illinois' allied golf associations serve on its selection committee. The Illinois Golf Hall of Fame is located at The Glen Club in Glenview, Illinois.

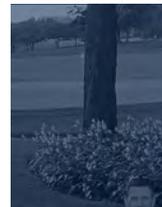


# Foundation Programming



## Birdies for Charity

Birdies for Charity is a one-day fundraising event to support non-industry charitable organizations throughout the area. Illinois PGA Professionals tee-it-up to play up to 90 holes in one day with the goal of making as many birdies as possible. Donors make a financial pledge per birdie to support a Professional. Illinois PGA Professionals celebrated the event's 10th anniversary in 2020 and surpassed the \$2 million mark having raised \$2.31 million for deserving children's charities such as JDRF Illinois Chapter, Ronald McDonald House Charities of Chicagoland and Northwest Indiana, Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital and the Illinois PGA Foundation. The Central Illinois PGA Chapter also hosts its own Birdies for Charity event, raising funds for OSF Children's Hospital of Illinois and other deserving organizations.

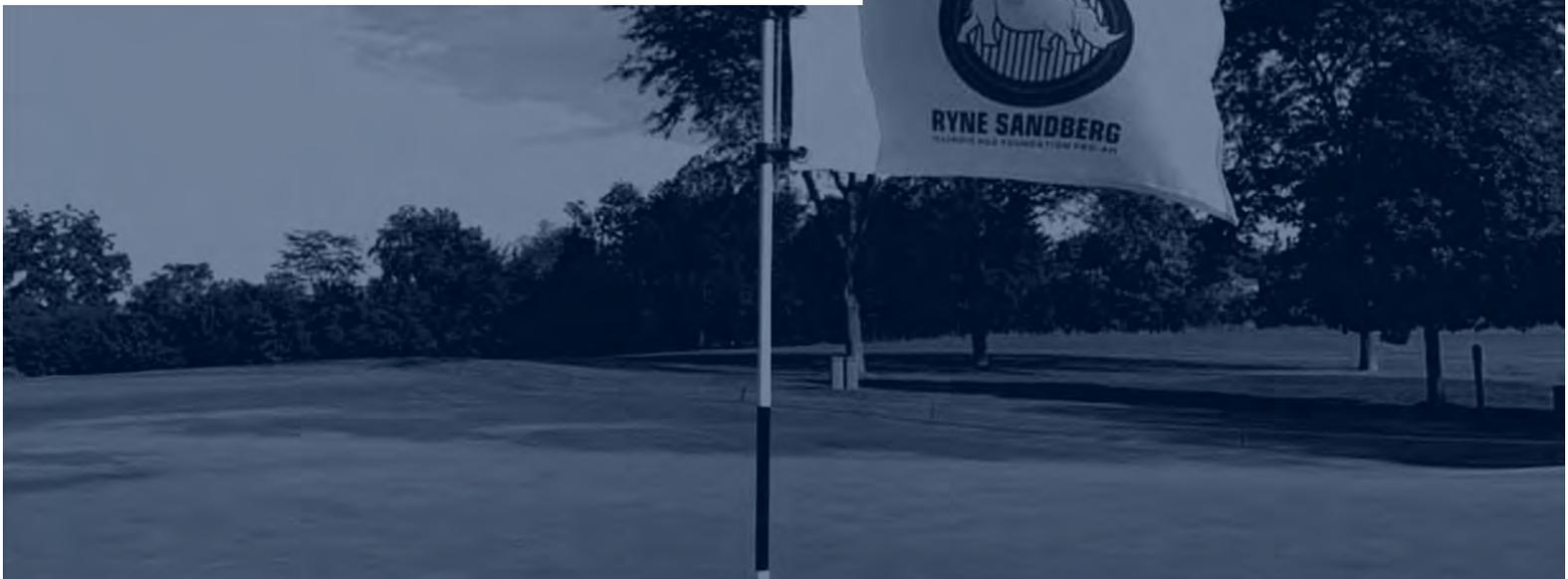


# Foundation Programming



## Ryne Sandberg/Illinois PGA Foundation Pro-Am

Established in 2019, the Ryne Sandberg/Illinois PGA Foundation Pro-Am rotates historic North Shore country club sites and provides a late summer/early fall local Pro-Am opportunity for club professionals, members and guests. The event supports the Illinois PGA Foundation and Lamb's Farm, a charity that Sandberg has supported and been involved with for a number of years. Sandberg plays an active role in the event providing personal memorabilia items for the online auction, attending and visiting with guests the day of the event, and participating each year playing on his home club, Shoreacres, team.



# Foundation Programming



## Meyer-Brown-Miller Invitational Pro-Am

The Meyer-Brown-Miller Invitational allows participants to enjoy a golf getaway to historic Pinehurst, North Carolina and support the Illinois PGA Foundation's Meyer-Brown Educational Scholarship Endowment. Illinois PGA Professionals and a team of three amateurs travel to the beautiful sand hills of North Carolina each Fall to raise funds for the Alice Meyer-Brown and Louis M. Brown Scholarships in support of student golfers who have demonstrated success throughout high school both in the classroom and on the course.

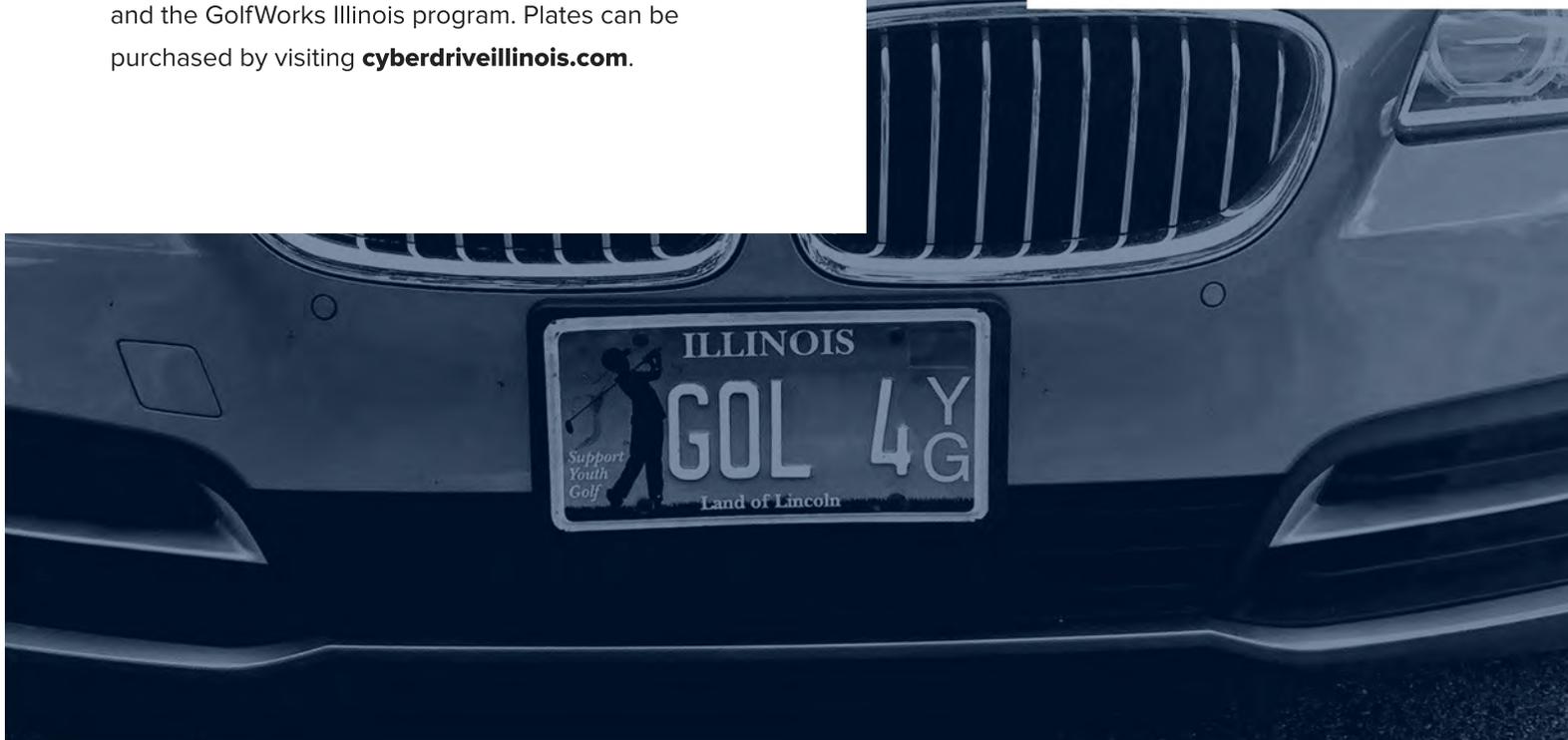


# Foundation Programming



## Support Youth Golf License Plate Program

The Support Youth Golf License Plate program was first made available to Illinois drivers in 2008. The plates allow for golf enthusiasts to display their love for the game while supporting a great cause. Proceeds from the sale and renewal of the plates will benefit the Illinois PGA Foundation's Junior Golf Fund which specifically supports Maryville Golf Academy, Illinois Junior Golf Association and the GolfWorks Illinois program. Plates can be purchased by visiting [cyberdriveillinois.com](http://cyberdriveillinois.com).



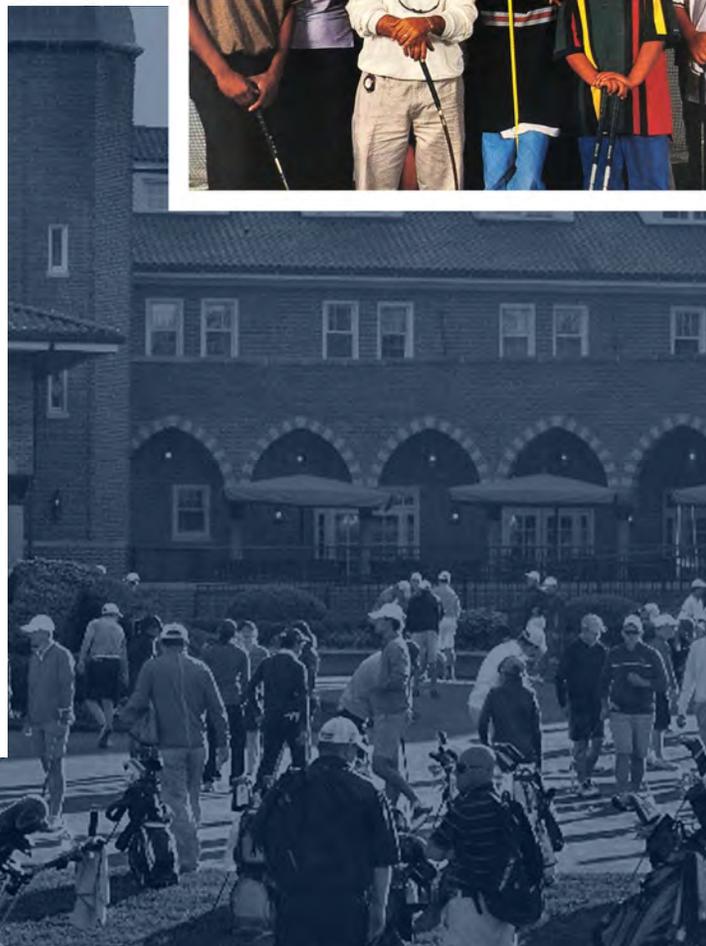
# Foundation Programming



## Community Outreach

In addition to managing its own programming, the Illinois PGA Foundation supports other organizations dedicated to improving the lives of children such as Maryville Golf Academy and the Illinois Junior Golf Association (IJGA). Founded in 1994 in an alliance with the Illinois PGA Foundation and led by PGA Professional Juan Espejo, Maryville Golf Academy offers children residing at the Des Plaines campus the opportunity to work, play and practice at local golf facilities managed by PGA Professionals. PGA-led instruction is provided through job training in caddying, club repair, golf ball recycling, golf facility operations and tournament management.

The IJGA is dedicated to providing playing opportunities for its members ages 8-18, conducting educational clinics and events, and serving as a junior golf informational clearinghouse. Each year the IJGA provides and manages over 100 events throughout the state.



# Headquarters Purchase

For many years, the Illinois PGA Board of Directors have discussed purchasing or constructing a new building to create a dedicated headquarters for the Illinois PGA Foundation and Section. With the Western Golf Association (WGA) recently opening its new headquarters in The Glen, the Illinois PGA was offered the opportunity to purchase the old WGA headquarters in Golf, Illinois, located in the northeast area of Golf Road and Waukegan Road across from the Golf Metra Station. This building will meet the business objectives of the Foundation and Section by providing a professional setting for Foundation and Section staff to work and also serving as meeting and event headquarters for Foundation work as well as PGA Professionals.

The 10,000 square-foot building will include: staff and intern offices, storage space, meeting and programming space and will also serve as a secondary display site for Illinois Golf Hall of Fame memorabilia. Draft plans include a golf simulator and teaching space where Illinois PGA Professionals can teach during the winter months. The purchase of this building is fully endorsed by both the Foundation and Section Boards of Directors.

Having its own headquarters will allow the Foundation and Section to expand and grow its programs, fulfill its mission serving as the experts in the business and game of golf while also providing room to grow and creating a sense of pride among membership and staff.



**WGA Building** Golf, Illinois



# Youth-Based Scholarships

## **ALICE MEYER BROWN SCHOLARSHIP**

Awarded to graduating Illinois high school women who have demonstrated a commitment to excellence in the classroom, in the community and on the golf course. The Illinois PGA Foundation's Alice Meyer-Brown Scholarship fund was established in 1995 through a grant from the Meyer Family Foundation. Named in memory of Alice Meyer-Brown, an accomplished amateur golfer and local club champion, the scholarship seeks to encourage and promote the attainment of higher education for graduating high school women who have continued to demonstrate academic excellence in the classroom, while accomplishing outstanding achievements in golf.

## **LOUIS M. BROWN SCHOLARSHIP**

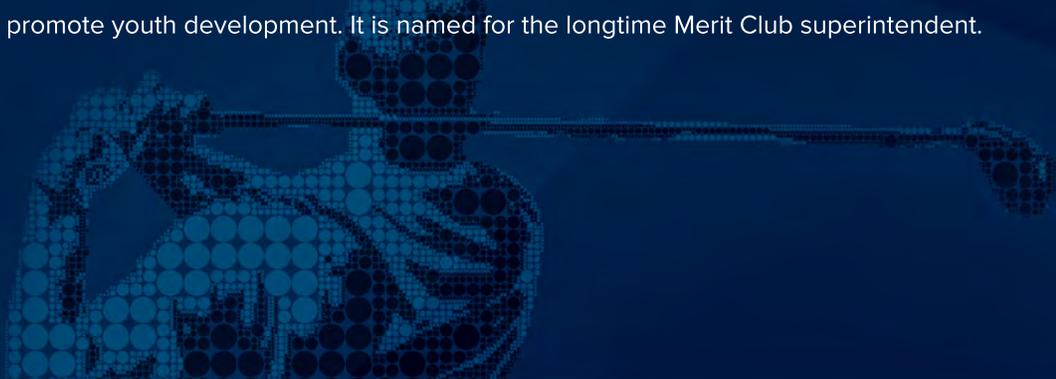
The Louis M. Brown Scholarship Fund seeks to encourage and promote the attainment of higher educational goals for high school men who have excelled in the game of golf, achieved academic excellence in the classroom and have demonstrated leadership in the community. The Louis M. Brown Scholarship was created in 2009 with a gift from the Meyer Family Foundation. Named after the family's late patriarch, the Louis M. Brown Scholarship strives to perpetuate this goal and provide the means for outstanding student golfers to continue on the path to achieving their academic goals.

## **DON PIEPER SCHOLARSHIP**

The Illinois PGA Foundation Don Pieper Scholarship Award encourages and promotes the attainment of higher education goals for the children, grandchildren, child-in-laws, nieces or nephews of Illinois PGA members who have demonstrated a high level of academic achievement. Additionally, any individual who resides within the geographic boundaries of the Illinois PGA Section and is currently enrolled in a Professional Golf Management Program (PGM) at one of the PGA accredited colleges or universities offering such a program, shall be eligible for a Foundation Scholarship Award. It is named for Don Pieper, current GM and Head Golf Professional at Merit Club.

## **OSCAR MILES SCHOLARSHIP**

The Illinois PGA Foundation Oscar Miles Scholarship Award is provided to the following areas of interest: turfgrass research, continuing education for the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents (MAGCS) and TETA members, children & grandchildren of MAGCS members pursuing a college education and non-profit organizations that utilize golf to promote youth development. It is named for the longtime Merit Club superintendent.



# Capital Campaign Donor Recognition

## Illinois PGA Foundation

- Donors will be recognized at the new Illinois PGA Foundation and Illinois PGA Section headquarters building based on giving level
- Naming opportunities and specific dedication areas are available
- Custom donor packages available to best suit your personal and business needs

## Exclusive Donor Packages

Patron

\$100,000

Supporter

\$75,000

Friend

\$50,000

Benefactor

\$25,000

Ambassador

\$24,999 & less



# Gift Opportunities

We invite you to consider these opportunities to support the Illinois PGA Foundation.

## **HEADQUARTERS SUPPORT**

Patron - \$100,000; Supporter - \$75,000; Friend - \$50,000; Benefactor - \$25,000 and Ambassador - \$24,999 and less donor program options available.

## **RYNE SANDBERG/ILLINOIS PGA FOUNDATION PRO-AM**

Partnership opportunities available.

## **PGA HOPE**

\$4,000 to operate one six-week clinic for 10-20 veterans.

## **BIRDIES FOR CHARITY**

Partnership opportunities available.

## **PGA JR. LEAGUE**

Funded by the PGA of America; support welcome to enhance local programming.

## **MEYER-BROWN-MILLER INVITATIONAL**

Partnership opportunities available.

## **DRIVE, CHIP & PUTT**

Funded by the PGA of America; support welcome to enhance local programming.

## **ILLINOIS PGA SCHOLARSHIPS**

Scholarship programs are currently supported by specific endowments.

## **GOLFWORKS ILLINOIS**

Illinois PGA places approximately 15 GolfWorks Illinois interns per season at a cost of \$3,000 per intern – a total of \$45,000 per year.

## **FLEET SUPPORT**

Vehicle sought for transportation of staff and supplies to Foundation programming.

## **ILLINOIS GOLF HALL OF FAME**

\$25,000 per two-year nomination/induction cycle.

## **ILLINOIS PGA JUNIOR TOUR**

Partnership opportunities available.