



PGA

Michigan Section

BIO OF SPECIAL AWARDS CANDIDATE

Name of Nominee: Rolla Frisinger

Year Elected to Membership: 1983

Award Nominated for: 2020 Youth Player Development Award

Briefly describe your achievements/accomplishments that would pertain to this award:

My passion for youth golf has led me down an entrepreneurial path that has allowed me the opportunity to meet and work with some of the nicest and most skilled people a person could hope to come in contact with. From small beginnings in the late '70's with junior clinics and camps, to building a nearly 200 person junior program from scratch in the 80's, to the building of the 30 acre Foundation Golf Center to handle the many junior golf activities in the 90's, to securing sponsors to support a scholarship program that has awarded \$455,000 to student athletes, to currently overseeing the Southwest Michigan PGA Junior League and the Southwest Michigan Middle School program and providing area high schools access to year round training, as well as administering the Callaway/Meijer Junior Tour for 26 years, it has been a long and rewarding road.

While I could talk about the numbers of youth that have taken part in the various programs that have been created by the staff of The Foundation Golf Center or myself through the years, the name of the award is "Youth Player Development", so I would rather focus on how we endeavor to develop the youth in our various programs. Certainly trying to develop these young people to be better golfers is important, but developing them to be better people is more important. Our programs have taught the valuable lessons of self control, patience, honesty, respect, discipline, sportsmanship and mental toughness. My career has been long enough now, that I can see the results of the youth that have been involved in our programs. Most of them now are solid, productive citizens in their communities, making the world a better place by becoming doctors, financial planners, policemen, professional hockey players and golf professionals, some who have gone on to win PGA and LPGA events. The lessons they learned at an early age in the game of golf hopefully gave them the building blocks of success. I am grateful for the many people I have met through this great game of golf and the opportunities it has afforded me through my career. I am also thankful and humbled to be considered for this award. I look forward to many more years of spreading the many benefits that this game provides.