



**PGA**  
Michigan Section

## Michigan PGA - Growth of the Game Report - Summer/Fall 2021

First off, I would like to apologize for not being able to see all of you at our BOD meeting, Presidents Dinner, and Fall meeting. This would be my first chance to sit at the "BIG" table and I regret not being able to participate. I'm sure, like our operation at Bay Meadows, we have all had a great 2021 season despite all the uncertainty in our country. Golf has proven to be a great escape for our club members, local community, youth, and veterans. Thank you for all you do to promote our game!

**Drive, Chip & Putt.** The Michigan PGA was asked to be a part of a nationwide pilot program where host professionals ran local qualifying sites. The idea was to increase the amount of local qualifying sites in effort to increase overall local participation. In 2021 we hosted 16 Local Qualifiers, 6 more than in 2019. We had 1,433 register and 1,136 participate in local qualifiers, increasing participation by around 100 players over 2019. We have been asked to continue this process in 2022. This winter a main goal of the GOG committee will be to reach out and secure more local qualifying sites, especially in the Grand Rapids area and metro Detroit. In 2021 we had 0 locals in GR, our goal would be to get at least 3. The messaging to local members will be our focus. How much time commitment, benefits to the club/course exposure, and possible reimbursement structure for hosting are all being discussed at the moment on a committee and national level. Registration is now open for 2022 qualifying sites at [Drive, Chip & Putt local qualifier from](#)

I would challenge each of our current board to consider hosting a local qualifying event in 2022 or encourage a fellow member in your area that makes sense. The national goal is to increase the total amount of local qualifiers available to families and reduce the total amount of participation at each location. Thus, increasing the available qualifying spots to move on to sub-regional and regional qualifying.

**PGA Jr. League.** Continues to be a strong growth of game component. In 2021 the Michigan PGA had 77 Captains with 1,863 players participation. Average team fee was \$262 with a Consumer Net Promoter score of 71% which is on par with the National Average measuring the general happiness of the consumer.

Congratulations to Jeff Stalcup, PGA and team Tee-rific from the Orchards Golf Club for their state championship win and a valiant effort in the Midwest regional, making it to the final match. Thank You for your inspiration, I have no doubt a Michigan team will advance to the national finals if we keep progressing this wonderful program.

**2021 Grant Programs.** The GOG committee switched up the normal process this year, creating a tiered system for grant money available based on quality of the programs submitted. We believe this was a positive change that looks towards supporting quality programs that PGA members are conducting. \$33,150 Junior Grants were awarded in total: 7-\$450 grants, 18- \$750 grants, 15-\$1000 grants, and 1 -\$1500 grant for junior program of the year recipient, Kelly Kuhlman. Adult Grants totaled \$15, 600; 3-\$450 grants, 7-\$750 grants, 6- \$1000 grants, and 1-\$1500 grant to the adult program of the year recipient, Doug Temple. Grant summaries are now open, if you received a grant in 2021 please submit the summary report before December 5<sup>th</sup>. New grant applications will open in early 2022.

**PGA Hope.** Metro Detroit ran a successful program from June-August at Fox Hills. We are looking for more instructions at this site, you will need to attend a HOPE training clinic to teach. Battle Creek ran a great program on the grounds of the VA hospital at Battle Creek. This year it was only open to in-patients due to covid concerns. Training - if you would like to host a HOPE program contact Chelsea at the office, you will need to become HOPE certified and go through an application process. If successfully awarded a program you will get funded for two years.

**Junior PGA Championship.** 81 boys 51 girls 133 total! Record High participation for the last 5 years. Carter Housler and Lorenzo Pinili and Sophie Stevens and Bridget Boczar represented Michigan in the National Championship. Congratulations on your great play!

Thanks to all our members for their commitment to growing our game and look forward to an even better 2022 season!

Respectively submitted,

Scott Wilson, PGA  
Growth of the Game Committee Chair