

2022 Special Awards Candidate Bio Form

Email *

bik100@aol.com

Name of Nominee: *

Doug Kreis

Award Nominated for: *

Bill Strausbaugh

Facility Employed at: *

Battle Creek CC

Year Elected to Membership: *

1995

Using the Special Awards Criteria (link in the email,) describe your achievements/accomplishments that would pertain to this award: *

I have been a member of the Michigan Section for 30 years, 24 as head professional. I am extremely honored to be nominated for this award. My first 6 years in the section, as an assistant, I worked each summer in Michigan and spent 3 winters working in Florida and 3 winters working in California. I was fortunate to work for some truly fantastic golf professionals and each and every day I strive to be the mentor to my young employees that those gentlemen were to me.

In the 21 years I've been at Battle Creek CC I have been blessed to have one longtime assistant who has twice won Assistant Professional of the Year. I have also employed, for their first job after graduation, 5 Ferris PGM grads, 2 Olivet Sports Management grads and 1 Trine Golf Management grad. I've also employed a number of Ferris interns and have hired 4 graduates of Western Michigan University's Fashion Merchandising program.

Former PGA employees have gone on to become head professionals, general managers, and one college golf coach, but I am just as proud of my non-PGA former employees that are money managers, real estate agents, accountants, independent sales reps and two long time employees who now have their PhD's. I've attended 3 weddings where both bride and groom worked for me, and this past summer for the first time we had 2 children of former employees in our junior program.

I have served as an at large director on the Michigan PGA Section board 3 times and gave 10 years of service to the Western Chapter, serving in all positions including 2 years as president. I also served 13 years on the Special Awards committee, 4 of those years as chair. During my time on the Special Awards Committee 5 Michigan PGA members won National Special Awards.

For 8 years before Covid I taught Junior Achievement in both the Catholic and public school systems in town. I have volunteered extensively in our daughter's school and for the last three years have given a number of free clinics for high school girls and have donated time, equipment and supplies to my daughter's golf team. During each of these opportunities I endeavor to lead, coach and help young people find their potential.

Over my career I have observed and learned from giving individuals – each one of my employers, but also many golf professionals I played with or just shared a beer with. Life lessons are not just passed on during the workday and I enjoy every opportunity I get to interact with other PGA members, many times to our mutual benefit. The PGA is a fantastic organization and our members are more willing to ideas than colleagues in any other industry.

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