

2023 Special Awards Candidate Bio Form

Please send this form back no later Friday, October 21, 2022.

If you were nominated for more than one award you must **submit a bio form for each award.**

Email *

CJVANDENBERG54@GMAIL.COM

Name of Nominee: *

Charley Vandenberg

Award Nominated for: *

Professional Development

Facility Employed at: *

Vandenberg Golf Academy

Year Elected to Membership: *

1981

Please describe your achievements/accomplishments that would pertain to this award. *

As I approach the last few holes of my PGA career, I am thankful to be considered for an award which reflects career-long educational efforts for the betterment of my fellow professionals, my Section and my own capabilities.

Education has always been the top priority during my journey. Spanning almost 50 years, I have traveled cross-country to absorb the best instruction in a quest to share what I've learned with my students and compatriots. I have personally observed top instructors including Bob Toski, Jim Flick, Jim McLean, Mike Hebron, Dr. Gary Wiren, Gardner Dickinson, Peter Kostis, David Leadbetter (6 years), Mike Shannon (16 years) and Mike Bender (28 years). At one juncture, I had attended more National PGA Workshops than any other member and was listed as "PGA Most Dedicated Student" in our National newsletter.

Endeavoring to impart some of this information, I served multiple years on the Michigan Section Education Committee as chairman, vice-chairman, and member. I chaired the Michigan Teaching Summit in 2019 and was on the committee for the inaugural Teaching Summit in 2009. Through these appointments, I have conceptualized, coordinated, and implemented Section workshops spanning vast areas of expertise for membership benefit including noted instructors Mike Bender, Mike Shannon, Jim McLean, and Dr. Gary Wiren. Additional activities include multiple presentations for Ferris PGM students and West Michigan Golf Show attendees as well as crafting various instructional videos and written articles for both state and national associations and publications.

I hope to have elevated the image of our profession through additional efforts. I recently served on the Special Awards Committee, completing my ninth year in 2021. My most meaningful accomplishment was the "Golf Marathon of Hope." Beginning in 1997, I played 400+ holes annually - in 24 continuous hours - an event raising over \$500,000 for a local West Michigan homeless shelter (retiring due to injury). Finally, I have served as a committee member and participant in many charity golf events as well as continuing to support homeless shelters in multiple ways.

I appreciate your consideration of my qualifications for this award!

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