

# 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 \*

edlgolf@charter.net

Name of Nominee: \*

Edward Laprade

Award Nominated for: \*

Teacher and Coach of the Year

Facility Employed at: \*

Bay Meadows Family Golf Course

Year Elected to Membership: \*

1997

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

I have been teaching players of every level for over 25 years, 23 at Crystal Mountain Resort and now at Bay Meadows Family Golf Course. I have taught high level players, including a High school State Champion and Division 1 College players, but my bread and butter is working with average players. Throughout my career I have sought out the best teachers and players to learn from. I have had the pleasure of working for two Michigan Section Teacher of the Year winners (Charles Vandenberg, Brad Dean) and one National Teacher of the Year (Mike Hebron) as well as taking lessons from and observing two other National Teacher of the Year recipients (Mike Bender, Dr. Jim Suttie). My biggest influence has been the 21 MORAD teaching seminars (3 day and 7 day) I have taken over the last 20 years with Mac O'Grady. Taking the time and expense to travel and learn is very important in improving as an instructor and player. All of this has helped me compete in Section and Chapter events and win three Northern Chapter Assistants Championships. 2022 was incredible year for me with 46 golf schools (3 day, 2 day, and 3 day Women Only classes) and countless private lessons. The golf school's numbers were up even over last year's record year. Technology such as Trackman 4, V1 video and K-vest are integral to my teaching and now that I am at Bay Meadows Family Golf Course I will be able to teach all year round. I believe to be a good instructor one must know the swing mechanics extremely well. Everything starts there. Also excellent communication skills are a must. It is important that the instructor can demonstrate what he is explaining on the range and course alike. One of the most important elements of our instruction is the on-course part of the school where we go on the course and work on real world situations. Bay Meadows mantra "Learn, Practice, Play" is a wholistic approach to the game. From there it is all about enthusiasm, patience and fun. Keeping it light with humor really helps! The most important thing is that the student is given clear explanations about what they need to do and that it is accurate information that will not harm their game. Being positive and patient is critical. Being selected multiple times on the Golf Digest "Best Teachers in State" list was a nice feather in my cap but being Michigan Section Teacher of the Year would truly be an honor. Sincerely, Edward A. Laprade

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