

2026 Patriot Award Candidate Bio Form

Please submit this form no later than **Monday, October 6, 2025 at 5pm.**

Email *

dtemple@saginawymca.org

Name of Nominee: *

Doug Temple

Facility Employed at: *

Currie Golf Course / Bay Valley Resort

Year Elected to Membership: *

2000

Please describe your involvement in the promotion and development of targeted player development programs at the club level and within the community for military personnel and Veterans in 250 words or less: *

For the past few years, I've had the honor of leading six PGA HOPE clinic sessions each season—four at Currie Golf Course and two at Bay Valley Resort. Each year, around 60 veterans graduate from the program, with hundreds impacted over the past three years. One of my proudest achievements is organizing the Fairways United PGA HOPE Reunion in partnership with the DOW Championship.

The 2025 event marked our second year and grew by more than 20%, welcoming over 40 HOPE graduates and their families. This two-day celebration offered an 18-hole scramble, two nights of lodging, family tickets to the LPGA DOW Championship, and access to a VIP Veterans Tent on hole 17—all generously covered by sponsors. This year's highlight was having Corey Pavin, former U.S. Open champion and Ryder Cup captain, play a hole with every group. From handwritten welcome cards and challenge coins to live music at the reception, every detail was designed to make our veterans feel valued and celebrated.

I'm grateful to be in ongoing discussions with the Outlyr event team to explore expanding this reunion concept to other LPGA and Champions Tour events nationwide.

Our Great Lakes Bay Region Veterans League also continues to thrive—now in its ninth season at Currie and Sandy Ridge, and adding Bay Valley in 2026. Alongside these efforts, I manage the Saginaw County MVAA grant, totaling more than \$450,000, supporting vital veteran services—from health and wellness programs to emergency assistance.

Every moment with this community fills me with gratitude and purpose.

Please describe your contribution to programs and events including PGA Hope and Patriot Golf Day which supports the Armed Forces and Veterans in 250 words or less: *

- PGA HOPE Instructor & Early Graduate

As one of the earliest certified instructors of the PGA HOPE program in Michigan, I have been deeply honored to teach the PGA HOPE curriculum for several years—leading six sessions during the 2024 season alone. Over the past three years as a lead instructor, I've had the privilege of sharing the healing power of golf with more than 150 veterans, helping them find camaraderie, confidence, and connection through the game.

- Veterans League Development

To ensure PGA HOPE graduates remain engaged beyond their initial clinics, I founded and manage the Great Lakes Bay Region Veterans Golf League at Currie Golf Course and Sandy Ridge Golf Course. Beginning in 2026, a third location at Bay Valley Resort will be added, allowing 30 two-player teams to compete, grow, and stay connected throughout the summer season.

- Leadership and Advocacy

I was proud to support Mark Hitchcock, a Midland-area PGA HOPE graduate, in his journey to become Michigan's first PGA HOPE National Ambassador—a milestone achievement that highlights the strength and leadership within our state's veteran golf community.

- Fairways United PGA HOPE Reunion Event Director

In 2025, I directed the 2nd Annual Fairways United PGA HOPE Reunion, held in conjunction with the LPGA DOW Championship in Midland. This two-day celebration welcomed more than 40 graduates and their families. I continue to collaborate with Outlyr Event Management to explore expanding this impactful model to additional LPGA and Champions Tour events nationwide.

- National Representation – 2025 Secretaries Cup

Representing the Michigan PGA at the 2025 Secretaries Cup in Charlotte, North Carolina, was an unforgettable honor. Bringing the 2024 HOPE Cup-winning team and their families created lifelong memories and a once-in-a-lifetime bonding experience for these deserving veterans.

- Veteran Support & Suicide Prevention

In partnership with the Aleda E. Lutz VA Medical Center and the Saginaw County Veterans Service Office, I continue to champion the wellbeing of mid-Michigan veterans through a Veterans Affairs Agency grant. These efforts provide essential support services, enhance suicide prevention awareness, and deliver critical resources that extend far beyond the golf course.

Please describe your image, service and leadership in the area of support for the military, its personnel and Veterans in 250 words or less: *

Supporting military personnel, veterans, and their families is a responsibility I believe everyone should embrace. A kind word, a thoughtful suggestion, or a caring approach can have a profound, life-changing impact.

Eleven years ago, I met Dustin Mansour, an Army Veteran and Purple Heart recipient, shortly after he returned home from multiple tours in Afghanistan. Living as my neighbor in Midland, Michigan, Dustin was coping with PTSD and had become withdrawn from everyday life. Through friendship and encouragement, I introduced him to golf as a form of therapy and reconnection. Eleven years later, Dustin is an avid golfer, playing more than 100 rounds a year, serving as a Director for the Veterans Golf Association of Michigan, volunteering at veteran events, and sharing his inspiring story at PGA HOPE Midland and Bay City graduation ceremonies. His transformation is a powerful reminder of how golf—and genuine human connection—can heal and inspire.

As a PGA Professional, I have always believed that true leadership comes from collaboration, inclusion, and empathy. I strive to lead by example—working alongside a diverse team, seeking multiple perspectives, and ensuring that decisions are made with intention and compassion. I encourage my fellow PGA Professionals to do the same: to listen, to serve, and to never give up on helping others find purpose.

Consistency, persistence, and heart-centered leadership are the foundation of my service—and the guiding principles behind my ongoing commitment to supporting our military and veteran community.

Please describe how you inspire fellow PGA Professionals in his/her support and contributions to the Armed Forces in 250 words or less. *

I give 100% in every effort to provide veterans and their families with the opportunity to experience the game of golf and all that PGA HOPE offers. I actively invite local PGA Professionals to join me in teaching the program, emphasizing that participation in PGA HOPE will be one of the most rewarding experiences in their careers. By witnessing firsthand the impact golf has on veterans' lives—helping them regain a sense of purpose, community, and joy—they see the profound difference a PGA Professional can make beyond the course.

My hope is that by dedicating my time to develop and lead golf programs for veterans, I can inspire other PGA Professionals to do the same. There are countless ways to support our military and veteran community, whether through teaching clinics, mentoring, or organizing events. By demonstrating what is possible, I aim to spark ideas and motivate my colleagues to join this meaningful mission.

Every action, no matter the scale, contributes to a larger movement of service. By giving my best, I strive to lead by example, encouraging others in the PGA community to embrace the opportunity to make a lasting, positive impact on the lives of those who have served.

Are you PGA HOPE certified? *

☒ Yes

☐ No

Please provide any additional information you would like to share in support of your nomination for the Patriot Award including awards or recognition you've received in conjunction with your support of the Armed Forces and Veterans in 250 words or less: *

Serving others has always been at the heart of who I am. I am deeply grateful for the recognition of my efforts and for those who have taken the time to nominate me. It is truly an honor. I remain committed to supporting our military community—through golf, PGA HOPE, and other initiatives—because our service members and their families have given so much. Giving back in any way is my way of expressing profound gratitude for their sacrifices and dedication.

List any other PGA Section or National Awards you've received and the year(s) you received them (50 word limit): *

2019 Adult Program of the Year Award

2020 Adult Program of the Year Award

2023 Largest PGA Jr League in Michigan Section

2024 Largest PGA Jr League in Michigan Section and top 25 largest in the country

2025 Journey Award

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