

2026 Teacher & Coach of the Year Award Candidate Bio Form

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

Email *

ihughes@golftec.com

Name of Nominee: *

Ian Hughes

Facility Employed at: *

GOLFTEC Grand Rapids

Year Elected to Membership: *

2001

Please indicate whether you are one of the following: *

- ☐ Master Professional
- ☒ Certified Professional in Teaching & Coaching

Please list the National teaching workshops and/or National Teaching and Coaching Summits you've attended or conducted within the last 15 years: *

2011 and 2013 National Teaching & Coaching Summit, 2021 Virtual National Teaching & Coaching Summit and Golf Magazine Top 100 Teaching Summit Nov 2021

Please list the Section teaching workshops and/or Section Teaching and Coaching Summits you've attended or conducted in the last 15 years: *

Michigan Teaching and Coaching summits - 2018, 2019, 2022 and 2024. Illinois Teaching and Coaching Summits - 2011, 2014

Please describe your overall performance that your teaching has had on your facility(s), the Michigan Section and at the National Level in 250 words or less: *

In the past 12 months - I have given over 1100 hours of golf lessons. During that time, the 2 locations I support in Grand Rapids have given over 6300 hours of golf lessons. Since opening in 2017 - my locations have given hours of golf lessons. Personally, I have given over 50,000 lessons with GOLFTEC since 2001.

Please describe any unusual, innovative or special teaching programs you have initiated or implemented in 250 words or less: *

Currently playing an integral part in developing our new AI practice features for GOLFTEC - OPTI as a beta field tester. This will be the first of its kind - allowing the student to navigate their practice time via voice with the computer only. First GOLFTEC location to start beta testing GOLFTEC's new Optical Motion software. Optical Motion was the very first wireless/sensor less 3D motion capture system. Provided feedback on accuracy, ease of use and general trouble shooting to software developers. Beta testing new club fitting and putter fitting software for GOLFTEC to help enhance and improve the fitting process - with the goal of helping our students improve faster. Beta testing for Sky Trak plus

Please list any instructional articles, videos and/or publications you have written or contributed to: *

Golf Digest Best in State list since 2019. Oct 2019 golfdigest.com - Stop giving your buddies terrible advice <https://www.golfdigest.com/story/stop-giving-your-buddies-terrible-swing-advice-heres-instruction-that-will-actually-help> April 2013 - The Par Plan - contributor Numerous tips for GOLFTEC and my social media channels

Please list the names of outstanding golfers you have instructed: *

I have had the pleasure of helping many PGA members, PGA apprentices, PGM students and college players. Those players have qualified for such prestigious events as the US Amateur, US Senior Women's Amateur, and the US Mid Amateur

Please describe your involvement in growing the game of golf through juniors, women, minorities, seniors, and the disabled in 150 words or less: *

First Tee of West Michigan Board Member. We host First Tee students once a month from January to April @ GOLFTEC Grand Rapids after we close for free lessons. I have played in the First Tee golf marathon every year since 2017 - playing almost 1,000 holes of golf in those 8 days and raising almost \$50,000 for the charity. PGA Hope certified since 2023 - taught at PGA Hope classes in 2024 and 2025 with lead coach - Kosta Ramirez.

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

NA

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