

2026 Professional Development Award Candidate Bio Form

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

Email *

kmartin@pga.com

Name of Nominee: *

Kyle Martin

Facility Employed at: *

The Fortress Golf Course

Year Elected to Membership: *

2009

Are you a Master Professional, Certified Professional, serve as an Association Subject Matter Expert or adjunct PGA faculty member? *

No

Please describe your contribution to the PGA educational programs in the Michigan Section or nationally in 250 words or less: *

I am currently on the Education Committee for the section under Ward Sutton, and served on the Member Content Committee for the PGA of America. I also currently serve on the Ferris State PGA Golf Management Advisor Board. This experiences have allowed me to remain well informed on industry and employment trends both on a section and national level.

Please describe your contribution toward development of articles or materials related to and benefiting education in 250 words or less: *

I look forward to the opportunity to submit articles and materials to help in the PGA Education material. At the end of my career as a Head Golf Professional, my goal is to be an adjunct professor or administrator for the PGA Education department.

Please describe your contribution to build the image of both PGA Professionals and the Association? *

Early on in my PGA Education I had a Head Professional convince me I needed my own "Board of Directors" so to speak. He spoke about having people to call and offer guidance and honest, clear feedback on my decisions within my career without emotional investment. But the list of people would have to be those who represent the values of world class PGA Professionals. To this day, I still have my own board of directors helping steer me in the right direction, and offer feedback for better or worse. This message really stuck with me, and I have tried to impress that on everyone I mentor or teach within the industry. Having such an incredible experience as a PGA Professional has shown me what I owe to the PGA and to fellow PGA Professionals. Every committee, board, or group I am a part of both in and out of the industry allows me to show the respect and honesty required to be a great golf professional and represent the association well. I feel it is my job to continue that tradition with those individuals coming into the industry. That is why I am so involved in the Ferris Program, as well as the Education Committee for the section. Winning the 2024 Bill Strausbaugh award for the PGA Golf Management Program and FSU Distinguished Alumni was validation that my mission was needed and I will continue for the foreseeable future.

Please describe how you inspire fellow PGA Professionals and promote the game of golf in 250 *
words or less.

Having a facility like The Fortress Golf Course has enabled me to host both Chapter and Section events. Annually our facility host the Midwest Golf & Turf Pro Am in July. This allows PGA Section Members to bring 3 guests out to enjoy the property for the day. We have also hosted Eastern Chapter events in the past. In my 3rd year as the Head Golf Professional, we hosted the Amputee World Championships for a week. We had 12 countries represented and Beth Major, Communications Chair for the U.S.G.A. was on site. Representing the PGA for the event was a great pleasure. We have also hosted MHSAA State Finals, Callaway Meijer Junior Tour, Top 50 Tour, and US Kids State Championships on site. I am happy to represent the section as the managing PGA Professional for those events. Another great event we host is the Suzanne Peterson Dow Championship Qualifier presented by Frankenmuth Insurance. This two day qualifier provides amateur players an opportunity to qualify for the Dow Championship. All of these events on top of the committees and boards I am a part of give me the chance to represent the PGA in a wide variety of duties.

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

2024 Michigan Teacher and Coach of the Year

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