



PGA

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Facts & Figures

French Lick Resort becomes the fifth site to host both a PGA Professional National Championship and a PGA Championship. French Lick's former Hill Course, now The Donald Ross Course, was the site of the 1924 PGA Championship. (See the following chart)

Site	PGA Championship	PGA Professional National Championship
French Lick (Ind.) Resort	1924	2010
Pinehurst (N.C.) Resort	1936	1971, '72, '73, '74, '88, '97, '98
PGA National GC, Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.	1971, '87	1980, '81, '82, '84, '93
Valhalla GC, Louisville, Ky.	1996, 2000	2002
Whistling Straits (Straits), Kohler, Wis.	2004, '10	1999

What are the states that have hosted the previous 42 PGA Professional National Championships?

Arizona (2), California (10), Florida (6), Georgia (6), Kentucky (1), Missouri (1), New Mexico (2), New York (1), North Carolina (7), Ohio (1), Oklahoma (1), Oregon (2), South Carolina (1), Wisconsin (1)

Who was the only player to win three PGA Professional National Championships?

Larry Gilbert of Lexington, Ky., in 1981, 1982 and 1991.

Who recorded the lowest 18-hole score in National Championship history, but does not get credit for a record?

Bruce Zabriski of Jupiter, Fla., whose 59 in the third round of 1991 was posted on Doral Resort's Gold Course, which was reduced to a par-66 layout due to heavy rain.

What two PGA Professional National Champions also won a PGA Championship?

Sam Snead and Bob Rosburg

What PGA Professional National Champion also won a Senior PGA Championship?

Sam Snead

Who is the only NCAA Division I golf coach to win the National Championship?

Mike Small in 2005 and 2009, the head men's coach of the University of Illinois, who also has led the Fighting Illini to two consecutive Big Ten Conference golf titles (2009, '10)1.

What PGA Professional National Champion sank a 40-foot birdie putt on the final hole – the longest putt to win a National Championship?

Darrell Kestner of Glen Cove, N.Y., who won the 1996 Championship at the Arnold Palmer Private Course in La Quinta, Calif.

MEET THE PGA PROFESSIONAL NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

1968

Howell Fraser
Panama City, Fla.

The winner of the inaugural PGA Professional National Championship, Howell Fraser competed on the PGA Tour in three separate stints from 1965-81, enjoying a tie for fourth in 1967 at the Azalea Open and the 1969 Robinson Open. A PGA Life Member, Fraser returned to his home in Panama City, Fla., working at two golf clubs and teaching until 1981, when he and his wife, Linda Lee, purchased a franchise gift store, The Mole Hole. Fraser continues to play Dixie PGA Section events and operate the gift store.

1969

Bob Rosburg
(Deceased)

One of only two players to win a PGA Championship (1959), and a PGA Professional National Championship, Bob Rosburg is perhaps best remembered for his longtime work as a walking TV reporter for ABC Sports coverage of the PGA Tour. Rosburg played on the PGA Tour from 1953 to 1983, and has appeared in Champions Tour events since its origin in 1980. Rosburg died May 14, 2009, following injuries sustained from a fall outside a restaurant in Indio, Calif. He was 82. Rosburg passed away less than three months short of celebrating the 50th anniversary of his PGA Championship.

1970

Rex Baxter
Delray Beach, Fla.

Rex Baxter played on the PGA Tour from 1961 to 1968, and won the 1970 PGA Professional National Championship. After four club professional positions from 1970 through 1990, Baxter spent four years in semi-retirement. In 1996, he began teaching at BallenIsles Country Club in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla. He is a former *Golf Digest* Schools teaching professional at PGA National Golf Club in Palm Beach Gardens. Baxter, a PGA Life Member, lives in Delray Beach, Fla.

1971

Sam Snead
(Deceased)

One of golf's legendary players and winner of a PGA Tour record 81 titles, including seven major championships, Snead also won the 1971 PGA Professional National Championship at Pinehurst, N.C., and was runner-up to Roger Watson in 1974, losing a one-hole playoff. Snead's home club, The Greenbrier of White Sulphur Springs, W.Va., was his retreat from the glare of the public spotlight. In the twilight of his life, Snead both taught and enjoyed the camaraderie of his members at The Greenbrier. Snead died in 2002 at age 89.

1972

Don Massengale
(Deceased)

One of the most durable players of his era, Don Massengale competed on the PGA Tour from 1960 to 1970, then spent two years at Elmwood Country Club in White Plains, N.Y., and won the 1972 PGA Professional National Championship. He went on to compete on the former Senior PGA Tour from 1987 to 1997. Before his death in January 2007, Massengale headed the Massengale Golf Academy at Augusta Pines Golf Club in Spring, Texas.

1973

Rives McBee
Irving, Texas

Rives McBee competed on the PGA Tour from 1965 to 1971, before serving as PGA Head Professional at Las Colinas Country Club in Irving, Texas. A founding member of the Northern Texas Junior Golf Association, McBee is a former Northern Texas PGA Teacher of the Year, and whose former students include several national junior champions. McBee, a PGA Life Member, competed on the Champions Tour from 1989 to 1997, before retiring.

1974 and 1975

Roger Watson
Raleigh, N.C.

A PGA Life Member and two-time Carolinas PGA Player of the Year, Roger Watson was the first to win back-to-back PGA Professional National Championships. He captured the 1974 national title at Pinehurst No. 2 Course by defeating Sam Snead in a playoff. He competed on the PGA Tour from 1974-76, and was inducted in 1997 into the Carolinas PGA Hall of Fame.

1976

Bob Galloway
Chapel Hill, N.C.

Bob Galloway, who has his amateur status back, is a starter and ranger at the University of North Carolina-Findley Golf Club in Chapel Hill, N.C. He was a former part-owner of Pine Tuck Golf Club in Rock Hill, N.C., from 1974 to 1978. He has assisted the University of North Carolina men's and women's golf teams and continues to operate a golf club repair center. Galloway also has been a regular Rules official on amateur and collegiate circuits throughout the country, averaging nearly 20 events per year.

1977

**Laurie Hammer
Boynton Beach, Fla.**

Since 1969, PGA Master Professional Laurie Hammer has served as the PGA head professional at Delray Dunes Golf & Country Club in Boynton Beach, Fla. He competed in PGA Tour events from 1966-69, with his best finish a share of third place in the 1967 Cajun Classic Open Invitational. Since 1970, Hammer and neighbor Bob Murphy have teamed to present the Delray Dunes Bethesda Hospital Pro-Am. The event has raised more than \$4 million.

1978

**John Gentile
Ormond Beach, Fla.**

John Gentile is a PGA Life Member and former part-time teaching professional at Mahopee (N.Y.) Golf Club. Gentile had been a regular in Connecticut PGA tournament events for many years. He won the 2003 New England Senior Open and the 2005 Cape Cod Senior Open.

1979

**Buddy Whitten
Pensacola, Fla.**

Buddy Whitten, a PGA Life Member, is a former PGA director of instruction at Pensacola (Fla.) Country Club, and former PGA head professional at Blythefield Country Club in Belmont, Mich. Following his 1979 national title, Whitten competed in six events in 1980 on the PGA Tour. Whitten competed in 30 events on the Champions Tour in 1997, finishing 54th on the season money list. His highest finish was a tie for third at the Bank One Classic.

1980

**John Traub
Oakland Township, Mich.**

John Traub is a PGA Life Member, and coordinator of golf events for TNT Enterprises of Rochester, Mich. He competed on the PGA Tour in 1981-82. Traub was runner-up in the 2001 PGA Senior Club Professional Championship and has competed for several years on the European Seniors Tour. He is No. 2 all-time with 26 National Championship appearances and is eighth with 76 total rounds.

1981-1982 and 1991

Larry Gilbert (Deceased)

The only three-time PGA Professional National Champion, the late Larry Gilbert was one of the most gifted players in PGA of America history. He won one Tennessee PGA Section Championship in 1971, then moved to Kentucky and was a 12-time Section Player of the Year. He joined the Champions Tour in 1992, and won three titles that included one of the circuit's majors - the Ford Senior Players Championship. He died of lung cancer on Jan. 21, 1998.

1983

Larry Webb Rociada, N.M.

Larry Webb is PGA director of golf at Pendaries Golf Club in Rociada, N.M. Webb competed on the PGA Tour in 1977, 1979 and 1984. He was a two-time Colorado PGA Player of the Year, and between 1977 and 1987 he won six different Open titles in six separate states – Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, Utah, and Wyoming. He is a two-time Colorado PGA Senior Player of the Year.

1984

Bill Schumaker Columbia City, Ind.

Bill Schumaker is the PGA head professional at Crooked Lake Golf Course in Columbia City, Ind. He competed on the PGA Tour in 1982, 1985 and 1986, and in Champions Tour events from 2000 to 2005. He is a six-time Indiana PGA Player of the Year and four-time Indiana PGA Senior Player of the Year. Schumaker served two terms on the Indiana PGA Section Board of Directors and was the inaugural winner of the PGA Professional Player of the Year Award. This year, Schumaker will make his 29th National Championship appearance, the all-time record, and with 85 total rounds, needs two 18-hole rounds to set another longevity mark.

1985

Ed Dougherty Boothwyn, Pa.

The 1985 PGA Club Professional Player of the Year, formerly at Edgemont (Pa.) Country Club, Ed Dougherty competed on the PGA Tour from 1975 to 1997. He earned one Tour victory at the 1995 Deposit Guaranty Classic. He joined the Champions Tour in 1998, where he turned in 44 top-10 finishes that included a runner-up finish in the 1999 U.S. Senior Open. Dougherty, a PGA Life Member, lives in Boothwyn, Pa.

1986

Bob Lenzion

Las Vegas, Nev.

A PGA Life Member, Bob Lenzion captured the PGA Professional National Championship when he was a PGA Head Professional at Quechee Club in Quechee, Vt. He later became a teaching professional on Long Island before joining the European Seniors Tour in 1997. He went on to win the 1998 Turkish Senior Open and the 2005 Egyptian Senior Open.

1987

Jay Lumpkin

Encinitas, Calif.

Jay Lumpkin, the son of 1995 PGA Teacher of the Year Jack Lumpkin, is a PGA Teaching Professional who is based at Morgan Run Resort in Rancho Santa Fe, Calif. From 1991 to 1995, he was Director of Instruction for the PGA Tour at the TPC at Sawgrass in Ponte Vedra, Fla. Lumpkin played briefly on the PGA Tour in 1988.

1988

Bob Boyd

Wilmington, N.C.

A legend in Carolinas PGA Section history, Bob Boyd is a PGA Life Member who is currently seventh on the 2009 European Senior Tour money list. During his PGA Professional career in the Carolinas, Boyd won nearly 30 individual and more than 20 team major championships in Section competition. He is a seven-time Carolinas PGA Player of the Year. Upon turning 50, he competed in 2005 on the European Senior Tour, and on Oct. 2, 2005, finished birdie-eagle-par to capture the Castellon Costa Azahar Open de Espana Senior. In February 2006, Boyd was stricken with acute myeloid leukemia, received a bone marrow transplant in May and an apparent speedy recovery resulted in his winning the Carolinas PGA Crowfield Senior Open in December 2006. He underwent a second bone marrow transplant in 2007 and recovered to compete in the 2008 Senior PGA Championship and on the European Seniors Tour. In 2009, Boyd elevated his play once again and finished runner-up twice after losing playoffs to Ian Woosnam in the Irish Seniors Open and to John Bland in the Bad Ragaz PGA Seniors Open.

1989

Bruce Fleisher

Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.

In between his PGA Tour career (1969 to 1998), Bruce Fleisher worked as a club professional in the 1980s, with his last term at Williams Island Country Club in North Miami, Fla. Fleisher earned one PGA Tour victory at the 1991 New England Classic. He catapulted to fame on the Champions Tour, collecting 18 victories from 1999 to 2004, including the 2001 U.S. Senior Open.

1990

Brett Upper
Scottsdale, Ariz.

Brett Upper is the PGA director of golf at The Arizona Country Club in Phoenix. He competed on the PGA Tour from 1983-1989, finishing third in the 1985 Quad Cities Open and fourth in the 1985 Players Championship and 1988 Greater Hartford Open. Upper followed the 1990 PGA Professional National Championship by winning the 1991 British PGA Club Professional Championship.

1992

Ron McDougal
Eatontown, N.J.

Ron McDougal is one of the most consistent performers in PGA Professional National Championship history, posting a 72 stroke average in 45 rounds. He has six top-10 finishes in championship history top-5 finishes (5)...Listed in 1976 *Golf Digest Annual* as the youngest to record a double eagle-2, completing the feat on a 485-yard par-5 hole at age 14 at Quail Valley Country Club in Missouri City, Texas. In 2000, he appeared in publications nationally as a model for Chanel men's cologne. He teaches golf, while living in Eatontown, N.J.

1993

J.R. (Jeff) Roth
Farmington, N.M.

Jeff Roth is a PGA head professional at San Juan Country Club in Farmington, N.M. Prior to his current position, which he assumed in March 2010, Roth was one of the most successful performers in Michigan PGA Section history. He captured 14 "major" titles between 1987 and 2004. He competed in PGA Tour events from 1983 to 2004. His PGA Cup singles victory in 1994 allowed the United States to forge a tie with Great Britain & Ireland and retain the Llandudno International Golf Trophy.

1994

Sammy Rachels
DeFuniak Springs, Fla.

The winner of the 1994 PGA Professional National Championship in a playoff, Sammy Rachels has overcome four back operations and recurring circulatory problems in his feet to compete on the PGA Tour from 1975-85, and go on to win three titles as a members of the Champions Tour. A PGA Life Member, Rachels' last victory came in the 2002 Bruno's Memorial Classic, and last appeared in a Champions Tour in the 2007 Dick's Sporting Goods Open.

1995

Steve Schneider
Sandy, Utah

Steve Schneider, one of four PGA Professionals from his family, is a PGA assistant professional at Schneider's Pebblebrook Golf Links, in Sandy, Utah. An All-American at Brigham Young University, Schneider won the 1995 PGA Professional National Championship, and has competed on the Nationwide Tour in 1994, 1996-98 and 2000. One of the most successful players in Utah PGA Section history, Schneider has been in the top 25 of the PGA Professional National Championship eight of the past 10 years, and was the Low PGA Professional finisher in the 2005 PGA Championship.

1996

Darrell Kestner
Glen Cove, N.Y.

The PGA director of golf at Deepdale Golf Club in Manhasset, N.Y., Darrell Kestner won the 1987 Titleist/FootJoy PGA Assistant Professional Championship, and the 1996 PGA Professional National Championship. Listed by *Golf Digest* as one of America's Top 50 instructors, Kestner also won the 2004 and 2005 Senior PGA Professional Player of the Year Awards. In 1993, at Inverness Club in Toledo, Ohio, Kestner became the first player in PGA Championship history to record a double eagle.

1997

Bruce Zabriski
Jupiter, Fla.

A PGA Life Member, Bruce Zabriski competed on the PGA Tour in 1988, '92 and '93, and is a five-time PGA Club Professional Player of the Year. He won the 1995 Titleist/FootJoy PGA Assistant Professional Championship in 1995 and two years later, captured the PGA Professional National Championship. One of the most dominating players in both the Metropolitan and South Florida PGA Sections, Zabriski also won the 2001 PGA Match Play Championship and is the all-time victory leader (18) in the PGA Tournament Series. Today, Zabriski is employed by Jim Fazio Golf Design of North Palm Beach, Fla.

1998

Mike Burke Jr.
Alpine, N.J.

The PGA head professional at Montammy Golf Club in Alpine, N.J., Mike Burke Jr. is the son of a premier PGA Professional, and who went on to become the 1998 PGA Professional National Champion. He was the first National Champion to use a broom-handled putter. Burke competed on the PGA Tour in 1982, and is one of the foremost players in New Jersey PGA Section history. He was inducted into the Section Hall of Fame in 1998, the same year he won the PGA Professional National Championship on the No. 8 Course at Pinehurst, N.C.

1999

Jeff Freeman
Windermere, Fla.

Freeman is a PGA assistant professional at the Country Club of Orlando, Fla. In 1999, Freeman became one of seven in history to win the PGA Professional National Championship in his first attempt. Freeman accomplished the feat at Whistling Straits in Kohler, Wis. Freeman competed on the PGA Tour from 1991 to 2004, and had “Conditional” playing status on the Nationwide Tour, a circuit where he has competed in 175 events from 1991 to 2006. He owns runner-up finishes in the 2002 Oregon Classic and the 2001 Fort Smith (Ark.) Classic.

2000 and 2003

Tim Thelen
College Station, Texas

The PGA assistant professional at The Falls Golf & Country Club in New Ulm, Texas, Tim Thelen won the 2000 and 2003 PGA Club Professional Championships. He captured the 2000 national title at Oak Tree Golf Club in Edmond, Okla., in a five-hole playoff over Mark Brown of Oyster, Bay, N.Y., and won the 2003 title at Twin Warriors Golf Club in Santa Ana Pueblo, N.M., by getting up and down from a green side bunker on the 72nd hole at the 7,624-yard Twin Warriors Golf Club in Santa Ana Pueblo, N.M. Twin Warriors at the time was the longest course to host a PGA of America-sponsored event. Thelen also is one of the most successful U.S. PGA Cup performers, appearing in four PGA Cups and posting a 12-5-0 record.

2001

Wayne DeFrancesco
Columbia, Md.

DeFrancesco is a PGA director of instruction at Woodmont Country Club in Rockville, Md., and whom underwent three back operations – in 1983, '86 and '88, before returning to competitive golf. He won the 2001 PGA Professional National Championship at Sunriver (Ore.) Resort's Crosswater Golf Club, becoming the first in Championship history to own the lead alone all four rounds.

2002

Barry Evans
Charleston, W. Va.

The PGA head professional at Berry Hills Country Club in Charleston, W.Va., Barry Evans followed legend Sam Snead (1971) as the only Tri-State PGA Section members to win the PGA Professional National Championship. His victory in the 2002 PGA Professional National Championship at Valhalla Golf Club in Louisville, Ky., featured an 18th hole eagle in the third round, and a grinding, struggling 75 in the final round.

2004

Bob Sowards Dublin, Ohio

A PGA teaching professional at New Albany (Ohio) Country Club, Bob Sowards won the 2004 PGA Professional National Championship at Longaberger Golf Club in Nashport, Ohio, in his home state. He was a three-time winner of the PGA Professional Player of the Year Award, and competed in 1998 on the former Nike Tour. He won the 2005 TaylorMade-adidas Golf PGA Stroke Play and Match Play Championships. In June 2005, Sowards became the first PGA Professional National Champion to compete in The Memorial Tournament at Muirfield Village Golf Club, where he served as an assistant professional from 1996-97. After competing in 22 PGA Tour events in 2008 and earning \$263, 327, Sowards failed to retain his Tour card and competed through 2009 on the Nationwide Tour.

2005 and 2009

Mike Small Champaign, Ill.

Since 2000, Mike Small has served as head men's golf coach at the University of Illinois in Champaign, where he guided the Illini to two consecutive Big Ten Conference championships in 2009 and this year. Small was a former Illini captain, and teamed with current PGA Tour star Steve Stricker in 1988 to win the Big Ten Conference title. Small also was named the 2009 and 2010 Big Ten Coach of the Year, having guided his team to the NCAA Championships for the fourth time in the past seven seasons. He also was the 2002 Big Ten Coach of the Year and 2003 and 2009 Midwest Region Coach of the Year. Small captured the 2005 and 2010 PGA Professional National Championships, one of four players to win multiple titles. He competed on the former Nike Tour, winning the 1997 Monterey Open and the 1997 Cleveland Open. Small competed on the PGA Tour in 1998, and owns a career-best share of ninth place in the 1998 Bell Canadian Open. The most dominant player in Illinois PGA Section history, Small won the 2007 Illinois Open a day before he traveled to the PGA Championship and finished as the Low PGA Club Professional at Southern Hills Country Club in Tulsa, Okla.

2006

Ron Philo Jr. Amelia Island, Fla.

Ron Philo Jr. is the PGA general manager of Stowe Mountain Club in Stowe, Vt. He defeated Alan Schulte of Fishers, Ind., in a three-hole playoff to capture the 2006 PGA Professional National Championship at Atunyote Golf Club in Verona, N.Y. He is the son of PGA Professional Ron Philo Sr. of Fernandina Beach, Fla., who competed in the 1982 National Championship, and is the brother of LPGA Tour standout Laura Diaz, a two-time event winner and who serves as co-chair of the 2007 American Express Women's Golf Week. This season, Philo caddied for his sister as she went on to finish third in the 2008 Grand China Air LPGA Championship.

2007

Chip Sullivan
Troutville, Va.

The PGA director of golf at Hanging Rock Golf Club in Salem, Va., Chip Sullivan received news in 2007 that he had contracted hemochromatosis (an overabundance of iron in the blood) and diabetes, yet overcame that to win the 40th PGA Professional National Championship at Sunriver (Ore.) Resort. Three months later, Sullivan helped the U.S. to victory over Great Britain & Ireland in the 2007 PGA Cup at Reynolds Plantation in Greensboro, Ga. In May 2008, Sullivan used an exemption for being National Champion and competed in the Japan PGA Championship in May 2008. The first reigning PGA Professional National Champion to do so, Sullivan finished tied for 18th during his first trip to the Orient.

2008

Scott Hebert
Traverse City, Mich.

The PGA head professional at Grand Traverse Resort in Acme, Mich., Scott Hebert (pronounced “HE-burt”) became the fourth Michigan resident to win a National Championship when he rallied in the final round in 2008 at Reynolds Plantation near Greensboro, Ga. Hebert arrived at the National Championship after the premature birth of his daughter and was sparked by the news before the opening round that both his wife, Laurie, and daughter, would come healthy from the hospital back in Michigan. One of the premier players in Michigan PGA Section history in recent years, Hebert’s six Michigan Open titles ties PGA Hall of Fame and Michigan golf legend Al Watrous, who captured three Senior PGA Championships. Though carrying the same spelling of the surname, Hebert, Scott is no relation to the famed brothers, Lionel and Jay Hebert (pronounced “A-Bear”), who won the respective 1957 and 1960 PGA Championships.

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