Callaway Golf PGA Assistant Championship

2011 Facts and Format

Dates: Nov. 3-6

Site: PGA Golf Club (Wanamaker Course), Port St. Lucie, Fla.

Defending Champion: Frank Bensel, Purchase, N.Y.

Prize Money and Prizes A purse of $100,000 will be distributed to the 2011 field of 126 competitors. The 2011 Callaway Golf PGA Assistant Champion will receive a first-place check of $9,000.

Method of Play Stroke play, 18 holes daily. The field will be cut to the low 70 players and ties following the second round of play. In the event of a tie for first place after 72 holes, there will be a hole-by-hole playoff.

Rules and Regulations The Rules of Golf, which govern play, are determined by the United States Golf Association and applied by the PGA of America Rules Committee.

Eligibility PGA assistant professionals (A-8 membership classification) and all registered apprentices may attempt to earn berths through their local PGA Sections. The final field is comprised of the 41 PGA Section assistant champions and the defending champion, if he is eligible.

Champion Benefits The 2011 Callaway Golf PGA Assistant Champion, if eligible, will earn a berth in the 2012 PGA Professional National Championship. In addition, the top four finishers and ties will earn a berth in the 2012 Callaway Golf PGA Assistant Championship.

Finally, the top 10 finishers and ties earn a berth into the first stage of the 2012 PGA Tour Qualifying School.

Championship History

For the past 34 years, the PGA Assistant Championship has marked a tradition of excellence in bringing together some of the most talented players in The PGA of America as well as being models of the caliber of members who make up the world's largest working sports organization.

For the first 14 years of its existence, the Championship was hosted by Thorny Lea Golf Club in Brockton, Mass, developing into one of The PGA's most popular events.

From 1991 to 1994, the Championship was hosted at PGA West, and contested on the Jack Nicklaus Private Course in La Quinta, Calif. In addition, the Championship was expanded from 54 to 72 holes. In 2004, the Championship expanded to 120 contestants, who compete for a total purse of $100,000.

In 2009, Callaway Golf became the title sponsor of the Championship.

Past competitors or champions who have gone on to careers on the PGA Tour and Nationwide Tour include: Loren Roberts (Champion, 1979), Fred Funk (Champion, 1984), Rich Beem (third, 1998), Jeff Freeman (T-7, 1998), Robert Thompson (Champion, 1986) and Webb Heintzelman (Champion, 1988).

Callaway Golf PGA Assistant Champions Through the Years

	Year	Champion, Section	Score	Runner-up(s)	Site
Inaugural	1977	Mike Zack, New Jersey	209	Dennis Sullivan	Thorny Lea GC
2nd	1978	Larry Griffin, Gulf States	209	Frank Shikle	Thorny Lea GC
3rd	1979	Loren Roberts, Southern California	212	Bob Huber	Thorny Lea GC
4th	1980	John Jackson, Southwest	205	Loren Roberts	Thorny Lea GC
5th	1981	Ted O'Rourke, New England	210	Ed Oldfield Jr.	Thorny Lea GC
6th	1982	Darrell Kestner, Metropolitan*	213	Jean-Louis Lamarre	Thorny Lea GC
7th	1983	Victor Tortorici, Metropolitan	214	Norm Becker	Thorny Lea GC
8th	1984	Fred Funk, Middle Atlantic	206	Brent Murray	Thorny Lea GC
9th	1985	Jon Fiedler, Southern California	211	Perry Arthur	Thorny Lea GC
10th	1986	Robert Thompson, Southern Texas	209	Ken Allard, Scott Steger, Ron Kiaaina Jr.	Thorny Lea GC
11th	1987	Darrell Kestner, Metropolitan*	210	Ken Schall, Greg Farrow, Bob Gaus	Thorny Lea GC
12th	1988	Webb Heintzelman, Middle Atlantic	205	Mitch Camp	Thorny Lea GC
13th	1989	Mike West, Middle Atlantic	210	Tracy Frank	Thorny Lea GC
14th	1990	Steve Gotsche, Midwest	205	Lee Rinker	Thorny Lea GC
15th	1991	Kim Thompson, Rocky Mountain	278	Thomas Cleaver	PGA West
16th	1992	Bill Loeffler, Colorado	283	Jon Fiedler	PGA West
17th	1993	Steve Brady, Michigan	284	Rob McNamara	PGA West
18th	1994	Wes Short Jr., Southern Texas	283	Carlton Blewett, Rob McNamara	PGA West

	Year	Champion, Section	Score	Runner-up(s)	Site
19th	1995	Bruce Zabriski, Metropolitan	282	Wes Short Jr.	PGA National Resort & Spa
20th	1996	Jim Schuman, Wisconsin	276	Bruce Zabriski	PGA Golf Club
21st	1997	Jim Schuman, Wisconsin*	280	Brian Fogt	PGA Golf Club
22nd	1998	Rick Gehr, Dixie	280	Rick Schuller	PGA Golf Club
23rd	1999	Randall McCracken, Dixie	211#	Nick Klassen	PGA Golf Club
24th	2000	Alan Schulte, Indiana	282	Rodney Cook	PGA Golf Club
25th	2001	Frank Dobbs, South Florida	281	Alan Schulte	PGA Golf Club
26th	2002	Kyle Flinton, South Central	271	Gus Ulrich	PGA Golf Club
27th	2003	Kyle Flinton, South Central	270	Loren Personett	PGA Golf Club
28th	2004	Kirk Satterfield, Metropolitan	278	V.J. Trolio	PGA Golf Club
29th	2005	Kyle Flinton, South Central	282	James Herman, Jaysen Hansen	PGA Golf Club
30th	2006	Brad Lardon, Southern Texas	274	Faber Jamerson	PGA Golf Club
31st	2007	Chris Moody, Utah	277	James Herman	PGA Golf Club
32nd	2008	Kyle Voska, Southern Ohio	279	Matt Dobyns	PGA Golf Club
33rd	2009	Tim Thelen, Southern Texas	265	Sean Dougherty	PGA Golf Club
34th	2010	Frank Bensel, Metropolitan	277	Travis Deibert	PGA Golf Club

**Won Playoff # Rain-shortened to 54-hole event*

PGA Assistant Championship Records

Lowest First-Round Score

63 Ken Allard, Rochester, Mich., 1986

Lowest Second-Round Score

65 Tim Thelen, New Ulm, Texas, 2009
65 Bill Loeffler, Littleton, Colo., 1992

Lowest 36 Holes

131 Tim Thelen, New Ulm, Texas, 2009
134 Kyle Flinton, Edmond, Okla., 2003
Mitch Camp, Copley, Ohio, 1988

Lowest Third-Round Score

63 Kyle Flinton, Edmond, Okla., 2002
64 Garrett Post, Tariffville, Conn., 1998

Lowest 54 Holes

197 Tim Thelen, New Ulm, Texas, 2009
202 Kyle Flinton, Edmond, Okla., 2003
204 Faber Jamerson, Amherst, Va., 2006
Kyle Flinton, Edmond, Okla., 2002
205 Steve Gotsche, Great Bend, Kan., 1990
Webb Heintzelman, Bethesda, Md., 1988
John Jackson, Scottsdale, Ariz., 1980

Lowest Fourth-Round Score

66 Kyle Flinton, Edmond, Okla., 2006
Kirk Satterfield, Manhasset, N.Y., 2004
67 Loren Personett, Antioch, Tenn., 2003
Kyle Flinton, Edmond, Okla., 2002
Michael Kiel, Rochester, N.Y., 2002
Tony DeMaria, Sanford, Fla., 1998
Andrew Raitt, England, 1998
Kevin Dugas, Canada, 1992

Lowest Winning Score, 54 Holes

205 Steve Gotsche, Great Bend, Kan., 1990
Webb Heintzelman, Bethesda, Md., 1988
John Jackson, Scottsdale, Ariz., 1980

Lowest Winning Score, 72 Holes

265 Tim Thelen, New Ulm, Texas, 2009
270 Kyle Flinton, Edmond, Okla., 2003
271 Kyle Flinton, Edmond, Okla., 2002
274 Brad Lardon, Austin, Texas, 2006

Highest Start by Winner

75 Bill Loeffler, Littleton, Colo., 1992

Lowest Start by Winner

64 Webb Heintzelman, Bethesda, Md., 1988

Most Victories

3 Kyle Flinton, Edmond, Okla., 2002, ‘03, ‘05
2 Jim Schuman, Janesville, Wis., 1996, ‘97
Darrell Kestner, E. Norwich, N.Y., 1982, ‘87

Most Appearances

7 Alan Schulte, Fishers, Ind.
5 Rodney Cook, Lecanto, Fla., Bob Gaus,
St. Louis, Mo., Bob Mucha, Southwick, Mass.

Largest Margin of Victory

8 Kyle Flinton, Edmond, Okla., 2005
7 Tim Thelen, New Ulm, Texas, 2009
Kyle Flinton, Edmond, Okla., 2002
Jim Schuman, Janesville, Wis., 1996

For further information and historical summaries of the Callaway Golf PGA Assistant Championship, visit *www.pgamediacenter.com* and access the Online PGA Media Guide.
Then, click on the PGA Member Tournaments tab.