

2024 Awards Report

The PGA of Manitoba Awards Program saw significant changes over the past year. In reviewing the programs in place in other zones across the country, we selected a few key changes to implement in our Awards program in an effort to improve our processes in this area.

The largest of these changes saw our past year's winners move into an evaluator role for the 2023 awards selection, thereby making them ineligible to win in the same category in back to back years. We would like to acknowledge their willingness to become a part of the change as well as the time and effort they have put in to assist with evaluations. The feedback they provided will also contribute to any future modifications that may be made.

In past years, 3 individuals made up our Awards Selection Committee. Don MacDonald, Gord Hudson & Carol Martel were previously our only evaluators across all categories. While this year's changes added 8 new evaluators, these 3 individuals continued to be a part of this process, and we cannot thank them enough for their guidance, feedback and contributions.

Our 2023 Award Winners are:

Nick Einarson	Apprentice Professional of the Year	
Jeremy Gallant	Class 'A' Assistant Professional of the Year	
Andrew Steep	Murray Tucker Club Professional of the Year	<u>National Award Recipient</u>
Wade Nybakken	Executive Professional of the year	
Derrick Goodwin	Junior Leader of the Year Award & Teacher of the Year	
Derek Ingram	Coach of the Year	
Kris Ehnes – Breezy Bend Country Club	Retailer of the Year	
Bri-ann Tokariwski	Tex Noble Professional Development Award	<u>National Award Recipient</u>
Rob McMillan – Acushnet Canada	Salesperson of the Year	
Dean North	Player of the Year	
Sandy Kurceba	Lifetime Achievement Award	
Dustin Wilson	Warren Crosbie Community Leader of the Year	<u>National Award Recipient</u>

The Awards Reception was generously sponsored by Tribal Sportswear. Thank you to local sales representative Jordy Shnier for his ongoing support of this event and our members. The Presenting sponsors include Prairie Turf Equipment with local sales rep Cory Froelich, and Boutique Pro Golf. Thank you to all of these partners for their ongoing sponsorship and support.

With the new golf season, we encourage all professionals to recognize, then nominate their fellow professionals for their work and contributions.

The PGA of Manitoba announced the Professional Recognition Program (PRP). This platform recognizes individual PGA Members who make significant contributions to Our Association and the overall well-being of fellow PGA members.

TaylorMade Canada, after learning of this new program, enthusiastically agreed to partner with us as the Presenting Sponsor. As the Presenting Sponsor, TaylorMade Canada will contribute a bonus incentive to the Top point-earners. A sincere thank you to TaylorMade Canada.

The Professional Recognition Program is a tracked, point-driven program based on your activity as a PGA Professional through: Participation, Continuing Education, PGA Sport Development Programs, Contribution, Tournaments, Promoting & Supporting, and Service & Volunteerism. Please look to the PGA of Manitoba website for the full program overview, point allocation, point requisition submission form, and the PRP Leaderboard.

Through this initiative, the PGA of Manitoba will acknowledge Our Association's Top Golf Professionals each year, awarding those finishing among the first 10 positions on the PRP Leaderboard. The 2023/24 program will run into this October.

At the fall's Awards Presentations, we will be recognizing the top point earners.

Thank you,

Matt Simmons

PGA of Manitoba Award's Chairperson