



# PGA

Michigan Section

## BIO OF SPECIAL AWARDS CANDIDATE

Name of Nominee: Gregory Babinec \_\_\_\_\_

Year Elected to Membership: 1988 \_\_\_\_\_

Award Nominated for: Golf Professional of the Year \_\_\_\_\_

Briefly describe your achievements/accomplishments that would pertain to this award:

For the past 33 years I have been actively involved in the Michigan Section as an Assistant, Director of Instruction, Head Professional and Director of Golf, mostly as a member of the Norther Chapter. While working as the Director of Instruction for the Japanese Women's Golf Program at Ferris State University from 1988-90 it was my responsibility to design a program to teach 53 ladies how to play golf, in the hopes that some would become skilled enough to play professionally in Japan. There were several who returned to Japan and competed on various tours. Several others became members of the PGA here in the US as well as taking the skills learned back to Japan to become instructors there.

I have worked at many facilities throughout Michigan and currently hold the Head Golf Professional position at Crystal Mountain. Prior to coming to Crystal Mountain, I spent 11 years at Arcadia Bluffs, the last 8 as Director of Golf. As Head Golf Professional at County Highlands in Bear Lake, The Natural in Gaylord and as an assistant at Wabeek Country Club in Bloomfield Hills, I have had the opportunity to work with aspiring PGA apprentices, many who have gone on to have successful careers in business and the golf industry in particular.

Past honors include 1992 Golf Professional of the Year in the Northern Chapter and 2008 Merchandiser of the Year in the Michigan Section. Playing accomplishments include top 10 finishes in the Michigan Open, the Michigan PGA and most recently the Michigan Senior Open. I regularly play in chapter pro-am events along with the end of year championships.

During my tenure at Crystal Mountain, I have coordinated the volunteers for the Michigan Women's Open each year and have been involved with the Pro Am and tournament proper as well. We recently hosted the event for the 14<sup>th</sup> consecutive year and will be hosting the event again in 2018. Other events hosted include Chapter Championships at Crystal Mountain, Pro-Pro events and Pro Assistants at Arcadia Bluffs.

I am a current member of the Bear Lake School Board and have been for 10 years.

As a member of the PGA for 29 years and the Michigan Section for 26 years it has been a privilege and an honor to work with some of the best people in the industry from the Head Professionals I have learned from to the Instructors, Owners, and Superintendents at each facility I have had the pleasure of working with. The PGA has given me the opportunity to befriend and mentor many aspiring apprentices and professional within the industry. It has brought me much joy and fulfillment over the course of my career and my wish is for my fellow PGA Professionals to experience the same joy as I have.

