



PGA

Michigan Section

BIO OF SPECIAL AWARDS CANDIDATE

Name of Nominee: Ian Ziska

Year Elected to Membership: 2001

Award Nominated for: Horton Smith Award

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

During my career as a PGA Member, I have had the opportunity to learn from a number of outstanding professionals through personal experience, educational seminars, and other workshops. I attend the PGA Merchandise Show annually, I have attended the PGA Teaching Coaching Summit, and I am TPI Certified. In addition, I continue to remain involved and contribute time serving as an officer for both the Northern Chapter and Michigan Section PGA on multiple committees. I have been privileged to be recognized, nominated, and awarded eight Michigan Section PGA Special Awards.

My involvement and my continuing education is very evident to each member of my team. As the PGA Head Golf Professional at Ferris State University's Katke Golf Course, one of my most important tasks, is to provide a realistic view of what a PGA Professional's roll is and what they do.

Our facility provides the PGA Golf Management Students of Ferris State with a unique learning opportunity, offering educational experiences in all areas of golf operations. Subsequently, this University platform allows me to mentor and educate in a hands-on environment to over fifty students each year. I lead by example, educating in a positive way, and use techniques to encourage members of my team to stay involved, and continue to strive to become better well after they have graduated.

Showing the importance of remaining involved within a community, and personal promotion is an important component to a golf professional. I involve my student team in a number of activities, making a point to show the importance in involving themselves in the community through fundraising efforts and player development programs.

I am very lucky, over the past five years, I have been able to increase my network, and remain in consistent contact with former members of my team, watching them transition from students, to assistants, to head golf professionals. I continue to educate and stress the importance of being a better PGA Professional and promoting the game of golf.

I would like to thank the chapter and its members for the opportunity to represent the NMPGA in the special awards process.