

Director's Letter

Dear alumni, students and program supporters, I hope you enjoy our inaugural University of Idaho PGA Golf Management newsletter! While Luke and I connect with many of you through the internship program, golf events, or just to catch up, we wanted to establish a formal newsletter to provide program updates, highlight current student and alumni accomplishments, and help you connect with each other.

Much has changed since the PGA accredited our program in 2002. From our first three graduates completing the program in fall 2005, to welcoming our final cohort of PGA PGM 2.0 freshman this fall (we will be welcoming the PGA PGM 3.0 program next fall.) Some more recent changes include the hiring of new administrative support, Koryn Dumond, and the purchase of a Trackman and Trackman simulator. As well as the approval of all business majors to include the PGA option, and the upcoming rollout of the PGA 3.0 curriculum.

Our new dean, Marc Chopin, has asked us to grow our program and is committed to our program's success. You are a critical part of this process, and we thank you for continuing to recommend the program to those you think would be a good fit for the profession and the University of Idaho.

In this edition you will hear from Alumni Tanner Clarke and current student Michael Tolle, who just returned from his internship at The Golf Channel. Thank you!

Cole Mize
colem@uidaho.edu
208-885-9772

New Trackman technology

This last year we have seen the exciting addition of a Trackman 4 and more recently a Simulator to go along with it. As you can see from the pictures below we have greatly improved the old hitting room from what we all remember in our days as a student. As a program we appreciate the support and feedback from many of you as we went through the process of acquiring this incredibly valuable asset. Many of you are full time teachers, and we would be happy to have you come to campus and work with the students on how you utilize technology in your own lessons.

The simulator package has the option to play 15 courses, and we are hoping this will help our students continue to improve through the winter months. This will be a vital part of the education through the Teaching Classes, and we are hoping to shorten the curve on education about teaching with technology for our students. We all wish we had this to practice on when we were students!



Internship Coordinator update

I have been fortunate to travel to many of your courses over the last few years to see and play your facilities. If we have not yet made it to your course, we would like to come by to visit and see you.

One of the best ways you can support the PGA program is through the internship process. If you have not hosted an intern and you are interested in doing so, please contact me. I would be happy to work with you and your facility to get some temporary help and build the relationship between our program's alumni and current students.

A very big thank you to all of you who have already participated in the internship process. I believe that your experience in this program provides unique insight and mentorship to our students. Thank you all for your continuing support in the program, and keep up the good work. We look forward to getting together with you, whether that is here on campus, or at the merchandise show.



Luke Nickodemus
luken@uidaho.edu
208-885-9773

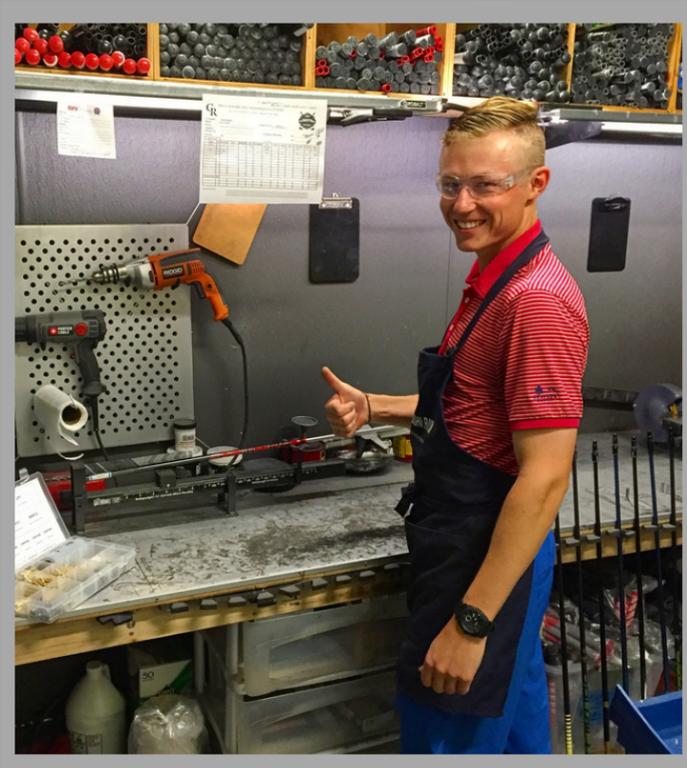
Alumni Spotlight

Tanner Clarke

University of Idaho



PGA
Golf Management



I graduated from University of Idaho in the PGA Golf Management program in 2013. My first job I landed was a teaching position at Golf Performance Center in Bellevue Washington. I started out by observing the other teaching professionals to help aid my teaching style. The first year I was at Golf Performance Center I was able to teach 1500+ lessons, which is a huge help to gain confidence in my teaching ability and improve my teaching technique. One great task I was able to take on the first year was learning how build golf clubs. After my first year at the facility I was promoted to Lead Club Builder and Lead Instructor. The next two years I was able to manage inventory for the club building side of the business while making improvements along the way. Over the last two years I was also able to give 4,000+ lessons and fittings. They say the best way to improve your teaching is experience and I can say that is very true!

With the experience I have learned so far at Golf Performance Center myself and a couple of PGA Professionals have plans to open up our own shop. At the new shop we plan to use the newest Trackman 4s for both full swing, chipping, and putting. As the business grows we plan to add club building and club repair. One thing that will make us different is our plan to be able to teach inside and outside. We plan to have an inside studio with multiple bays along with partnering with courses around the area to be able to teach outside, short game, and playing lessons all of which are a vital part of improving the students' game. Our goal is to have the new center up and running by the end of the year.

Current Student Spotlight

Michael Tolle

As a member of the PGA Golf Management program at the University of Idaho I had the opportunity to make connections for a great summer internship preceding my senior year. Attending the PGA Merchandise Show the last couple of years has proven to be very beneficial for my young career in the golf industry. Each of my internships have given me unique experiences and learning opportunities. My summer with Golf Channel was my first internship away from a golf course. I worked with the programming department, which is responsible for scheduling events and shows for the channel as well as live international production. The internship supervisors helped us learn as much as possible by immersing the interns in various departments to get a better understanding of the whole operation. We were given the opportunity to shadow Golf Channel employees and help with daily tasks that proved vital to the business. Many of our summer projects will find their way to the company president and overseas to the London NBCUniversal office. I participated in Live From the Majors throughout the summer and got a glimpse into the complexities and intricacies of television broadcast. The opportunity to work with Golf Channel and its employees helped solidify my interest and passion for the golf industry. Thanks to the PGM, I am on the right track. I am looking forward to my senior year at U of I and joining the proud alumni of this institution.

Go Vandals!

