

# PGA HOPE CAROLINAS

## HOW TO GET INVOLVED AS A PGA PROFESSIONAL?

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### **What is PGA HOPE?**

PGA HOPE Carolinas (Helping Our Patriots Everywhere) is an adaptive golf program offered by our PGA Professionals as a rehabilitation tool to improve our veterans' quality of life by enhancing their mental, social, physical, and emotional well-being. There is NO COST to our veterans.

### **Mission and Goals**

Our mission is to use golf as a rehabilitative tool to help Veterans overcome life's adversities and improve their physical, mental, emotional, and social well-being.

#### **Our goals are to:**

- Create a safe environment for Veterans and their families and establish relationships of trust with PGA Professionals.
- Have fun and encourage a culture of comradery.
- Teach Veterans the basics of golf including etiquette and course management.
- Empower Veterans to feel confident playing golf on their own after the program.

## **PGA HOPE INSTRUCTORS**

### **Time Commitment**

All PGA Professionals and Associates are encouraged to attend at least one class of PGA HOPE, but you must be PGA HOPE certified. PGA Professionals are offered an honorarium of \$50.00 per hour; Associates \$35.00 an hour. Lead Professionals receive an additional \$500 honorarium for their commitment. PGA Professionals can opt to donate their honorarium back to their PGA HOPE program.

### **Training**

Only PGA Professionals and Associates can teach Veterans in the PGA HOPE program, and those who plan on being instructors for PGA HOPE must attend a PGA HOPE adaptive golf training seminar. All training seminars are conducted by a member of the PGA HOPE National Training Team. The training seminar prepares PGA Professionals and Associates to feel more confident teaching individuals with varying physical and mental disabilities. PGA Professionals do not receive compensation for this training day, but do receive 6 MSR credits.

## **PGA HOPE Facts**

- It is a fact that suicide is a major issue among military Veterans, with recent statistical studies showing that 22 Veterans a day commit suicide. PGA HOPE is working to change this statistic.
- Participants of PGA HOPE programs include military Veterans living with physical and cognitive challenges such as Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and amputees, among other challenges.
- The Department of Veterans Affairs research and clinical experience verify that physical activity is important to maintaining good health, speeding recovery, and improving overall quality of life. For many injured Veterans, adaptive sports provide their first exposure to physical activity after injury.
- PGA HOPE programming is fully funded by PGA REACH and offered at NO COST for Military Veterans.
- PGA HOPE has a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Department of Veterans Affairs, which enables Recreational Therapists to refer Veterans to the PGA HOPE program as a form of therapy.

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### FAQ'S

#### **What if you are not PGA HOPE Certified?**

The Carolinas PGA Section usually has one PGA HOPE training session each year to training PGA Professionals that want to get involved with a PGA HOPE program in their area. Unfortunately, these training sessions max out at forty (40) participants. If you are not able to attend this training session you are still able to volunteer your time at a local PGA HOPE Chapter in your area, but you will not get compensated for your time.

#### **How do you start a PGA HOPE Chapter?**

Please contact the Carolinas PGA Section to learn more about starting a program you have to fit the criteria's below.

1. Who would be the HOPE Lead PGA Professional? Is that PGA Professional certified?
2. Is your staff PGA HOPE certified? PGA Professionals will teach/run the program, but it is good to have staff certified as they volunteer to help with the program.
3. How many PGA Professionals will be a part of this program? Do you have some lined up? (Ratio one PGA Professional per five Veterans)
4. Where is your closest VA Hospital? How many miles away?
5. How many Military Bases are in your area? Do you have a contact with the Military Bases?

#### **How do I find a PGA HOPE Chapter in my area?**

Please go to

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1Qfd7q0871B9ITrfH9edh9cH9sDLIAB84&ll=34.30671705428937%2C-80.97496534999999&z=8> and you will see all the PGA HOPE Chapters and programs through the Carolinas PGA Section.

#### **Who do I contact for more questions about PGA HOPE?**

Please contact the Carolinas PGA Section PGA REACH Carolinas Coordinator at (336) 398-2848.