



Bill Strausbaugh Award: Joe Connerton,
Hartford Golf Club

The award reflects the characteristics and qualities of Bill Strausbaugh, a Middle Atlantic PGA member and PGA Master

professional whose contributions in the field of club relations set the standards for The PGA. It is presented to a professional who by their day-to-day efforts have distinguished themselves by mentoring their fellow PGA Professionals in improving their employment situations, integrity and character reflecting positively upon the profession, and outstanding involvement in charitable and community activities. This year's recipient, Joe Connerton, was elected to PGA Membership in 2005 and has been the head golf professional at Hartford Golf Club since 2009. Prior to his position at Hartford, he was an assistant professional at the Country Club in Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts from 2002-2008 while serving as the New England Assistant's Association president from 2005-2007. Joe has held a Board of Director position for the Connecticut Section PGA Golf Foundation since 2010 and currently serves as the President. In 2010, he was instrumental in the conception and development of the Foundation Charity Classic which has been hosted annually at Hartford Golf Club. Since he started at Hartford, Joe's goal was not only to ensure excellent service to the membership and guests, but to also give

his team the support needed to further their careers in management positions in the golf industry which is reflected in the fact that in eight years, he has enjoyed the satisfaction of seeing 5 of his assistants accept management positions. Joe was recognized as the winner of the Horton Smith Award in 2016 for his outstanding contributions to professional development and achievements in continuing education.