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ILLINOIS PGA NEWS

ILLINOIS GOLF HALL OF FAME ANNOUNCES CLASS OF 2021

GLENVIEW, Ill. – May 25, 2021 – The Illinois Golf Hall of Fame Selection Committee voted to induct six candidates representing all facets of the game into the Illinois Golf Hall of Fame Class of 2021. Inductees will be recognized at an Induction Ceremony tentatively set for Friday, October 1 at The Glen Club in Glenview, Ill., home of the Illinois Golf Hall of Fame.

"The Committee worked very hard to select this group of six from an outstanding roster of candidates," said Selection Committee chair Tim Cronin. "They range from the earliest days of the game in the state to today, and each of the six have been recognized as a leader in their aspect of golf."

The following nominees were elected to the Illinois Golf Hall of Fame Class of 2021:

- **Bessie Anthony** - *The first great female player in the state, Anthony won the first three Women's Western Amateurs from 1901-1903. As she also won Onwentsia Club's Governor's Cup in 1900, she won the premier Midwest women's amateur title four straight times. In 1903, Anthony became the first westerner to win the U.S. Women's Amateur, beating Johnnie Anna Carpenter, one of her local rivals and the only female player to precede her as a top golfer in the Chicago area, in the championship match at Chicago Golf Club.*
- **Phil Kosin** - *Founded and ran Chicagoland Golf from 1989 until his death in 2009. He added a website when digital applications blossomed. Concurrently, he produced and hosted the Chicagoland Golf radio show on WSCR-AM 670, which continues today as The Scorecard show. He previously had worked for the original Illinois Golfer and several other golf publications, including Golf Traveler. He founded the Illinois Women's Open in 1995, which has since had his name attached to it, and the Chicago Friends of Golf, a charity endeavor which specialized in clubs for beginning golfers.*
- **Mason Phelps** - *An Olympic champion and two-time Western Amateur winner, Phelps is one of the best players in Illinois history. A Chicagoan who played four years on scholarship at Yale, he was a member of the WGA's Olympic champion team in 1904 golf competition at Glen Echo in St. Louis and finished 15th in the individual competition. In 1908 and 1910, he captured the Western Amateur, the second time by defeating champion Chick Evans in an all-Chicago final. In 1920, he won the CDGA Amateur. Phelps also advances to the U.S. Amateur semifinals in 1909, losing to fellow Chicagoan Robert Gardner, and the quarterfinals in 1912.*

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- **Gary Pinns** - A PGA Professional, Pinns is the only person to win the Illinois Open five times, doing so across three decades, with the first title in 1978 as an amateur. He then turned professional and captured three more Illinois Open titles in the 1980s, and the last in 1990. Pinns was also All-ACC at Wake Forest for two years while the team's captain on a squad that included Gary Hallberg, Scott Hoch and Robert Wrenn. He went on to become Director of Instruction at Oak Brook Golf Club where he's taught top competitive players at all levels and weekend amateurs.
- **Dr. Jim Suttie** - One of the game's foremost teachers, Dr. Jim Suttie counts Paul Azinger, Chip Beck, Jeff Sluman, Kevin Streelman and Mark Wilson among his more successful students. The DeKalb native starred at Northern Illinois, then moved into coaching and teaching. A perennial Golf Digest best 50 and Golf Magazine top 100 teacher, Suttie was the PGA's National Teacher of the Year in 2000 and is a three time Illinois PGA Teacher of the Year. He was named to Golf Magazine's teaching Hall of Fame in 2019.
- **Herbert James Tweedie** - A pioneer architect and popularizer of the game, Tweedie was one of C.B. Macdonald's few contemporaries, and had as much or more impact in the Midwest. His first major accomplishment was in keeping several of the original holes of Chicago Golf Club in play after Macdonald's group left for Wheaton in the spring of 1895. Tweedie formed the Illinois Golf Club in 1896, and after that group merged with Riverside, formed the Belmont Golf Club in 1899. Tweedie designed 21 courses in the area, of which Midlothian and Flossmoor are the most intact. He also redesigned Onwentsia Club with Robert Foulis and H.J. Whigham in 1898, and expanded Glen View Club from nine to 18 holes the same year.

About the Illinois PGA/Illinois PGA Foundation

The Illinois Section of the PGA of America is a professional organization serving the men and women golf professionals in northern and central Illinois who are the recognized experts in growing, teaching and managing the game of golf. The Illinois PGA is responsible for the administration of competitive golf tournaments, educational opportunities, support programs and growth of the game initiatives. With over 840 members and apprentices, the Illinois PGA is one of the 41 regional Sections that comprise the PGA of America. The Illinois PGA Foundation focuses its community efforts on promoting the goodwill and growth of the game with an emphasis on activities that benefit youth. Foundation initiatives include: GolfWorks Illinois, Youth-based Scholarship Funds and the Illinois Golf Hall of Fame. For more information about the Illinois PGA and the Illinois PGA Foundation, please visit www.ipga.com and join us on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram.

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