

## **THE GRAND GOLF CLUB BIOS**

**Media Contact: Margarite Clark**  
Margarite Clark Public Relations  
Phone: (949) 295-2801  
E-mail: [mc@MClarkPR.com](mailto:mc@MClarkPR.com)

### **Shawn Cox, Director of Golf**

As director of golf at The Grand Del Mar, Shawn Cox oversees all of the resort's golf operations, including tournament programs, budgeting and staff supervision for The Grand Golf Club, which in addition to the 7,160-yard course, features a new 50,000-square-foot clubhouse. A member of the Professional Golfers Association of America (PGA), Cox completed the PGA's specialty certification in instruction in 2005, and was the first person in Southern California to be certified through this program. In addition, he is a Titleist Performance Institute Level 2 Certified Fitness Instructor. Prior to joining The Grand Del Mar, he served as assistant head golf professional at La Jolla Country Club and Torrey Pines Municipal Golf Course, where he founded the Junior Golf Club. A native of Seattle, Cox holds a bachelor of arts from the University of Washington, where he was on the National and Rose Bowl Championship Football Team and inducted into the "Husky" Hall of Fame.

### **Robert Gensler, PGA Head Golf Professional**

The head golf professional of The Grand Golf Club, Gensler works with Cox to oversee all aspects of the facility's golf operations. With 14 years of experience as a golf professional, he worked for the last six years with Troon Golf, the industry leader in high-end golf course management. In addition, he was head golf professional at the Madera Golf Club in 2002, and also worked as an assistant pro at Torrey Pines Municipal Golf Course for five years, where he earned his PGA membership. Prior to joining The Grand Golf Club, he held the position of first assistant golf professional at The Crosby Club, a private country club in Rancho Santa Fe, CA.

### **John Weston, Assistant Golf Professional and Caddie Master**

A former college tennis player at the University of Redlands and San Francisco native, Weston began his golfing career at the granddaddy of all golf courses, the legendary Pebble Beach Golf Links on Monterey Peninsula. During his sojourn in Northern California, he helped open the Preserve Golf Club in Monterey – a spectacular Tom Fazio-designed course – where he worked for five years as an assistant golf professional. Weston oversees the training and administration of The Grand Golf Club's caddie program.

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**Erik Wilson, Assistant Golf Professional**

An assistant golf professional at The Grand Golf Club, Wilson joined the facility in 2004. He worked for Crosswater Golf Club in Sunriver, OR for five years in both golf and fine dining, and earned his PGA Membership in April of 2009.

A graduate from Oregon State University, he holds a bachelor's of science degree in exercise sports science.

**Wyatt Spencer, Assistant Golf Professional and Player Services Supervisor**

In his role as player services supervisor, Spencer is in charge of the practice facilities, course amenities and management of the golf car fleet for The Grand Golf Club. He was previously golf professional at Barona Creek Golf Club, one of California's top-rated resort courses. He embarked on a golf career as an attendant at the prestigious U.S. Navy-owned and operated Admiral Baker Golf Course.

**Derek Uyeda, Lead Golf Instructor**

A Professional Golfers Association (PGA) teaching professional, Uyeda recently joined The Grand Golf Club's team to help expand its instructional programs. He previously taught at Stadium Golf Center in San Diego, and was also a golf instructor and partner at the San Diego Golf Institute at Riverwalk Golf Club, a PGA teaching professional at Mission Bay Golf Course, and a first assistant and instructor at Pro Kids Golf Academy in San Diego. Named the 2009 Southern California Section Professional Golfers' Association Teacher of the Year and the 2008 Teacher of the Year for the San Diego Chapter of the PGA, he was also ranked among the top 35 golf instructors in California in *Golf Digest's* "Best Teachers in Your State" edition for 2003-2004.

**Phil Rodgers, Staff Instructor**

A veteran golfer who played for 22 years on the PGA Tour and six years on the Senior Tour, Rodgers works with Uyeda to develop innovative new programs at The Grand Golf Club. His award-studded career includes being named among *Golf Digest's* Top 50 Instructors every year since the list's inception, winning the NCAA Division I Championship while playing at the University of Houston and winning five times on the PGA Tour. Most recently, he was inducted into the 2009 Southland Golf Hall of Fame. In addition, Rodgers has worked with over 100 Tour players on their games, including Jack Nicklaus. For 20 years, he was a golf instructor at the Grand Cypress Academy of Golf in Orlando, FL – rated as one of the top 25 schools in the country since 1999.

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