



## JOHN GAUDET

2015 marks the 50<sup>th</sup> year of John Gaudet's career as a golf professional in Canada – and his 82<sup>nd</sup> birthday.

John grew up in the Maritimes working from age 9 to 17 caddying and in the pro shop at Moncton Golf and Country Club. After a career in the Canadian Navy, then the aeronautics industry in Central Canada, he returned to the Maritimes. In 1965 he was offered the opportunity to be the golf professional at Lakeside Golf Club in Moncton. He took PGA seminars in the United States to get his Class A designation. In the following years, John was Head Professional at clubs in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and Flin Flon, Manitoba. He served on the PGA of Canada (Atlantic Zone) Board of Directors for 12 years, becoming president in 1992.

Saskatchewan beckoned, and from 1992 to 2013 he was a Teaching Professional at Chinook Golf Course and Elmwood Golf and Country Club in Swift Current. During this time, the PGA of Canada (Saskatchewan Zone) recognized John Gaudet as Professional of the Year in 2004, Teacher of the Year in 2010 and 2011, and recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award in 2009.

At a time when his peers were retiring from golf, John challenged himself by working to complete a thesis entitled "Golf after 50: Preparing for the Champions' Tour". He was awarded the Master Golf Professional designation at the age of 79 years, only the 24<sup>th</sup> person to receive this prestigious standing.

He continues to teach others to excel at golf and enjoy the game. His nominator states, "John has been a strong advocate and 'thinker' in the game. His desire to improve upon his teaching techniques and his thoughtfulness in exploring ways to keep the game relevant to golfers at the local level is exceptional."

John and his wife Doris have three children and they now live in Kentville, Nova Scotia to be near their families, but John continues to return to Saskatchewan to teach.