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Brad Bailey, PGA Pro



Brad Bailey, a 2012 Treynor graduate, son of Shelly and Tandy Bailey, spoke about being a PGA professional. Living with the TRA golf course in his back yard, he received his first set of golf clubs made by his dad at age 3. He credits his mom

teaching his dad how to play golf, and his dad teaching him how to play. They both now take lessons from him!

Brad was on the Treynor HS varsity golf team and he golfed at state all four years. The team's best showing was runner up his freshman and senior year and as an individual he was third as a senior.

Tony Driscoll, a PGA tour pro at Bent Tree Golf Course sparked his interest to pursue the PGA, as well as Tom Sieckmann, the PGA at the Omaha Country Club, who he took lessons from weekly throughout high school. Brad was pursued to play D2 golf at Kearney State, then transferred his sophomore year to the University of Nebraska at Lincoln and entered the PGM (Professional Golf Management) program major with a minor in business. The UNL program is one of 19 schools in the nation with the accreditation for this.

A PGM major requires a handicap score of 12, also 16 mos. internships at golf courses hosted by a PGA professional and passing all three levels of the PGA curriculum, which included taking 4-6 week courses such as business planning, golf cart fleet management, customer relations, turf grass management, merchandizing, food and beverage, player enhancement, plant science, soils, entomology.

Brad was also required to pass a Playing Ability Test (PAT) which is a 36-hole competition at designated courses in the area. The score required to pass is generally less than 10 over for the entire 36 holes. He passed on his first try.

After graduation, the official Pro Card (A Card) comes after application and approval by the

PGA. Obtaining that card can only be done through passing the extra requirements of the PGM program.

The career paths for a PGM grad includes many possibilities, from being a general manager or a head or assistant golf professional at a golf course, to being a tournament director, a coach, course architecture, a club fitter and many more. A limited number pursue being a playing professional which can reap big benefits but is a costly pursuit.

Brad has been working since 2019 as an Assistant Golf Pro at Champions Run in Omaha, one of Omaha's finest courses. He runs the Junior Golf Program and League, Couples Golf League and also gives private lessons and represents Callaway doing club fittings, sets tee times, and sells some merchandise in the pro shop. His favorite aspect is working with the junior golfers. And he loves playing for fun and in tournaments.

Perks as a PGA pro include: 1) Playing, at no charge, at many private courses that some only dream of playing on, 2) Meeting and playing golf with some celebrities, 3) Getting to play a lot of golf especially when members want a golf pro to play with them. 4) Attending just about any PGA golf tournament at no charge, 5) Working with and being around some of the greatest players in the industry. 6) Playing in tournaments every week during the season.

Next week's speaker will be Randy Fontaine, Director of Hope-Net Ministries.

The public is invited to attend all meetings. The coffee is always on. Gary Funkhouser coins our club as "The best informed club in Treynor!"

**"When someone does something good,
applaud! You'll make two people happy."**

Samuel Goldwyn

Meeting Minutes

Dale Willenborg, President, called the meeting to order. Present were 18 members plus one guest, Brad Bailey.

Dale Willenborg led the Pledge of Allegiance and Bill Vorthmann gave the opening prayer. Dale Willenborg, Gary Gutttau, and Keith Denton provided humor. John Klein won the football contest.

50/50 was won by Dee Gutttau and Chuck Nielsen won the Attendance Drawing, but was not present.

Birthdays/Anniversaries:

Bragging Rights: (\$ are used for youth activities)

- Judy Gutttau contributed for ISU's success in football and men's basketball on Friday. Gary Gutttau contributed also.
- John Klein contributed for the above as well as Iowa's great football comeback against Nebraska.
- Dale Willenborg announced the beautiful sunrise that day.
- Gary Gutttau donated because he got over a head cold quickly.

COMMUNITY:

Dale Willenborg¹ reminded that Nov. 30 is Giving Tuesday. You can give online. There are many ways to give. You can even give to our Optimist Club on that day. There are 10 and 20% dollar matches for certain non-profit organizations.

Judy Gutttau stated locally **canned goods** for the Treynor Food Pantry and **diapers** for New Visions Homeless Services are being collected at TS Bank.

BUSINESS:

The Can Kennel sorting for the cheerleaders will be done on Wed., Dec. 1 at 2 PM and the following week, Wed., Dec. 8 at 2 PM.

The hat was passed for the Shop with the Sheriff Christmas project. A collection will be taken next

week as well. A board meeting will be held on December 4. The Board will discuss a community event and the can kennel schedule.

Dale Willenborg passed a sample kite that was discussed last week as a project to possibly implement with students this coming year similar to what the Underwood Optimist Club is doing.

John Klein stated that he observed playground equipment at the east park is needing some repair. Gary Funkhouser volunteered to take inventory. Gary also indicated the restroom floor in the park is in need of a good cleaning. The Optimists will discuss possible action steps in the future.

The meeting was adjourned with members reciting the Optimist Creed.

HUMOR

“The man that invented the Ferris wheel never met the man that invented the merry go round. They traveled in different circles.”

Calendar

Events

Nov 30	Giving Tuesday – consider giving a gift to the Treynor Optimist Club
Dec 1	Can Kennel Sorting – 2 PM
Dec 4	Treynor Optimist Board Meeting
Dec 8	Can Kennel Sorting – 2 PM
Feb12	Optimist Day. District Conference – Cedar Rapids (Note this is a corrected date!)
Feb 28	Club Youth essays due

Birthdays

Anniversaries

Programs

Dec	Linda Danker (first two) Mick Gutttau (last two)
Jan	Kirk Vorthmann and Doug Dillivan

Speakers

Dec 4	Randy Fontaine, Director Hope-Net Ministries
Dec 11	Tasha Jones, Connections Area Agency on Aging
Dec 18	TBA
Dec 25	No meeting

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Dues/Donations/Flag Money: Mail to Optimist Club of Treynor, PO Box 354, Treynor, IA 51575