

MGCA Award Of Merit

Award of Merit is given for outstanding leadership, perseverance and business acumen in the Michigan golf industry. This special award has only been given nine times by the MGCA in 26 years.

MGCA Awards of Merit

2006 Michigan Section PGA Player Development Programs
2009 Travel Michigan and the “Pure Michigan” Campaign
2011 Michigan State University’s “Turf Team”
2013 Handicomp and the Healey Family
2016 Oakland Hills Country Club
2018 Major Dan Rooney, USAF, Folds of Honor Foundation
2019 Professional Golf Management Program, Ferris State University
2021 Midnight Golf Program

Distinguished Service Award

Lyle Leeke Distinguished Service Award is named after one of the founders of the MGCA, a gentleman who helped to create a voice for Michigan golf course owners. The recipient of this award is an individual or company who has displayed distinguished service to the MGCA and the golf industry.

Lyle Leeke Distinguished Service Award Past Recipients

- Lyle Leeke, Old Channel Trail, Montague (1996)
- Cecil McKay, McKay Golf Properties, Lansing (1997)
- John Dodge, ROI Golf Management, Lansing (1998)
- Marcia Johnson, Cheshire Hills Golf Course, Allegan (1999)
- Jeff Hoag, Scott Lake Country Club, Comstock Park (2000)
- Jim Scott, Gull Lake View Golf Club, Augusta (2001)
- Kathy Aznavorian, Fox Hills Golf and Banquet Center, Plymouth (2002)
- Merriam Leeke, Old Channel Trail, Montague (2003)
- Lynn Miller, Indian Lake Hills Golf Course, Eau Claire (2004)
- Tom Schwark, Sycamore Hills Golf Club, Macomb (2005)
- Larry Moore, US Golf Cars, Caledonia (2006)
- Dave Richards, Resort and Golf Marketing, Bloomfield Hills (2007)
- Bill Fountain, The Majestic Golf Course, Hartland (2008)
- Charlie Scott, Gull Lake View Golf Club, Augusta (2009)
- Toni Joers, Concord Hills Golf Course, Concord (2010)
- Carolyn Olson, Elmbrook Golf Course, Traverse City (2011)
- Kate Moore, MGCA (2012)
- Dawn Johnson, Spartan Distributors, Sparta (2013)
- Chris MacInnes, Crystal Mountain Resort, Thompsonville (2014)
- Frank Guastella, Franklin Management (2015)
- Jim Dewling, Total Golf Management (2016)
- Kevin McKinley, Treetops Resort (2017)
- Bernie Friedrich, Boyne Resorts USA (2018)

- Bob Koutnik, Fox Run Country Club (2019)
- Brenda Velandra, Raisin Valley Golf Club (2021)

Matthews Lifetime Achievement Award

Matthews Lifetime Achievement Award is presented to an individual or organization that over the span of a lifetime has provided steadfast leadership, outstanding service, and continuous commitment to the Michigan golf industry. The award is named after W. Bruce Matthews, the first award recipient. Mr. Matthews spread his expertise throughout the fairways of Michigan for many generations.

Matthews Lifetime Achievement Award Past Recipients

- W. Bruce Matthews (1996) Architect
- Everett Kircher (1997) Owner, Boyne USA
- Bill Howard (1998) Owner, Saskatoon GC
- Darl and Letha Scott (1999) Owner, Gull Lake View Golf Properties
- Kapnick Insurance Company (2000) Industry Supplier
- Terry Moore (2001) Journalist
- Art McCafferty (2002) Media Specialist
- Estelle Dul (2003) Owner, Fox Hills Golf and Banquet Center
- Michigan Turfgrass Foundation (2004) Research Leader
- Jerry Matthews (2005) Golf Course Architect
- Rolla Frisinger (2006) Player Development Leader
- Ron Otto (2007) Owner, Garland Resort
- Jack Berry (2008) Journalist
- Buick Open and Warwick Hills Country Club (2009)
- Sara Wold (2010) Women's Advocate and Leader
- Daryl Kesler, (2011) Owner, Hawk Hollow Golf Properties
- Greg Johnson (2012) Journalist
- Robert Dykema (2013) Industry Supplier
- Dr. Paul Reike (2014) Educator and Researcher
- Richard Garn (2015) Tournament Innovator
- Meriam Leeke (2016) Owner, Old Channel Trail Golf Course
- Arthur Hills (2017) Golf Course Architect
- Gordie LaFontaine (2018) Owner, Pineview Highlands Golf Course
- Janina Jacobs (2019) Journalist
- Joseph M. Vargas Jr., Ph.D (2021) Professor, MSU Department of Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences