



Each PGA golf professional signed a banner welcoming players to Belfair.

"Belfair was an outstanding venue to showcase our finest playing PGA professionals." – PAUL LEVY, HONORARY PRESIDENT, THE PGA OF AMERICA

LOWCOUNTRY

BLUFFTON, SOUTH CAROLINA: "The general economy was less than stellar when I entered the job market," recalled Alex Beach. "I had many friends who struggled to find quality employment. I learned quickly the value of earning PGA of America credentials. Our graduating class of PGA professionals had 100 percent job placement success, reinforcing my belief that my hard work was an important investment in my future. Today I am proud to be a teaching professional at Westchester Country Club in New York."

This year, 312 professionals, representing the 41 sections of The PGA of America, competed in the PGA Professional Championship for a cash purse of \$650,000 and the right to play in the PGA Championship.

"My first three attempts to qualify, I missed the cut by a single stroke," winced Beach. "I was determined to do better during this year's competition at Belfair."

BREAKING FROM TRADITION

For the first time in the 52-year history of the PGA Professional Championship, the competition was held at a

private golf community—Belfair, located in the heart of the Lowcountry.

The exclusive club, with two highly regarded Tom Fazio designs, is completing the largest capital expansion project along the Hilton Head Island corridor with \$20 million in enhancements underway.

"I grew up in Minnesota, and Belfair, with its strong Midwestern culture, felt like home," expressed Beach. "More than 80 member families opened their homes for competitors. I can't say enough good things about how I was treated. Belfair has stepped up the bar for future tournament sites.

"Each of the Fazio courses play differently, but pair perfectly, like chocolate and vanilla ice cream."

After four days of spirited competition, Alex proved victorious against a strong field. "With the win in hand and my family in the gallery, walking off the 18th green was emotional and a dream come true," smiled Beach.

For membership information, visit Belfair1811.com.

"IT'S A TESTAMENT TO BELFAIR'S SUCCESS that they are able to commit to such a strong reinvestment into the community." — TOM FAZIO