

THE PGA COACH OF THE YEAR AWARD NOMINATION 2020
LEIGH-JANE MIDDLETON

1. Name of Facility/Club/Company
The Bryanston Country Club Golf Academy
2. What led you to becoming a PGA Professional?
I was passionate about golf from a young age and loved playing the game. I played provisionally for 5 years out of school in hope of turning Pro and making my way to Europe. At 22 I realised that being a touring Pro was out of my reach but that did not mean that golf was over for me. I decided to pursue golf as a career and the PGA Apprentice Diploma was the answer for me. After qualifying in 2006 at Fancourt, I have had the privilege of working at some of SA's finest courses and facilities.
3. What is your current job title?
Head PGA Class AAA Teaching Professional and business owner of The Bryanston Country Club Golf Academy and Driving Range
4. How long have you been in your current position?
8 years
5. What does your job entail?
I own the teaching rights to The BCCGA which comes with the wonderful task of heading up and managing all coaching responsibilities. These duties include individual lessons, junior programs ([LTAD and SNAG](#)), Corporate Clinics/Golf Days, National Squad training camps for WGSA to name a few. Furthermore, I handle all of the Academy's marketing, social media, administrative duties and control the day-to-day business functions. I employ a dynamic team ranging from outside operations, front of house as well as two PGA qualified teaching Professionals.
6. Do you have any environmental or sustainability goals that you have met and would like to share?
I have had the privilege of working with the Progressive Women In Golf NGO for the past five years and would love to share our story. Please click on the link to our Bryanston Country Club Charity Trust website where you will be able to watch a short video clip on our journey with the girls from the Walter Sisulu Primary School. I believe this video showcases the undeniable success in forever changing these girls' lives using golf as the platform : <https://www.bcc-trust.co.za/>
7. Please share your social media platforms with us, if you would like to :
<https://web.facebook.com/BCCGolfAcademy>
8. Please give us a brief outline of the path you took to lead you to your current position
After 5 years of provincial Amateur golf for Gauteng and Kwa-Zulu Natal I decided to turn Pro to specifically enrol into the PGA 3 year Apprentice Diploma as I wanted to pursue a career in the Golf Club industry. My first two years were under the

guidance of Phil Simmons at Mount Edgcombe Country Club followed by my final year at Fancourt Golf Academy qualifying in 2006 under the mentorship of Val Holland. I then embarked on a three month coaching trip to Switzerland before returning to Johannesburg where I found my “forever home” at the Bryanston Country Club where I have been for the past fourteen years. My journey at BCC started as Assistant Lady Golf Director before taking on Golf Director and finally settling into my current business and position of Head PGA Class AAA Teaching Professional and business owner of The Bryanston Country Club Golf Academy and Driving Range

9. Why do you feel that you would be a good candidate to win this award?

I believe that I deserve the Coach of the Year Award as teaching people how to play this wonderful game is my passion. One of my attributes is that I can easily connect with people therefore building the most amazing relationships with so many clients over the years. I have witnessed how golf and my influence as a coach has changed people for the greater good and after the hard lockdown with Covid 19, golf has been a great escape and a way to find a ‘new normal’ and I know that I have helped people facilitate this.

I have had the privilege of working with a wide spectrum of people from young, old, disabled, beginner to National players and Tour players alike. I am very proud of my protégé, Kaiyuree Moodley who is ranked 9th in SA. She is currently waiting to leave for the USA on scholarship. She started with me at the age of 8.

I believe a great coach is measured by the relationships built and not necessarily by what the coach and golfer have achieved. Maintaining a good rapport with people is my main focus and I believe that my success is measured by the fact that I have many clients that have been with me for the past 14 years. Furthermore, I am a great ambassador for the PGA and game of golf as a whole and always have and will continue to fly the flag proudly

10. Would you like the PGA to share your profile via our social media platforms?

I would be delighted, thank you