

Stuart Gillett nominated for Golf Club Manager of the Year

Stuart Gillett, General Manager for Golf and Leisure at Goodwood, has been nominated for the Manager of the Year Award at the Golf Club Managers' Association (GCMA) National Conference on 13 November.

Gillett's nomination is due in no small part to his involvement in a hugely successful year for Golf At Goodwood, being pivotal in maintaining a full membership as well as driving participation in the Junior Golf Camps and Level Up programmes, which have had a combined attendance of over 200 children so far in 2017. Goodwood's Junior team won the West Sussex Junior League and reached the semi-final of the national competition, while Academy Manager Chris McDonnell was part of the Great Britain and Ireland team that lifted the PGA Cup.

Gillett also managed an extensive renovation of all of the bunkers on the Downs course and his innovative and engaging approach to digital saw the Club win the Golf Club of the Year award at the 2016 Hospitality Social Media Awards last November.

Speaking about his nomination, Gillett said; "I am thrilled to have been shortlisted for the GCMA Manager of the year Award. To be recognised by the golf industry for the success at Golf At Goodwood is fantastic. It is a reflection of the hard work, dedication and sense of fun that my team puts in day after day to ensure that our members and guests have a great time here at Goodwood. Without question, the success of Golf At Goodwood is down to the great team I have working for me.

"It has been our vision to create an innovative and invigorating club that delivers what our members want. My team deliver this with great style and most importantly with a smile on their faces. The feedback from our members constantly highlights the 'can do' attitude the team have and I hope in some way my open and relaxed management style has helped us achieve this.

Having been named on the shortlist, Gillett will now have to host the judges at Goodwood, before going into a final, 'Dragons Den-style' interview. He added; "The GCMA must be commended for recognising what we have achieved here at Goodwood and, as a Club that certainly isn't traditional, to be recognised for this award shows how forward thinking the organisation is."

For more information on Golf At Goodwood, junior golf camps and the Academy, please visit <u>www.goodwood.com</u> or call the Golf team on 01243 755144.

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About the Academy:

The Golf At Goodwood Academy offers the perfect environment for golfers of all ages and abilities to develop, learn and most importantly have fun whilst playing the game of golf. With a dedicated team of PGA Professionals and state-of-the-art training facilities, such as Trackman and a SAM Putt Lab, the Academy nurtures new and existing talent and provides a perfect learning platform for beginners.

About the GCMA:

The GCMA currently supports more than 1,800 members across 16 Regions spread throughout the UK. Its biennial Conference hosts three awards; Manager of the Year, Team of the Year and Newcomer of the Year. This year's Conference will take place from 12 – 14 November at Mercedes-Benz World in Surrey.

For press information, please contact;

Sam Hanson Tel: 01243 755000

Email: sam.hanson@goodwood.com

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