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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**PAT HICKEY NAMED PGA TEACHING PROFESSIONAL**

**Wheaton, Ill., May 12, 2015** — The Cantigny Golf Academy today announced that team member Pat Hickey is now a PGA Teaching Professional, based on his successful completion of the PGA of America Professional Golf Management Program.

Hickey will now conduct private and group lessons. He joined Cantigny in 2010 as a club fitting specialist and already has a solid teaching record at the Academy, particularly at the junior level. He's been a lead instructor for the TOUR Academy Junior Golf Camps program since 2012 and assisted with Cantigny's junior golf clinics at multiple skill levels.

"Pat worked incredibly hard to earn his PGA credential and it's great to see his lifelong dream come to fruition," said Connie DeMattia, Cantigny's PGA director of instruction. "His wide range of skills are an asset to the Academy and his passion for golf will continue to benefit our customers."

The PGA of America's management program is an intense process spanning four years or more. Hickey's apprenticeship began in 2011 and since that time he incorporated many of his learnings into his club fitting and instructional clinic assignments at Cantigny. Now, as a full-time PGA golf professional, Hickey looks forward to helping people learn the game of golf, play better and have more fun.

"As an instructor, my mission is to provide a golf learning experience that allows the golfer the freedom to 'play like a kid' regardless of age or ability," Hickey said.

A native of Naperville, Ill., Hickey holds a degree from the University of Illinois-Chicago (Applied Health Sciences) and is certified with the American College of Sports Medicine. He is a volunteer instructor for the Freedom Golf Association, an organization dedicated to bringing joy and a sense of freedom to the special needs community through their inclusion in the game of golf.

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**About Cantigny Golf**

[Cantigny Golf](#), managed by Northbrook, Ill.-based [KemperSports](#) and owned by the Chicago-based [Robert R. McCormick Foundation](#), was named "Best New Public Course in America" by *Golf Digest* when it opened in 1989. The 300-acre complex includes 27 scenic holes designed by Roger Packard, the year-round Cantigny Golf Academy, the 9-hole Cantigny Youth Links and a full-service clubhouse with dining and banquet facilities. Cantigny Golf is the four-time host of the Illinois State Amateur Championship and in 2014 was named "Best Course in the Chicago Area" by *GolfAdvisor*. For more information and tee times, visit [CantignyGolf.com](#).