



John Holzman

Inducted: 2022

Category: Builder

Club Affiliation: Rideau View Golf Club

John Holzman was honoured by Flagstick Golf Magazine in 2009 by having the OVGA Senior Men's Intersectional Trophy named after him. It was just a small recognition for what he has done for the game of golf, not only in the national capital region, but throughout Canada.

As a Rideau View Golf Club member, John said at his best he was a five or six handicap, but when it came to administering a game he loved he was far better than scratch. "I enjoyed the administration part of the game," he told Flagstick Golf Magazine in a profile interview in 2009. "I met the greatest people. Not only the players but the people on the committees, and working in the associations."

John's start in golf administration came in 1967 when he represented Rideau View in a Centennial golf tournament. He soon found his way onto the Board of the Province of Quebec Golf Association (PQGA), now Golf Quebec, representing the Ottawa District. In

1977 he became a director of the Ottawa District Golf Association (ODGA), the precursor to the current Ottawa Valley Golf Association (OVGA), and his climb simply went upward after that. He spent 19 years on the Ottawa District Board and he was the 1st President of the OVGA when it was created in 1981.

"It was a great honour and privilege to be part of that board," John commented. "We had some great people and I think we were able to do a lot for golf."

John was appointed to the National Board of the Royal Canadian Golf Association (RCGA), now Golf Canada, in 1979, a position he would hold for 13 years. In that time, he was the director of 10 different national tournaments including the Canadian Junior held at Rideau View in 1976, and the DuMaurier Seniors Championship on the Champions Tour at Royal Ottawa in 1984. At various times, John held the position of junior chairman of the RCGA and the Quebec Golf Association.

Especially significant was his non-playing captaincy of Canada's golf teams at the 1985 and 1989 Maccabiah Games. These were particularly satisfying as not only did they win medals, but his son Bill, an accomplished amateur, was part of both teams. John also captained the 1984 Quebec Willington Cup team that won 2nd place held concurrent with the Canadian Amateur to which Bill was also a member.

As the top senior golfers in the region looked on at the 2009 OVGA "A" Men's Intersectional presentation, many of them touched by John's work through the years, the sentiment was universal. Said one player, "If not for the work of John, golf in the region and beyond would not have been the same for many of us."

John Holzman passed away in December, 2010 leaving his daughters Lisa and Ellyn and his sons Mark and Bill, and partner Linda.

John Holzman profile information from the July, 2010 edition of Flagstick Golf Magazine.