



# Put Off The Clock

*In departing the most fun volunteer job in golf, the most-recent MGA President bemoans term limits.*

**W**ELL FOLKS, MY TENURE as King of Golf in Massachusetts is already over. I wanted to stay on for another few years, but Joe and Becky and the lawyers all told me that the by-laws are quite explicit. In terms I was able to understand, they told me: "You don't have to go home, but you can't stay here." So that's it. I'm done. I'm now respectfully known as a 'Past President.' 'Past' is short for pasture.

Golf and the MGA have been very, very, good to me. If I try to reconcile how much golf has given to me versus how much I have given back to the game, it's not even close. In fact, "golf giving to me" — through friends, competition, world travel, the game's life lessons and a hundred other reasons — wins, 10 & 8. I couldn't even halve a hole over my golf life. In all my volunteer years as an MGA official, Committee member, competitor and President, all I ever did was enjoy it more and more. And as we all know, golf is the THE best game to take into one's back-nine years.

More than any aspect of my MGA experience, I have enjoyed — by far — the people I've met and worked with.

The MGA staff, volunteers and competitors are the nicest and most respectful group of people you could ever hope to meet — in any line of work or play.

I think of the amazing progress we've seen over the years with the The First Tee of Massachusetts — from those very first days of organized mayhem at the kids clinics at Franklin Park with golf balls flying in all conceivable directions to the enthusiasm, energy, precision and harmony now being nurtured by Joe McCabe and his legion of dedicated volunteers. This initiative is the paragon for other state golf associations nationally. And we'll be even more proud next year upon the completion of the new clubhouse at MGA Links in Norton.

So that's it. My dreams of being the President and Commander in Chief of Mass Golf for All Eternity are gone. Gone like an MGA rules official to lunch. So come on down Jack Dezieck! Here — take the steering wheel. This car rides like a dream and is easy to handle. I know you have what it takes to become an excellent Past President. Good Luck.

George H. Pendergast, Jr.  
MGA Past President




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## MGA OFFICERS

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**TREASURER** Stephen R. Dooley  
**SECRETARY** Jerry R. Green  
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## MGA MISSION AND SERVICES

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Founded in 1903, the MGA is dedicated to promoting and preserving the best interests of the game throughout the Commonwealth. The MGA administers The First Tee of Massachusetts and ForeKids Junior Golf Programs, Educational Seminars, State Championships, the MGA/USGA GHIN Handicapping Service, Course Ratings, Course Measuring and Marking, Rules of Golf, MGAlinks.org and *MassGolfer* magazine.