



Brad Behnke began his golf career at the age of 14 shagging golf balls on the driving range/first fairway for PGA Professional Pat Shortridge at the Winona Country Club in Winona, Minnesota. After that, he was “promoted” to Locker Room Attendant (shoe shine boy) in the locker room at the WCC. He eventually got the promotion he really wanted when he got a prized job working in the pro shop at the WCC while attending Winona Senior High School and playing varsity golf from 1986-1988. Summers were spent working and playing on WCC’s MGA Junior team competing against the likes of Tim “Lumpy” Herron and David Sadlowsky in the State Championship.

After high school, Brad was accepted to Mississippi State University in Starkville, Mississippi into the Professional Golf Management program sanctioned by the PGA of America. After graduating from the PGM program in 1992, which included a total of 20 months of internships at the Winona Country Club, Mississippi National Golf Links in Red Wing, Minnesota, Inverness Country Club in Birmingham, Alabama, and the Mississippi State Golf Course, Brad received his first “real” job after college as the 2nd Assistant Golf Professional at English Turn Golf and Country Club in New Orleans, Louisiana. In 1994, he moved back to Birmingham, Alabama to become the 1st Assistant Golf Professional at Pine Tree Country Club.

Brad received his PGA Membership and became a Class A member of the PGA of America in March 1996. He then decided it was time to move back to his home state of Minnesota and he accepted the Head Golf Professional position at the Virginia Golf Course in Virginia, Minnesota. After 5 years on the iron range, he longed for new challenges in a big business atmosphere. He spent 18 months managing the golf department at Galyan’s Sporting Goods in Minnetonka, Minnesota where he elevated their golf department to one of Golf World Business magazine’s “100 Best Golf Shops” in the country.

Deciding he really missed the green grass portion of the business where he had first spent the summers of his youth, he accepted the position of Head Golf Professional at The Ponds at Battle Creek Golf Course in Maplewood, Minnesota in March 2003.