

Columbus, Ohio

The Ohio Golf Hall of Fame today announced the class of 2019 to include Rod Spittle of Dublin, James “Skip” Snow, Dayton and Dr. Doug Hanzel, Savannah, GA.

The Ohio Golf Hall of Fame strives to recognize outstanding achievements of Ohioans who play or support the game of golf. The Hall of Fame was founded in 1992 and its members include Jack Nicklaus, Bob Hope, Tammie Green, John Cook and Ben Curtis among others. (Hall of Fame Inductees by year at the bottom of this release).

The induction ceremony will be held at the Plum Brook CC, Sandusky, Ohio on Monday, August 5. Plum Brook CC is the host of the annual Ohio Senior Amateur Hall of Fame Tournament, showcasing the banquet dinner and ceremony.

Rod Spittle, 63, had a successful amateur career, finishing runner-up at the 1973 Canadian Junior and winning the 1977 and 1978 Canadian Men’s Amateur Championships. During his collegiate golf career, Spittle helped the Division 1 Ohio State Buckeyes win the Big Ten Championship three consecutive years (1976-1978) alongside teammates John Cook and Joey Sindelar.

Spittle’s post collegiate career included a pair of Columbus District Golf Association Amateur Championships (1987 and 1989) and three Columbus District Golf Association Mid-Amateur titles (1994, 1995 and 1997). He went on to claim the Ohio Golf Association Mid Amateur Championship three times (2000, 2001 and 2003).

Spittle turned pro in 2004 and played on the PGA Champions tour. In 2010, he Monday qualified into the final event of the year, the AT&T Championship, and in a storybook ending, played stellar golf all week and beat Jeff Sluman in a playoff for his first-ever professional title and a full exemption for 2011 as a PGA Champions winner.

In 195 starts over his 13-year PGA Champions tour career, Spittle missed just five cuts and earned more than \$4M in prize money. He never missed more than one cut in any year, and played nine full seasons without missing a single cut. He had a pair of runner-up finishes; a pair of third-place finishes and had 23 top-10s.

Spittle was inducted into the Ontario Golf Hall of Fame in 2013 and the Canadian Golf Hall of Fame in 2019.

Dr. Doug Hanzel of Savannah, Ga., is one of the most accomplished players in Georgia winning on every level of amateur golf from local golf to national championships.

Born in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1957, Hanzel found success in golf early and often, winning over 30 junior golf tournaments in the state of Ohio, including the 1974 Ohio State High School Championship. He continued that success at Kent State University where he was a four-year letterman and served as team captain in 1978-1979. He led his team to win the 1977 Mid-American Conference Championship, and twice-earned All-Conference recognition in 1978 and 1979.

After his time at Kent State, Hanzel enrolled in Medical School at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio. He then moved to Savannah, Ga., in 1989 and his success on the golf course followed him south.

Hanzel is a fixture on the amateur golf scene in Georgia. He won the 2004 Georgia Mid-Amateur Championship, and the 2006 Georgia Four-Ball Championship.

Once Hanzel turned 50 and became eligible to compete as a senior, the wins started piling up. He is a three-time winner of the Georgia Senior Championship. (2012, 2014, 2015). Hanzel (with partner Jack Hall) has won the past three Georgia Senior Four-Ball Championships – only team to ever win three-straight. He has earned multiple GSGA Senior Player of the Year honors, including the recipient of the Tommy Barnes Award, signifying the GSGA's overall Player of the Year, in 2012 and 2013.

Hanzel has qualified for several United States Golf Association national championships, the highlight came in 2013 when he won the U.S. Senior Amateur Championship at Wade Hampton Golf Club in Cashiers, N.C. He has qualified for the U.S. Amateur Championship 13 times, the U.S. Mid-Amateur Championship five times, the U.S. Senior Amateur Championship four times and the U.S. Senior Open five times. Hanzel represented Georgia at the USGA Men's State Team Championship twice.

In 2012, he became the only player ever to advance to match play at the U.S. Amateur Championship, U.S. Mid-Amateur Championship, U.S. Senior Amateur Championship and earn low amateur honors at the U.S. Senior Open in the same year.

Hanzel has six Society of Seniors titles, including two SOS National Championships, 2013 and 2018.

Hanzel was inducted as a member of the Northern Ohio Golf Association Hall of Fame in 2015 and the Kent State University Sports Hall of Fame in 2017. Inducted into the Georgia Golf Hall of fame 2019.

James C. “Skip” Snow has built a strong reputation in the Miami Valley for his work as an accountant and as a strong family man and sportsman who also excelled at golf.

Skip Snow, who at age 72 won his 21st Dayton Country Club championship.

A native of Springfield, Snow is a graduate of Miami University who played on the MU basketball team from 1962-65. He won the City Men’s Amateur Match Play golf championship in 1978 when it was a prestigious event.

He won the Ohio Golf Association Senior Amateur Championship in 1998 and 2001 and for a third time in 2009 when he was 66. Skip also won the 2009 and 2011 Ohio Golf Association Super Senior Championships.

Skip has been a perennial favorite in Society of Seniors events where he has won three events, the 2002 Ralph Bogart, the 2011 Ralph Bogart and the 2017 Fall Classic.

Snow is a past recipient of the US Senior Challenge “Man of the Year” Award. The honor is presented to “a person whose life has been exemplary in family, business and golf.”

Since retiring from his position with an accounting firm 14 years ago, Snow has accepted invitations to play in many prestigious senior golf events across the United States. He also teed it up twice in the British Amateur.

He was inducted in the Dayton Amateur Golf Hall of Fame in 2001. Each year the winner of the Miami Valley Team Invitational receives the “Skip Snow Cup.”

For more information regarding the Ohio Golf Hall of Fame or the Ohio Senior Amateur Hall of Fame Tournament, contact the Ohio Golf Association 614-698-0014.

1992	Jack Nicklaus Peggy Kirk Bell Earl Hamilton Byron Nelson Toney Penna E. Mandell De Windt Bob Hope	James Rhodes Ed Preisler Denny Shute Pete Dye Arnold Palmer Rick Jones
1993	Janet Beardsley Arthur Hills	William Bosshard Kenneth Young
1994	Jack Hesler Chuck Smith	Nicholas Popa Jan Taylor
1995	Walker Inman, Jr. Mark H. McCormack	Donald A. Kotnik Barbara McIntire

1996	Tony Blom Tom Nieporte Joseph M. Wells	Herman Keiser Bob Rankin
1997	Jack Kidwell John Fisher	Mike Hurdzan Bob Servis
1998	Bob Kepler Jack Grout	Pandel Savic
1999	Henry Picard Dick Gordin	Dow Finsterwald
2000	Jack Waldock	George Mateyo
2001	Kaye Kessler Paul Hornung	Bucky Albers George Sweda
2002	John Kretzschmar Ed Meister	Bob Lewis Kermit Blosser
2003	Don Albert Dan Carmichael	Steve Pipoly Randy Reifers
2004	Tom Weiskopf Tammie Green	Herb Page George "Duke" Smith
2005	Ralph Maltby George Bellino	Harold Weber
2006	Glenn Apple Joe Ungvary Sr.	Jim Brown
2007	Renee M. Powell Rod Myers	William Powell
2008	Duane Guerin Rodger Cromer	Fred Balthaser
2009	Denny Gallagher Pat Lindsey	Ed Sneed
2010	Hugh Wall III Alex Nipper Campbell	Taylor Metcalfe
2011	Raymond Sovik George Sargent	Howard Peterson
2012	Roger McManus Tom Elfers	Don Perne
2013	S.P. Jermain Don Padgett II	Jim Logue Jerry McGee
2014	Alan Fadel John Cook	Don Nist Frank Stranahan
2015	Mike Kiely Lalu Sabotin	Doug Gordon Bob Fairchild
2016	Jack Sayers James Stahl	Duff Lawrence
2017	Gary Trivisonno Gary Robison	Sterling T. Beckwith
2018	Ben Curtis Al Espinosa	Rob Moss