

# PART OF THE TEAM

THE CLUB RECENTLY WELCOMED JOHN MCCOOK AS THE NEW DIRECTOR OF GOLF, AND HE IS EAGER TO AMP UP MEMBER EXPERIENCES ON THE GREENS.

BY ASHLEY RYAN

**W**ith more than two decades of experience in the world of golf under his belt, John McCook brings new excitement to Newport Beach Country Club. Named the Director of Golf over the summer, McCook now finds himself seeking out ways to improve golf operations at the club.

Prior to his new position, McCook has worked all over Southern California, getting his initial start at Rancho Las Palmas Country Club in Palm Desert. Though he only recently joined the NBCC team, the club has been a part of his personal life for quite a while. “Over the years ... it was always a pleasure to be able to play at Newport Beach Country Club,” he explains, noting that he was first introduced to these greens in the early 1990s by Jerry Anderson, a member at Las Palmas Country Club and Director of Golf at Newport Beach Country Club at the time.

Now, he hopes to use his love for the club to enhance the entire experience for each and every member.



**Newport Beach Country Club Magazine:** What plans do you have for the golf department?

**John McCook:** I’m excited to bring a lot of experience and ideas from my past 25 years in [the] golf industry. My goal is to work with the team in all areas to enhance the member and guest experiences. I’m very fortunate to be able to come into a club that has a dedicated team that is so proud to work at NBCC.

**NBCCM:** What challenges are you facing right now?

**JM:** I don’t see challenges at Newport Beach Country Club as much as I see opportunities to make enhancements. ... Every day, I get the opportunity [to] build relationships with the members, staff and guests at the club. But I will say, learning over 1,000 new names can be a little tough at times.

**NBCCM:** How do you intend to overcome these challenges?

**JM:** I’m very lucky to come into the club with a team that is open to new ideas and ways to enhance the experience. ... Being able to spend time with the membership on the golf course, [at the] practice facility, [during] tournaments and in the golf shop will help me learn all the new names and faces over time.

**NBCCM:** So far, what has been your favorite aspect of your new role?

**JM:** I can’t think of just one thing that is my favorite aspect ... but I feel [that] being a part of the traditions of Newport Beach Country Club—a golf course that I’ve always loved to play—makes me very proud and excited to be the Director of Golf. Also, being able to work at a beautiful club with the support of the owners, NBCC team and membership makes every day exciting.

**NBCCM:** What do you hope to contribute most as a member of the golf department?

**JM:** With over 25 years as a PGA professional, I have a lot of ideas to enhance the golf experience for the club. But being a ... leader of the team has always been something I’ve felt is an honor and a privilege.