

Resorts announce staff changes

Jabara joins Crystal, Kempfer in charge at Cedar River GC

Crystal Mountain has added Rodger Jabara to its golf operations staff.

Jabara joined Crystal Mountain in April as the resort's Golf Services Manager. He's involved in all facets of Crystal's golf operations, including instruction, retail sales, customer service and coordination of major tournaments, such as the Michigan Women's Open.

Jabara has worked in the golf industry since 1975, most recently as the Director of Golf at Shanty Creek Resort. During his tenure at the resort, he received countless awards and held numerous positions within the golf industry:

In addition, Jabara oversaw the coordination of several state tournaments, including the Michigan PGA Championship.

"Golfers who have come into contact with Rodger over the years know that he is one-of-a-kind," said Brad Dean, Crystal's director of golf. "He has a sixth sense for genuine customer service and is one of the most sincere individuals I know. He will be a great asset to our team."

Shanty Creek, meanwhile, named Jason Kempfer as the head golf professional for the resort's Tom Weiskopf-designed Cedar River Golf Club.

A Ferris State University graduate, Kempfer is a Class A Michigan Section PGA Professional. Since joining Shanty Creek in 2001, he has held the title of assistant professional for the Cedar River and Summit courses. In his new position, Kempfer

now joins Shanty veterans Roger Bliss, head pro for The Legend and Summit courses, and Roger Gieseck, head pro for Schuss Mountain Golf Club, in making Shanty a true "triple threat" in golf, says Shanty COO Jerry Pasternak.

"Jason brings a lot of energy and enthusiasm to the Shanty Creek golf team," Pasternak says. "That energy – combined with the invaluable experience of Roger Bliss and Roger Gieseck – is what makes Shanty Creek stand apart from other Midwest resorts. It really illustrates what our 'Power of Three' slogan is all about."

"I'm really excited to have the chance to give back to my sport," Kempfer says. "Cedar River is a great golf course – very traditional in its design. It's also very playable for golfers of varying abilities, which I like. I'm also looking forward to working with Roger Gieseck and Roger Bliss, who have both been so supportive of me."

For the 2003 season, Shanty Creek will once again host the popular Shanty Creek PGA Classic as well as the Michigan Section PGA Championship. The Classic will be on The Legend course July 6-8, while the PGA tournament will run from August 16-20 on the Cedar River course. Kempfer notes that Shanty is able to attract these high-level events thanks to the quality of the resort's four championship courses.

"These are tournament-caliber golf courses," Kempfer points out. "It just doesn't get better than this in northern Michigan."





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