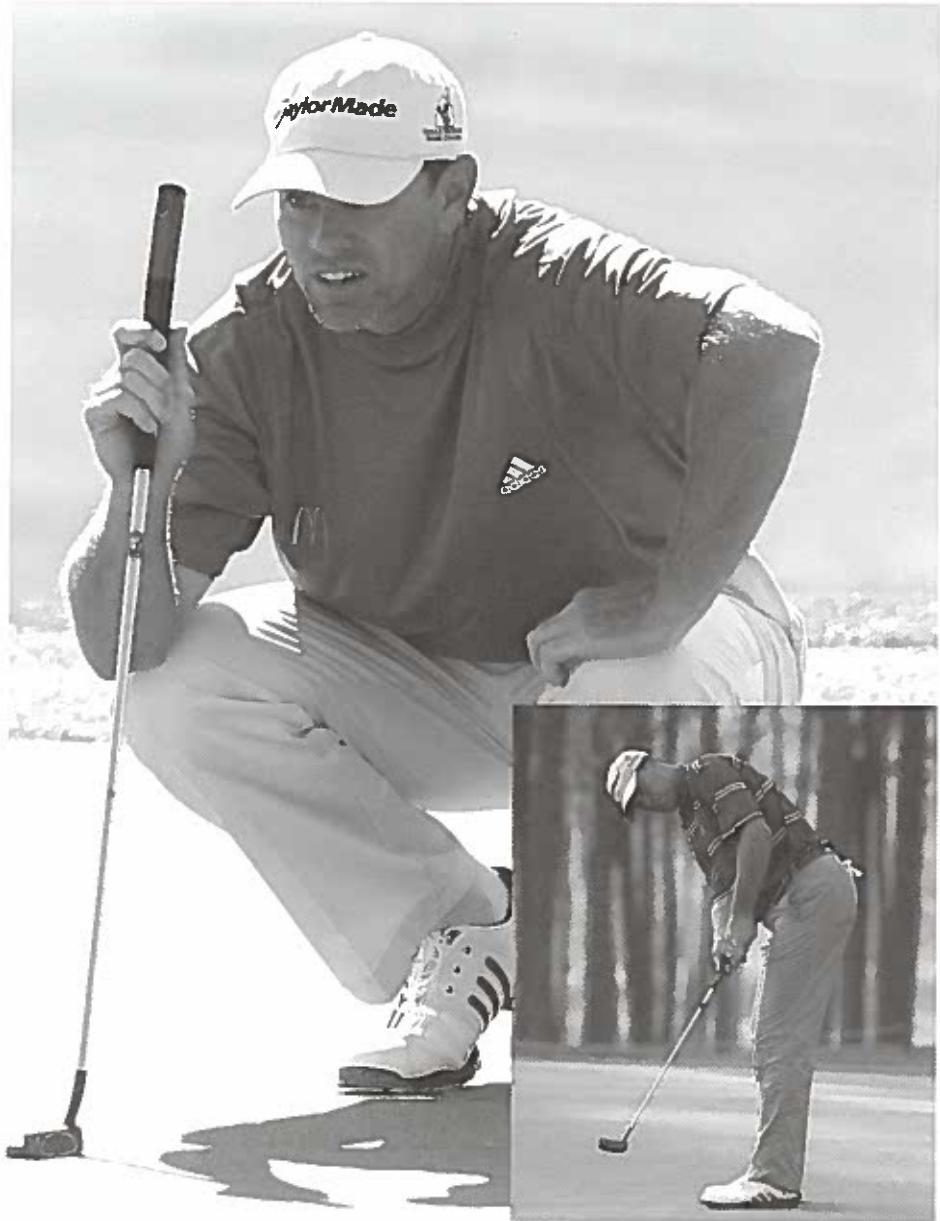


# IAN LEGGATT

## Sports



Inducted: 2007  
Years at GCI & VS:  
1981-86

Ian Leggatt was born in Galt Ontario on September 23, 1965 and received his elementary education at Hespeler Public School. When he was just eight years old his father, Jack Leggatt, introduced him to the game of golf at the Puslinch Lake Golf Club. Ian enrolled at GCI in 1981 and during the next five years kept a full athletic schedule as a member of the volleyball, badminton and soccer teams. A multi-sport athlete, Ian was also a provincial champion in speed skating and skated with the Canadian National Team. However his main focus was directed towards golf. Despite his relatively late start in competitive golf, Ian rapidly shot up the Ontario Junior golf rankings by winning a number of tournaments. Word of Ian's talent inevitably attracted the attention of American college recruiters and he was offered scholarships at numerous American universities.

In 1987, Ian accepted a full scholarship at Texas Wesleyan University. Competing in the intense arena of American college athletics pushed Ian's game to the world-class level. In his second year of university, he was named to the All - American golf team, a feat he repeated in 1989. In all Ian won five college tournaments before graduation. Yet, despite these outstanding achievements and the increasing demands on his time, Ian maintained contact with his Cambridge roots; he returned between semesters in 1988 to win the Ontario Amateur Matchplay Championships.

In 1990, Ian began his career as a globetrotting golf professional. He has left his mark around the world and on every tour he has played. In 1994, Ian was named the South African Golf Tour Rookie of the Year. In 1998, Ian represented Canada in the World Cup of golf and finished eighth. Ian's breakthrough into the elite of golf occurred in 2000 with his victory at the Dayton Open, which also qualified him to compete on the Professional Golf Association (PGA) Tour. In recognition of these successes, Ian was named Cambridge Sports Hall of Fame Athlete of the Year, both in 2000 and 2001. The defining moment of Ian's career was his stunning, come from behind victory at the 2002 Tucson Chrysler Classic. That season Ian earned over 1.2 million dollars in prize money and was ranked in the top fifty among the world's golf professionals. On the strength of these achievements, Ian was named Canadian Golfer of the Year for

2002. He was named the first ever Cambridge Sports Hall of Fame Professional Athlete of the Year and was also inducted into the Waterloo County Hall of Fame. To honour Ian, the Galt Country Club gave him a lifetime golf membership.

Above and beyond his professional accomplishments, Ian is most proud of his charity work. This began while he was still in Texas as the Athletic Director for the United Cerebral Palsy of Tarrant County. In 2002, Ian, along with Wayne Gretzky and Silken Laumann, became a worldwide ambassador for Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC). The Ian Leggatt and Friends Charity Golf Classic has raised millions of dollars for RMHC. To give back to the game that has given him so much, Ian created the annual Ian Leggatt Junior Golf Tour where players and prospects from the Region of Waterloo can play competitive golf for free. In addition, Ian hosts the Canadian Junior Golf Association's Taylor Made Tournament of Champions where qualified players from across Canada are assembled to play against each other. Ian currently resides in Chapel Hill, North Carolina with his wife Lori and his two children Mia and Aidan.

