

Metro St. Louis Seniors Golf Association  
 November 13, 2018 Board Meeting  
 Year End Operations Review

**2018 Operations status as of November 13, 2018.**

1. **MEMBERSHIP** – Closed year with just at 700 Div 1-5 member numbers on our membership list, and 60 in Division 9 lists.
2. **ATTENDANCE WEEKLY**– Year end we recorded 9946 weekly tournament scores. Division 3, 4, 5 averaged about 92 per event. Div 1 and 2 – about 60 and 70 each per event. 677 member numbers had official scores recorded.
3. **ATTENDANCE SPECIAL EVENTS** - Almost 700 rounds played in 9 separate events. Attendance slightly lower due to weather, rain out.
4. **PRIZE WINNINGS** – Winning by Tee Positions (Forward and Back) is about as fair possible. % of members playing Forward Tees and \$ prizes awarded are a virtual match – analysis by Dick Jones. Almost \$29,000 in prize money awarded for weekly tournaments, about \$5650 awarded for Special Events and Championship tournaments. Checks issued Nov1. We overcharged for Founder’s Day by \$10 per player. Refund was issued for inclusion in the year end checks.
5. **PACE OF PLAY** – Year end, Average Pace – all Divisions is 4:34
  1. **Divisions 3, 4 are running about 4:30 almost the same as last year.** Division 2 is 4:34
  2. **Division 1 and 5 are slowest at about 4:40.** Factors:
    - o Division 1 has lowest headcount – 108
    - o Highest handicap - about 5 points higher for each flight
    - o Higher gross scores on average.
    - o Concern – better may players leave league or transfer to other divisions
    - o First Notice Letter to go to serious repeat slow players/groups from Tournament Committee before Dec 1 in Division 1 and 4. Less than 15 players total.
6. **PERSONNEL** –
  1. **THANKS FOR SERVICE** – We have Board, Officer and Committee people leaving wna want to THANK THEM FOR THEIR SERVICE!
    1. Tom Stiern – retiring as VP for Division 2
    2. Retiring Board Directors
      1. Vince Weber. Division 1
      2. Al Clark, Division 2
      3. John Schroeder, Division 4
    3. Craig Carothers, Secretary
  2. **Secretary** - Mike Campbell as Secretary for the remaining term – through 2019.
  3. **Division 2 VP** – Frank Mantia is VP for Division 2 effective with orderly transition.
  4. **Special Events Chair** - Frank McLaughlin is Special Events Chair.
  5. **Deputy VP** – Positions are filled for 2019
 

Deputy VP (Division 1)	Bob McNamee
Deputy VP (Division 2)	Pat Smith
Deputy VP (Division 3)	Ken Hammond
Deputy VP (Division 4)	Mike Abney
Deputy VP (Division 5)	Dennis Black

6. **Board Replacements** - Positions filled for 2019 as follows:

Div 2	1 Yr Bob Mantia
1	3 Yr Tom Lefaivre
2	3 Yr John Reinhardt
3	3 Yr Gary Brown
4	3 Yr Homer Griffith
5	3 Yr Doug Debeer

7. **SPECIAL EVENTS** – Schedule for 2019 is complete. Registration starts 1-1-2019 Primary focus on team competitions. Increased prize fee from \$5 to \$7 to increase payout to 1/3 of participants.
8. **CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT** – Tournament completed. 2019 Event scheduled. Will be run under the Tournament Committee as an extension of Weekly Tournaments.
9. **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** - Nothing new to report. No meetings or actions.
10. **MEMBERSHIP** – Renewal sign-up started. We are already starting to accept New Members from wait lists or from new sign-up where know openings exist (Division 1 and 2 primarily). New membership ID numbers starting now. Changed the credit card interface to PayPal (no PayPal account required) for better reporting and potentially lower fees. Dues changes (D1-5 increase to \$65 and D9 reduction to \$20 implemented in sign-up forms.
11. **REGISTRATION RECORDS** – Working to revise the recording/reporting methods for SE Registration and Membership to simplify methods and reduce workload. Wicks, Hines, others.
12. **WEBSITE** –
  1. Added new calendar function to website. Searchable and exportable for personal calendars (smartphones). Includes courses, schedules, pricing, locations and map links. Can add Starter/Scorers Schedules and more.
  2. New more powerful editor for input. Includes easy options for lots of media – video, audio, photo galleries, and more. Plan to put more information and examples on Pace of Play, Rules, and more. More opportunity to increase member function and interest to non-members. Testing started and instructions out to current contributors.
13. **RULES RECOMMENDATIONS** – Rules Committee has recommendation for rules changes for 2019 matching USGA changes plus some modifications for Metro Sr. Please review (attached) for any discussion and Board Approval.
14. **2019 WEEKLY TOURNAMENTS** -
  1. Added 1 Week of Play (26<sup>th</sup> week)
  2. Dropped Emerald Greens (closed) and Prairies of Cahokia for 2019
  3. Added Woodlands, Lockhaven, and Columbia Bridges
  4. Tee positions including CTP have been proposed for review by Handicap Committee
15. **METRO-PLUS** -
  1. Very strong response in survey – about 280 positive responses for 140 positions.
  2. Tentative schedule completed, course dates reserved for 8 events.
  3. Setting member limit to 140 total to target 100 players per event.
  4. Setting Handicap Guide limit of 24 max
  5. Strict Pace of Play limits, with enforcement planned.
  6. Membership fee at \$40, primarily for prizes and incidental expenses
  7. Simplified systems for Starts, scoring, and prize awards.
  8. Trial of reserved tee times registration
16. **CONSTITUTION – BYLAWS REVISION** – Information out to members for review. Reviewed very few comments but some minor typo corrections made. Members will be asked for up/down vote at General Meeting 11/13/2018, limited discussion.

**17. BUDGET PLANNING FOR 2019** – Base line planning for 2019 finances revision. Following premises have been used to guide commitments for services and courses for weekly and special tournaments. Proposed budget for 2019 remains a near breakeven.

Notes: Revised 11/1/2018

1. Breakeven net income.
2. Members – 700 Div 1-5, 40 Div 9
3. D1-5 Dues to \$65 (\$2.30 per week)
4. D9 net \$420 income, \$20 dues, \$10 to tourney, \$80 available for operations expense.
5. Assumes Increased usage of credit cards with corresponding fees.
6. Assumes no rainouts.
7. Misc Accounting Expenses
8. Reduced promotion for Golf Show and Gen Mtg
9. Increased definition of Committee Expenses, Div ops expense.
10. Special Events & July Tournaments
  - Six (6) Special Events plus one (1) July Interdivision Tournaments
  - Special Events and July Tournaments – Net \$0. Participant paid, golf, meal, flight prize
  - Special Events and July tourney registration fee – max of \$7 ea for flight prizes
  - Continued “Quality” courses with \$40 to \$65 prices for SE and Championship
11. Championship
  - Championship flight prizes paid by member dues, not participants.
  - 4 volunteers golf and meal paid for Championship
- 12 Reduction of Member Book printing misc to \$500
- 13 Metro-Plus target net \$0 on revenue and expenses
  - Some prizes solicited from courses, vendors.
  - Member fee used yr 1 at 50% for prizes.
  - Hole in One from Metro Seniors General Budget

## **Long Term Board Thoughts – Planning, Discussion, Ideas**

Several comments and complaints have bubbled up or remain long term as long term rough spots.

Membership – new member turnover is very high, slow play is frequently identified, D players participate less.

Pace of Play – Most members “get it” and want to play at a healthy pace. A minority still cannot or will not make pace. Enforcement will be moving forward for a small number of players.

Volunteers - Getting volunteers at all levels is a challenge.

Cheating – Ignoring Rules – Some members don't know the rules, and a few probably “cheat”. Members who are not “competitive” may not feel rules really apply to them. This “cheating” corrodes the integrity of Metro Seniors.

Participation and Competition – a sizable number of members do not play frequently, don't really win flight money, and are relatively low skill (>35 handicap, and scores beyond 115). They are not really playing competitive golf. High scores and handicaps are strongly correlated to slow play, especially when 2, 3 or 4 are in the same tee group.

## **QUESTIONS FOR BOARD**

The current structure has been in place for many years. Could a change in structure better address these issues and better serve all our members?

For 2019 -

- Testing Metro-Plus as a more membership based, more challenging, more competitive, individual play group at more challenging courses.

Examples of suggestions for possible improvements:

1. Restrict competitive Divisions 1-5 to a maximum handicap – perhaps at about 28
2. Add less “competitive” or “social” or Metro “Lite” division(s)
3. Division 9 Model for 18 hole “lite” division – one or a few easy, close in courses, lower priced

I'm suggesting that a task group be charged with analyzing possible changes in structure for possible implementation in 2019 or 2020.