

Summary – Delegates Workshop 10-09-2026

The meeting focused on five major themes:

1. Tournament format modernization and inclusion
 2. Membership retention and member value
 3. Governance and operational efficiency
 4. Marketing, sponsorship, and chapter growth
 5. Financial support for chapters and use of national funds
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1. Tournament Formats and Scheduling

Proposed Second National Tournament

- A proposal was introduced to expand from one national tournament to two national tournaments annually.
- The current third meeting of the year would be converted into a national-level event.
- Suggested formats include:
 - Ryder Cup-style competition
 - Match play
 - Stroke play team competition

Co-Ed Participation and Flight Eligibility

- Strong support was expressed for allowing women to compete directly in open national events.
- Chapters with limited male participation argued they should be allowed to fill flight positions using female golfers with equivalent handicaps.
- Delegates noted:
 - Women already compete alongside men throughout the year using handicap-based scoring.
 - Separate women's flights can produce small fields and reduced prize pools.

- Many female members prefer competing in the main national tournament rather than separate divisions.

Additional Side Events

Suggestions included:

- Two-person blind draw competitions
- Randomly paired teams
- Additional skins and super-skins opportunities

These formats were viewed as increasing engagement and giving more participants opportunities to win.

Tournament Experience Improvements

Members emphasized:

- Attendees travel to play golf.
- Preference for playing multiple courses rather than repeated rounds on the same course.
- Desire for more golf-centered event schedules.

2. Membership Retention and Member Value

Long-Term Membership Concerns

Delegates raised concerns about:

- Aging membership demographics.
- Ongoing attrition from retirement, illness, and death.
- The need to attract younger and working-age golfers.

A central question emerged:

"Why do I want to be a member? What value does the organization provide?"

Cost of Participation

Concerns included:

- Travel and lodging costs of approximately \$500 or more.

- Tournament entry fees around \$200.
- Significant personal expenses when members do not win prizes.

Improving Awards and Incentives

Current awards were criticized as lacking value.

Suggested alternatives included:

- High-quality crystal trophies
- Personalized travel luggage
- Prepaid debit cards
- Increased cash payouts
- More practical and memorable prizes

The Corpus Christi event was cited as a model for:

- Venue quality
- Entertainment
- Overall event execution

3. Governance and Operational Improvements

Digital Distribution of Materials

Recommendations included:

- Sending reports electronically at least two weeks before meetings.
- Eliminating unnecessary printing costs.
- Allowing members time to review materials before votes.

Pre-Meeting Virtual Sessions

Delegates suggested:

- Conducting Teams or Zoom meetings prior to in-person gatherings.
- Resolving administrative details before arrival.
- Reserving face-to-face meetings for discussion and voting.

Bylaw Accessibility and Compliance

Recommendations:

- Maintain bylaws electronically.
- Distribute updated bylaws to all chapters.
- Ensure delegates understand governing documents before meetings.

Meeting Efficiency

Suggestions included:

- Limiting floor discussion to agenda items.
- Handling routine matters through email or Teams.
- Reducing time spent on old business.

Handicap Integrity

Support was expressed for stronger oversight of:

- Sandbagging
- Abnormal scoring performances
- Handicap adjustment enforcement

Convention Schedule Revision

A proposal was made for a fixed three-day convention format:

- Golf during the day
- Delegate sessions from 7:00 PM–9:00 PM
- Social activities afterward

Tax ID Compliance

Chapters were reminded to:

- Maintain clear accounting records.
- Track all expenditures tied to the organization's tax identification number.
- Ensure audit readiness.

4. Marketing, Sponsorship, and Growth

2030 Growth Goal

A strategic objective was proposed:

- Increase from approximately 30 chapters to 50+ chapters by 2030.

Sponsorship Program Standardization

A recommended sponsorship structure:

Level	Amount
Bronze	\$250
Silver	\$500
Gold	\$1,000
Platinum	\$2,000

Sponsor benefits could include:

- Logo placement
- Event signage
- Radio mentions
- Promotional materials

Community Partnerships

Potential sponsors include:

- Auto dealerships
- Restaurants
- Law firms
- Local businesses

A successful dealership-based promotional model was presented involving:

- Live broadcasts
- Press conferences

- Ticket giveaways
- Customer lead generation

Digital Marketing

Delegates encouraged chapters to:

- Use Facebook boosted posts.
- Target golfers within a defined geographic radius.
- Focus advertising on relevant age and demographic groups.
- Budget approximately \$150-\$400 per campaign.

5. Financial Support and General Fund Usage

National Fund Balance

Discussion centered on a national reserve balance estimated at:

- \$74,500-\$76,000

Many delegates argued greater use of funds should directly support chapters and events.

\$5,000 Host Chapter Seed Funding Proposal

Proposal:

- Provide \$5,000 to each host chapter of:
 - Winter Meeting
 - Third Meeting
 - National Tournament

Annual commitment:

- \$15,000 total

Supporters argued annual per-capita revenue would replenish the fund.

Financial Accountability

Leadership generally supported chapter assistance but emphasized:

- Detailed budgets

- Receipt documentation
- Financial transparency
- Oversight to prevent misuse

National Coverage of Meeting Costs

A proposal was introduced for the national organization to assume responsibility for:

- Meeting room expenses
- Delegate lunches
- Administrative costs

This would reduce the financial burden on hosting chapters.

Action Items

Proposal Submission

- All formal proposals must be submitted to the Executive Board at least 30 days before the April meeting.
- Deadline: End of February.

Minutes Review

- Meeting notes will be summarized and reviewed for future membership consideration and voting.

Website Updates

Chapter leaders must submit:

- Contact names
- Mailing addresses
- Phone numbers

for inclusion on the organization's new website.

Future Discussion

- Delegates adjourned for lunch.
- The next session would focus on 501(c)(3) nonprofit status.

Key Strategic Themes

1. Make tournaments more inclusive and engaging.
2. Improve the value proposition for members.
3. Modernize governance through technology.
4. Grow revenue through sponsorships and marketing.
5. Use national funds more aggressively to support chapters and event hosts.
6. Establish a clear path to 50+ chapters by 2030.