



# LWGA Newsletter

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FALL 2020



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello, Ladies,

This recent burst of cool breezy weather tells us that Fall is here! Many of our Members are returning to the Lowcountry after Summer travels, and this is a perfect time to share a few LWGA updates.

Throughout this strange year, we have managed to continue to host events while responding to new restrictions, rules, and procedures, and navigating through the pandemic. I want to thank our LWGA Members and my fellow Board Members for your resilience and responsiveness over the past several months.

**Schedule Changes.** For those of you who have been participating in our recent tournaments, or just following the emails sent out by our Tournament Chair, Robin McPhillips, you know there have been many scheduling challenges since early this year. We have had tournaments planned not just once but twice in some instances. Please refer to Robin's Tournament section for the latest information. The revised Tournament Schedule is also posted on the LWGA Website.

**Tournament Protocols and Procedures.** LWGA has closely followed the Carolinas Golf Association, South Carolina Golf Association and Women's South Carolina Golf Association, putting in place our COVID-19 Protocols to help ensure our members' safety while participating in LWGA events. The protocols are posted on the LWGA Website, and we continue to ask that all tournament participants and volunteers carefully review these as well as tournament-specific procedures posted by Robin prior to each tournament.

**Nominating Committee.** The Committee is actively searching for candidates for several key Board positions, including both an Assistant Tournament Chair and Tournament Chair for 2021. We know there are many talented, organized and computer-savvy women in our Membership. If you have an interest in serving in one of these positions or wish to recommend someone, please contact Jan Alpert, Nominating Committee Chair, as soon as possible at [janalpert@aol.com](mailto:janalpert@aol.com).

**2021 Membership Renewal.** LWGA is now fully on a calendar year, and membership renewal will run from November 15 – December 15, 2020. Additional details will follow, but I wanted to share with you that a **Tournament Player/Volunteer Waiver of Liability** will need to be signed and returned with all renewals or new member registrations. The LWGA Waiver is not yet final but is based on similar documents required by SCGA and other clubs.

**Credit Requirements.** As previously communicated, credit requirements for renewal this year are waived. There has been no determination yet on credit requirements for next year, but the Board will take into consideration possible continued disruptions in 2021.

**Annual Meeting.** Zoom has become a valuable tool in conducting business everywhere this year. LWGA Board Meetings since April have been conducted via Zoom and have been very productive. In our September 14<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting we discussed alternatives for our Annual Meeting planned for January 2021, recognizing that restrictions will prevent our hosting the usual format with a luncheon and guest speaker. We are now planning to conduct a business-focused meeting via Zoom. There are many details to be worked through, so more to follow on the Annual Meeting over the next few months.

Please stay safe, enjoy this taste of Fall weather, and I hope to see you on the course soon!

*MJ Knight, LWGA President*

## TOURNAMENTS

### **The Scheduling Year in Recap:**

It has been a tough year to organize and run tournaments in the COVID 2020 environment. After the first two tournaments at Harbour Town and Country Club of Hilton Head, and the weather cancelation at Belfair, the dominos started falling in March, with venues canceling through July of our original schedule.

Your board regrouped and put together protocols to create a safe golf environment for our members and started holding tournaments again. We got buy-in from several clubs that would

support our protocols, including The Golf Club that stepped up to reschedule and hold our Match Play tournament in July. Palmetto Hall also got onboard and hosted a nice event in June. However, our August and September venues then notified us of their board's decision to forego hosting outside events. This brought us up to eight clubs that declined to host tournaments due to COVID related club restrictions.

Happily, Port Royal agreed to host a tournament in August and Oldfield agreed to host our Stroke Play Championship in September. Unfortunately, Oldfield was canceled due to inclement weather.

So, to recap the year thus far, the five tournaments that were held were:

January 17	Harbour Town
February 17	Country Club of Hilton Head (Pro Appreciation)
June 22	Palmetto Hall
July 13, 14, 15	Golf Club at Indigo Run (Match Play Championship)
August 24	Port Royal

### **Going Forward for Fall 2020:**

Not unexpectedly, in early September we were informed that our remaining venues (Callawassie, Wexford and Berkeley Hall) were also no longer available due to COVID related club concerns. Our tournament administrators went back to work and secured Dolphin Head for November 2 and Hilton Head National December 9 for our Member-Member (the Member-Guest element will not be included this year). At this time, no replacement October event has been identified.

The current reality is that only the public/semi-private courses are available to us. Additionally, we have found that these available courses are no longer willing to allow single cart use on a large scale. They need their fleet of carts to maximize paying customers on the course. Accordingly, we will have to narrow formats we can offer.

The Carolinas Golf Association still recommends single cart use for single events but is now directing doubled-up carts for all partner events. Therefore, without the single cart option open to us, and in accordance with CGA practices, the board has made the decision that our remaining tournaments will be pick your partner formats, flighted on the low handicap team member. LWGA cannot know where each entrant has traveled or who they have been exposed to. The onus will be on each entrant to do their own due diligence regarding who they partner with. If you are not comfortable with this format, that is ok, there is no requirement to participate in any tournaments. Credit requirements have been waived for 2020.

As of today, these are the remaining tournaments for the year:

<b>Tournament Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Format</b>	<b>Registration Dates</b>
November 2	Dolphin Head	Pick your Partner Team Net Stableford 1 BB/2 – Flighted	10-19-20 to 10-23-20
December 9	Hilton Head National	Member-Member 1BB/2 Gross & Net	11-16-20 to 11-20-20

We look forward to seeing many of you out there as we close out our 2020 season!

*Robin McPhillips, Tournament Chairman*

# MEMBERSHIP

Just a reminder that New Member Enrollment and Membership Renewal for 2021 tournament year will take place beginning November 15<sup>th</sup> – December 15<sup>th</sup>. Due to COVID there will be no credit requirement needed to renew this year, if the other requirements are met which are listed on the form.

This year, both new member enrollment and membership renewal will use the same form so there will not be two separate forms. Please make sure you read the form and fill it out properly. The form will be posted to the website at the beginning of November.

New this year will be the Tournament Player/Volunteer Assumption of Risk and Waiver of Liability form which has been explained in the President's section of this newsletter. This form will be posted next to the New Member Enrollment/Renewal form and should be printed at the same time you print your new member enrollment/renewal form which must be signed and dated and returned along with your check for the proper amount to the Membership Chair.

Please watch for reminder announcements as the registration date nears.

*Amelia Howe, Membership Chairman*