Chicago District Making Costs Survey

The Chicago District Golf Association has mailed 11 pages of facts, figures and questionnaires to 77 member club presidents in an effort to aid in cutting waste in golf club operations. John P. Garrow and Fred Slyder, Co-Chairmen of the Club Management Committee have announced a four-point program, saying, “Most members treat golf as a luxury and don’t realize they own an equity in plant and equipment totaling $50,000,000 in the Chicago area alone. It’s an industry from which 100,000 people earn a living. While costs continue to go up, most personal incomes are going down. The days of waiting lists are over. Golf clubs must cut costs and reduce cost of membership to stay in business during the years to come.”

After two years’ preliminary study, the committee’s four objectives are: (1) A directory of information to provide club officers and directors with accurate information concerning all clubs in the district, their boards of directors, department heads, types and classes of membership, dues, all extra and special charges, etc. This directory will eliminate the guess work and gossip so long a part of club meetings. (2) Sectional meetings, north, south and west, to discuss costs, services, menus, etc. (3) Management News to be published semi-monthly containing special reports, digests of management articles, ideas, etc., and all items that will help the officers, directors and management do a better job. (4) An annual operating survey of income and expense, with special studies being made of food, beverages, greens, lockers, debt retirement, taxes, assessments, etc.

Stanley A. Van Dyk, CDGA president, has assured member clubs that these figures will not be used indiscriminately. Only those clubs which contribute information and figures will share in reports compiled and only designated officials of cooperating clubs will receive these reports.

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