



Monthly Golf Meetings: Fun for ALL

I am proud and honored to chair the MAGCS Golf Committee again this year. The 2004 edition of this committee has an exciting menu of golf experiences planned for each monthly meeting this season. Our committee is comprised of 22 enthusiastic volunteers, united in a dedication to serving our membership. We have worked very hard to put together this slate of golf events and formats that will uphold the Midwest's tradition of conducting competitive, worthwhile and enjoyable monthly golf meetings.

Chairing the 2003 Golf Committee was a learning experience for me. Last year, it was the consensus of the standing MAGCS Golf Committee, and the Midwest Board of Directors, to modify our monthly golf meetings so they could be shorter and more fun, and would be perceived by our members as more meaningful.

Recognizing a real opportunity, the Golf Committee met and discussed ways to accomplish this task without diminishing the value of the experience to our superintendents and commercial members. Since scoring and the number of scored events were directly associated to the time it took to conclude a golf event, we decided that by minimizing the number of scored events, we could expedite the finale of our golf meetings. We incorporated scorecard raffles, all proximities and door-prize drawings into the regular format of play in 2003. These were a big hit because they are fun and fair to all regardless of golfers' abilities, and they required no additional time to conduct or calculate winners, thus saving time.

We are dedicated to bringing the fun of playing golf to every member who chooses to attend a monthly golf meeting. To that end, we are cognizant that every member has a different notion of fun. This is our opportunity. Some of our members think the heat of a grinding competition, or breaking 76 for 18 holes is fun, while for others, fun often means camaraderie, networking or just breaking 110! Remember, golf is a game. It's supposed to be fun, and fun for everyone. The traditional championships—the Annual, Senior, Super Seniors, Dom Grotti and College competitions—remain scheduled as part of the monthly meetings in 2004 for those competitive players within our membership.

Our members also have a strong preference of “playing their own ball” during monthly events. We have been told that it is just more fun to play each shot, and I agree. We have scheduled only two scrambles this year, April's four-person Olds Scramble format and October's College Team Championship.

Venues for this season's monthly golf meeting also promise to be outstanding. We visited Nettle Creek in April and this month, we are at Seven Bridges. Next is Glen Erin Golf Club in June, Fox Run Golf Links in July, Biltmore Country Club in August, Oak Grove Golf Club in September and Calumet Country Club in October. Some of our most exemplary members, and their clubs, will be hosting events, and I am certain their courses will play to the highest attainable level of quality in conditioning.

On behalf of the MAGCS Golf Committee volunteers, we wish every member health, happiness and satisfaction at the monthly golf meetings this year. May all your putts be one-putts!



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