

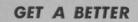
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PGA Rumblings

Recent rumblings beneath the surface calm of the Professional Golfers' Assn. have, at least for now, subsided. For a while it seemed that certain sections, disgruntled over the PGA-player settlement, were on the brink of intimating dissatisfaction via a hesitancy to endorse Leo Fraser and other current PGA officers for re-election. And should this move have gained steam, the upshot could have been the resurgence of old animosities and heated accusations.

But the influential Illinois Section, which reportedly has adopted a "wait-and-see" position on the election, now has reversed its stand and voted to endorse the Fraser slate. Therefore, the chances of any serious problem developing at the annual meeting in November have been allayed. As early as this writing, about 19 sections had already endorsed the Fraser group. Last year, the officers were elected with 21 PGA sectional nominations.

Less heartening on the PGA scene is the failure of the proposed pension program to pass Internal Revenue Service muster. A letter has been sent out to all sections by executive director Robert T. Creasey, informing them that the IRS declined to rule on the program, as presently constructed. Among objections to the program, IRS felt the plan discriminated in favor of higher salaried employees. So it seems a major overhaul of the plan will be top priority.

Fast behind this disappointing news came word of two changes designed to strengthen the PGA Championship. The tournament will be moved to PGA National GC at Palm Beach Gardens, Fla., in 1971 and it's likely an effort will be made to keep it there in the future. In addition, the championship will be moved up ahead of the three other major tournaments to early March.

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