

Spring President's Letter 2021

Dear Members,

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to welcome you the Women's New Jersey Golf Association's 99th year. Suzanne Dallas, Vice President – Tournaments and I joined a very experienced Board, as we are the only two members who were not on the 2020 Board.

Let us welcome our new members in the class of 2021 and new members from last season who you may not have met due to COVID. They include Caroline Cormier, Carolyn Cutler, Stacie Davis, Nancy Hurley, Julie Jackson, Shiobian Kelly, Jessica Koehler, Julie Manahan, Michele Mandia, Kathy McGorry, Bridget Murphy, Eva Serruto, and Bonnie VanSlyke. Please say "hello" when you see our new members and help them feel welcome.

It was with regret but also well wishes that we accepted the resignations of Sherry Exon, Kathy Jones, Dede Caputo, Penny Roberts, and Barbara Kohut.

In November 2020 we lost one of our own. Dina Golas passed away after a courageous battle with a disease that took her life. Our thoughts and prayers went out to her family and a contribution was made in her memory on behalf of the WNJGA.

Last year was one for the history books, but not in a good way. The COVID-19 Pandemic impacted all of us as we followed the guidelines for mask wearing, social distancing, and frequent washing of our hands. We expect those guidelines may still be in effect well into 2021 even with the vaccine roll out and herd immunity on the horizon.

Due to the Pandemic, last year only four major tournaments were conducted as golf clubs canceled our tournaments and the Board canceled others for safety. I am pleased to announce the Board has a full golf schedule planned for 2021 due to the hard work of our Vice President – Sites – Sandy Rose and the hostesses at the venues for this year.

The 2021 Board met several times this past winter to work on four major goals to grow our membership and enhance your experience in the WNJGA, all of which have been recorded by our Secretary, Darlene Donegan.

The first goal involves increasing membership, for which we need your help. As you participate in WMGA team matches or tournaments, and local Interclub competitions see if anyone you meet may be an excellent candidate for the WNJGA. Consider following up by checking with other WNJGA members who may know her. You can find the candidate application form and the guidelines on

the WNJGA website. You can also contact Marie Slate, our membership chair who can walk you through the steps of sponsoring new members.

The Board's second goal is to create a member-friendly website. Our Website Chair, Christina Hall has been working all winter to make it easier to register for tournaments. When it is time to pay your dues, you can see that our Treasurer, Gail Pollard will accept payment via Venmo and Pay Pal. You can also view the 2021 Tournament & Directory, prepared by our Printing Chair, Betsy Cowell.

The third goal is to increase member participation in our 2021 tournaments. Please review our 2021 schedule and mark your calendar now for the tournaments that fit into your personal schedule. Take advantage of the opportunity to play the wonderful courses on this year's schedule and enjoy the fellowship of our members on the golf course.

The Centennial rounds out the Board's fourth goal, which is promotion of the date for our celebration, which is July 20, 2022. Throughout the season you will receive reminders to "save that date." The Centennial Committee, chaired by Kathy Cosgrove has been working with her committee members (Sissy McCabe, Fern Epstein, Kathy Carter, and Gail Pollard) since 2018 to make 2022 a year to remember in a good way!

Lastly, I would like to remind all members to: visit the WNJGA Website, seek out potential candidates for membership, play in as many tournaments as possible this year and learn about our organization's rich history in preparation for our Centennial celebration in 2022.

It is through active participation that our organization thrives. The Board and I look forward to seeing you this upcoming season and especially at Opening Day, scheduled for May 19th at Bedens Brook.

Warm regards,

Lois Farese

WNJGA President

P.S. Please see the attached document for an Amendment to our By-Laws, which will be voted on at our Spring Meeting.

Addendum to the 2021 President's Spring Letter

For clarity, the job responsibilities for the Vice President – Sites and Vice President – Tournaments were reviewed in relation to the Finance & Audit Committee. The Board reviewed the By-Laws prior to the 2017 changes and noted that the Tournament Chair was included on the Finance & Audit Committee. When the Tournament Chair's job was separated into Vice President – Sites and Vice President – Tournaments both positions were to be included on the Finance & Audit Committee.

It is therefore necessary to include the duties of the Vice-President – Tournaments in the By-Laws, which is shown in bold below.

By Law IV Officers and Directors – Section 3 – Duties of the Vice President – Tournaments. In accordance with her Procedure, the Vice President – Tournaments shall assume the responsibility for running all tournaments with the assistance of a committee chosen by her and the Vice President Sites. **She shall also be a member of the Finance & Audit Committee. (change is in bold).**

The Vice-President of Sites already has that statement: "She shall also be a member of the Finance & Audit Committee" noted in Duties of the Vice-President – Sites.

However, in the By-Laws section on Committees, the Vice President – Sites was inadvertently omitted from the list of members who serve on the Finance & Audit Committee. Therefore, the Vice President – Sites needs to be added to Finance & Audit Committee description, as noted below.

By Law V Committees – Section 4 – Finance & Audit Committee. The Finance & Audit Committee shall include the Treasurer as Chair, the **Vice President – Sites**, Vice President – Tournaments and the Tournament Awards and Trophies Chair. **(change is in bold).**