



WMSGGA 2017

PRESIDENT'S LETTER: THE MERGER

3 September 2017

Fellow Golfers

Although it seems that the transition to MSGA has taken forever, rest assured we are moving forward with a merger. It is important to get this right, and we have been working hard to make sure that happens. An agreement document has nearly been finalized, and as soon as the agreed upon changes have been made to it, Michele Davis (SMWGA president) and I will sign it. Here are some of the highlights:

- The actual date of transition will be January 1, 2018.
- Four women will be on the Board of Directors at the start, two from the WMSGGA and two from the SMWGA.
- Any of us will be allowed to apply for a board position from now on.
- One woman will sit on the Executive Board.
- A Women's Committee, made up of MSGA board members and any other organization members who want to serve (male or female), will be added to the list of MSGA standing committees.
- The schedule, already being worked on for 2018, will look the same as you are used to and continue to feature Tuesday play.
- Opportunities for tournaments on days other than Tuesdays will also be offered.
- The annual membership fee may drop since MSGA members are currently paying only \$25, rather than \$35 that we pay.
- The Janet Drouin Fund will remain the same.

The MSGA Board works a little differently than we have, with the bulk of work being done in committees. That's why we are hoping that a number of our women will step forward to participate as committee members. The Board oversees the Strategic Plan and makes sure that MSGA adheres to its principles. Committees bring proposals to the Board for ratification, but the nitty gritty details are worked out in committee. The following are the standing committees: Nominating, Personnel, Finance, Scholarship, Junior Golf, Tournament, Marketing, Governance and Stewardship, and the Women's Committee.

For the next year, a transition group, made up of myself, Micki Meggison, Sue Wootton, Birdie, Pearse, Helen Plourd, Sherrie Thomas, Michele Davis, Joy Eon, Jenifer Stewart, Eileen Bryant, Barb Freeman, Laurie Hyndman, and Terri Messer, will be working with three subcommittees — Finance and Administration, Scheduling and Tournament, and Governance — to work out the details in each area. When we have more information about such things as how vouchers will be handled and the answers to other questions you're sure to have, I will send out emails.

In the meantime, we still have more Tuesday tournaments to play, including our upcoming Annual Meeting Scramble on September 19 at Waterville Country Club. So find your playing partner for the scramble and help us to celebrate Women's Maine State Golf Association. As always, if you have an issue you want addressed at our annual meeting, please send me an email by Wednesday, September 13, and I will include it on the agenda. One order of business will be to ratify a board vote to continue all positions on the board and all committees until the transition takes place on January 1.

I am optimistic about the future of golf in Maine, and, specifically, women's golf. Change can be hard, but worth it in the end.

Vicki Lindquist
WMSGGA President