

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In mid-2013, the Board asked me to accept the position of President, which I did willingly. I will have served three full years subsequent to that, and have thoroughly enjoyed my time in that role.

At our Board meeting on August 17, I advised the rest of the Board that I will not stand for re-election for 2017, nor will I serve in any other Board position in the future. The reasons for my decision are unrelated to any aspect of this club.

I believe the club, which had 77 members when I joined eleven years ago, has grown in ways other than just size, while staying true to its Mission found in our by-laws. The Board has approved a number of additional competitive formats other than standard stroke play events, including designating the "Match Madness" format as our Club Championship. We created the Memorial Cup team event, a format whose primary reason for existing is to pay tribute to those members who are "gone, but not forgotten." The club now sponsors even more members to try to qualify to represent all of us in NCGA Associate Club events. We modified our stroke play events by adopting the "flight" system to provide more opportunities, very frankly, for more members to feel good about accomplishing something on the golf course. We developed and implemented a "Pace of Play" standard, while maintaining our overall quality of play. And, finally, we added more non-voting Board members when we recognized the need for additional expertise, and were pleased to find it among our dedicated members.

I plan to fulfill all of my responsibilities as President through the end of 2016, including filling out our 2017 schedule (again, with a number of new surprises in the "rota"), and presiding over the Annual Membership Meeting in December. And I look forward to continuing to be part of the fantastic spirit found in this club.

More importantly, we now look to that same spirit among you once again. The leadership of this club, one of the largest and most active among those NCGA Associate Clubs not affiliated with a golf course, is very strong; it will continue to be so. **But we need YOU to step up and participate in its operation.** In the coming weeks and months, you may be approached by a Board member who personally believes you have something to contribute to our "Management Team," whether as a future Board member, or by performing a task requiring less time and responsibility. Please view that conversation as a compliment, and an opportunity to have a role in maintaining the quality of this club that we all enjoy.

Don Carlson
August, 2016