

Oct. 28, 2016



WSCGA Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) #1

1. Why does the USGA want to consolidate the SRGAs?

The USGA's Membership Engagement Initiative requires that future Allied Golf Associations (AGAs) broadly serve and encompass amateur golf, which includes men and women as well as juniors, both private and public clubs. By eliminating overlapping services, the USGA seeks to better serve golfers, golf facilities and the game, as well as better use the industry's resources.

2. What are the options being weighed by the WSCGA's Ad Hoc Committee?

The committee is considering the following:

- a) forming an alliance with the other women's golf associations in California;
- b) continuing to run our organization without providing licensed USGA benefits;
- c) unifying with an Allied Golf Association to be chosen by the USGA;
- d) dissolving the association.

3. The letter says "certain change." What does that mean?

It means change will take place within the organization and structure of WSCGA. The Ad Hoc Committee and Board are looking at all options described in the above question, to determine which best protects and preserves our core programs and services to clubs and members.

4. Why does the USGA have control over this issue for the WSCGA? Aren't we a separate business?

Yes, we are a (501)(c)(6) not-for-profit organization but we are licensed by the USGA to facilitate handicapping, issue course ratings and conduct USGA Championship qualifying. Without a license, we would not have a relationship with the USGA and could not engage in USGA-related activities nor continue to facilitate the issuance of Handicap Indexes through our member clubs. In addition, without an authorized USGA Handicap Index, WSCGA members would not be eligible for local competitive events, invitationals and other customary tournaments.

5. How is the USGA selecting the regional Allied Golf Associations?

In addition to enforcing the definition that all AGAs will have an inclusive membership (men, women, juniors, public, private, etc.), all State and Regional Golf Associations (SRGAs) throughout the country were asked to complete an in-depth survey of association membership and related data. The survey recaps an association's capabilities, experiences and resources. The USGA is using

this standardized process to assist them in assessing each organization's capabilities and to help identify the future Allied Golf Associations.

6. What about the other women's golf associations in Southern California? Will they change as well?

The other women's golf associations in Southern California are currently examining their options similarly to what we are doing.

7. When will the USGA select its partners?

The USGA will notify selected SRGAs that meet the requirements for an Allied Golf Association in January 2017. Current USGA licenses (including WSCGA's) will expire December 31, 2017. The USGA will offer collaboration agreements to selected Allied Golf Associations that become effective January 2018.

8. When did the WSCGA find out about these pending changes?

The USGA hosted regional town halls in the Fall of 2015, where we were first notified of its planned Member Engagement Initiative. At the time, information was limited and timelines were uncertain. Over the past year, we have received further updates from the USGA and now have specifics that are meaningful to share with our members. The WSCGA's board is committed to transparency throughout this process.

9. When will we know the outcome of the WSCGA's Ad Hoc Committee?

The Committee expects to update the WSCGA membership following the USGA's official selection of the regional AGA, which is scheduled for January 2017. As we've stated repeatedly, the committee's mission is to preserve and protect women's golf in Southern California.

10. Why aren't we fighting these changes?

We have determined that fighting the USGA would be incredibly costly, time consuming and not beneficial to the long-term health of women's golf.

11. What WSCGA programs and services are the committee committed to preserving?

The Ad Hoc Committee remains focused on protecting and preserving core WSCGA services, including tournaments, Team Play, Handicap and Course Rating and rules education, as well as the continued support for the Foundation.

12. What will happen to the WSCGA Foundation?

The Foundation is among the core services the Ad Hoc Committee is committed to protecting and preserving.

13. What if I have additional questions?

Please send questions to (insert WSCGA email address). We will do our best to include answers to these questions in future communications, but please note we may not be able to answer all questions due to the sensitivities involving the committee's due diligence process.

14. How frequently will we receive updates?

We intend to communicate information to you as quickly and accurately as possible.

15. Where can I find more information about the USGA's Member Engagement Initiative?

Information is available at: usga.org/engagement.html