

President's Report

2012-2013

Another twelve months have passed, and the NLGA was very busy once again.

All the members of the Board of Directors are to be commended on their volunteer work for Golf in our province. The pride and devotion given to their specific area of expertise is second to none amongst other PSOs across our Nation. Therefore, many thanks to Allison Crawford, Vice President and chairman of the Hall of Fame , and interim Tournament Chairperson; John Angel, Treasurer; Jan Peters, secretary and chairman of the Archives; Jim Sloan, Rules Director; Sandra Sparrow, Course Rating/Handicap; and Wayne Allen, Junior Director . Their attendance throughout the year for Board of Directors' Meetings, workshops, seminars, conference calls and national meetings is to be commended.

Several people outside the Board have also contributed substantially to the NLGA this past Year. Some of these individuals include: Helena Bragg, for her work in completing the Archives for the former CLGA and NLGA; Bruce Watson, Walter Clotty and Dave Lawlor in assisting Jim Sloan in the Rules Seminars during the winter; Eddie Bearns in assisting Ms. Sparrow with the course rating; all the Rules Officials who have assisted with the NLGA Tournaments; Bruce Watson for his dedication to the Tely Tour, even though not an NLGA event it is supported by the NLGA via Rules people, trophies and keeper plaques, it contributes substantially to Junior development in our province.

Our Adult Provincial tournament continues to be a big success with our member clubs and with the competing athletes. These athletes comprise three percent of our total membership. To hold an adult provincial tournament is a mandate of our Provincial Sport Organization. With that said, we are pleased to say that this tournament, through entry fees and sponsors and contributions from Golf Canada, is self supporting. Things may be a little tighter this year coming up, for Golf Canada will no longer be providing assistance to the provinces in sending teams to Nationals. Therefore, the Board will be in the process of reviewing a number of options in the coming year in terms of regional and national competitions.

Once again this past year, we had a Provincial Coach, Jim Stick, who was responsible for the implementation of the Golf in Schools, Future Links program and junior development in the Eastern, Central and Labrador regions of the province. NLGA also had a Western Regional Instructor and working in partnership with Boliden Golf Club provided the Golf in Schools and Future Links Programs to courses in that region.

On the National stage, NLGA has succeeded has secured a number of major events in the coming years including the hosting of the provincial Executive Directors and Golf Canada on the west coast in June, hosting of the 2014 CN Future Links Atlantics again, on the west coast in July 2014, and the hosting of the National Junior Boys Championship at Clovelly Golf in July 2016. The NLGA is presently working on securing the hosting of the National Golf Course Owners Association (NGCOA) national conference in November 2014. And, finally, NLGA is presently in discussions with the other

three Atlantic Provinces to potentially create an adult Atlantic golf Championship and could potentially host this event in the summer of 2015.

In 2012 we were very proud of the fact that one of our junior males placed within the top 45 at the National Championships. At the 2012 CN Future Links Atlantics, this same individual (Blair Burse of Gander) made history for our Province. He was the first to have been the runner-up for this prestigious Atlantic Junior event. As well, three of the four male juniors placed within the top 30. All four individuals are members of our Canada Games' 2013 Development team.

There is still a ways to go yet to get our female athletes more interested in the game of golf, and certainly to improve their competitive skills. We can say that the four member Development Team for the 2013 Canada Games, are showing us that they are committed to the four areas needed to improve their skills, specifically, technical, nutrition, physical and mental preparation.

The reinstatement of the Hall of Fame and Awards Program was a major achievement for the organization last year. While there were limited nominations in 2012, this year NLGA has received nominees for each category, and in fact, some have more than one nomination. Interest is mounting for this event, and eventually, our goal will be to have all clubs nominating some worthy member for some deserving award, or for the Hall of Fame. We are very thankful for the Sponsors that have provided support for this initiative.

For the third year, NLGA has participated in Sportiest which is hosted by SportNL. This year the event was a great success for golf in exposing our sport to well over 2,700 youth in the North East Avalon area. Even though all of our youth across the province do not have the opportunity to participate in this event, NLGA provides youth the opportunity gain exposure to Golf through Future Links, Golf in Schools and the Mobile clinic. Programs offered by the organization. In 2012 NLGA provided these programs to approximately 11,000 from across the province and contributed thirty-nine percent of our total budget is for Junior Programs in the province.

Our Junior Program is one of the best in Atlantic Canada. Especially in the area of our Junior High Performance... Many thanks to the Junior Committee, Wayne Allen -Chair, Jim Stick, Ted Stonehouse, Erin Lundrigan , myself and Greg Hillier.

The present Development teams are the result of our Junior Developments Camps, 4 in the past two years; their mandatory involvement in the Tely tour; participation in the Adult Tournament of 2012; placement in the FL Atlantics; placement in the Junior tournaments of 2011 and 2012; Three winter Developments weekends in 2011-2012 to include, technical training, Nutrition, physical training and Mental Preparation. The training program for the winter of 2012-2013 has included the implementation of a regionalized training program, having a Golf Professional work with the athletes in their specific region as opposed to having weekend training camps in a central location.

This regionalized training provides more one-on-one contact for each player. Two of the other 3 components are accessed through Skype and is proving to be quite successful. Their physical training is to be logged, which can include actual gym work as well as participation in other sports. To further train our teams for the Canada Games, the NLGA has arranged for our teams to attend a golf training camp in Florida. Both teams will be accompanied by a provincial coach and a female

chaperone. The teams will be have a number of testing sessions, skills development, golf and the opportunity to work with one of the world's premier golf coaches, Henry Brunton.

Golf in Schools has improved to 7 registered sites in our Province. NLGA is always promoting this initiative, trying to 'Grow the Game' where it all begins ... at the grass roots. This year we will be strongly looking for golf courses to partner with a school for Golf in School's Kit.

Also, let's not forget our Executive Director. He is paid for only part time. But, I assure you, at the end of the day, this individual certainly gives the NLGA well beyond the required 20 hours per week. He works very diligently for the NLGA, and is to be commended for his work ethic.

As you can see from our Audited Report, we have had great success in obtaining grants for our Juniors and the operational side of the NLGA. We are gradually improving this, and since the Fall of 2009, we have definitely come a long way. We are especially grateful to the Provincial Government for their financial assistance in helping us to provide programs for our Juniors, and the administration of our Sport Organization.

Being the President of the NLGA, I am also a member of the National Provincial Council. This is an advisory committee to Golf Canada. This does not mean that GC accepts all of our recommendations, but, at least they are given consideration. The committee also acts as a medium between Golf Canada and the PSOs. We have 4 regularly scheduled meetings throughout the year. Minutes of these meetings are on file with our ED, if anybody would like to review same.

Many thanks to all the volunteers across our province who are there for the sport of Golf, and continue to support the NLGA in their endeavours to "Grow the Game ".

Yours in Golf,

Marcheta Gallant

President , NLGA