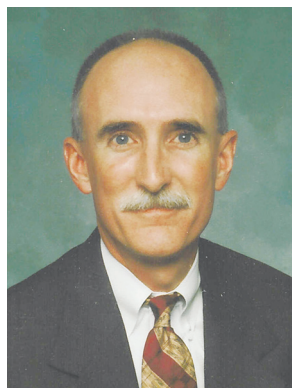


# Inside the Ropes: Alliance program created to foster enhanced communication with Louisiana golfers

BY CARR McCALLA

In mid-April, Louisiana golfers that have a valid e-mail address on file in our office began to receive a monthly E-Newsletter as part of a recently created LGA/USGA Alliance program. Along with the Oregon Golf Association and the Golf Association of Michigan, the LGA was asked by the USGA to participate in this pilot program. Participants will receive the Louisiana edition of the USGA Insider E-newsletter at least once a month with USGA and LGA news. If you're a member of a LGA Member Club and you're not sure whether or not we have your correct email address, visit the LGA Handicap Network computer at your club and follow the prompts to update your email address. We currently have only about 7,000 of our 18,000 or so individual members e-mail addresses (and some of those need to be updated) on file. Please take a minute and verify the accuracy of your email address the next time you are at your club.



**Carr McCalla**

## **JUNIOR AM, 4-BALL, AND MID-AMATEUR REGISTRATION NOW AVAILABLE**

Registration opened on April 1 for the 2009 LGA Junior Amateur, Four-Ball, and Mid-Amateur Championships. Entry forms have been mailed to all LGA Member Clubs, 2008 LGA Championship participants, and LGA Gold and Silver Sponsors; and may also be printed from the LGA website at [www.LGAgolf.org](http://www.LGAgolf.org).

The Junior Am will be held at Alexandria Golf and Country Club on July 8-10, the TPC Louisiana in New Orleans will be host to the Four-Ball Championship on July 18-19, and this year's Mid-Amateur will take place at Oakbourne Country Club in Lafayette on August 7-9, with qualifiers around the state to be conducted in early and mid July. To enter any of these LGA Championships, simply forward your completed application to our offices prior to the deadline date, or enter online at [www.LGAgolf.org](http://www.LGAgolf.org) by clicking on the link for "Online Tournament Registration" and following the prompts to complete your entry.

Registration (online and hard-copy entries) for the Senior Amateur and Senior Four-Ball Championships will be available on June 1.

## **DEADLINES FOR AMATEUR AND NET AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIPS**

By the time you read this, it may already be too late! Deadline for the Amateur Championship, set for English Turn Golf and Country Club in New Orleans in early June, is April 28, 2009. Qualifiers will be conducted at eight sites around the state in early May for this, the 90th edition of this Championship which was first conducted in 1920.

The LGA Net Amateur, set for May 16-17, 2009, at Santa Maria in Baton Rouge, has a deadline date of May 5. All entries must be received in the LGA's office or via online registration by 5 p.m. on that date. Sandbaggers beware.....the LGA utilizes the USGA's Exceptional Tournament Score Probability Table to retroactively reduce any score that exceeds a pre-determined probability in this Championship. Don't worry about being defeated before you begin by those that attempt to manipulate their handicaps to their advantage.....the use of the table mentioned above really does create an even playing field for this event. If you've never played in this event please consider participation.

## **BECOME AN LGA MEMBER VIA LGAGOLF.ORG**

If you're not currently an individual member of the LGA, we've just made it significantly easier for you to come on board. We have partnered with 17 of our Member Clubs to allow new members the opportunity to join one of those 17 clubs via our website at [www.LGAgolf.org](http://www.LGAgolf.org).

Here's how it works: 1) Visit [LGAgolf.org](http://LGAgolf.org) and click on the "Join the LGA" green box in the top right-hand corner of our homepage, 2) Read the information about the benefits and services of membership....you can even access a list of all 105 LGA member clubs if you'd like, 3) Click on the "Join the LGA Now" button. You'll be able to see more information on the 17 available clubs and visit their websites, 4) Click through and complete your application, following the instructions to select one of the participating clubs to join, enter your credit card information, etc.

Cost is \$30 for your first year. In subsequent years you will be required to renew your membership directly with the facility. You'll receive all the benefits of LGA membership, including participation in the LGA Handicap Network and the LGA discount card (entitling you to one free cart fee once a year at 11 Audubon Golf Trail facilities).

If you have questions about this program, don't hesitate to call our offices at 337.265.3938.

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