

New computers placed in network clubs

By **CARR McCALLA**

Before the beginning of 2011, all 100 or so LGA Handicap Network clubs will receive new handicap computer/monitors for their score-posting stations, courtesy of the LGA.

The current touch-screen monitors that have been in clubs since 2005 will be replaced by much more space efficient 19-inch flat-screen computer/monitors. The new equipment will consist of mini-computers attached to point-and-click mouse-managed monitors and while the monitor screens will be significantly larger than the current ones, the new computer/monitors can be housed in a much smaller area.

LGA staff plan on visiting every LGA Handicap Network club to install the new computer/monitors during early to mid-December in anticipation of having all the new equipment operational by the end of the month. The LGA will have invested over \$150,000 in equipment since it began providing computer equipment to LGA Handicap Network participant clubs.

LGA/USGA HANDICAP REVISIONS TO INCREASE BY 100% IN 2011

Beginning with the first handicap revision of 2011, the LGA will change its revision schedule to provide handicap revisions on the first and 15th of each month, in essence increasing the number of revisions to its LGA Handicap Network (LHN) participants by 100 percent, from 12 times per to 24 times per year.

The USGA has mandated a national revision schedule that all state and regional golf associations will be required to follow beginning in 2012 and the LGA has decided to move to that twice-monthly schedule a year early. That means LHN participants will also be able to receive their e-revision twice as often as well. Any LHN participant who has his/her e-mail on file with the LGA receives an email with their recently updated index whenever a new revision occurs. If you're not currently receiving your e-revision, contact the LGA offices at 337.265.3938 so that we can insert your email address into our files.

LOUISIANA GOLF ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES 2011 CHAMPIONSHIPS SCHEDULE

With the completion of another successful Championship season, the Louisiana Golf Association is pleased to announce its 2011 Championships Schedule. The LGA will again host nine Championships starting with the Club Team Championship in late April and finishing with the Senior Four-Ball Championship in mid-September. The season will be headlined by the 92nd Amateur Championship at Oakbourne Country Club in Lafayette. One of the LGA's most popular sites, the Dick Wilson-design will again offer a stern test to the state's

best amateurs. Oakbourne's par-72 track has been listed as one of the top five courses in Louisiana by Golf Digest over the last number of years. English Turn Golf & Country Club in New Orleans, long-time site of the PGA Tour's New Orleans stop will be ready to challenge the best 25 years of age and older players in the 2011 Mid-Amateur Championship. This will be the third consecutive year English Turn has hosted a LGA Championship, also having served as venue for the 2009 Amateur and 2010 Four-Ball Championships.

The year will kick off in late-April with Lakewood Golf Club in New Orleans hosting the Club Team Championship. Ron Garl completely re-designed the Lakewood course in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina and the facility is receiving rave reviews from Louisiana golfers. This extremely popular Ryder Cup event will pit six-person teams from LGA member clubs against each other over two days. Saturday will consist of Four-Ball play concluding with individual stroke play on Sunday.

In May, we will again head to Baton Rouge's Santa Maria Golf Club for the Net Amateur and Net Club Team Championships, the only LGA Championships conducted under a 'net' format. The 2010 event had the largest number of entries ever and it is anticipated that this year's event will continue to show growth. Santa Maria will host this Championship for the fourth consecutive year. After the Amateur at Oakbourne, we head just north of Baton Rouge to Beaver Creek Golf Club in Zachary for the Junior Amateur Championship in early July. Later that month, we trek west for the Four-Ball Championship at Koasati Pines at Coushatta in Kinder, site of the LGA's 2010 Amateur Championship. After the Mid-Amateur in early-August, we conclude the month with the best seniors in the state taking on the newly-renovated University Club course in Baton Rouge. Closed for most of 2010 as Louisiana's own Jim Lipe did a substantial re-design to the course, the University Club has recently re-opened and is also receiving wonderful reviews and will be a venerable test as it hosts this year's Senior Amateur.

The season concludes in mid-September with the Senior Four-Ball Championship as the LGA returns to Money Hill Golf & Country Club on New Orleans' Northshore for the first time since the 2005 Amateur Championship. Qualifiers will again be held for the Amateur and Mid-Amateur Championships. Eight sites around the state will be conducting sectional qualifiers for these championships for those who are not exempt. All LGA Championships are open to members of LGA member clubs.

Carr McCalla is the Executive Director of the Louisiana Golf Association. He can be reached by phone (337.265.3938) or e-mail (cmccalla@lgagolf.org).