

OSWGA
2019 SEASON
25TH SILVER ANNIVERSARY YEAR

PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

This year brings a special anniversary for us to celebrate. OSWGA marks a quarter century of bringing competitive golf events to all female golfers in Rhode Island and the surrounding communities. Much has changed for women golfers in those 25 years, both in terms of equality and access. Hurdles to inclusivity still exist, but great gains have been made, and we here at OSWGA believe that this Association and its members were at the forefront of these changes. Female golfers have more events to choose from than ever before, they have stronger voices and representation at their own clubs, and the game is evolving to widen its appeal to younger fans and continue access for aging players.

As most of you would have heard by now, the USGA has made 2019 a year of multiple changes in the Rules of Golf to assist with this evolution. Their goal is to make the game of golf faster, friendlier and easier to understand. We applaud these changes and will be doing our best to help our members and guests navigate the switch to the new rules. We will be issuing new laminated rule tags, that will be available at our tournaments, for you to carry for quick access to the most common changes. Depending upon demand we will hold a rules clinic(s) in the Spring, and we will have copies of the 2019 Rules book available at our check-in tables. We will also point out at each tournament which members of the Rules Committee are there to answer your questions and help make decisions both before and after each round.

We have a wonderful tournament schedule this year. There will be some new courses, a return to some we have not played for a couple of years, and many of our tried and true favorites. We will be planning some special activities at our Major Tournaments and Green Valley to commemorate our 25th anniversary, so keep a lookout online as we get closer to those events for more information. In addition, though the majority of our tournaments are 4 player events, we acknowledge that members sometimes have difficulty getting a team together, and so we are offering special 2 player divisions whenever space allows in a tournament.

OSWGA has been dedicated to promoting friendly, competitive golf among all women regardless of handicap while fostering an attitude of integrity and equality. We are a non-profit association which allows us to keep our focus on the positive experience of our members and guests. The changes which the last 25 years has brought to the game of golf and the State of Rhode Island have affected us as well. But our mission has not and we hope never will.

I look forward to seeing you all soon.
Pat Dickson, OSWGA President

