

Associations Present:

Bulgaria
GCSAA
Germany
Finland
Portugal

General conversation. In the current Covid crisis, Associations commented numbers of rounds had generally increased, and in some cases dramatically, while greenkeeping resources had fallen slightly. Bulgaria was the exception with courses closed for two months and reopening with very little resources.

Key Point: It was clear that Associations that had existing good two-way relationships with their respective Federation had dealt with the whole situation much better and were far more effective for the game of golf. **FEGGA Action:** work on this with information and support.

Is the FEGGA subscription cost value for money?

- Associations present would certainly be prepared to pay more if they felt that more value was forthcoming in the way of services and tools to help them better serve their members.
- A strong point made was that Associations will only get out of FEGGA membership what they put in.
- It was strongly felt that FEGGA had too little resources for multiple projects

Key Point: a clear list of priorities should be established that everyone understands.

FEGGA Action: Produce a clear Business Plan.

What does FEGGA need to provide to its members in the future?

- Increase the amount of information and direct communication with Associations on relevant matters such as Industry information, events, examples of success on the part of other Associations, Partner and Patron information.
- There was a general acceptance that Associations do not always do a good job of communicating FEGGA to their members and that this was a key point to be improved going forward.
- Suggested projects: Producing templates showing how successful relationships with Golf Federations, Industry bodies and local & national Government could be formed and information flows and exchange created.
- FEGGA to hold a regular (bi-monthly) Open Conference Meeting on an important subject e.g. Covid-19 review (planned for 2nd September), Association presentations on a successful project, Partner Presentations – e.g. from The R&A or EGA, Patron information and presentations.
- Work to build strong communities of Associations to share resources and increase attendances at each-others events.
- Find ways for Associations to promote the Profession – e.g. press-releases, media, PR campaigns.
- Continue to provide opportunities for Associations to ensure individual greenkeepers can participate at major industry events – e.g. The Ryder Cup and Support Teams.
- FEGGA Scholarships, such as Kristianstads, and exchange programmes are appreciated when offered through the appropriate Association.

- **Key Point:** Communications could be improved by each Association having a dedicated “FEGGA Rep” whose job it is to ensure two-way communications exist between FEGGA and the Association and ensure that FEGGA opportunities reach the Association and its members. **FEGGA Action:** Encourage improved communication.

What FEGGA should not be doing?

- Having too big a focus on individual greenkeeper Education, as this should be the job of the Associations.

Key Point: Develop templates for Associations so that they can ensure education for their members.

FEGGA Mission: When asked what the top priority should be for FEGGA going forward, the Associations present agreed that FEGGA should be coaching, encouraging and supporting them to run better Associations.

Action: Create more templates for Associations to use; Increase message-points for Associations to reach Government, and to improve relationships with Federations; FEGGA to improve communications with EGA.

The above is really good stuff and thank you so much for your interaction. We are holding another meeting tomorrow with BIGGA, Sweden, Ireland and the NGA. We will report back to you on that meeting.

In the meantime, if further thoughts occur, please do forward them.

Very best wishes – Paul Worster – on behalf of the FEGGA Board.