As we glide into the holiday season, I wanted to pass along some information about 2026 and planning for 2027.

2026 Summary
We had a successful 2026 year with leagues on Mon/Thur afternoons, Tuesday and Saturday as well as monthly tournaments and two Travel'n Golf Events. We ended the year with 182 total members. We had 36 participants in our spring trip to Sevierville TN and 75 total golfers participate in the Fall Gulf Shores Event.

2027 Planning
Membership Dues
I have started collecting dues for 2027 with the closure of our Fall Travel'n Golf event. Dues remain at $35/yr for BEGA membership. If you use the BEGA handicap system, that is all you owe. If you use GHIN and get your membership through BEGA vs AGA or your local club, you would owe an additional $35. A number of you that had winnings at Gulf Shores have already paid your dues out of your winnings. For the remainder, we can accept Venmo (Lance-Morris-7), Zelle (256-651-8051) or check made out to BEGA and mailed to 166 Stoneway Trl, Madison, AL 35758. Please keep me updated with any address or phone changes as well in the event I need to send you a check at some point during the year.

Travel'n Golf
Spring
We are finalizing a contract to go back to Mesquite NV in May. If you've never been, I highly recommend it. Here is a link to an article which talks about many of the courses we would play and the area in general, https://www.firstcallgolf.com/travel/feature/2026-11-05/why-mesquite-belongs-at-golfs-big-boy-table?utm_source=substack&utm_medium=email . It will be similar to previous years. We will have golf on Tue/Wed/Thur May 11-13. Then we will have an "on your own" day Friday May 14th. There is additional golf in the area for those inclined or some great parks and views in nearby Utah. Then we will golf again Sat/Sun/Mon May 15-17. Look for more information, prices and signup soon.

Fall
As the popularity of golf continues to grow, we've had to get a little creative with our event because of schedule conflicts. In 2027, we will go with a

Saturday to Tuesday for the 4-day vs the traditional Thursday to Sunday, trying to keep it to two workdays for those working. To ease the transition, we will break the 4-day up into two 2-day events. The schedule as it exists currently will be warm up days on Thursday/Friday 11/4-11/5, courses TBD. The rotation will change slightly, playing Gulf Shores Golf Club on Saturday, Craft Farms on Sunday/Monday and finish at Peninsula on Tuesday. We will have a post round event on Wednesday 11/10, course TBD. That takes us right up to Veterans Day on the 11th for those that get holidays off.

League Updates

With support from me, our newest board member Mark Faust will be taking over administration of our Monday afternoon Colonial league. Jay McCluskey was administering the Thursday afternoon Sunset league but has taken another job and will be moving to Kansas City. Discussions are underway for someone else to take over that league and potentially change the format. If you are interested in playing in a weekly league at Sunset and have thoughts about days/times/format/18 vs 9 holes, etc., feel free to pass them along and I will share with those currently discussing the future of a league at Sunset.

I know Linda Brooks asked for feedback and several of you have shared. Our annual board meeting will be Jan/Feb so if you have other thoughts about how to improve our league or boost membership, feel free to share and I will bring them to the board for discussion. The members own the league, we are just the caretakers and administrators.

As frustrating as the game gets sometimes, don't ever lose sight of the number 1 rule, have fun.

Lance