



NEWSLETTER IGFR 3 | JUNE 2020



Dear members and friends of IGFR international,

As promised, we are sending you the next newsletter to keep you informed about current events within our fellowship.

As in many other areas, the Corona Pandemic plays a big and sad role in this. After extensive discussions with the Host Organizing Committee (HOC) in Marrakech, we had to postpone the planned World Championship in November 2020, because the danger from the virus was still considered too high and many of our participants would belong to the at risk group. Fortunately, the local HOC, under the leadership of board member Hakim Tahri, has managed to arrange a new date with the planned golf courses and the recommended hotel, hopefully without the virus playing a serious role. The initially planned dates in March and April 2021 could unfortunately not be realized due to the Easter holidays and the following Ramadan, so that we finally agreed on May 15th - 22nd, a season in which very pleasant weather can be expected in Morocco. I ask all members and friends to make a note of this new date. Those who have already registered for November will be contacted by the local HOC about possible alternatives.

The World Championship for 2021 was originally planned for Asheville, North Carolina, USA. Due to the special legal requirements in the USA combined with the fact that this country is particularly affected by the pandemic, the board has agreed at the request of the organizers to cancel the event. In the current environment, it is understandable that all possible organizers of such a large event currently have certain reservations, so that the Board of Directors will have to deal with the determination of future event locations. The result of these considerations will be communicated to you as soon as possible.

The meetings of the board are also considerably more difficult due to the international nature of the board, the travel and contact restrictions. The Board of Directors (Designate) has adopted monthly ZOOM conference calls to discuss the further development of IGFR international and implement the guidelines of the independent committee. The monthly board meetings are assigned to special topic blocks, the discussion and results of which we will report on promptly in newsletters. Finally, all proposals of the board will be discussed and voted on at the next Annual General Meeting (AGM).

New Website & Organization Management Program:

Our first focus was to develop a new website/system to enhance the operation of the IGFR-International and to reduce IT costs to the organization. It was important to find the right system to support our membership management, on-line email capability, to be able to update information on the system as it changes and manage our events with an on-line payment system. I can now report that this has been completed in an exemplary manner by our acting General Secretary, Lynn Lewis and her husband Ken Lewis.

The new website and systems went live in June at [IGFR-International.com](https://www.igfr-international.com). On the website, you can obtain information on the IGFR-International World Championship and the World Rotarian Golfing Network. As a Rotarian you are welcome to register for any of these tournaments. International tournaments are posted for Europe, Australia and the USA/Canada. To expand our global network, we are currently building a relationship with South Asia (SAGFR) and Latin America. While COVID-19 has put a damper on these championships this year, we are all looking forward to next year.

The new system also provides a member management/contact system and an event management system. These two functions will allow us to communicate more frequently, build our membership and assist the Rotary Host Organizing Committee with marketing upcoming World Championships.

As a member of IGFR-International you are able to log on to the system and view or edit your personal information. You can even upload your picture into your profile. This is a great way to keep your email up-to-date so that you do not miss any of our newsletters.

Your password used in the old website will change with the new website. To obtain your new password go to the membership tab (Update your information) and input your email address and select the forgot my password. The system will send you a new password to use on the new system. Please take a moment to test this out. Once you logged in as a member you can change your password to something you will remember. If you have any difficulty getting your new password, please contact Lynn Lewis, Acting General Secretary.

Also as a member, you can access the Members Only section. We currently have 739 Lifetime Members on our system. We look forward to adding some exciting things to this area in the future.

We also have 284 contacts in our system. Contacts are Rotarians who are not quite ready to become a Lifetime member, but are interested in receiving our emails. Encourage your Rotarian golfing friends to sign up for our newsletter. We hope that they will become Lifetime Members and participate in our World Championship in the future.

We are also pleased that TD is our first sponsor for the new website for 2020 and 2021. TD is a Canadian firm that provides banking, insurance and the wealth management business. We will be looking for more sponsors as we go forward. Please contact us if you know of a sponsor or would like to be on the sponsorship committee.

As you can see, important tasks still lie ahead of us. Despite the current adversities, I am convinced that together we will succeed in presenting IGFR international within Rotary international as what we all wish for, namely a wonderful fellowship with a passion for golf.

Upcoming Events

15 May 2021 - 57th IGFR World Championship - Marrakesh

16 May 2021 - 43rd Australian GFR - Maroochydore

26 Jul 2021 - 46th European Rotary Golf Open Championship - Vierumaki

03 Oct 2021 - US-Canada Golf Open Championship - Niagara-on-the-Lake

With best Rotary greetings



Prof. Dr. Friedhelm E. Zanella

President, IGFR-International

president@igfr-international.com

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