## 2023 GOLF MARKET SUMMARY

## Dear Golf Industry Friends:

Golf Property Analysts invites you to review our 2023 Market Summary. This report summarizes observations we've made surveying numerous golf courses and clubs and sales transactions during our consulting, appraisal and brokerage activities.

With golf markets, like in politics, it's all "local", so beware of using broad averages and surveys when making decisions on specific properties in specific markets.

Since our surveys were done in 2022, we have YE 2021 data for most points and 2022 for some. Our private club analysis shows trends from a 5 -year period at specific clubs through YE 2022. Due to the COVID pandemic, golf had another interesting year in 2022. We hope to use that data to better understand market dynamics going forward.

We hope you find the information useful and look forward to being of service to you during the coming year.

Thank you,
Darry Jtirsh
Laurence A. Hirsh, CRE, MAI, SGA
President

## Key Statistics

## Rounds Dropped 3.7\% Nationally in 2022

By the end of 2022 , the overall year-over--ear drop in rounds was the third-highest in the past 20 years - down almost $4 \%$ from the record-seting year of 2021 . Through October, play had been down $2.4 \%$, but the final two months of the year saw notable rounds drops due
over the past two decades were in 2013 and 2018 .


ROUNDS BY MONTH
Total volume (in millions) vs 2019 and 2021

Often, the number of rounds played is the first question asked on how a golf course is performing. It's important to understand how rounds are calculated. To many, a round is defined as 18-holes. It's been my experience that most courses count rounds based on "starts". In other words, the number of rounds recorded is typically the number of players that teed off. Whether they play 9-holes, 12holes or some number other than 18, it's still counted by most courses as a round.

According to Golf Datatech and National Golf Foundation, as of YE 2022, rounds played in 2022 decreased from 2021 by $3.7 \%$. That is significant since 2020 experienced a 14\% and 2021 experienced a smaller, but significant increase of approximately $4 \%$.

Our surveys of nearly 900 daily-fee and municipal facilities in states from 2015 into 2023 shows an average of 31,678 rounds per year per 18-holes, and a median of 30,007 . We feel the seven-year snapshot is more telling than one year, when the numbers may be overly affected by weather, and in the case of 2020,2021 \& 2022 are impacted by the COVID pandemic. We still don't know how sustainable that surge is, but given the decreases in both 2021 and 2022, it appears the surge is correcting. When both the mean and median are similar, this demonstrates a level of credibility in the data from which general overall market conclusions can be formulated.. It is important to note that conclusions in specific markets may vary from these broader averages, which cannot be used precisely to develop conclusions for specific properties.

The chart on the following slide illustrates an analysis of rounds and revenues per round from our surveys.

| Survey Year | Avg Rounds | Median Rounds | Avg GR | Median GR | Avg <br> Gross <br> Rev per <br> Round | Median Gross Rev per Round |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2012 | 29,967 | 29,000 | \$1,735,353 | \$1,300,000 | \$52.62 | \$42.39 |
| 2013 | 33,966 | 32,000 | \$1,818,439 | \$1,463,002 | \$47.49 | \$42.80 |
| 2014 | 32,928 | 31,516 | \$1,601,117 | \$1,356,223 | \$44.84 | \$38.67 |
| 2015 | 37,266 | 36,429 | \$2,371,809 | \$1,477,682 | \$61.87 | \$44.98 |
| 2016 | 34,034 | 32,757 | \$1,878,353 | \$1,423,632 | \$57.66 | \$43.63 |
| 2017 | 33,951 | 31,370 | \$1,754,482 | \$1,536,674 | \$59.80 | \$46.53 |
| 2018 | 29,312 | 26,840 | \$1,936,131 | \$1,522,135 | \$78.47 | \$55.85 |
| 2019 | 28,161 | 29,000 | \$1,405,320 | \$1,444,264 | \$48.37 | \$37.27 |
| 2020 | 31,168 | 30,500 | \$2,119,861 | \$1,611,307 | \$73.31 | \$53.91 |
| 2021 | 35,166 | 30,438 | \$1,846,759 | \$1,483,081 | \$51.46 | \$42.61 |
| 2022 | 32,509 | 30,504 | \$2,533,890 | \$2,344,278 | \$83.38 | \$65.20 |




The graphs illustrate gross revenue metric for daily-fee facilities we surveyed in 2022 (2021 \#'s) and the distribution of selected ranges. The majority of courses (58\%) surveyed generate between $\$ 1$ million and $\$ 3$ million in gross revenues.

DF ROUNDS per 18 HOLES DISTRIBUTION
DF GROSS REVENUE DISTRUBUTION


Analyzing activity at private clubs requires a bit of a different approach, analyzing on a "per member" basis rather than a "per round" basis. Since private clubs depend on membership dues, and since the impact of COVID is unique to recent years, we've decided to analyze private clubs with which we had direct experience in 2022 and for which we had historical data for the past 5 years, including 2022, with some results projected. Comparing the performance of the same clubs to each other for that period should indicate how the market has reacted. Graphs follow.

The data from specific clubs is not able to be shared but indicates the following:

- Increases in membership
- Increases in Rounds Played over the period, but mixed in 2022
- Relatively Steady rounds per membership, but slightly declining
- Increasing Maintenance Budgets
- Increasing Gross Revenues and Increasing Revenue per Member


|  | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Golf Mbrs |  |  |  |  |  | Tot. Mbrs |  |  |  |  | Rounds |  |  |  |  | Rds./ Mbr. |  |  |  |  |
| Average | 287 | 316 | 324 | 361 | 511 | 477 | 506 | 516 | 563 | 838 | 15,792 | 17,294 | 21,263 | 22,604 | 29,617 | 77.16 | 67.48 | 76.71 | 73.59 | 71.31 |
| Median | 251 | 244 | 245 | 300 | 395 | 408 | 423 | 423 | 461 | 660 | 14,976 | 15,164 | 16,952 | 18,175 | 27,000 | 56.94 | 59.67 | 68.82 | 64.65 | 66.00 |
| Minimur | 95 | 99 | 117 | 136 | 125 | 237 | 202 | 219 | 250 | 165 | 7,700 | 7,844 | 6,953 | 1,100 | 4,500 | 19.92 | 17.55 | 20.49 | 2.42 | 12.00 |
| Maximun | 602 | 800 | 800 | 839 | 2,188 | 1,241 | 1,256 | 1,255 | 1,249 | 3,300 | 39,307 | 49,979 | 53,844 | 56,000 | 66,500 | 389.18 | 202.26 | 263.94 | 257.35 | 193.00 |


| 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Gross Rev. |  |  |  |  | Rev/Mbr. |  |  |  |  |
| \$5,936,029 | \$6,284,794 | \$6,038,771 | \$7,913,636 | \$13,126,181 | \$14,260 | \$14,263 | \$13,030 | \$14,424 | \$15,361 |
| \$4,909,050 | \$5,725,878 | \$4,480,915 | \$5,724,438 | \$10,285,142 | \$10,164 | \$11,048 | \$10,048 | \$11,825 | \$23,000 |
| \$1,944,071 | \$1,888,666 | \$2,092,025 | \$2,430,250 | \$1,546,591 | \$5,959 | \$6,370 | \$3,502 | \$3,967 | \$4,500 |
| \$15,062,242 | \$17,199,217 | \$17,671,262 | \$23,392,700 | \$54,000,000 | \$35,686 | \$37,939 | \$36,038 | \$32,452 | \$48,000 |

Private club membership is considered generally healthy with an increasing trend during the past 5 years. Many club report waiting lists and limited membership turnover.

memers have increased their golf activity from about 56-71 rounds per membership in 2013 to approximately $66-71$ in 2022. Membership has also increased at most clubs. Time will tell if this trend continues.

## 2022 PR Rounds \& Rds per 18 holes




GOLF MEMBERSHIP


ROUNDS per MEMBER


- Avg \# of Golf Members Median \# of Golf Members $\simeq$ Avg. Members per 18 holes
Gross Annual Revenue

Revenues at private clubs saw significant increases both on the club level and on total spending per member, as shown.

Private



Private club golf course maintenance on a per round basis has declined as a result of the increased number of rounds played, despite climbing maintenance costs overall.


Developing operating expense guidelines is more challenging than other metrics. Since many facilities (both private and daily-fee) are not stabilized, and in some cases cash flow negative, and many courses have wide variances in their operations, such as large or small food \& beverage, banquet facilities and different size pro shop operations the data doesn't allow the development of meaningful trends in operating expense ratios.

It is critical in estimating operating expenses to be site and line-item specific. That said, in some cases benchmarking operating expense ratios from those properties that are stabilized can be helpful.

Generally, we observe stabilized, private, not-for-profit clubs stabilizing at near $100 \%$ of gross revenues for operating expenses. For-profit clubs generally stabilize in the mid to upper 80\%'s while daily-fee facilities can stabilize over a wide range of operating expense percentages.
There are several sources for operating expense studies. We find it best to combine an analysis of a specific property's historical expenses with those clubs considered competitive and stabilized to develop an accurate pro-forma.

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We have identified more than 2,700 golf property sales in our database from 2012 through 2022 and compiled statistics from these sales. Overall, these sales indicated the following:

Further analysis on a year-by-year basis as shown in the adjacent chart shows both upward and downward movement in the averages, but more than anything else, stability, with GIM's ranging from 1.22 to 1.77 on average for the period with minor fluctuations.

Not surprisingly 2021 sales show the highest multiples of the period, with 2020 the lowest.

| SALE PRICE |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| YEAR | AVERAGE | MEDIAN | MINIMUM | MAXIMUM |
| 2012 | \$2,999,367 | \$2,300,000 | \$68,000 | \$14,200,000 |
| 2013 | \$3,595,955 | \$2,329,000 | \$354,834 | \$21,500,000 |
| 2014 | \$4,398,503 | \$2,515,514 | \$154,195 | \$23,000,000 |
| 2015 | \$3,688,528 | \$2,310,000 | \$160,000 | \$21,000,000 |
| 2016 | \$3,328,012 | \$2,560,000 | \$500,000 | \$10,500,000 |
| 2017 | \$3,499,195 | \$2,312,500 | \$134,000 | \$24,000,000 |
| 2018 | \$4,688,632 | \$2,832,000 | \$985,000 | \$20,000,000 |
| 2019 | \$3,900,961 | \$3,100,000 | \$400,000 | \$8,308,653 |
| 2020 | \$3,824,136 | \$2,030,875 | \$364,268 | \$29,800,000 |
| 2021 | \$10,348,944 | \$2,600,000 | \$275,000 | \$362,000,000 |
| 2022 | \$5,081,478 | \$3,985,000 | \$375,750 | \$20,000,000 |
| GIM |  |  |  |  |
| YEAR | AVERAGE | MEDIAN | MINIMUM | MAXIMUM |
| 2012 | 1.27 | 1.16 | 60.06 | 3.13 |
| 2013 | 1.45 | 1.21 | - 0.01 | 3.71 |
| 2014 | 1.53 | 1.28 | - 0.42 | 6.41 |
| 2015 | 1.53 | 1.21 | 10.43 | 12.67 |
| 2016 | 1.41 | 1.13 | $3 \quad 0.60$ | 5.11 |
| 2017 | 1.61 | 1.12 | 20.60 | 7.41 |
| 2018 | 1.56 | 1.43 | 30.70 | 3.00 |
| 2019 | 1.36 | 1.45 | - 0.89 | 1.66 |
| 2020 | 1.22 | 0.96 | - 0.67 | 2.74 |
| 2021 | 1.49 | 1.15 | - 0.58 | 4.61 |
| 2022 | 1.28 | 1.16 | -0.47 | 3.72 |


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Cap Rates


## Cap Rates



The SGA tracked available debt financing for golf projects through 2018. Data since is from RealtyRates.com. As shown in the adjacent graphs average loan to value (LTV) ratios have hovered in the 60-70\% range for the past 10 years. While interest rates have ranged generally from $4 \%$ to $10 \%$, averaging between $7 \%$ and $9 \%$. The reason for this wide range is that many loans are based on the borrower's strength rather than the collateral value. It is not unusual for a strong borrower with a banking relationship to acquire financing more consistent with traditional investment property rates.
Golf property debt financing is still considered difficult but for cash flowing properties is available through a variety of sources, including commercial banks, secondary specialty lenders and private sources.


Mtg. Interest Rates



## Selected Assignments

Army Navy Country Club (VA)
Metedeconk National GC (NJ)

- Mid Pines/Pine Needles (NC)
- Mountain Ridge CC (NJ)
- Myopia Hunt Club (MA)
- Myopia Hunt Club (MA)
- Newcastle GC (WA)
- Oakhurst Links (WV)
- Old Collier GC (FL)
- Pete Dye GC (WV
- Palm Aire CC (FL)
- Palm Desert CC (CA)
- Peninsula Club (DE)
- Philadelphia Cricket Club (PA)
- Pocono Manor GC (PA)
- Refuge G \& CC (AZ)
- Reunion Resort (FL)
- The Ridge at Back Brook (NJ)
- Ritz Carlton Club Jupiter (FL) - Roaring Fork Club (CO)
- Shark's Tooth GC (FL)
- Shooting Star Club (WY)
- Sleepy Hollow CC (NY)
- The Club at Cordillera (CO)
- The Governors Club (TN)
- Latrobe CC (PA)

MacArthur GC (FL)

- The Legends Club (SC)
- The Silverleaf Club (AZ)
- The Virginian Club (VA)
- The Woodlands (MI)
- TPC Wakefield Plantation (NC)
- TPC Michigan (MI)
- TPC Piper Glen (NC)
- TOC Stonebrae (CA)
- Treyburn CC (NC)
- Trump National GC Bedminster (NJ

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- Trump National GC Westchester (NY)
- Turnberry Isle Yacht club (FL)
- Vellano CC (CA)
- Victoria National GC (IN)
- Washington National GC (WA)
- Washington G \& CC (VA)
- Westchester CC (NY)
- Whistling Straits GC (WI)
- White Clay Creek GC (DE)
- Wilmington CC (DE)
- Windemere CC (FL)
- Winged Foot GC (NY)
- Woodmoor Pines G \& CC (CO)

Click Here for an Expanded Assignment Listing

Golf Property Analysts brings a unique and focused perspective to the golf and private club industries. Specializing in economic strategies, advisory, consulting, appraisal, value maximization and brokerage for golf and club properties, we are uniquely qualified to assist clubs with:

- Real Estate Tax Assessment Management
- Market Analysis and Market Positioning
- Operational Review
- Economic Analysis of Renovations
- Facilities Analysis
- Debt Financing Analysis
- Valuation
- Property Acquisition and Disposition

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Larry Hirsh, CRE, MAI, SGA Golf Property Analysts President
(610) 397-1818 Work (117) $648-4653$ Mobile (484) $380-3048$ Home 925 Fayette Street Conshohocken, PA 19428

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