

## Golf Marketing Trend

 Watch 4Q 2015:Presented November 4, 2015 by Jon Last, President Sports \& Leisure Research Group


## Golf Marketing Trend Watch: 4Q 2015

## IS THE SKY REALLY FALLING?



## Golf Marketing Trend Watch: 4Q 2015



## Golf Marketing Trend Watch: 4Q 2015

## IS THE SKY REALLY FALLING?

+2\% Participation Growth!


## Golf Marketing Trend Watch: 4Q 2015

Behavioral Segmentation: A New Way to Identify the Golfers of Greatest Value to the Industry, Today

- Driven by Commitment, Spending Levels and Avidity


Golf's Most Coveted Audience: 30\% of the Adult Male Market

- Plays two-thirds of all rounds
- Outspends all other golfers $\$ 3$ to $\$ 1$ on:
- Playing fees
- Golf equipment
- Golf related travel


## Golf Marketing Trend Watch: 4Q 2015

## But Recent Participation Flatness Has Us Jumpy...

Do you expect to/Did you actually play the same amount or more in...?

- Expected © Actual


Do you expect to spend the same amount or more next year?


Directional evidence that 2015 has seen modest growth in both spending and participation

## Golf Marketing Trend Watch: 4Q 2015

## Actual 2015 Results Seem To Be In Line With What Golfers Told Us In January

Q
Overall, compared to 2014 do you expect that your 2015 total golf related spending for equipment and apparel will be...?


SPORTS\&
7 LEISURE
RESEARCH GROUP

## Golf Marketing Trend Watch: 4Q 2015

Understanding Market Trends
Can Optimize Facility Success In A Fierce Battle For Share Of Customer


SPORTS\&
LEISURE
RESEARCH GROUP

## Golf Marketing Trend Watch: 4Q 2015

## Golf Market Watch: <br> Trends For Market Success



SPORTS8
LEISURE
RESEARCH GROUP

## Golf Marketing Trend Watch: 4Q 2015

## 1. Understand How to Tip The Attractor/Detractor Scale In Your Favor



## Golf Marketing Trend Watch: 4Q 2015

## 2. Go Beyond Golf's Two Crutches and Provide Consistent Value

| Crutch \#1 | They Say | $\begin{array}{l}\text { They Mean }\end{array}$ | Issues |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| "Golf is too |  |  |  |
| expensive" |  |  |  | \(\left.\begin{array}{l}"l'm not getting value out of my <br>

experience" <br>
"I spend on lessons \& equipment <br>
but I don't get better"\end{array} \quad $$
\begin{array}{l}\text { Customer service; Pace } \\
\text { of play; Conditions }\end{array}
$$\right]\)

## Put the Guarantee Back in Golf

## Golf Marketing Trend Watch: 4Q 2015

## 2. Go Beyond Golf's Two Crutches and Provide Consistent Value

Let's Make a Deal! Drive value perceptions with unique and exceptional experiences

- Good value doesn't mean yield degradation



## Golf Marketing Trend Watch: 4Q 2015

## 3. Embrace Family-Centric and Multi-Generational Marketing



Why Golfers Are Playing More


My family is more involved in golf

Why Golfers Are Playing Less


Family/Children Responsibilities

- 2010 ■ 2011 - 2012 ■ 2013
- A Most Child-Centric Focus: Club Memberships are No Longer Mutually Exclusive
- The Sandwich Generation Comes of Age
- Multi-Generational Travel: The Delight of Having the Best of Both Vacation Types

SPORTS\&
LEISURE
RESEARCH GROUP

## Golf Marketing Trend Watch: 4Q 2015

4. What about Those Millennials?

- Entry Ramps---Yes
- Goofy Golf and Trying Too Hard---No



## Golf Marketing Trend Watch: 4Q 2015

## 4. What about Those Millennials?



Key observations from younger players-Age 30 and under:

- Both men and women tend to be more fashion and image conscious than their older cohorts.
- They are more apt to engage in new media, particularly for purchase transactions.
- They perceive themselves to be more innovation seeking and self-indulgent.
- They appreciate the opportunities present in social and business golf.
- They are generally less apt to consider golf to be their favorite sport... Thus, they pose a potentially greater attrition risk


## Golf Marketing Trend Watch: 4Q 2015

## 4. What about Those Millennials?

## MALE GOLFERS < 30 Yrs. Golfing And Lifestyle Attitudes

Attitudinally, younger men are less passionate about golf, but more willing to spend on green fees, golf merchandise and lessons


## MORE LIKELY than Older Golfers to say...

- I usually play golf with members of my family
- I often order golf equipment through catalogs or online
- If I see something I like, I don't worry about the price
- It is important to me to wear fashionable golf apparel
- I'm usually the first among my friends to try new golf equipment
- Golf equipment and merchandise at golf course pro shops are competitively priced
- I will take at least one lesson from a PGA Professional this year


## Golf Marketing Trend Watch: 4Q 2015

## 4. What about Those Millennials?

- Boomers and Millennials aren't as different as some might lead you to believe!

MMediaPost
MARKEIIIC:
From The 'Me' Generation To
The 'Pay Attention to Me'
Generation
Gymunalourso

- comenex

Last month in this space, I spoke to a need for sports marketers to think about multi-generational approaches in their brand development and communications strategies. Noting that the sheer size of Boomers and Millennials have created an almost singular focus on these twoo generations, at vastly different life stages, I crew parallels across thern, culled from some of our reeent fan and consumer rescarch. Subsequently, in framing emains for a tatent conterence prisentation ive thouglr further

## AS YOUNG ADULTS

## Boomers

Individualistic self expression through civil disobedience
"Don't work for 'the man'"
The power of community

## Millennials

Individualistic self expression through social media sharing and citizen journalism
Frustration with "under-employment", "I should be running the company by the time I'm 35"

The power of community

## Millennials

Similar generational values=???

Self actualization through collection of experiences and a redefinition of retirement

Golf as a manifestation of community

## Golf Marketing Trend Watch: 4Q 2015

## 4. What about Those Millennials?



## GENERATION NEXT

He's a millennial who has made a commitment to golf. On an upward career trajectory, he appreciates golf's traditions and values as well as what it can do to advance his career and social network.

Chris is yet to hit age 30, but is on the fast track. Despite falling short of "avid" golfer status, he approaches the game seriously, seeks an "authentic" golf experience, spends accordingly, and is hooked on the sport.

Chris is increasing his play and looks forward to even more golf when he has the time. He's competitive and focused on success.

Having grown up in a digital world, he seeks an abundance of golf content across multiple media platforms, with a particular affinity for video, while still valuing first tier media.

Estimated Market Size: 475,000 men

He is...

| Average Age | 29 |
| ---: | :---: |
| Retired | - |
| Professional/Executive | $73 \%$ |
| Owner/Partner/C-Titles | $24 \%$ |
| Average Annual Rounds | 21 |
| Average Handicap | 16 |
| Private Club Member | $50 \%$ |
| Median HHI | $\$ 87,000$ |
| Avg Spent on Last Driver | $\$ 364$ |

Key Attitudes About Golf
(Strong Agreement)

I respect the rules of of

golf \begin{tabular}{c}
I look forward to <br>
playing more when I <br>
have more time and <br>
disposable income

$\quad$

I follow the rules of I value the history and <br>
golf <br>
traditions of the game honesty of golf are <br>
of golf <br>
important aspects of <br>
the game that I value
\end{tabular}

+Denotes INDEX vs Total Golf Market
INDEX ${ }^{+}$

Median Planned Golf Equipment Spending Over the Next Twelve Months \$400

## Golf Marketing Trend Watch: 4Q 2015

## 5. When Will We Truly Embrace Women?

SLRG Women's Golf Research Reveals Three Over Arching Conclusions

- For the golf experience to be perceived as worth both the time and money, it must satisfy women's needs on three key dimensions:

It must be an enjoyable social occasion

It should leave them with a sense of accomplishment

It should not be fraught with unnecessary physical and emotional stress

## Golf Marketing Trend Watch: 4Q 2015

## 5. When Will We Truly Embrace Women?

## What is the "recipe" for success in attracting and retaining women golfers?

Our analysis suggests that facilities can enhance women's perceived value of a round of golf by addressing three fundamental issues.

## Step 1 - Eliminate extraneous physical and emotional stressors

- Provide ample restroom facilities throughout the course
- Ensure there is sufficient drinking water available, as well as healthy food options
- Provide ample directional signage, as well as additional navigational aids (maps, GPS) in carts if possible
- Ensure there is a well-designed and appointed ladies' locker room; particularly if one exists for men.
- Seek opportunities to streamline the tee-time booking process


## Step 2 - Reduce frustration with the game itself

- Keep course well-maintained. Aesthetics are important.
- Re-evaluate tee box placements, so that more women can reach green in regulation
- Provide more short holes
- Offer 9-hole play and/or other flex pricing

Step 3 - Enhance the "social" aspects for women (especially appealing to Lapsed Golfers)

- Increase potential playing partners by offering women's golf leagues
- Provide more "off-the-course" or clubhouse social opportunities, such as a sit-down restaurant, special interest events and after hours "socials."


## Golf Marketing Trend Watch: 4Q 2015

## 6. Boomer Values Meet New Definitions For Retirement

## Zooming Ahead...



## Golf Marketing Trend Watch: 4Q 2015

6. Boomer Values Meet New Definitions For Retirement

## In Contrast with: Cocooning



In times of uncertainty and distress, comes a desire to stay in comfort zones:

- Home based and family activities
- Embracing tightly defined communities
- Gravitation towards familiar and trusted brands


## Golf Marketing Trend Watch: 4Q 2015

## 6. Boomer Values Meet New Definitions for Retirement

## Implications for Marketers

ZOOMING AHEAD vs. COCOONING:
MEETING IN THE MIDDLE

- Become part of the community

- Be authentic and relevant
- Structured "Experiences Light"


## Golf Marketing Trend Watch: 4Q 2015

## 7. The Private Club of the Future-Adapting To New Realities

- Continued push towards a younger membership, while discounting falls out of favor...When will women's program's come to the forefront?

TOP 3 BOX AGREEMENT


## Golf Marketing Trend Watch: 4Q 2015

## 7. The Private Club of the Future-Adapting To New Realities

The worst appears behind us
TOP 3 BOX AGREEMENT


Mean: 10 point scale
Base: National Sample of Private Club Members


## Golf Marketing Trend Watch: 4Q 2015

## 7. The Private Club of the Future—Adapting To New Realities

## A Closer Look at Critical Success Factors for Clubs Looking to Enhance Member Services



## Golf Marketing Trend Watch: 4Q 2015

7. The Private Club of the Future—Adapting To New Realities

More New Paradigms for the Golf Club/Facility of the Future


- Personal Concierges
- Portability
- Social Spaces
- The Health Club Model
- Family Programming
- Create the ultimate Community -Literally and Figuratively


## Golf Marketing Trend Watch: 4Q 2015

## 7. The Private Club of the Future—Adapting To New Realities

And It's Starting to Reap Dividends


## Golf Marketing Trend Watch: 4Q 2015

8. It's About Customization and Personal Touches


SPORTS\&

## Golf Marketing Trend Watch: 4Q 2015

## 9. Building a Brand Community Through Golf

## What is a Brand Community?

- A specialized community, based on a structured set of social relations among admirers of a brand.
- Basic elements must exist to form a community
$\checkmark$ Consciousness of kind - we, not me mentality
$\checkmark$ Shared rituals and traditions - common culture
$\checkmark$ Sense of moral responsibility - obligation to each other
- Marketers play a vital role in establishing the basic elements


## Golf Marketing Trend Watch: 4Q 2015

## 9. Building a Brand Community Through Golf

## Marketers Are Building Brand Communities By:

- Providing long-term context for relationships to develop
- Creating opportunities for customers to experience the brands unrealized potential
- Recognizing loyal customers by providing incentives and rewards
- Fostering positive relationships with the customer, the brand, the company and other stakeholders including marketing partners


## Golf Marketing Trend Watch: 4Q 2015

## 9. Building a Brand Community Through Golf

## Consumers Engage Brand Communities By:

- Participating in events
- Serving as brand evangelists - carrying the marketing message into other communities - resulting in new customer leads
- Constituting a strong market for licensed products and brand extensions


10. Deliver a 2C2R Experience

## LOYALTY MARKETING FOUNDATIONS



SPORTS\&
33 LEISURE
RESEARCH GROUP

## Golf Marketing Trend Watch: 4Q 2015

## 11. Database Mining for Customer Insights

RFM Analysis Melds with Cutting Edge
Concept Testing Research


Monetary
Low

## Golf Marketing Trend Watch: 4Q 2015

## 12. Media Proliferation: More is More

## MEDIA'S NEW INFLECTION POINT:

11
With the proliferation of new media-those most engaged see new media as additive rather than as replacements for traditional, trusted sources.

## MARKEINEsports

In fact, it appears to have FUELED the consumption level of sports fans.


## Golf Marketing Trend Watch: 4Q 2015

## Media Proliferation: How Golfers are Consuming Media

## VORACIOUS.

Golfers are increasing their usage of all media channels to enhance their golf experience, and television, print and websites are most prevalent.

## ADDITIVE.

In a fragmented environment, new media channels have seen slow but steady adoption. However, new media consumption isn't coming at the expense of traditional media.

## DIFFERENT.

Golfers prioritize their media for golf in different ways than they do for other sports.

## DIVERSE.

Cross platform usage patterns show golfers perceiving different media having unique strengths across various content areas.

## ENGAGEMENT.

Print golf media shows particular strength in delivering content in an undistracted environment, while heavy DVR usage and multi-tasking behaviors create a conundrum for television advertisers.

## Golf Marketing Trend Watch: 4Q 2015

## In Summary: A Dozen Take-Aways To Optimize Your Golf Marketing



1 Understand How to Tip The Attractor/Detractor Scale In Your Favor
2 Go Beyond Golf's Two Crutches and Provide Consistent Value
3 Embrace Family-Centric and Multi-Generational Marketing
4 What about Those Millennials?
5 When Will we Truly Embrace Women?
6 Boomer Values Meet New Definitions For Retirement
7 The Private Club of The Future—Adapting To New Realities
8 It's About Customization and Personal Touches
9 Building a Brand Community Through Golf
10 Deliver a 2C2R Experience
11 Database Mining for Customer Insights
12 Media Proliferation: More is More


## Golf Marketing Trend

 Watch 4Q 2015:Presented November 4, 2015 by Jon Last, President Sports \& Leisure Research Group


