



PGA™

November 27, 2012

Mr. Glen Nager
President

Mr. Mike Davis
Executive Director

United States Golf Association
77 Liberty Corner Road
Far Hills, NJ 07931

Dear Glen and Mike:

We wanted to thank you for your time last week and let you know that we truly appreciated our discussions regarding the USGA's potential ban regarding the anchoring of a golf club. It is always advantageous to be in close contact on issues that impact the game our organizations love and serve.

We at The PGA of America certainly understand and respect the critical role the USGA plays in writing and interpreting the Rules of Golf. The USGA has been charged with that fundamental responsibility since its founding in 1894 and we believe it is imperative that the game's key entities support the USGA in connection with its action concerning the Rules and apply and adopt those Rules that preserve and protect the game.

However, as an Association that serves and represents 27,000 PGA Professionals and exists, in large part, to promote the game and contribute to its growth, we feel compelled to inform you that we are concerned about the impact a ban on anchoring a golf club could have on participation now and in the future.

As you are aware from our recent telephone conversations, we conducted a poll last week of our PGA members. The participation rate was extremely high (roughly 16%, or 4,228 of our membership) which illustrates the importance of this particular issue. Nearly two thirds (63%) of the respondents indicated that they do not favor a ban. The reasons were varied but consistent themes regarding the negative impact a ban could have on both the growth and enjoyment of the game became readily apparent.

We believe that golf is the greatest of all games. We also believe that we need to continue to do what is necessary to preserve all that makes it unique and, consistent with our mission, take actions to grow the game. Therefore, as you near decisions regarding a potential ban on anchoring, we wanted to be sure that you were aware of the polling results as our PGA members are truly the tangible connection between the game and its participants.

As Mike mentioned in his presentation to us at our PGA Annual Meeting in Baltimore earlier this month, there does not appear to be any data that suggests that anchoring a golf club results in an unfair competitive advantage. In the absence of such data and based on the polling of our PGA members and all of the exciting progress the industry has made through Golf 2.0 and other related initiatives to make the game more fun and, quite frankly, more enjoyable and welcoming to a broader and more diverse audience, we respectfully ask you to consider our concerns.

We look forward to continuing these conversations with you and, as always, thank you for all that you do for the game.

Very truly yours,

Ted Bishop, PGA
President