# Financial and Lifestyle Issues and Trends for Clubs

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### Learning Objectives



- Identify current trends in the economy and the nation that will impact clubs
- Better understand the emerging trends most likely to impact the operations of a club in the coming years
- Become familiar with the factors affecting current operating costs, income and club operations
- Understand the correlation between trends in club membership, demographics and member needs

#### Forces at Work



- Challenges for Private Clubs well documented prior to Great Recession
- Forces at work include:
  - Older and More Diverse Population
  - New Household Composition
  - Decline in Corporate Support for Memberships
  - Changing Lifestyles
  - Preference for Casual Dining and Socializing
  - Increased Competition

### Consumer Sentiment - US



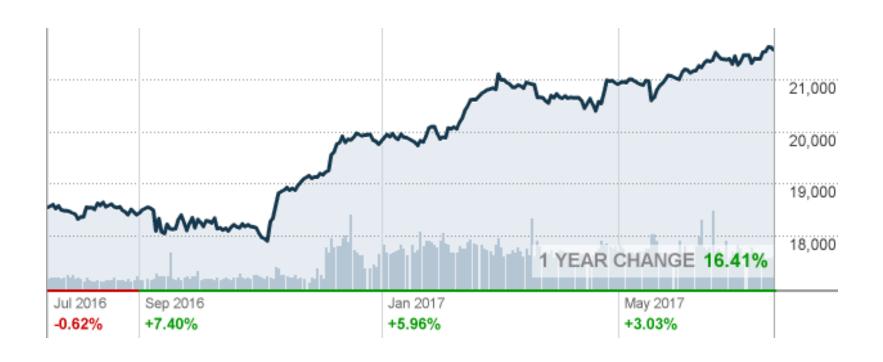
#### US CONSUMER SENTIMENT



SOURCE: TRADINGECONOMICS.COM | UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

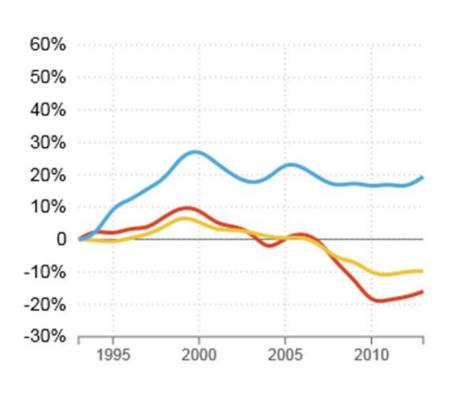
#### Dow Jones





### "Haves" and "Have Nots"

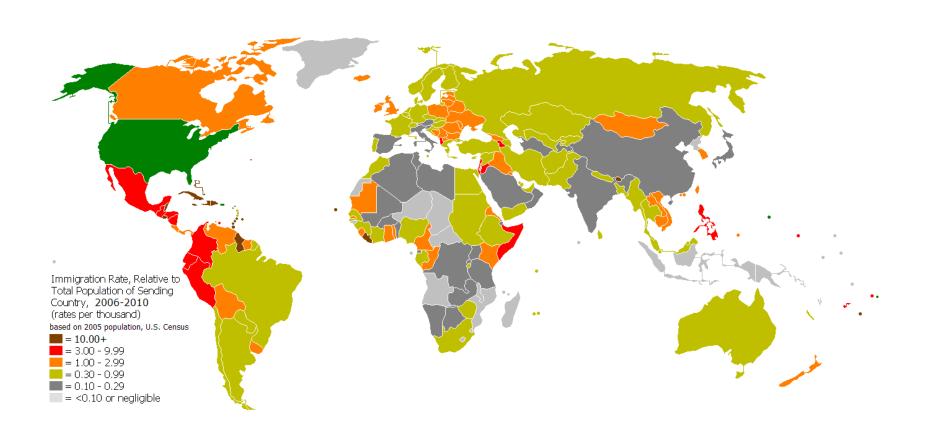




- Age 45-55
  - 20<sup>th</sup> percentile red
  - 50<sup>th</sup> percentile –
     yellow
  - 95<sup>th</sup> percentile blue
- Principle joining age
- Increased differential at higher levels

## U.S. Immigration









- Reduce rate from 35% to 15%
- Eliminate Corporate AMT
- Most corporate tax expenditures eliminated
- Manufacturers may elect to expense capital investment (but would lose future interest deduction)

# Individual Taxes: Areas of Agreement Between President & Congress



- Simplified bracket structure with three rates:
  - **12%**
  - **25%**
  - **-** 33%
- Repeal of net investment income 3.8% surtax (contingent on health care repeal/replacement)
- Larger standard deduction, end of personal exemptions
- Repeal of Alternative Minimum Tax



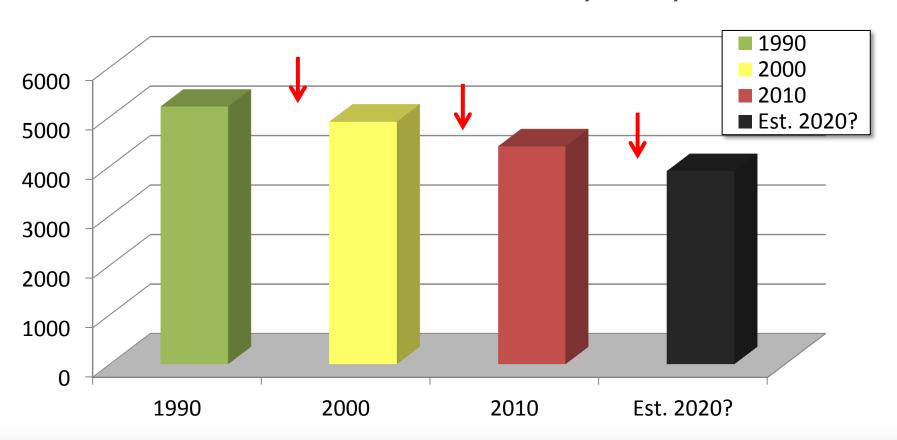
## Club Industry Makeup

- Impact of recession has been significant, but it was an accelerant, not a stimulus
- Clubs have been in decline for 20 years
- Country clubs hit by overbuilding, high-end daily fee golf, lifestyle changes, etc.
- Down by about 20% since 1990, where do we go from here?



### Impact on the Club Industry

#### **Total Number of Member-Owned Golf and Country Clubs by Year**



### Impact on Clubs

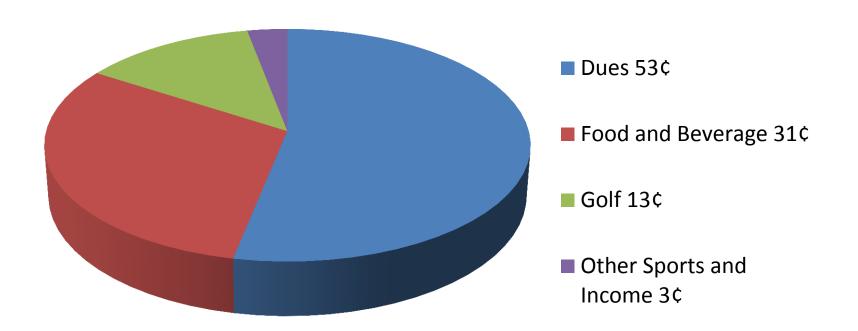


- Companies not supporting membership
- Dual income families may have income, but do they have the time to enjoy membership?
- Biggest factor driving changes in demand and use: how often can we really use the club?



## 2016 Country Club Income

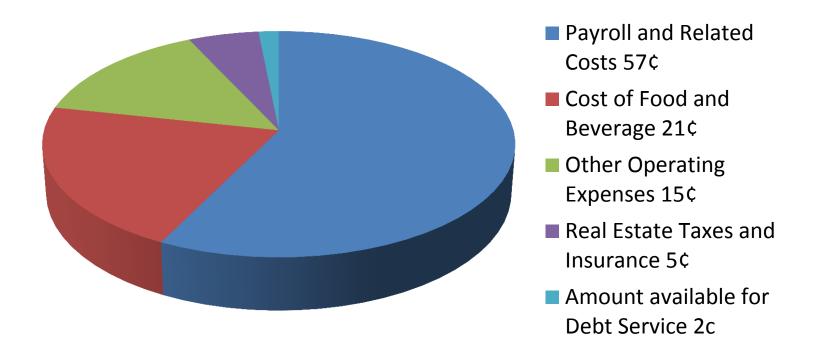
Total = \$1.00





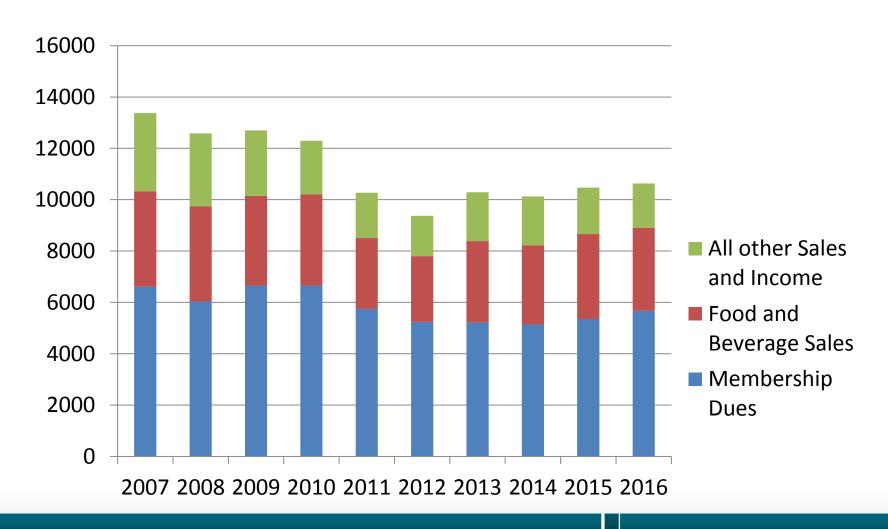


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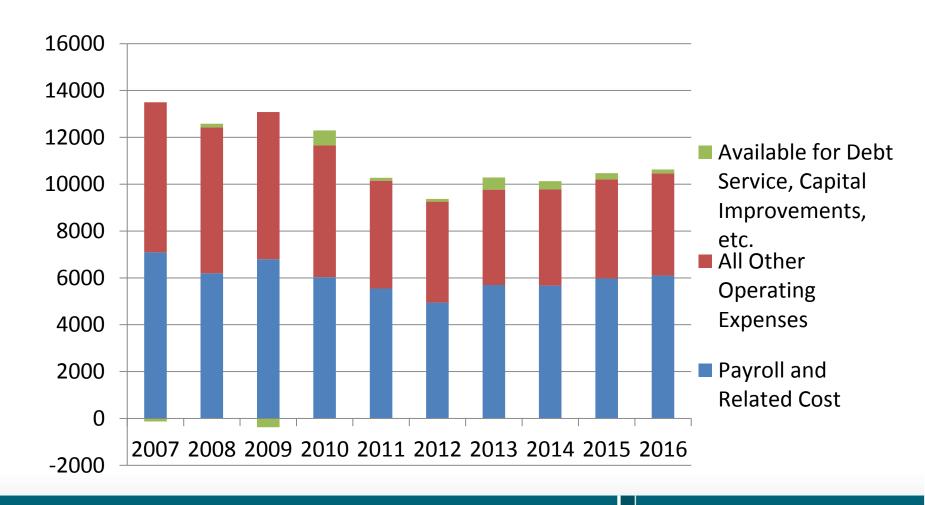
### Country Club: Income Per Member





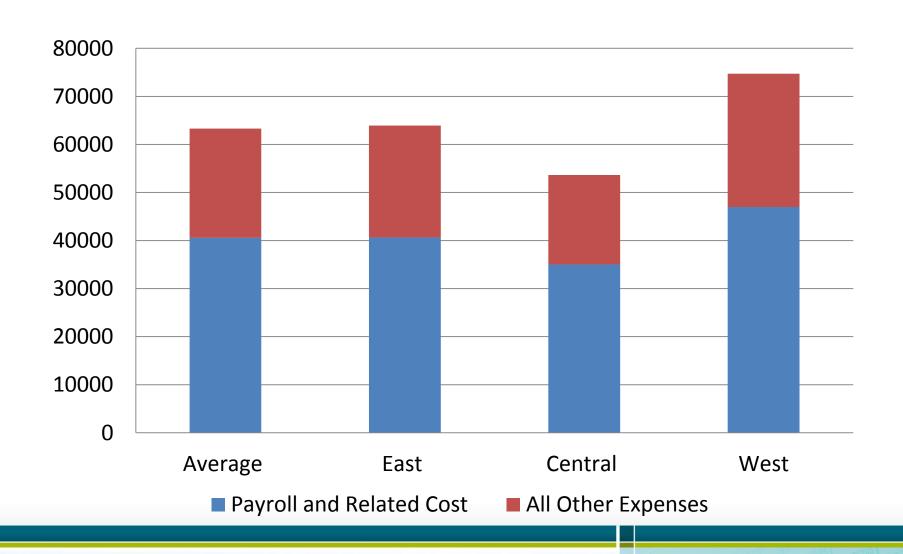
# Country Club: Operating Cost Per Member







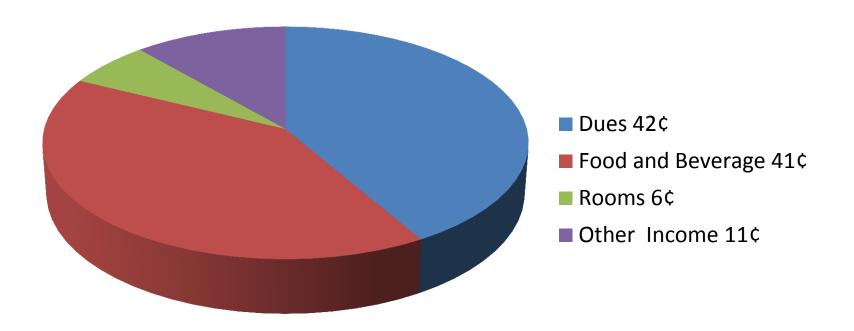
### Average Cost Per Hole 2016



### 2016 City Club Income



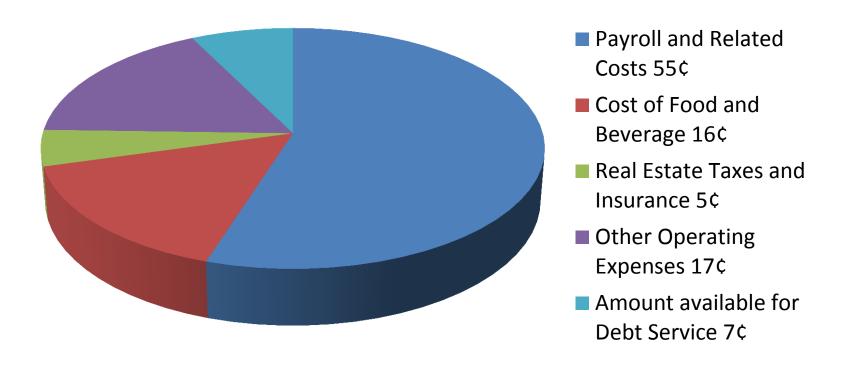
Total = \$1.00



### 2016 City Club Expenses

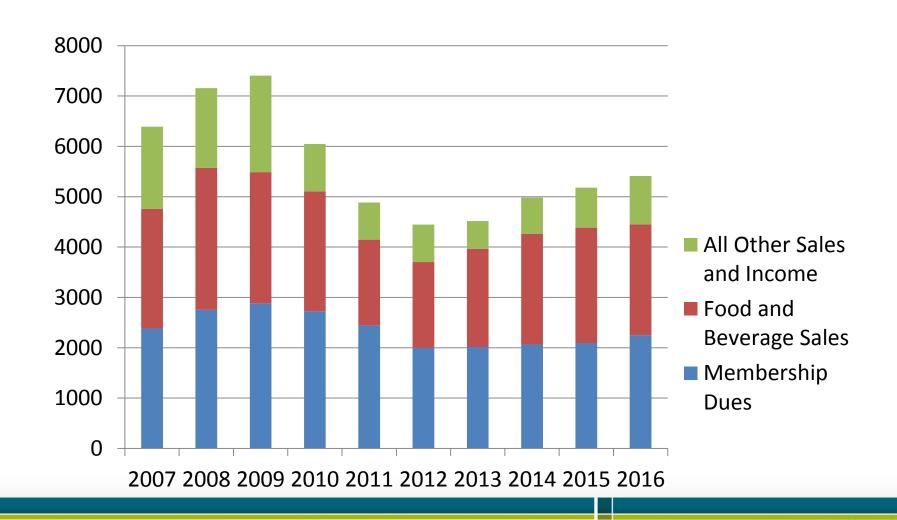


Total = \$1.00



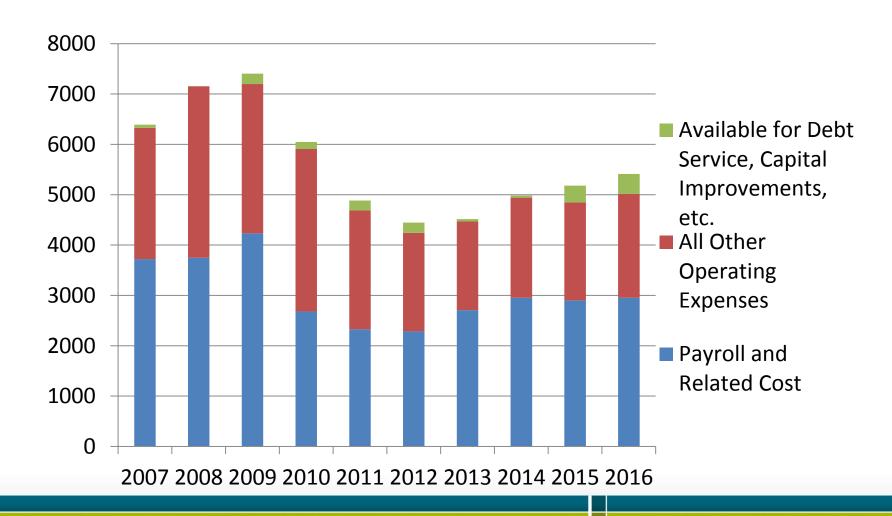
### City Club: Income Per Member





# City Club: Operating Cost Per Member









- Customization: Expect products and services to be specifically tailored to their needs
- Distinctiveness: Seek innovators that re-invent the offering and experience
- Going Above and Beyond: Want expectations to be exceeded

# Lifestyle and Membership Experience



- Tensions
  - Change and continuity
  - Tradition and innovation
  - Homogeneity and diversity
  - Old and young
  - Adults and families
- A new generation in high-quality facilities and interesting experiences, not history and tradition

# Lifestyle and Membership Experience (Concluded)



- Needs:
  - Appeal to women
  - Family activities and programs
  - Child care
- Members will be seeking things that endure: safety and security; recognition and friendship; fun and enjoyment
- Strategic pillars
  - Secure environment
  - Personalized service/name recognition
  - Social offerings across segments
  - A healthy club
  - Casual and convenient
  - Offerings versus traditions

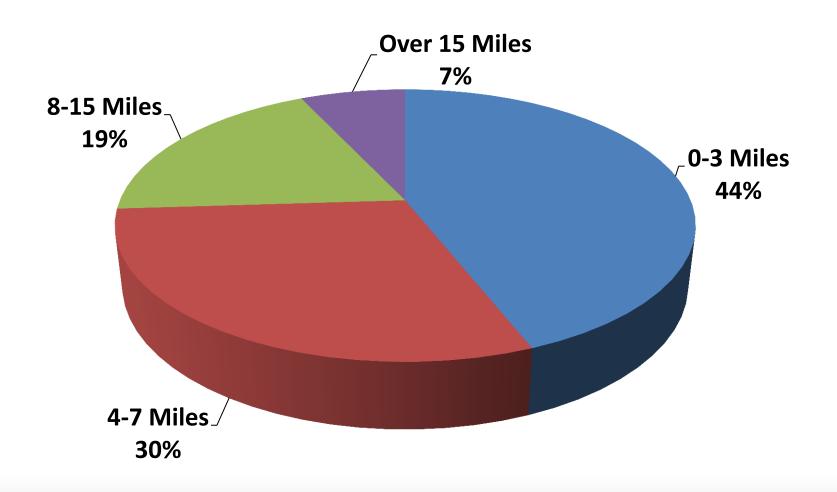
### Target Demographic



- Families
- Adults ages 35 to 50
- Upper income
- Within 10 miles
- Sports enthusiasts
  - Golf, tennis, swimming, fitness
  - The selective golfer and/or diner who enjoys a unique experience



### Distance from Home to Club



### The New Economy



- Women in the workplace
  - Two-thirds of women 18 to 34 indicate career success "very important"
  - Women surpass men in college enrollment and completion
- New career paths; less stability

## The Changing Household



- Fewer than half of households are husband-wife households
- One-in-four households living single:
  - Single women households growing fastest
- Households increasingly
  - Postponing or foregoing marriage
  - Declining birth rates
- Can clubs capture these segments?

#### Recreation



- Adapt and respond to obvious and non-obvious member desires
- Golf will increasingly be about practice, fitness and training
- Fitness programming will expand to include greater emphasis on health & wellness
- Growth in fitness offerings will outpace growth in other recreation areas





- Pool facilities will be a major focus for future facility improvements
- Youth programming will receive greater emphasis
- All of the above must be combined with engaging social activities to forge social ties

### Club Responses



- Bell Curve Membership Plans
  - Importance of Under 40 Group
  - Capture Late Bloomers/Downsizers
- Add Classifications
  - Time constrained up and comers
  - Weekday access
- Redefine age groupings
  - Conversions to full
  - Family



### Get the Right People Involved

- 80% of new member referrals come from relatively recent joiners – 5 years or less
- Ambassador Committee
  - Conduits to friends/relatives and business and community leaders
  - Broad coverage
    - School and church involvement
    - Occupations (high net worth advisors, real estate brokers, mortgage brokers, professional association leaders, medical and legal professionals, corporate leaders, etc.)

### Food & Beverage



- Club dining has long been associated with formality, even stuffiness
- Declining attitude toward formality in contemporary life
- Club have responded with more relaxed styles and concepts
- Desire for casual, faster, easier while excelling in quality



# Food & Beverage (Continued)

- Members will increasingly value
  - Service
  - Ease and comfort
  - Preference for F&B concept that is convenient extension of their home
  - Formality reserved for the holidays
  - Food and wine have never been more popular; seize the opportunity
- Hire a great and passionate chef; Move food to the center of the mission
- Start with a great and lively Grill

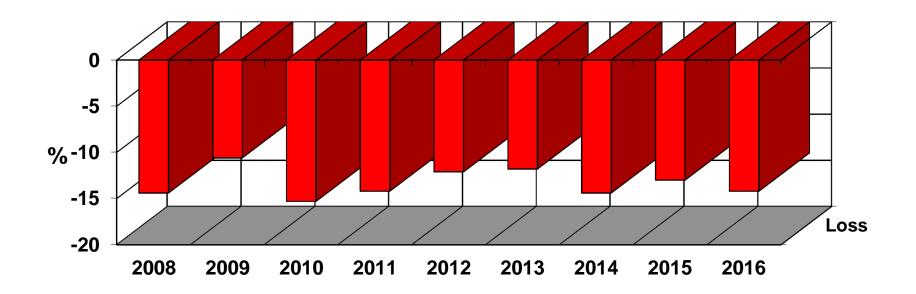


# Food & Beverage (Concluded)

- Pub or sports bar that promotes socializing
- Diversify and control cost with limited-service casual option – think Panera and Starbucks
- Food-on-the-run options

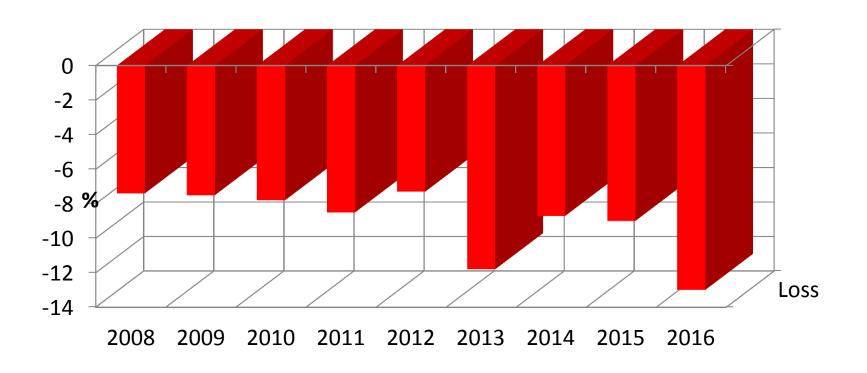
# Country Clubs: Food & Beverage





# City Clubs: Food & Beverage





### **Facilities**



- The improvement of club facilities can dramatically alter a club's prospects
- Refashioning club facilities can attract members, it can launch new services and it can change the atmosphere and energy that pervades the club environment
- Which facilities? When? How? How much?





- Country Clubs will seek to offer a non-traditional golf experience that is less time-sensitive; focus on improving golf practice facilities, incorporate with fitness, etc.
- City Clubs will be better aligned with the new urban landscape: work, play and living in the city
- Increased emphasis and resources will be devoted to club fitness facilities
  - Delivering wellness and health-related services will be important for fitness programs in future

### Master Planning



- A master plan is a long term view on facility improvement and development
- The highest priority improvements in the master plan are built first as funding allows
- Lower priority improvements are completed in future phases
- Total plan yields or prevents:
  - More effective solution
  - Continually redoing projects
  - A roadmap for the future



# Is This the Death of the Private Club?



- No...they just need to evolve
  - People still highly value associational benefits of membership, as long as it fits their lifestyle
  - Clubs are social institutions that must respond to the changing world around them
  - There is a difference between respect for traditions and being tradition-bound
  - You can improve the success of your "golf club" by making it a <u>better all-around club</u>

### What We Expect



- Economic Health: Consolidation of private clubs will continue
- Differential Success:
  - Top-tiered private clubs will flourish in future
  - Large city clubs will succeed going forward
  - We will witness more growth in semi-private sector (or decline in privacy among middle to lower tier)
  - True family clubs will prosper in the future
  - Gated community clubs focused on (and incurring expense of) golf will struggle
  - Golf only clubs will struggle

### Where Are We Headed



- Cyclical and secular trends continue to forecast flat to declining golf play
- In order for clubs to succeed in the decade ahead, they must:
  - Know their members
  - Know their marketplace
  - Operate with a strong sense of mission and purpose

### Questions





Please use the Chat Pane to submit your questions.

#### Contact





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