Dave

I am looking to contact our membership about some ideas we have for the George “Tony” Polillo Research fund. We will be talking about it at our upcoming shop meeting, but I wanted to give the membership some advanced notice as to what we will be talking about. Our discussions have brought up the large amount of money we would need to raise to be able to fund a research project and the issues that raising money quickly can bring.

The board has discussed ideas on how to raise the money and how to do so in a quick manner. One of the main ideas we have discussed is a version of a “Cash Bash”. We would sell raffle tickets for a predetermined amount of money and on the date of the drawing we would give away a portion of the money collected as prizes and keep the remaining amount for the research fund. Multiple prizes, a grand prize and then smaller prizes for 2nd 3rd and so on. Depending on how much we raise, the prizes could be substantial. We wouldn’t be looking to give away all the money, but we would need enough incentive for people to buy the tickets for a chance to win. The idea is for people to reach out to golfers at their facilities, friends, and family. That way we as the members of the association don’t have to bear the whole burden.

I have seen tickets sold on a large scale, $100/ticket and a smaller scale around $5/ticket. Obviously both have traded offs. At $100/ticket you don’t need to sell many, but finding people to buy them might be a problem. At $5/ticket it is more “affordable”, but we would have to sell far more tickets to get to our goal.

This is obviously where we as a board would like input from our membership as to what they believe would be the best way to approach fundraising because they will be the ones selling the tickets. I believe that this can be a great way for us to raise a significant amount of money to provide research in the future as long as we have good participation.

To sum up, I am asking for the membership to think about how this process can work, and how it could be successful at their clubs. I am asking for them to bring their opinions to the shop meeting so we can have some feedback and a direction to go from this point forward. If individuals cannot make the shop meeting, but have an opinion on what direction we should take please have them contact me directly or another board member so we can take their opinions into account.

At the board meeting, I will be presenting some options, and I will be handing out a feedback letter so we can better understand how we should proceed.