

To: President Donald J. Trump
President of the United States of America
c/o Trump National Golf Club
Bedminster, NJ 07921



From: Pascal Grizot, President of the French Golf Federation
Subject: Uniting Global Golf: A Vision for the Sport's Future

December 18, 2024

Dear Mr. President,

Congratulations on your re-election as President of the United States. As a devoted golfer, it gives me great pleasure to know that we once again have a true golfer in the White House.

We share a love and respect for this great game. As a fellow Member of Winged Foot Golf Club, we also have a mutual friendship with Colin A. Burns, the former long-serving General Manager of the Club. Colin's family and I have developed a very special relationship over the years.

I write to you not only as the President of the French Golf Federation but as a steward of a sport we both deeply cherish. Golf stands at a critical crossroads. Its future depends on decisive action and the visionary leadership that you are uniquely positioned to provide.

The Current Challenges

1. Financial Struggles of the European Tour:

- The European Tour faced significant financial hardships in 2019, which the 2020 pandemic only worsened.

2. The Rise of LIV Golf:

- The Public Investment Fund (PIF), through heavy investment, partnered with the Asian Tour to create LIV Golf—shaking the global golf ecosystem.

3. Fractured Leadership:

- A bitter battle between the PGA Tour and LIV Golf has ensued, costing billions and eroding the sport's unity.

4. Declining Fan Engagement:

- Overall, in 2024, professional golf viewership dropped by 20%, with competing sports like Formula 1 and MMA gaining traction, especially among younger audiences. The Masters experienced a comparable drop in viewership in 2024, something previously unimaginable.

5. Lost Growth Opportunities:

- Despite over \$6 billion invested, PIF's efforts have caused division rather than global growth, leaving golf leadership reactive instead of proactive.

The Consequences of Inaction

Without intervention, this division risks permanently damaging the sport. The PGA Tour is losing its

prestige, fans are growing disenchanted, and sponsors are becoming hesitant. Golf needs a unifying vision—one that preserves its traditions while securing its future.

A Vision for Global Unity

Mr. President, I believe you are uniquely suited to play a pivotal role in this historic moment. Your ability to negotiate, build consensus, and inspire trust is exactly what golf needs.

Here is the vision I propose:

- 1. Facilitate a Truce:**
 - Help end the conflict between the PGA Tour, LIV Golf, and other stakeholders.
- 2. Create an International Tour:**
 - Unite the European Tour, Asian Tour, Sunshine Tour, and PGA Tour of Australia into a single "International Tour," complementing the PGA Tour.
- 3. Develop a Unified Global Calendar:**
 - Coordinate schedules between the PGA Tour and International Tour to avoid conflicts.
 - Allow crossover participation between key events.
- 4. Reform LIV Golf:**
 - Award world-ranking points to LIV events contingent on reducing tournaments from 14 to 10.
- 5. Secure the Sport's Future Talent:**
 - Establish contracts for promising young players, ensuring competitive fields and attracting sponsors.
- 6. Embrace a Unified Global Vision:**
 - Create a "World Golf Tour" that showcases the best players worldwide, complementing the four Major Championships.

Your Role in Golf's Future

Your leadership and global influence can unify this fragmented sport and chart a new course for its future. As golf's leading nation, the United States has a responsibility to drive this vision forward, and your involvement would mark a historic moment in the game.

A Call to Action

Mr. President, I humbly ask you to lend your leadership to this cause. Together, we can transform this period of crisis into an extraordinary opportunity to grow the sport and inspire future generations.

I would welcome the opportunity to discuss this vision with you further and work together to ensure golf remains a source of excellence and inspiration worldwide.

Sincerely,



Pascal Grizot
President, French Golf Federation