

# The Importance of Net Worth Over Time

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Club Benchmarking



**HFTP**®

Hospitality Financial and  
Technology Professionals

# Agenda

- Context
- The Most Critical Key Performance Indicator – Net Worth Over Time
- Unveiling the Consequence of Net Worth – Digging into the Balance Sheet
- The Importance of Capital Income
- The Hierarchy of Capital Income
- Why Do We Need Capital?
- Capital Assessments – Are There Pros and What Are The Cons?
- Debt – Good or Bad, Right or Wrong?
- Best Practice Approach to Capital Planning
- Conclusions and Takeaways
- Q&A

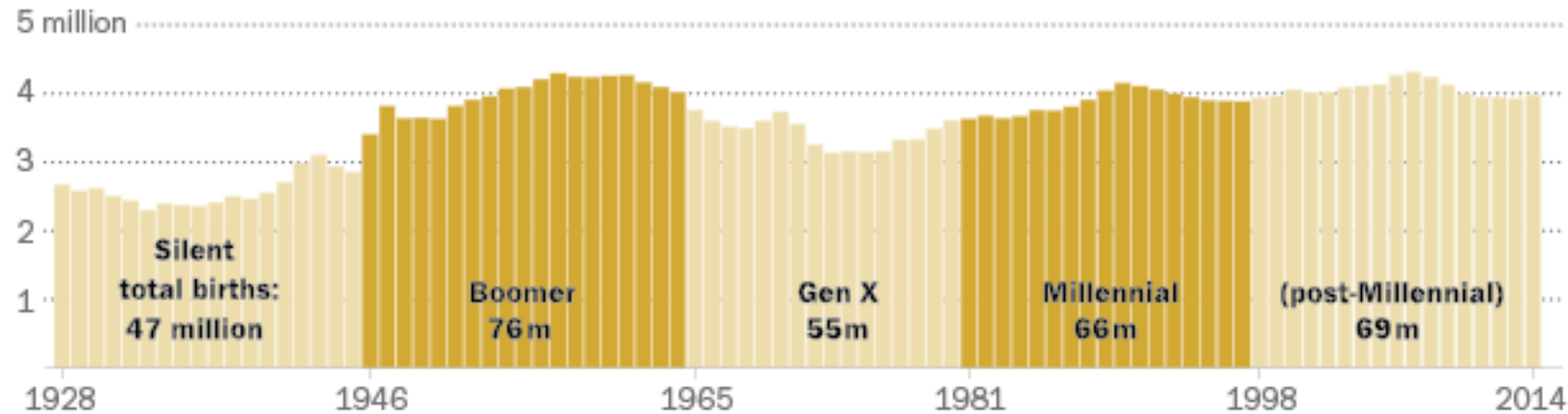
<b>Boomers</b>	<b>55 – 75</b>
<b>Gen X</b>	<b>35 – 55</b>
<b>Millennials</b>	<b>20 - 35</b>

## Context

- Gen X 28% smaller than Boomers – they are at club joining age (37 to 52)
- Gen X replacing Baby Boomers who are moving and dying
- Average new club Members (CB research) – 42 Years
- Mass Golf Association Handicaps in 2004 = 100,000 in 2017 = 87,000
- The most STRATEGIC issue in clubs is...where are the new members coming from? Is it discussed enough?

### Births Underlying Each Generation

*Number of U.S. births by year and generation*



Source: U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services National Center for Health Statistics

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Context

**Financial  
Insight  
Model**

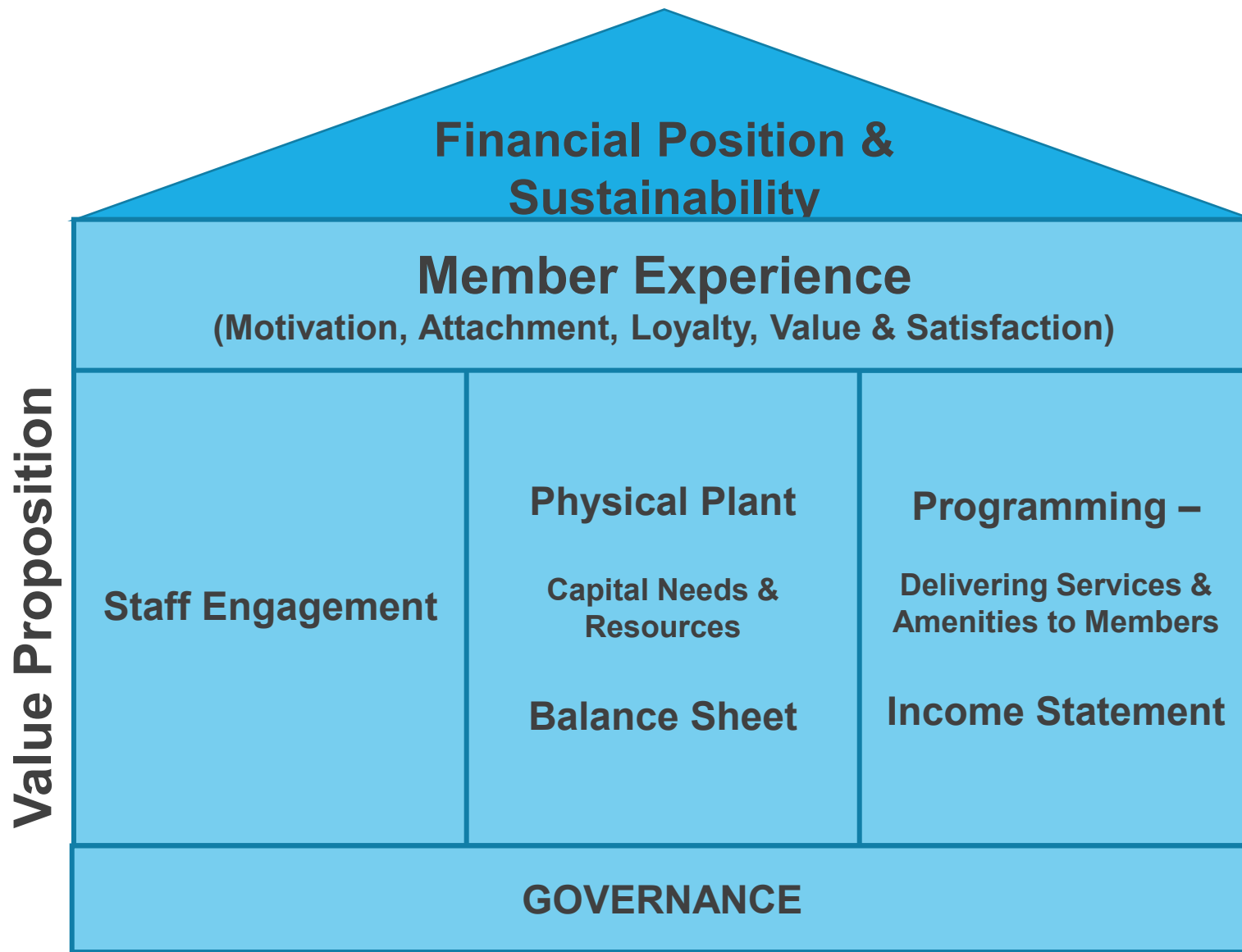
**Key  
Performance  
Indicators**

**Continuous Investment (and Change) → Sustainable Success**

**Diversity of Amenities → Relevance**

**Generating Capital → Financial Outcome**

**Fact-Based Governance &  
Governance as Leadership**



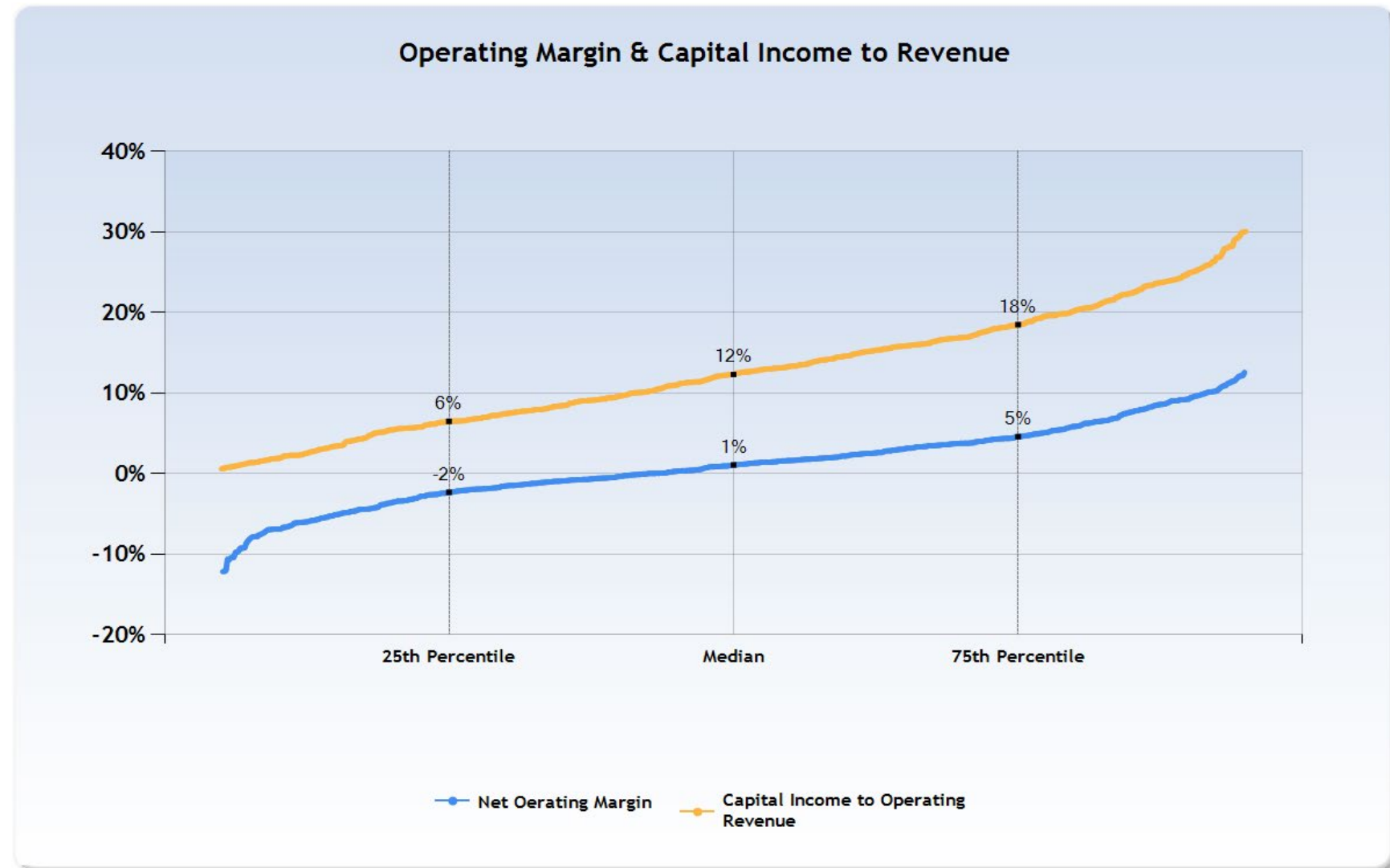
# Key Success Factors

In Private Clubs



# Understanding Net Worth Over Time

- Clubs set operating budget to break-even – excluding depreciation.
- The operating bottom line pales in comparison to capital income
- Capital income 5X to 10X larger than operating bottom line
- The operating ledger is the vehicle for delivering services & amenities to members. It is **consumed** every year by members enjoying the club
- **Capital income is THE financial driver**

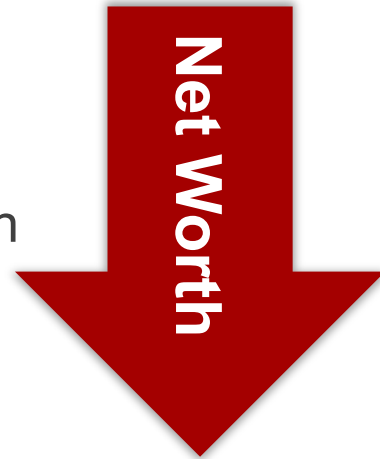


The Industry

## Fundamental Concepts

- Unrestricted Net Assets = Net Worth or Book Value of the Club
- Clubs set the Operating Ledger to Break-Even (excluding Depreciation).
- Thus, Net Available Capital (EBDTA) must be greater than depreciation in order for net worth to increase

Net Available Capital  
(EBTDA)  
Less Than Depreciation

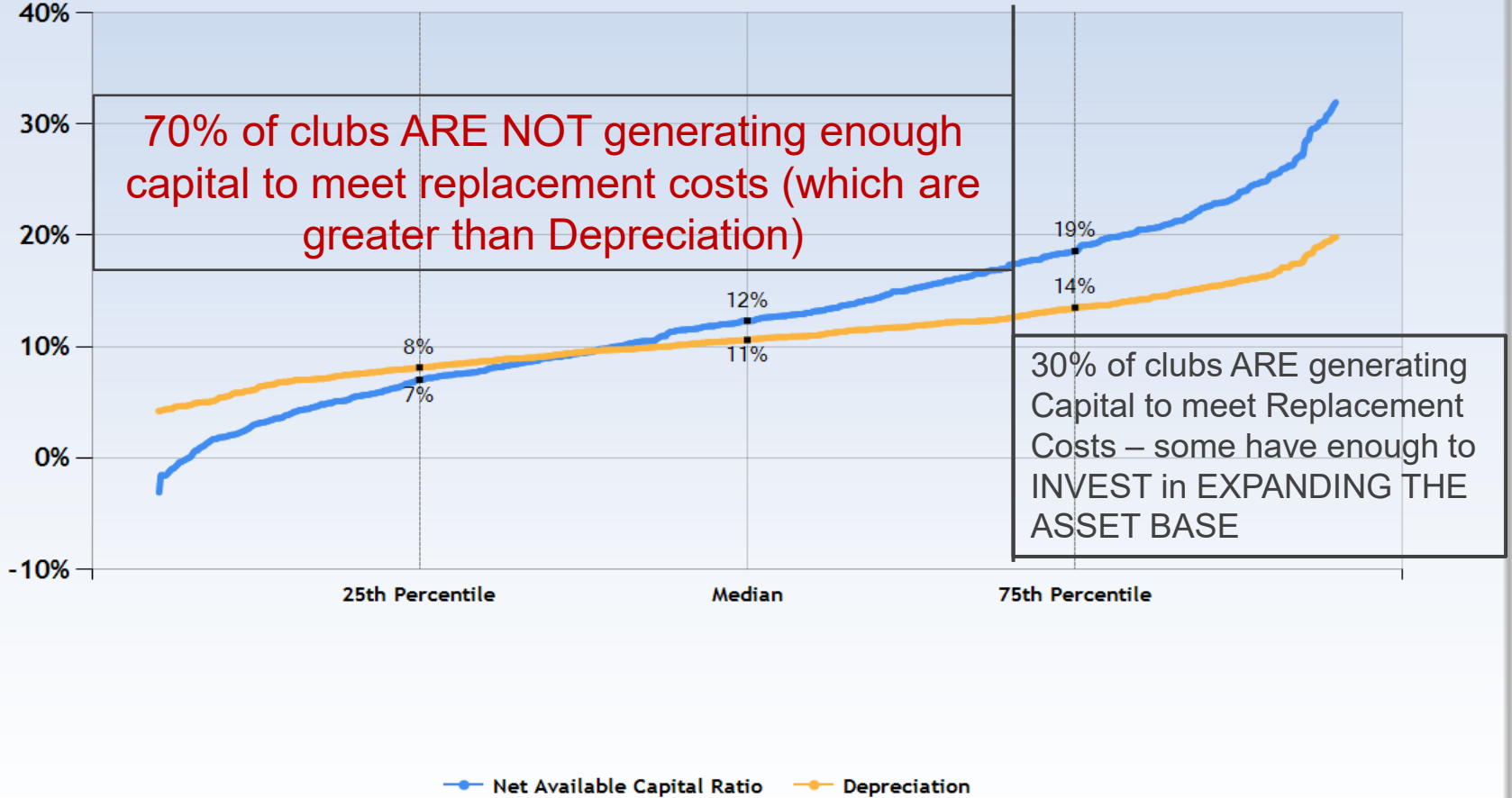


Net Available Capital  
(EBTDA)  
Greater Than Depreciation

**Net Worth growth results from members contributing  
the necessary Capital**

# The Driver of Net Worth Over Time

## Assessment of Net Available Capital relative to Depreciation Is your capital at least minimally covering your depreciation?

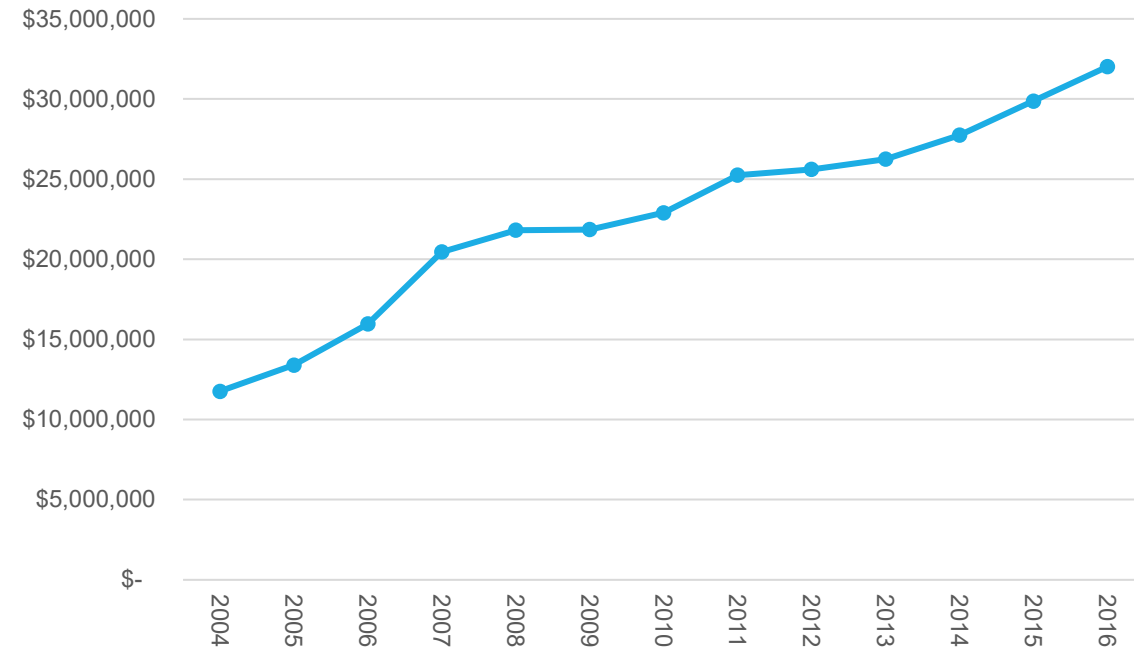


- A forward-looking capital plan (a Capital Strategies Model) is THE MOST CRITICAL financial tool but we estimate less than 15% of clubs have one
- A Capital Strategies Model requires the existence of a Capital Reserve Study



## CAGR 8.7%

Carmel CC - Net Worth

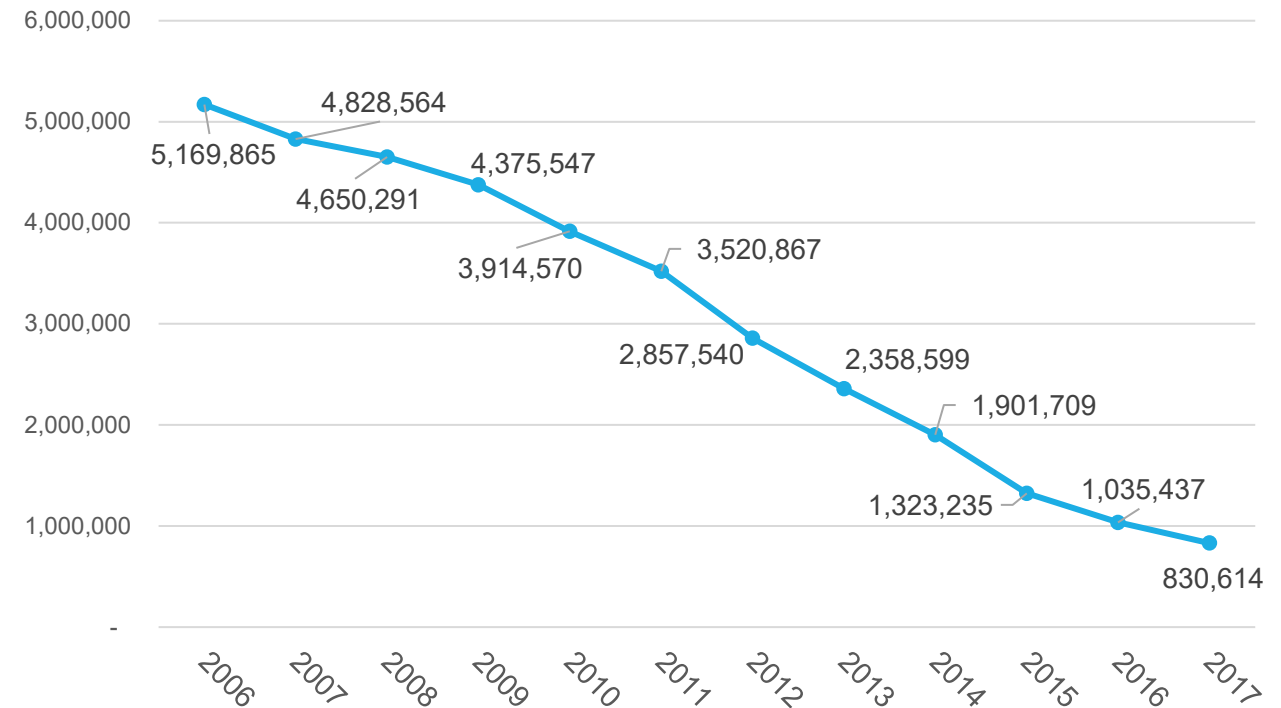


- Carmel has invested heavily over the last ten years.
- Their Net Worth (Member's Equity) has increased at a Compounded Annual Growth Rate of 8.7% - very close to the top of the industry
- Their Initiation Fee has increased consistently over that period.

## The Driver of Net Worth Over Time

## CAGR -15.3%

XYZ Country Club Net Worth



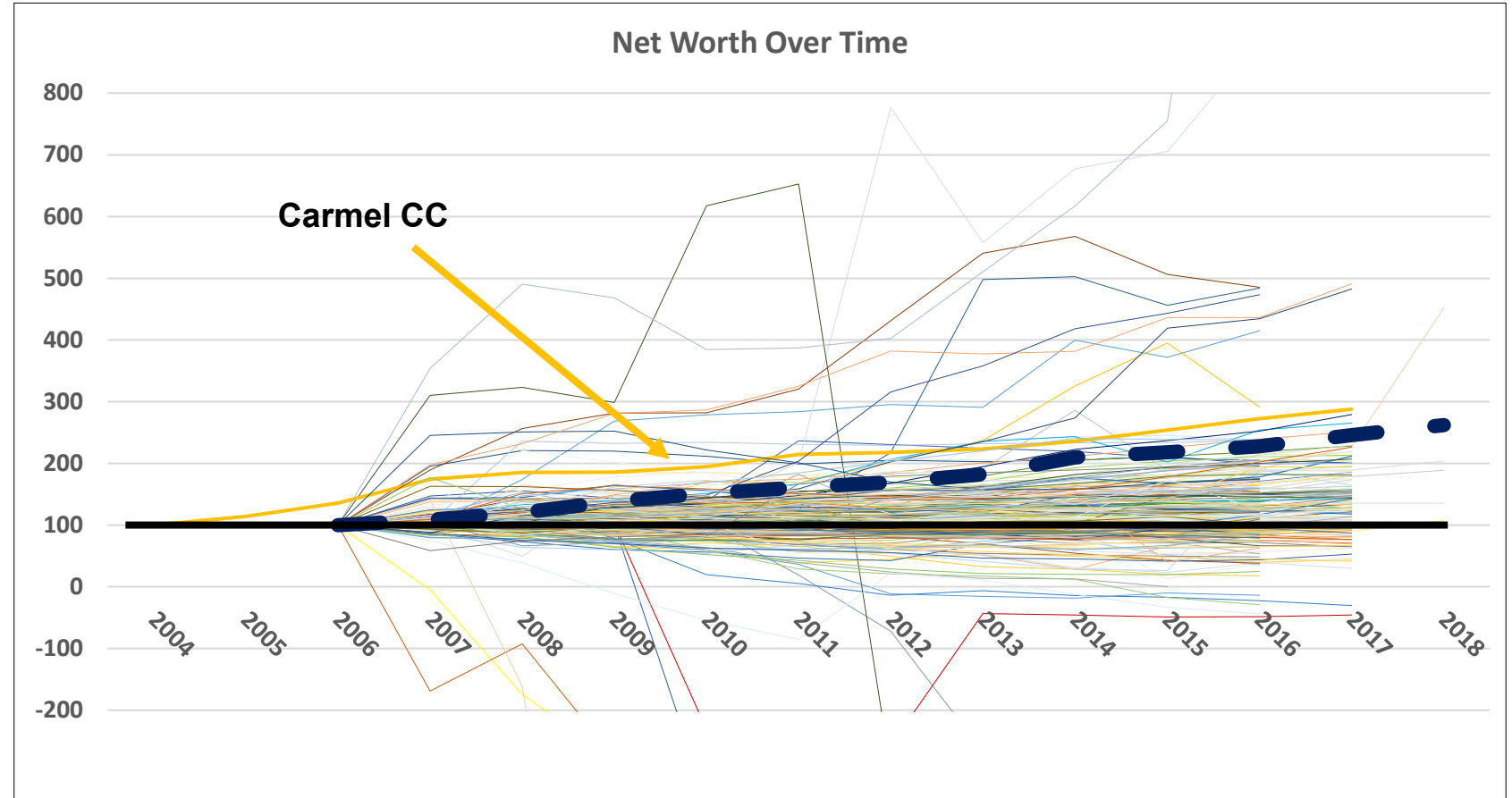
## CAGR

25<sup>th</sup> Percentile = -1%  
Industry Median = 2%  
75<sup>th</sup> Percentile = 5%  
Carmel CC = 8.4%

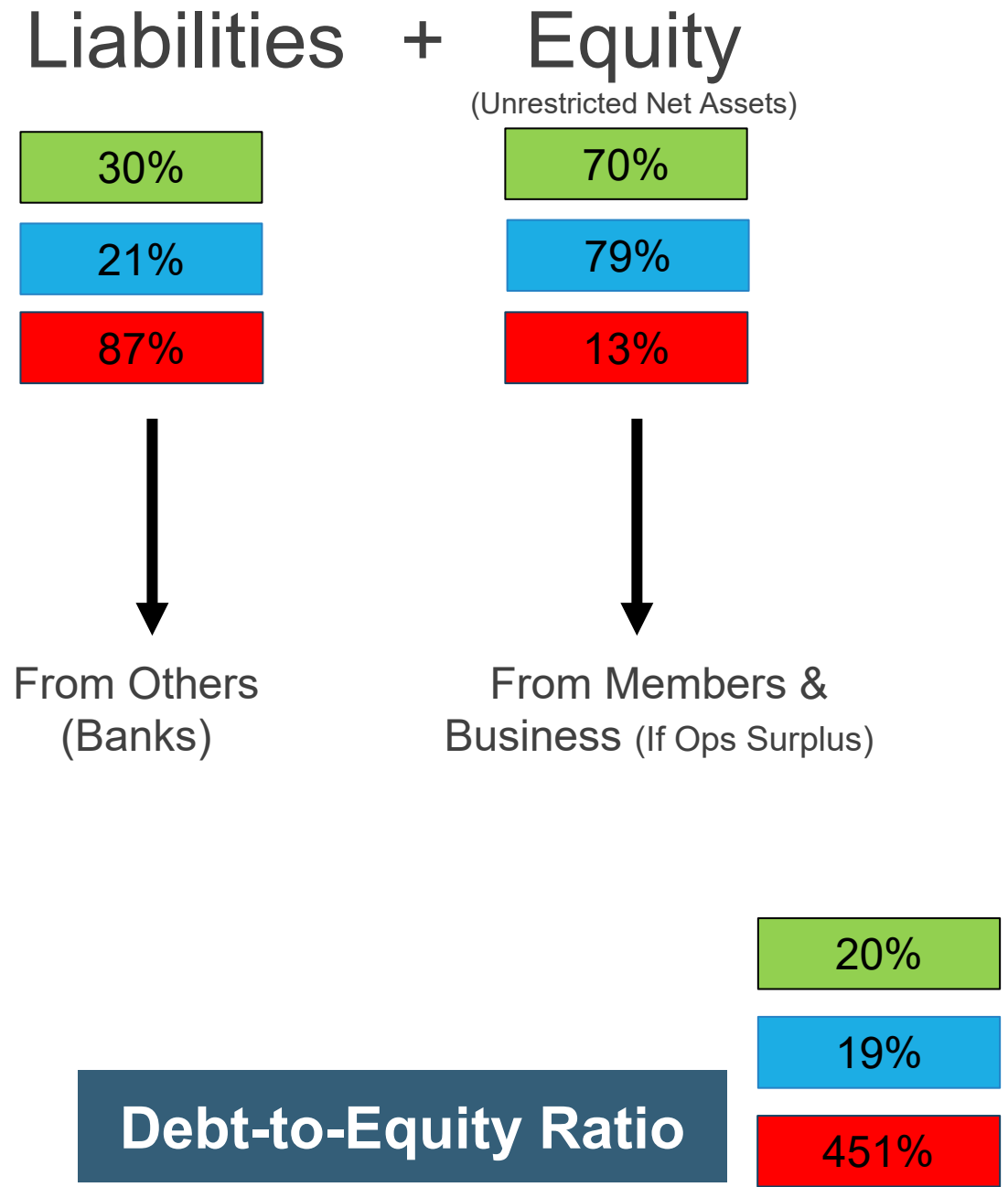
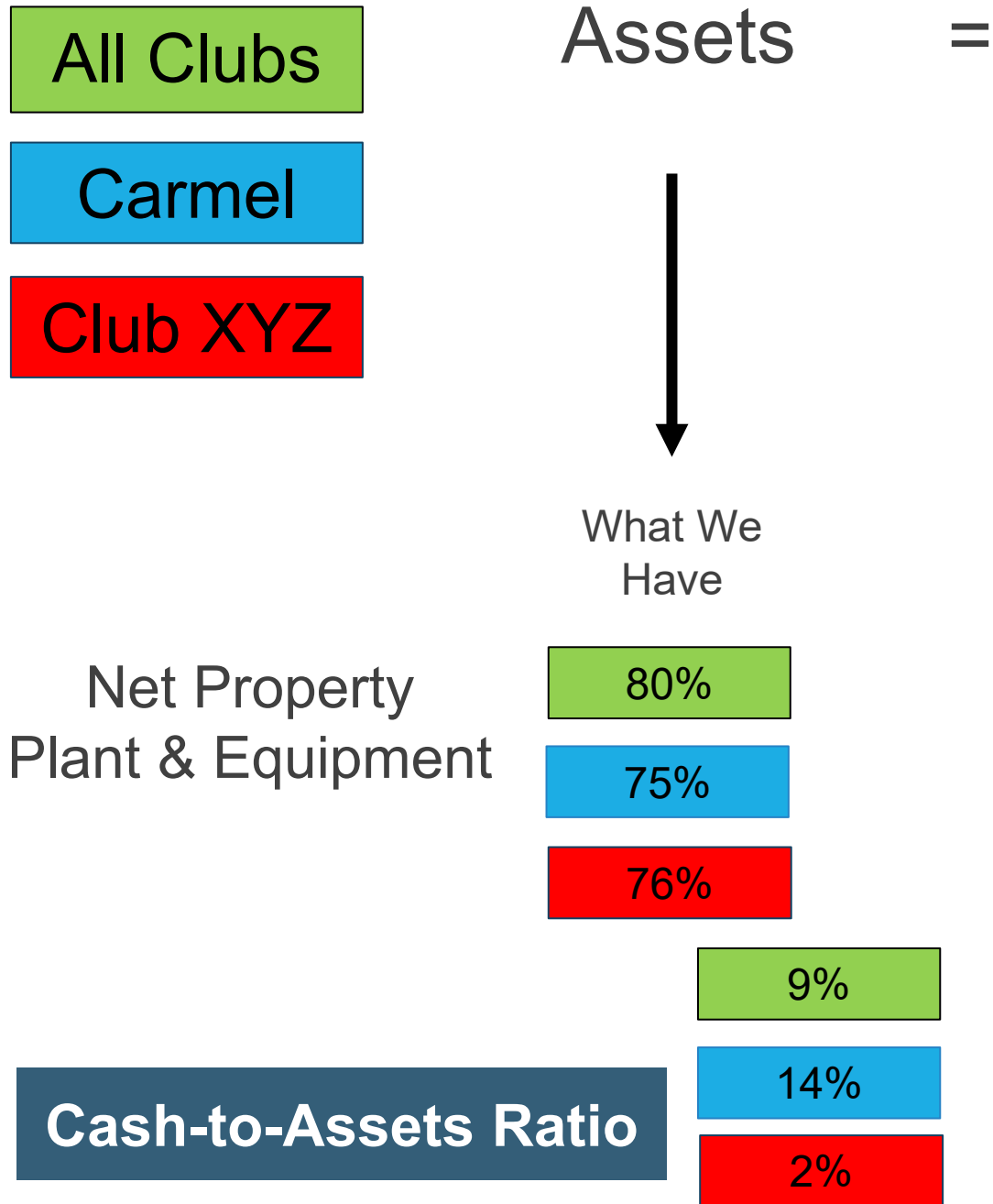
30% Net Worth (in absolute terms) is shrinking

50% Net Worth growing less than inflation

38% Meet CB's minimum Net Worth growth of 3.5% per year



## Capital Growth Results from Consistently Investing in the Value Proposition Over Time



# The Strength of Capital Manifests on the Balance Sheet

## Club Built 50 Years Ago



Total Cost to Build = \$3 Million  
Zero Reinvestment Over Time

**Gross PPE = \$3M (ex. Land)**  
**Accumulated Depreciation = \$3M**  
**Net PPE = \$0**  
**Net-to-Gross-PPE Ratio = 0%**

**Condition: Worn and Depleted**

Property, Plant  
& Equipment

**Net to  
Gross PPE  
Ratio**

## Club Built Yesterday

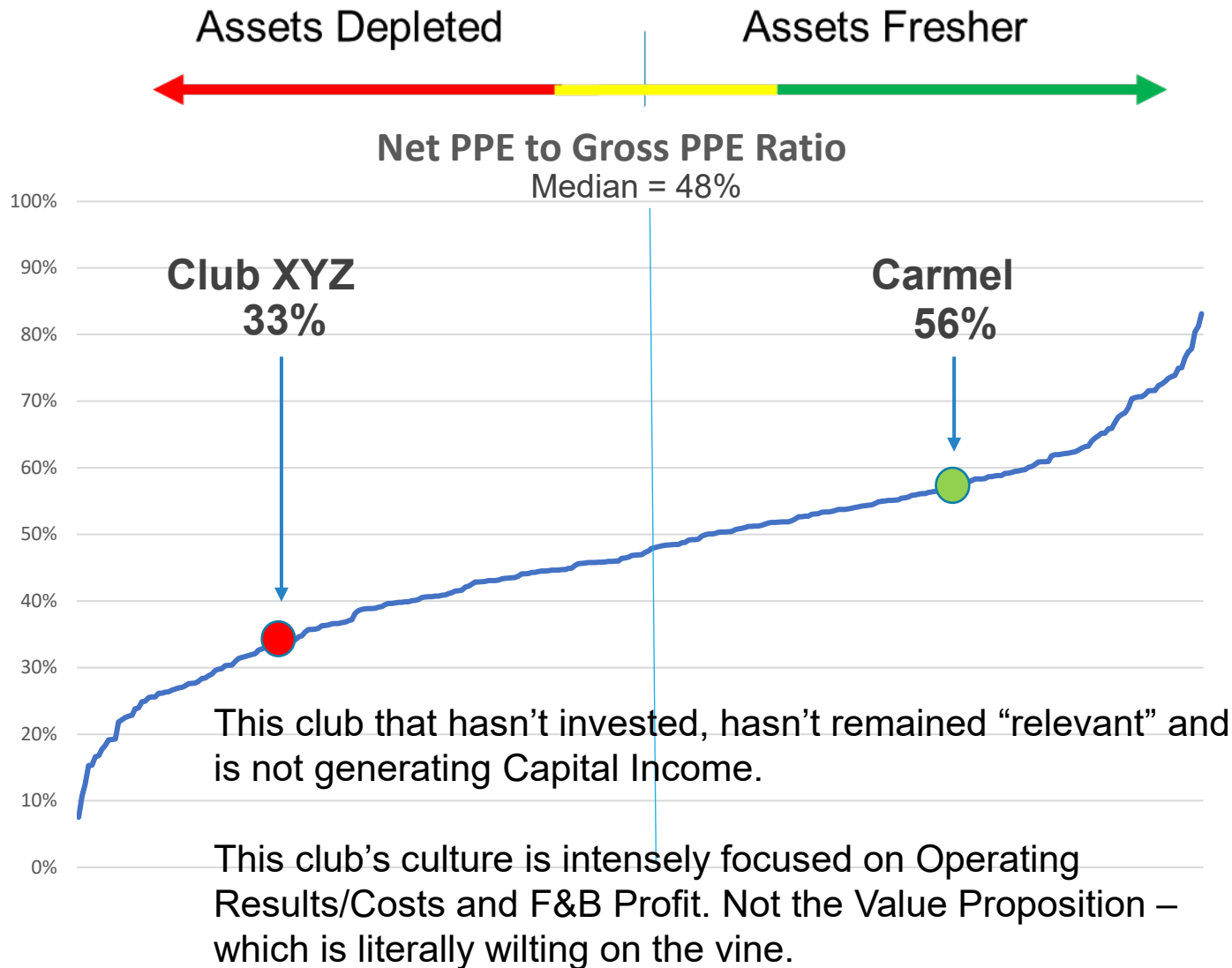


Total Cost to Build = \$30 Million

**Gross PPE = \$30M (ex. Land)**  
**Accumulated Depreciation = \$0**  
**Net PPE = \$30M**  
**Net to Gross PPE Ratio = 100%**

**Condition: Brand New**

# Fundamental Concepts

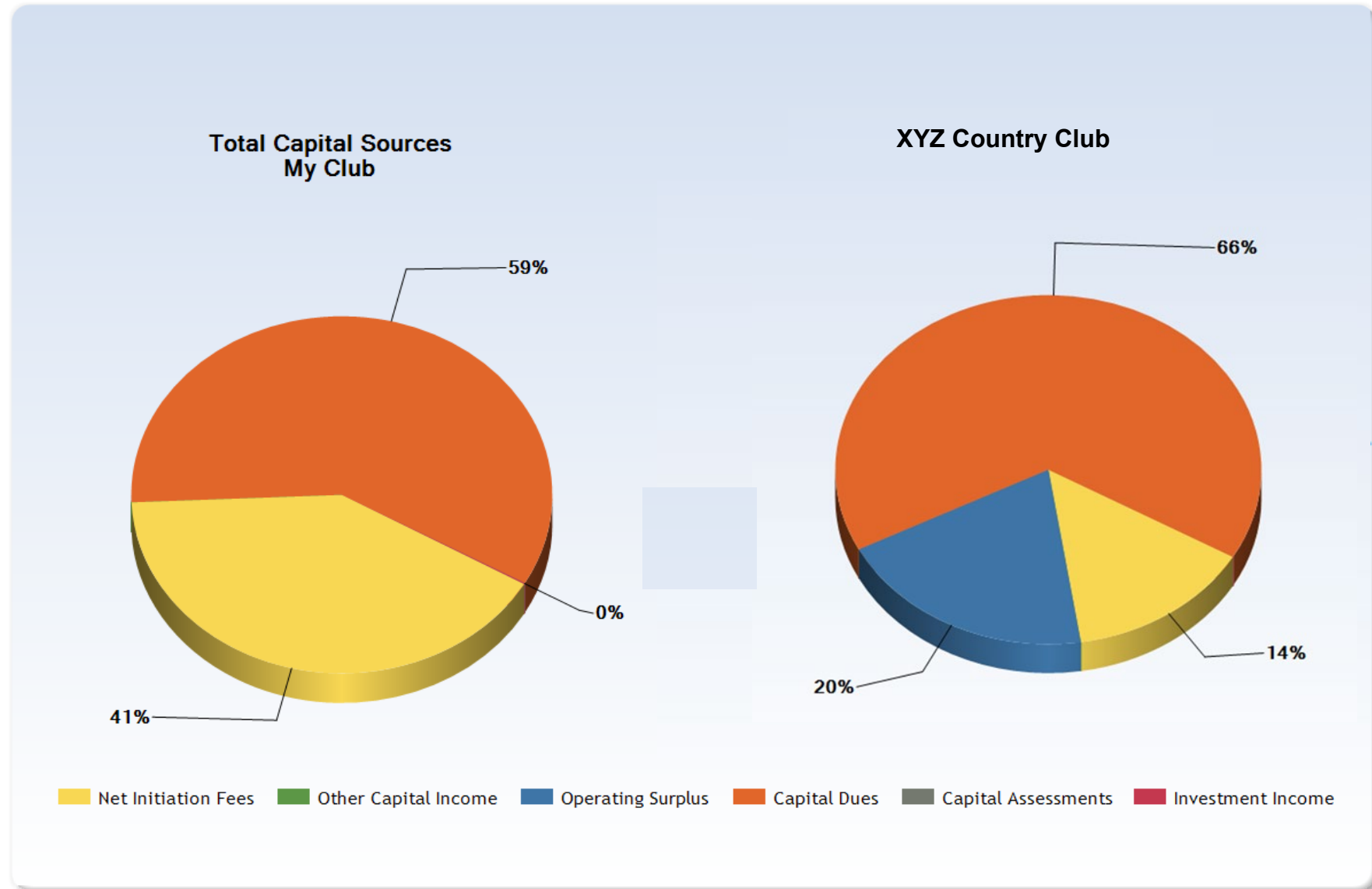


## Net to Gross PPE Ratio

- Net PP&E is tied to Member's Equity (Net Worth). Quick, accurate test of physical plant condition.
- Ratio > median = Assets fresher & more up to date. Below median assets are older, more worn & less relevant.
- A precise assessment of your club's physical plant requires a Capital Reserve Study which should be conducted by an objective 3<sup>rd</sup> party professional well-versed in clubs

# The Hierarchy of Capital Income

- **Initiation Fees**
- **Recurring Capital Dues**  
Best Practice: Recurring capital dues tied to precisely quantified future capital needs
- **Operating Surplus**  
Mingling of operating & capital Ledgers
- **Donations & Contributions**
- **Capital Assessments**
- **Sale of Assets**  
(Land, etc.)



# Why Do We Need Capital?

- To Make INVESTMENTS in Property, Plant & Equipment
- Clubs invest **REACTIVELY** rather than **PROACTIVELY** due to OVER EMPHASIS on the Operating Ledger in Lieu of the Capital Ledger
- We are so busy scrutinizing last month's Operating Results vs. Budget – we don't have enough time to PLAN FORWARD FOR CAPITAL
- The Capital is invested in
  - **Repair and Replacement** of Existing Assets (**Obligatory Capital**)
  - Expanding and Adding New Assets Related to Expanded or Added Services & Amenities (**Aspirational Capital**)



- Capital Reserve Study (CRS): Physical inventory of every physical asset
- The aim of the CRS is to document and quantify for each asset:
  - The original cost to procure
  - The current replacement cost
  - The condition and expected remaining useful life

**Critical Metric: Total Fully Funded Reserve Amount for all assets**



Installed in 2000 at  
\$12,000

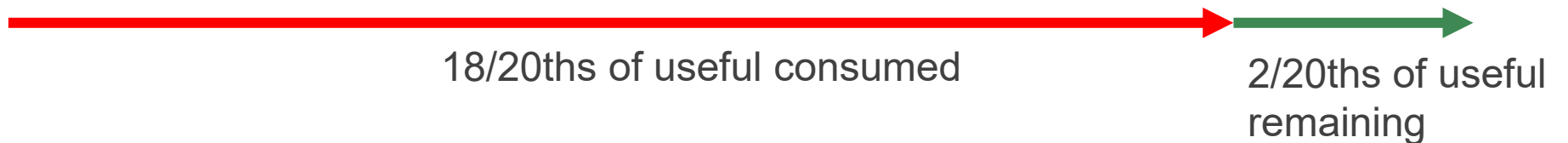
Replacement Cost 2018  
\$20,000

Will need replacement  
in 2020



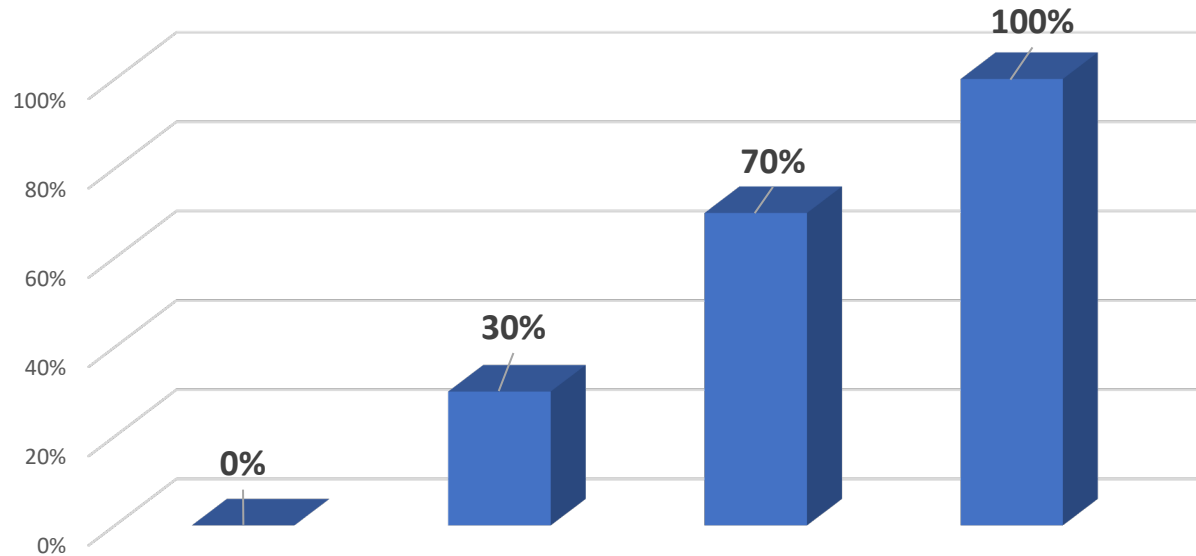
**Current Replacement Cost = \$20,000**

**Fully Funded Reserve = \$18,000**





Reserves to Fully Funded Ratio



- Club Benchmarking research indicates:
  - Ratio in clubs varies from 0% to 20%
  - Clubs are undercapitalized
  - Clubs have been overly focused on Income Statement and don't address Capital strategically

- POA research over many years concludes:
  - Ratio of 0% – 30% → Extremely high likelihood of future assessments – **Inadequate Reserves**
  - Ratio of 30% - 70% → Likelihood of assessments decreases as ratio increases - **Marginal to Acceptable Reserves**
  - Ratio of 70% - 100% → Future assessment unlikely – **Adequate Reserves**
  - Ratio of 100% → **Fully Funded**
- Current Replacement Cost increases every year due to inflation
- A dynamic, forward-looking model can be used to assess future

# Assessing Capital Strength

- XYZ Club's Capital Reserve Study indicates:
  - Excludes Buildings and Land
  - Total Current Replacement Cost = \$20 Million
  - Fully Funded Reserve = \$6 Million
- If XYZ Club had set aside money equal to capital consumption there would be \$6 Million available.
- The Reserves to Fully Funded Ratio is a common metric to assess "capital readiness" or "liquidity" in Property Owner's Associations (POAs) – it has been absent in clubs
- XYZ Club's Reserves to Fully Funded Ratio =  $\$0/6 = 0\%$

2.1%
10.0%
8.7%
0.0%
0.0%
8.2%
18.8%
10.9%
15.1%
3.7%

# Assessing Capital Strength

- **The Fully Funded Debate**
  - Why should the club hold “my cash” before it is needed?
- **The Real Issue**
  - Capital consumed by a departing member without a match is “debt” for future members...  
It is not a financial issue, it is a FAIRNESS issue
  - Clubs have used debt to fill capital consumption gaps left void by lack of contributions by members in conjunction with their consumption – interest is the penalty
  - XYZ Club’s “Fully Funded” Gap is \$10,700 per FME

33,809
11,931
18,678
41,659
19,667
17,600
11,757
6,706
10,987
21,604

# Capital Assessments

- If a club is using assessments and members who have consumed PP&E leave without paying, is that fair?
- Why use an assessment for repair & replacement? If the consumption of the assets could have been matched with **recurring capital dues** then everyone would have paid their **FAIR SHARE**
- Are assessments reactive? Why wouldn't they be PLANNED?
- The one con to recurring capital dues – the club will “hold” members' money in lieu of the member
- In a proper, forward-looking plan, assessments (theoretically) wouldn't happen for repair & replacement
- For aspirational capital, assessments may make sense in lieu of debt. Future members pay with an increased initiation fee (aspirational investments should drive **INCREASED DEMAND & HIGHER INITIATION FEE INCOME**)

# Debt

Debt for repair & replacement is better than no investment, BUT...

- It is a RESULT OF POOR CAPITAL PLANNING
- Debt makes sense for aspirational investments that will be ENJOYED & PAID FOR by members in the FUTURE
- Debt for repair and replacement is a faux pas and a result of poor planning. Debt is repaid by FUTURE MEMBERS who are thus paying for consumption by PAST MEMBERS. INTEREST is the TAX on that poor planning.

# Best Practice Approach

Forward Looking Capital Planning is Critical

- Precisely Quantify future Obligatory Capital Needs (repair and replacement) – A Capital Reserve Study is required.
- Quantify Future Capital Resources (from Initiation Fees, Capital Dues, other)
- Determine Gaps between Resources and Needs – Ahead of TIME!
- Determine methods to Fill the Gap (recurring Capital Dues)

# Conclusions

## The Strategic Approach to Finance Is:

- ✓ Understanding How Net Worth Over Time reflects Capital Income and Capital Planning Practices
- ✓ Understand how Net Worth – as a result of Capital Income – ties to Property, Plant & Equipment
- ✓ Use the Quick Ratios to assess where your club/hotel is
- ✓ Embracing the concept that Capital Income IS THE financial driver

- Clubs that invest properly remain relevant and thus will see suitable rates of net worth growth over time that can be invested in fresh, up-to-date assets that are reflected by an suitable Net to Gross PP&E Ratio
- While it may make sense for aspirational investment, taking on **debt for repair and replacement is a poor practice** and a result of poor capital planning. Debt is a proxy for capital contributions made by members. It will be paid back by members contributing capital in the future. Interest is the tax paid for the poor planning.
- **Assessments** are not “fair” to all. Members who leave before paying haven’t contributed their fair share to cover capital they consumed over time.
- **Best Practice:** Assure there is a forward looking capital plan, centered on a proper Capital Reserve Study, precisely quantifying future Capital needs and resources and assuring the capital income to meet the needs. Recurring capital dues is a very logical answer.

# Thank You!



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