

## **Wisconsin PGA General Membership Meeting Minutes**

**Monday, February 29, 2016**

**The American Club – Kohler, Wis.**

Meeting called to order at 12:03 p.m.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Fall 2015 Membership Meeting minutes.

There was a moment of silence for WPGA Past President, Mr. Allan Mitchell.

Rob Elliott introduced Paul LoCicero to conduct the election of board members. Mr. LoCicero explained the election process for the District Directors. Each of the following candidates were introduced and spoke to the membership on why they wanted to be elected to the board: Mark Voeller and Mark Bergman for Metro District, Jim Buyze for Northeast, Brian Bishop and Shaun Finley for Southwest and Jim Richerson for Northeast. Jim Richerson, Jim Buyze were elected by acclamation. Mark Voeller and Brian Bishop was elected by ballot vote. Each director was then given the oath of office.

### **Chris Burns – The First Tee of Northeast Wisconsin (guest)**

Chris gave an overview of the upcoming programming for The First Tee of Northeast Wisconsin and an update on the progress the chapter is making in the development of children.

### **Reports of the Officers & Executive Director**

#### **Report of the Secretary – Jim Richerson, PGA**

Mr. Richerson gave an overview of his campaign for Secretary of the PGA of America. He explained the process, the upcoming Super-Regionals and thanked everyone for their support. He then introduced his platform for election and his campaign team.

Mr. Jim Richerson recognized two new members, five quarter century members. The new quarter century members in attendance were given memento's for their service to the PGA and the Section. There were nineteen managerial changes in the section since the fall meeting.

#### **Report of the Vice President – Brian Baus, PGA**

Mr. Brian Baus presented the WPGA Section financials. The 2015-16 fiscal year was successful. We received \$5,000 in royalties that were not anticipated. The balance sheet continues to be in a strong position.

#### **Report of the President – Rob Elliott, PGA**

Mr. Elliott announced that the Wisconsin PGA centennial video will be aired on the Golf Channel on March 25. The Connecticut Section video was shown to the membership as a sample. Rob then gave an update on the PGA Merchandise Show, the tee time coalition, PGA Verified, PGA LEAD, PGA HOPE. Mr. Elliott then thanked Chris Hoel, Andy Landenberger and Joe Stadler. He then welcomed Erika Pirkel.

#### **Report of the Executive Director – Joe Stadler, PGA**

Mr. Stadler introduced and gave a brief bio on Erika Pirkel's background and what her duties would be in the position of Player Development Coordinator. An overview on 2016 sponsors was provided. Mr. Stadler mentioned that the WPGA and WSGA would be signing a new lease for office space in the same location in the very near term. PGA Performance Trak will be sunset after February.

#### **Report of the Executive Director of the WPGA Junior Foundation – Joe Stadler**

Mr. Joe Stadler informed the membership that the foundation received a \$25,000 donation from the PGA REACH foundation. He gave an update of the current board and mentioned that new officers will be elected in April. Mr. Stadler gave an update on the American Family Insurance Championship. The 2016 business plan was introduced to the membership.

### **Report of the Committees:**

**Tournament Policy Board:**

Mr. Mike O'Reilly mentioned upcoming Las Vegas Pro-am and the fact it is sold out. He highlighted a few changes to the schedule. He thanked Mark Voeller and Dan Hoffman for their time on the board. A new Pro-am championship sponsored by Oliphant Golf will be held at the end of the year. Deadlines for the major national events have changed.

**Education:**

Mr. Jim Richerson thanked Dave Hawkins for his work in coordinating the Teaching Summit. One hundred people attended the workshop. He announced there would be three breakout sessions following the formal membership meeting.

**Investment:**

Mr. Brian Baus stated that investments were down 5.8% of the year.

**Club Relations/Employment:**

Mr. Doug Cheever stated that there were 16 career links jobs throughout the year. He thanked and introduced Tim Marks, PGA for his work as our Employment Consultant.

Mr. Marks thanked the committee for their work in the area of employment. He encouraged everyone to complete the compensation survey if they had not already done so. He also encouraged members to reach out to him should they need any assistance.

**Player Development:**

Mr. Jeff Ellingson updated the membership on PGA Junior League and the Player Development Workshop slated to occur in late March. He mentioned the PGA Day at Vitense that recently occurred. He provided the date of the event at Wild Ridge. He then thanked Joe Hatch and Matt Reel for their time on the committee.

**WAGPA / PAT:**

Mr. Danny Rainbow thanked Erik Stenseth for joining the committee and mention the committee is seeking one or two additional members. He informed the membership of the April 4<sup>th</sup> seminar featuring Kurt Mantyla and Jim Lombardo. He asked the PGA Professionals in management position to encourage their assistants and apprentices to attend the workshops that are created by WAGPA. The committee will follow up via phone by a member of the committee to ensure the qualifiers understand their next step and that the committee is available to help.

**Special Awards:**

Mr. Paul LoCicero introduced and congratulated all of the 2016 Special Award winners. He mentioned that they will be honored later that evening. Mr. LoCicero also thanked the committee and sub-committee for their hard work.

**Nelthorpe:**

Mr. LoCicero congratulated the people that qualified for the 2016 Nelthorpe Cup to be played on August 5 at Racine CC.

**Scholarship:**

Jim Thompson explained the PGA Scholarship and funds are donated that are distributed to the recipients. He encouraged everyone with children and grandchildren to apply and mentioned that the deadline is March 1.

**Old Business - none**

**New Business - none**

**Open Forum –**

Mr. Stadler informed the membership that all those paying the \$70 fee to volunteer at the 2015 PGA Championship would be receiving a \$50 BlueGolf credit.

Mr. Scott Kennedy announced that Southwest Tech has a new articulation agreement with the PGM school at the University of Nebraska.

Bob Burns asked for clarification on PGA HOPE and stated he would like his program to be a PGA HOPE program.

Jim Ostrowski asked about a tee time coalition video on structuring green fees.

The meeting adjourned at 1:13pm.