

Wisconsin PGA Membership Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 31, 2022
Embassy Suites - Brookfield, Wisconsin

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

Minutes from the March 2022 meeting were approved after a motion from Jeff Ellingson and a second from Mark Voeller.

Elections for four positions at-large on the WPGA board were conducted. The election was overseen by Jeff Ellingson, Past President of the WPGA. Mark Voeller – Metro, Jeremy Cabalka – Southwest, Dave Kemnitz – Northwest, and Jamie Christianson – Northeast were all elected by acclamation subsequently sworn in as directors for a three-year term.

Dave Reid from Fairways to Heaven provided an overview of the services their company provides in international travel.

Danny Rainbow provided an update on the 2023 US Senior Open to be conducted at SentryWorld.

Report of Matt Taken, PGA – WPGA Secretary

Mr. Taken asked for a moment of silence for John Accola, Rob Bosi, Wayne Rolfs, Tom Knorr and Honorary PGA Member Herb Kohler. He then introduced quarter century members, new members and those new to the section. He provided an update on the number of members in the section. Matt reminded members if they are looking for staff to check out golfinginwisconsin website as an avenue to recruit people.

Report of Mark Voeller, PGA – WPGA Vice President

Mr. Voeller presented the end of September financials and stated we are about \$16,000 ahead of budget prior to investments. We are seven months into our fiscal year. Mark again thanked Vince Suter for attending and presenting his investment update. Mr. Voeller then provided an update on the marketing and public relations efforts of the section with Nelson Schmidt and O'Reilly PR. He talked about the financial investment and how that it is difficult to evaluate the ROI. Stadler will be meeting with Dan Nelson from Nelson Schmidt and the officers and board will have to decide on next steps since our 3-year commitment is coming to an end.

Report of Mike O'Reilly–WPGA President (also covering the District 6 Director report in Rob Elliott's absence)

Mr. O'Reilly highlighted the WPGA efforts on their 100-year celebration. Mr. Walecki put together a video to commemorate the efforts. Mike mentioned that Nathan Charnes will be the next secretary of the PGA of America as John Lindert becomes president and Don Rea vice president. Mike gave an overview of the marketing successes as presented by Nelson Schmidt. Mike highlighted the success on Google, Snapchat, Facebook and LinkedIn for paid ads. He then shared some of the successes through the PR campaign.

Mike then presented the two resolutions that are being voted on at the PGA Annual meeting. One is on the PAT and the other is the addition of an inclusion statement to the PGA constitution. Mr. Stadler provided some clarity on the PAT resolution to combine two 18 holes scores to pass the PAT. Mike then read the statement the PGA released on LIV golf. Mr. O'Reilly will be sharing more national information during the membership meeting.

WPGA Junior Foundation – Andy Landenberger, Director of Junior Golf & Michael Bielawski, Foundation President

Mr. Landenberger updated the members on events and junior memberships and also thanked host facilities for supporting the Foundation. He stated the Foundation awarded thirty-one scholarships totaling \$60,000. Mr. Bielawski asked the members in attendance for two things – get involved at your facility with hosting an event and encourage your junior players to participate in Junior Foundation tournaments. He stated that you the PGA Member has a great influence on our junior players.

Report of the Committees:

Employment: Brian Bishop mentioned the importance of the compensation survey and reminding members about it. Ryan Holland touched on the recruitment specialists looking to be added in the near future. Ryan stated that WI is doing a great job with the compensation survey at this time.

Tournament Policy Board: Matt Taken explained the Las Vegas Pro-Am had 74 individuals in the lottery. The tournament board will look to adjust the system for future events. Tournaments had a slight increase in fees but did not detract from participation. Matt stated we are looking for host sites and potential sponsors.

Education: Danny Rainbow updated the board on an education opportunity coming up next week. Danny stated they will continue to offer virtual education this winter in January & February. He said Ping will be the sponsor of these educational winter programs.

Membership: Mark Voeller commented on his report being something everyone should read. He mentioned it talked about the club pro crisis everyone is going through and he will talk about it more in the general membership report.

Player Development:

Scott Walecki updated the board on the 1,300 juniors who participated in PGA Jr League. That puts us ranked 25th out of 41 sections. The downside of this was we were ranked 38th of 41 sections in the private club area. Scott also reminded members to scan the QR code in front of you if interested in PGA Hope programs.

A special guest joined us for the player development report. John Harvey, retired United States Air Force is our PGA Hope Ambassador. Mr. Harvey is a Vietnam veteran and talked about how this program changes the lives of the veterans that attend.

Erika Pirkl provided a DCP update to the board. We will continue to have facility run DCP events and foundation conducted events. She stated this will give us more flexibility and dates. Erika said she has the schedule set except for one site in the northwest area of the state. Scott & Erika explained our PGA Hope program in Wisconsin, and we are looking to expand that in 2023

Assistants: Shaun Finley was not able to make the meeting. Michael O'Reilly updated the board with a brief assistant's report. Michael reminded the board of assistants who won events during the year. We had 83 PAT registrants with a total of 13 passing.

Special Awards: Mr. Ellingson reminded the board the special awards deadline is November 7.

Nelthorpe: Mr. Ellingson updated the board on team PGA winning the Nelthorpe cup this year. He asked team members to stand up during the meeting to be recognized.

Old Business /New Business - none

Open Forum – none

The meeting adjourned at 1:53 pm.