

Wisconsin PGA Membership Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 27, 2023
The American Club – Kohler

Meeting called to order at 12:04 p.m.

A motion was made by Mike Aschenbach and seconded by Mark Kolb to approve the October 2022 Membership Meeting minutes. The motion passed.

Mike O'Reilly introduced John Lindert, President of the PGA of America and thanked him for attending.

Jim Gaugert, President of the Wisconsin Golf Sales Association thanked the WPGA members for their support and wished them a great 2023 season. He encouraged the membership to utilize their association members whenever possible. Jim also congratulated all the WPGA award winners.

Danny Rainbow, SentryWorld spoke on behalf of the 2023 US Senior Open. He presented a powerpoint on the tickets sales, a special offering to PGA members and the volunteer needs of the event.

Nate Pokrass, American Family Insurance Championship, provided an update on the 2023 AmFam Champ.

Report of Matt Taken PGA – WPGA Secretary

Mr. Taken asked for a moment of silence for Ken Hulen who had passed away. He then announced the half and quarter century members. He also informed the board that the WPGA is 21st in size.

Report of Mark Voeller, PGA – WPGA Vice President

Mr. Voeller presented the end of January 2023 financials. Mark mentioned that the WPGA financials are in a good spot and have been consistent over the years. Mark mentioned that investments are down and that the money we spent on marketing and public relations were the reasons the section has a net loss for 2022-2023.

Report of Mike O'Reilly, PGA– WPGA President

Mr. O'Reilly provided an update on deferred compensation including how it began, how members can register, and the process of accumulating points to earn deferred compensation.

Report of Joe Stadler, PGA – WPGA Executive Director

Mr. Stadler mentioned that most sponsors are back for 2023 and a few new sponsors were added. Mr. Stadler explained the new policy on who is eligible to play in WPGA events. Joe introduced our new PGA WORKS Fellow, Morgan Taylor. She will be starting full-time around May 10.

Report of Joe Stadler, PGA – WPGA Junior Foundation

Mr. Stadler explained the foundation team is working on a new 5-year plan and will present it to the foundation board at the upcoming spring foundation meeting. The focus is on tournaments, scholarship, marketing, PGA HOPE, DCP and Junior League. Andy Landenberger provided the remainder of the report. He spoke about the new license plate and how easy it is to get the plate. He touched on some changes for 2023. Scholarship applications are now being accepted.

Report of the Committees:

Employment: Jeremy Cabalka, new chair of the committee, offered his insights into the compensation survey and the ease with which it may be completed and the importance of the survey. Ryan Holland highlighted the custom compensation report that is now available. He explained the value he finds in having everyone complete the survey, so when he works with facilities, he can have the best information to get the compensation package to the highest level possible at each facility. Ryan explained how the survey is confidential and only two people have access to the details. Wisconsin is currently 6th of the 41 sections in completion rate.

Tournament Policy Board: Michael Crowley provided an update on the State Open. In 2024, Minocqua CC will be the host and then Blackwolf Run will host in 2025 and Tuckaway CC in 2026. We are again doing the staggered opening dates for pro-ams. All low pro events in pro-ams will be Stableford. The Vegas Pro-am lottery will be utilized again in 2024 but will be tweaked. The point allocations for the POY races will be updated. He thanked all the courses for hosting events.

Education: Danny Rainbow reported on the virtual workshop series offered this winter. He mentioned we averaged about 30 per event. The GolfTEC Teaching Seminar will again be held at University Ridge during the AmFam Championship on Tuesday, June 6. Nick Dunn will be one of the speakers along with a couple of PGA Tour Champions.

Membership: Mark Voeller highlighted deferred compensation.

Player Development: Erika Pirkl presented information on PGA HOPE and the training sessions that are set up in spring, one at Grand Geneva and one at Blackwolf Run. She mentioned she will be surveying the members on any offerings to veterans with the idea of creating a PGA HOPE graduates program.

Frank Chieppa informed the group that by participation in PGA HOPE, PGA Junior League, PGA Family Cup and/or PGA Coach will help you earn your deferred compensation.

Assistants: Shaun Finley mentioned the committee has been reconfigured and are working on action items for 2023. He encouraged all associates/assistants to get involved and the mentors in the room to take an active role.

Special Awards: Mr. Ellingson thanked everyone for nominating candidates for the awards. He thanked the WGSA and PGA National Resort & Spa. He thanked the sub-committee and committee. He then introduced the winners that will be honored later that evening at the sold-out reception at Blackwolf Run.

Nelthorpe: Mr. Ellingson introduced the 2023 team that will compete at North Shore Country Club.

Scholarship: Mr. Stadler reminded the members of the deadline dates and requirements to apply.

Old Business - none

New Business – none

Open Forum – Mike O'Reilly explained the change to the fall meeting moving forward. Mike then shared a few clips from Ted Lasso to highlight some leadership concepts. Mike closed the meeting offering some additional inspirational thoughts on how all of us can do better and be better.

The meeting adjourned at 1:52 pm.