

**STLWDGA**  
**FALL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**NOVEMBER 7, 2017**  
**NORWOOD HILLS COUNTRY CLUB**

CALL TO ORDER 10:03 a.m.

Present: Gerry Wisniewski, NW; Vickie Ressler, MB; Joyce Jackson, FH; Ronnie Burg, PW; Margaret Farrell, WB; CJ Evans, LF; Bev Frein, BH; Sue Springmeyer, STA; Laurel Palmer, ALG; Marian Sinnett, FH. Participating by phone conference was Daveann Degenhart, LG.

WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBER: Daveyann Degenhart, LG

MINUTES FROM SPRING EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

- The minutes were distributed, reviewed & updated.
- The revisions will be updated & sent by email to the executive board for approval.
- Minutes approved via email by all Executive Board members.

OLD BUSINESS

Job Descriptions

- Gerry requested a few changes in job descriptions in regard to dates.
- Team Chair & Assist Chair may need changes in her job description.
- Sue will get word copy from Gerry to bring up to 2018

Pace of Play Monitors

- Ronnie presented her concerns in regard to using monitors and yellow flags to improve pace of play. She expressed her concerns as to using monitors. Finding and training monitors who were members of the board and/or local club members was sometimes a challenge. Ronnie found herself acting as an “enforcer.” Comments made to Ronnie were positive. Participants reported that they liked finishing the round in 4 ½ hours and they were able to eat with the rest of the group.
- Monitors used the yellow flags to warn slow groups, gave verbal warnings, followed slow groups. There are occasionally other factors that affect the pace such as long distance between holes and pay during cart path only restrictions.
- In addition to providing Local Rules/Conditions of Competition, Ronnie provided the players with a schematic of the golf course to assist the golfers. Pace of Play times were printed on the scorecards. Players were instructed that these were guidelines, we were looking for foursomes that had an open hole, with a full plus field there should not have been any gaps. Prior to the start of the season, a “How to Improve Pace of Play” document was given to the team captains in their packets and they were asked to provide this information to their players.

- In addition to information that was provided to the players, Ronnie provided the monitors with the following information: Duties, Tee group information (player's names, starting hole), Raguzzi chart and Local Rules/Conditions of Competition.
- Members of the executive board comments included the following:
  - It is everyone's responsibility to improve pace of play
  - Fellow team members and Team Captain should remind participants of the importance of keeping a good pace.
  - Some of the ladies still do not appear to understand the rules of match play.
  - Team Captain should be able to help by reminding participants of the basics of pace of play.
  - Concern for giving monitors merit points for volunteering.
  - The pro shop staff is busy with other responsibilities.
  - Talk to the individuals who are slow.
  - Send an email to the team caption to address the need to speed up play for their team.
  - The captain concept where one person in the foursome acts as the pace of play monitor.
- The board decided to form a committee to discuss the issue of pace of play and bring recommendations to the executive board by the spring executive board meeting.

NO ADDITIONAL OLD BUSINESS

REPORTS

PRESIDENT'S REPORT BY Gerry Wisniewski, NW

Gerry thanked the Board for their support with the recent change in leadership.

- She informed the board that the 2018 schedule has been finalized and distributed.
- She is going to try to move the date of the SES Tournament from September 21st to September 28th due to the Women's Mid-Am at Norwood on the 21st.
- Gerry distributed district letterhead, notecards & envelopes for board members. Everyone should have the updated digital version.
- She reminded the board to get shirts for embroidery to her by end of December. District will pay for 2 items. Additional items can be embroidered for \$13.00.

- Joyce suggested that we do not embroidery names on the shirts. Gerry commented that each board member can decide whether to or not to add a name on her shirt.
- Gerry reminded the board of the Executive Board uniforms which are white logo shirts and black bottoms. The uniform should be worn by 'all' board members at any District event with the exception of a member of the board who is a player in Team, the Mixed Event and the Invitational. Jackets are required at the Opening and Closing meetings, TOL, SES and the Invitational Semi-Finalists luncheons.

#### VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT BY Vickie Ressler, MB

Vickie informed the board that she met with Gerry to review and familiarize herself with the Vice President's Job Description.

She informed the board of the following:

- Letters have been sent to all the clubs to inform them to bill members of STLWDGA for dues in the amount of \$75.00. A listing of the members as of the most recently updated database was included so she asked each club to update the membership list for resignations and changes in member information. The check from the clubs for dues will be mailed to CJ Evans, Treasurer by January 31, 2018. In February Vickie contact those clubs who haven't responded.
- In regard to the yearbook, letters were sent to the CDs to have them update the Club Information and the Roster for their respective club. She requested the updates to be returned to her by Friday, November 3, 2017.
- She is preparing the information that she will need to conduct the Spring Meeting with the New Member Coordinators on Friday, April 13, 2018, at Bellerive.
- She is familiarizing herself with the Junior Invitational Tournament being held at Norwood Hills on July 5-6, 2018, (Thursday and Friday).

#### TOURNAMENT CHAIR REPORT BY Joyce Jackson, FH

Joyce presented the board with a metric comparison of member participation during the 2017 season.

- She added that the merit system was only used twice during our 2017 season during the Opening Scramble and Best Ball in September.
- We accommodated 716 players during the tournament season. (730 in 2016 and 755 in 2015). This does not include Team, the Mixed Event, Invitational and the Junior Tournament.
- STLWDGA had five women who played in all 9 events.

- In her report, she included the participation of STLWDGA membership by club. The participation report does not include team.
- Over the past year, Joyce worked to familiarize herself with TM (Golf Genius) and learned a lot from Vickie Ressler. She commented that Vickie did a great job as Tournament Chair. Vickie used TM to improve the way we communicate with our players and membership. She was organized and put together a file for Joyce. Joyce added that she will work to continue to improve the Tournament Chair position as well as work closely with Daveann to help her learn everything.
- She concluded that she is looking forward to another great year working with the board to provide exciting tournaments for our members and that we are lucky to be supporting the game we love.

ASSISTANT TOURNAMENT CHAIR Daveann Degenhart, LG gave no report.

TEAM CHAIR BY Ronnie Burg, PW

- Ronnie and Margaret met and set up the 2018 Team Sections, Divisions and Play Date matches.
- Like last year, they will be using the Tournament Management (TM or Golf Genius) as they did last year. Over the winter she will try to figure out how to accrue match points. If that doesn't work, she will tallying points in an EXCEL worksheet like the one that has been used for > 5 years.
- A Pace of Play procedure was started in 2017 and met with mostly favorable comments.
- Ronnie and Margaret will evaluate tee yardages that will be played in conjunction with the Pace of Play policy.

ASSISTANT TEAM CHAIR Margaret Farrell, WB had no report.

TREASURER REPORT BY CJ Evans, LF

- CJ distributed hard copies of the financial information (see attached).
- She presented the board with documents that included 2017 Budget vs Expenses, 2017 Actual Expenses and 2017 Approved Operating Budget
- She commented that the 2017 season ended in very good standing financially. We have \$2500 in reserves \$8000 in the 100-year anniversary fund, and \$250 in the MedArt fund. The Williams fund was zeroed out during the year and not renewed.
- There is \$3695.70 left in the 2017 budget that can be carried over to the 2018 budget.
- The 2017 budget was based on 370 dues-paying members at \$75 each.
- The transfer of bank funds from Enterprise to US Bank was successful.
- She paid \$21.25 for the STLWDGA incorporation fee for 2 years. In addition to a certificate of good standing that was purchased for \$11.25. This is needed if we ever want to change signers on the checking account.

- Gerry commented that STLWDGA saved money on printing in 2017.
- There was a discussion in regard to low turnout for the Jr Tournament. The cost to run tournament is the same whether we have 60 or 35 participants. This year not as much going on at the same time. Marian commented that we need to consider other conflicts for the public and private high school schedules when selecting a date to have the tournament.
- CJ added that she doesn't like making the decision where to put expenses. She would like for the "Expense Request" to indicate exactly where to put the expense.
- Gerri gave CJ a copy of the nominating report to have Kathy removed as a signer. The Nominating Committee report has the board listed.

#### RULES REPORT BY Laurel Palmer, ALG

Laurel presented recommendations for improving the Pace of Play.

- The entire membership be responsible for Pace of Play.
- We must monitor one another and move people along as needed.
- Laurel suggested that one member in each foursome is selected to be in charge of pace of play during each play day. This could be done by placing a dot next to her name on the score card. The selected player has the responsibility to monitor her foursome.
- The "dotted member" (designated) player might have to suggest the following to the slow player(s):
  - take only one practice swing
  - take clubs with her that she might use on her next shot
  - drive up to the group in front of her group to let them know they have fallen behind creating an open hole.
  - remind her group to keep up with the group in front of them
  - remind players of the guidelines to help play move at a better pace
  - Whatever the situation, it is the job of the "dotted member" to identify any problems, vocalize the issue, and work to correct the problem(s).
- Laurel suggested that STLWDGA replace the yellow flags that were used this year with the plan as suggested above.
- She added that the flags require volunteers to ride around and police play. Nor should we ask members or board members to supervise play.
- She concluded that the entire membership should be involved in improving the pace of play.

- As Rules Chairperson, Laurel plans to do the following in 2018:
- A list of suggestions to improve Pace of Play will be at the tables at the beginning of each tournament and team play. The suggestions will be on a foam board. She will have one available for the Tournament Chair and one for the Team Captain. The board will give each member an idea of what is expected and guide the “dotted member” so she will know when to say something to her foursome.
- Laurel presented an example of the foam board that would be distributed.
- She included that while having the time for each hole on the bottom of the scorecard can be helpful, this is a guideline and it pertains to the pace of play of a foursome. A threesome who is following those times is out of position.
- Laurel added that members are reluctant to say anything when a problem arises regarding someone low play. Since each member will at some time have the opportunity to be the “dotted member,” the reluctance may dissipate and corrections may be easier to handle.
- Marian commented that it is great to try something different and evaluate it at the end of the season.
- Laurel added that the dotted player could be random, eg the first person who picks up the card, team could be one person on each team.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY Bev Frein, BH had no report.

RECORDING SECRETARY Sue Springmeyer, STA had no report.

HONORARY PAST PRESIDENT/PARLIAMENTARIAN Marian Sinnett, FH had no report.

## NEW BUSINESS

### Prizes - Gift Certificates

- Gerry inquired as to the feelings of the Board in regard to using certificates vs. prizes. The members of the board commented that it is easier on the prize chairs, event winners can buy balls with certificates and they can use the certificates on another day. Event winners do not always need the prize eg. platter, rain poncho, umbrellas...

### Luncheon Thank You Notes

- Gerry solicited board feelings in regard to writing thank you notes during lunch. Many are not always completed. Members of the board felt that personal is better. In addition, the Chair & Vice Chair use letterhead to send an email expressing gratitude to the host club. The board concluded that writing notes is overkill and it would be better for individual players to thank the staff before they leave the event. Vicki suggested that we do not write the notes at the table this year & see what happens.

### Team Semi Finals and Finals – Lunch

- Gerry informed the board that STLWDGA does not require participants to stay for lunch during team finals and finals. She asked the board if we should do more than just encourage participants to stay for lunch. The members of the board commented that some participants will always stay and others just go. Board members commented that Ronnie could send an email to team players in regard to staying for lunch.

### Tees for Scrambles/Best Balls

- Gerry solicited board comments in regard to the yardage & slope used during district play. When Marian was President, we reviewed all of the tees, yardage & slope. A member of district inquired as to the reason for playing the more difficult tees for scrambles and/or best balls. A survey of the handicap range for our membership indicated that the greater majority of the ladies in district are in the 15-24 index range.
- Comments from the board were as follows:
  - this is district
  - forward tees should be 18 hole group and inter club
  - district ladies can play in inter club
- In dealing with the pace of play, Ronnie adjusted tee distances and changed them for team play based on the difficulty of the hole. She fielded complaints about how long and hard STL CC was during district play.
- Vickie commented that looking at all courses the par 3 tees are pretty even.

### Website: Daily updates for 3-Day & Invitational

- Gerry informed the board that members of STLWDGA are asking for daily updates on the website.
- Ronnie said she could do it. Ronnie added that no one can change the information once it is put on the website.
- Gerry commented that it would be interesting to see how many people look at it.

### Standings for the Invitational and 3-Day.

- Vicki believes that Golf Genus can send the information to the master roster.
- Gerry said that she will work with Joyce and Ronnie to provide daily updates either through <sup>™</sup> or the Website for the 3-Day and Invitational.

### Membership

- Gerry informed the board that as of the end of Oct. we had approximately 370 members, not all paying members, we are financially in good shape and using the merit system a couple of times during the year. The board discussed lowering the index required for new members and/or the description for STLWDGA

membership. Member clubs have varying standards for a full golfing member. Joyce suggested changing the description to “full membership privileges.” It was decided that this would change the intent and we would need a vote from our membership to make such a change. In addition, the board will look at the membership number during the spring board meeting to determine if STLWDGA membership requirements should be adjusted to allow for more members.

#### Mixed Event

- Gerry informed the board that there were hard feelings associated with the mixed event. The entry form always said, “husband/partner” and last year it was changed to “spouse/significant other.” We had a member of STLWDGA who always played with her son & now she cannot play. The board discussed the requirements of partner status for the mixed event. Historically, most of the participants played with their spouse. The board discussed the “intent” of the event.
- Marian, representing the past presidents, commented that this has always been a “husband/wife/significant other” event and not a member guest.
- After much discussion, it was unanimous, all members of the executive board prefer to have the mixed event open to, “husband/partner” and not limited to “husband.” An event that is more inclusive of all of the district ladies.
- Marian will talk to the past presidents and, if necessary, they can meet with the executive board. The board would like for the entry to read, “spouse/partner” with an established handicap with a golf organization.
- The discussion is tabled until Marian reports back from the past presidents.

#### SES Charity selection

- Charities were discussed, secret vote taken and the Women’s Safe House was selected.
- Sue presented a thumb drive to keep records of the recording secretary rather than using a notebook. The board agreed that it would be fine for the records of the recording secretary.
- Laurel would like to have the email of golf professionals in year book. Gerry concerned that it will add another page. They will be included if it does not add another page to the yearbook.
- Laurel made a motion to adjourn and CJ seconded the motion.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 1:10

Respectfully submitted,  
Sue Springmeyer  
Recording Secretary

revised 11/19/2017