

**ST. LOUIS WOMENS' DISTRICT GOLF ASSOCIATION**  
**Organized in 1920**

FALL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING  
November 14, 2019  
Meadowbrook Country Club

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER 9:30 AM

Present: Vickie Ressler, MB; Bev Frein, BH; Barb Witbrodt, STA; Sherrie Wehner, GB; Janine Fabick, SS; Jan Miles, FH; Margaret Farrell, WB; Carol Bloss, LG; and Gerry Wisniewski, NW. Oanh Wieland, SS, and Julie Villarini, WB, participated in meeting via phone conference.

Vickie welcomed all board members and introduced new members, Sherrie Wehner, GB, Assistant Tournament Chair; Janine Fabick, SS, Treasurer; and Julie Villarini, WB, Rules Chairman

MINUTES FROM THE SPRING EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING  
OF MARCH 15, 2019

- Minutes distributed electronically to Board Members before meeting.
- Vickie asked for comments, changes or questions. None were made.
- Margaret Farrell motioned to accept the minutes as written and Carol Bloss seconded.
- Minutes of the March 15, 2019 Spring Executive Board Meeting are hereby approved as submitted

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Job Descriptions**

- Vickie received all Job Descriptions except Parliamentarian/Honorary President.
- Vickie requested this job description from Gerry.

**Storage Locker**

- Vickie reported STLWDGA has moved to a larger storage room #3331 located at Life Storage #307, 301 Meramec Station Road, Ballwin, MO 63021. It has been recently organized and provides room to move around.

**End of Old Business**

## **REPORTS**

### **President Report by Vickie Ressler, MB**

- Vickie reviewed her Job Description and thanked Gerry for its detail.
- Vickie thanked Gerry for finalizing our 2020 Schedule which Vickie has emailed to all members and Golf Pros.

### **Stationery Needs**

- All Board Members have a digital version of Letterhead.
- Notecards with District insignia and envelopes are available to all Board Members.
- Scorecard and cart sign stock is well stocked this year.

### **Shirts**

- Vickie reminded all to get any shirts they would like embroidered to her by end of December and that District pays for 2 items, with a \$13 charge for any additional shirts.

### **Board Member Uniforms**

- Vickie reviewed uniform requirements - a white logo shirt and black bottom - which must be worn by “all” board members at any District event you participate in with the exception of Team, Mixed Event and the Invitational if you are a player. If you are not playing but helping out, then uniform should be worn. Jackets are required at the Opening and Closing meetings, TOL, SES and the Invitational Semi-Finalists’ luncheon.

### **MAGA**

- Vickie reported her attendance at the MAGA awards ceremony on November 7<sup>th</sup>. It was her first time and she thinks it should be attended by the President each year.
- Vickie believes STLWDGA’s presence enables our organization to network with pros and managers.
- Vickie reported MAGA supports STLWDGA by allowing full access to Golf Genius and thus we should support Curt Rohe.
- Vickie thanked all volunteers who are serving on the Executive Board and she hopes to have a successful 2020 season.

The President’s report is attached hereto and made of part of these minutes.

## **Vice President Report by Bev Frein, BH**

### **Dues**

- Bev sent letters to all 20 clubs requesting \$75 dues be billed to each STLWDGA member at their club.
- Checks from clubs for dues will be mailed to Janine Fabick by January 31, 2020.

### **Yearbook**

- Bev contacted all CDs requesting updates of their club information and member rosters by November 11.
- Bev continuously updates information throughout the year.

### **New Member Coordinators**

- Bev processed four (4) new members since closing day. They are Peggy Ahern, STA; Jenny Reed, STA; Donna Pacy, WB; Diane Riley, WB; and Taylor Brengard, NW.
- Bev will be gathering information about new members to present at the Spring Meeting with the New Member Coordinators on Friday, April 17, 2020, at Meadowbrook Country Club.

### **Junior Invitational Tournament**

- Due to lack of participation and interest in this tournament, it was decided not to continue it at the present time.

The Vice President's Report is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes

### **Tournament Chair Report by Barb Witbrodt, STA**

- Barb provided a report with statistics of player participation for the following tournaments since 2014 – Opening Scramble, TOL, Three Day, Best Ball, Senior, Best Ball, SES and Closing Scramble. The numbers can be reviewed in her report.
- Barb reported for the entire 2019 season, STLWDGA tournaments accommodated 739 golfers – not including Invitational or Mixed.
- Barb reported Merit System invoked twice – for Opening and Closing Scrambles.

- Barb reported Beth Schasteen, NW, participated in every event including Three Day, Invitational and Mixed.
- Barb further presented a breakdown of participation by club which may be referenced in her report.

The Tournament Chair Report is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes.

### **No Report from Assistant Tournament Chair Sherrie Wehner, GB**

### **Team Chair Report by Margare Farrell, WB**

- Margaret reported she and her Assistant, Carol Bloss, have setup the 2020 Team Sections, Division and Play Date matches and have been forwarded to Ronnie Burg and Bev Frein for the yearbook and the website.
- Margaret reported the Net and Gross spreadsheets tabulating Team points are prepared and forwarded to Ronnie Burg and Bev Frein for the yearbook and the website.
- Margaret reported that some Clubs are struggling to field a team of six for Team Events. She and a committee of Carol Bloss, Vickie Ressler, Gerry Wisniewski, Ronnie Burg and Bobbie Light met to discuss this issue. Cindy Herrin also contributed her input. They formulated two policy changes to accommodate this:
  - First, the requirement of six (6) players on the first play date has been eliminated.
  - Second, a new Team Format Rule was developed for teams with only 4 or 5 players. These teams of 4 or 5 may decide their lineups, keeping them in handicap order. The Team Format Rule for teams of 1,2, 3 and 6 players will not change,
- Margaret reported pace of play procedures will continue in 2020 since it was not an issue in 2019.

The Team Chair Report is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes

### **No Report from Assistant Team Chair - Carol Bloss**

### **Treasurer Report by Janine Fabick, SS**

- Janine expressed she was happy to be on the Board and distributed the 2019 STLWDGA Board Expenses spreadsheet and the 2019 Golfing Events - Budget vs. Expenses spreadsheet, both dated 10-31-2019.

- Janine reported District's unrestricted reserve balances increased to \$146 for 2019, with \$2500 in reserve, \$10,000 reserved for 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary and \$100 in MedArt fund.
- Janine reported a \$7,008.07 surplus from 2019 will be carried over to 2020 budget, with 7 new members joining in 2019.
- Janine noted at the beginning of 2019 there was an outstanding balance of \$18,563.29 which appears excessive for a non-profit organization. She questioned whether prize monies should be increased which is available.
- Gerry noted we have been holding on to funds for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary and Vickie mentioned the Board would look at this in the Spring.
- Gerry mentioned an entry fee for the anniversary celebration should be free and Barb suggested charging a nominal fee because of no-shows from a totally free commitment.

The Treasurer's Report and spreadsheets are attached hereto and made a part of these minutes.

#### **Rules Chairman Report, Julie Villarini, WB**

- Julie was on conference call throughout the meeting and expressed she was grateful to serve as Rules Chair and to learn more about STLWDGA and the board members.
- She thanked Laurel for great documentation for a smooth transition into her position and thanked Jane Hayo and Pattie Canter who will continue on rules committee to assist.
- Julie plans to focus on educating membership of any 2020 changes, continuing to improve pace of play and learning about the World Handicap System.

The Rules Chairman's Report is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes.

#### **Report of Corresponding Secretary – Oanh Wieland, SS**

- Oanh attended via phone conference and reported a donation was made to the Shriners, and cards were sent to Laurie Merchant and Bob Shogren and Charles Shepherd's family.
- Oanh also reported Laurie Merchant received progressive treatment and appears to be cancer free.
- Oanh reported Jan Massarella, STA, will receive a get well card as she is dealing with ovarian cancer.

## **Recording Secretary – Jan Miles, FH - No Report**

## **Parliamentarian/Honorary President – Gerry Wisniewski, NW – No Report**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Membership – Handicap Requirement**

- Vickie discussed STLWDGA now have 352 members and queried the Board if we should keep our current handicap requirement of 17.4.
- Upon discussion it was unanimously decided that we shall leave it at 17.4.

#### **World Handicap System**

- Julie, remaining on conference call, then reported on the World Handicap System (hereinafter referred to as “WHS”)
- This new system will unify six different handicap systems used globally and be governed by the USGA and R&A with the following purposes:
  - Enable all golfers to compete on fair and equitable basis, in any format, on any course, anywhere globally
  - Be easy to understand and implement and be accurate
  - Meet varied needs and expectations of golfers, golf clubs and golf authorities
- Timeline for implementing this WHS – early 2020
- Julie reported on major changes and are summarized as follows:
  1. *Course and Slope Rating* – USGA course rating system will become “The Course Rating System” and join “The Rules of Handicapping” to form WHS
  2. *Number of Scores Required for Handicap Index* – Three (3) 18 hole scores required to issue a handicap
  3. *Basis of Handicap Index Calculation*: Handicap Index calculated by 8 best score differentials out of most recent 20 (old rule 10 of 20)
  4. *Limit Upward Movement of Handicap Index* – A “soft” and “hard” cap used to calculate index with soft cap used to suppress upward movement of index by 50% if 3.0 stroke increase within 12 months, and hard cap restricts upward movement after soft cap applies, a 5.0 stroke increase takes place within 12 months

5. *Exceptional Score Reduction* – A score which produces a differential of 7.0 strokes or more below their Index, it will be subject to an Exceptional Score Reduction of -1.0 (if 7.0-9.9 strokes below) or -2.0 (if 10.0 or more strokes below) applied to the most recent 20 score differentials  
(Julie's example here was if Handicap is 18 and an 80 is posted, the differential was 8 – only reduce by 8 instead of 10)
  6. *Playing Conditions Calculations* – Abnormal course or weather conditions causing unusually high or low scores on a given day will be subject to a Playing Conditions Calculation to reflect actual performance  
Sherrie Wehner, GB, mentioned their pro, Matt Grindler, discussed this and it would be up to pro based on the number in field issued across course to validate high scores due to weather conditions  
Julie reported she will sit down with each club pro to figure out how this will be handled
  7. *Frequency of Handicap Index Updates* – Players Index will update daily, if a player submits a score the day before
  8. *Maximum Handicap Index* – Maximum handicap index for all golfers will be 54.0, regardless of gender (old was 36 for men and 40 for women)
  9. *Importance and Determination of Par* – WHS will require par values be more precise based on yardage guidelines set by WHS
  10. *Course Handicap Calculation and Application* – Course handicap will represent the number of strokes a player receives in relation to par of the tees being play –  
Course Handicap = Handicap Index x (Slope Rating /113)
  11. *Playing Handicap Calculation and Application* – Playing Handicap will represent number of strokes a player receives in competition with the formula  
Playing Handicap = Course Handicap x Handicap Allowance
  12. *Maximum Hole Score for Handicap Purposes* (Net Double Bogey) – Maximum will be calculated by the following formula  
Double Bogey x handicap strokes a player receives (or gives) based on their Course Handicap
  13. *Treatment of Nine Hole Scores* – when 7-13 holes played, a 9 hole score must be submitted; when 14 or more holes played, it qualifies for posting an 18 hole score
- Julie provided the following websites for additional resources:  
[https:// www.usga.org/content/usga/home-page/handicapping/world-handicap-system/WHS-resources-html](https://www.usga.org/content/usga/home-page/handicapping/world-handicap-system/WHS-resources-html)

<https://www.whs.com/>

<https://www.flipsnack.com/tbenjamin1/whs-change-summaries.html>

- Julie expressed she will continue to learn more about the changes and work with local USGA officials to understand how STLWDGA will apply them
- Julie recommends we hold a WHS workshop for membership at Spring Opening Meeting.
- Vickie asked to have Julie keep us updated

A copy of the World Handicap System Report as provided by Rules Chairman, Julie Villarini, is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes.

### **Super Seniors Tees – Senior Tournament**

- Vickie discussed if our Senior Tournament should now provide a forward tee for Super Seniors (72 years and older) because there have been requests by them to do so
- All Super Seniors have been playing same tee box as other competitors
- Discussion ensued that more seniors may play in this event if given shorter distances
- It was proposed to look at courses with shorter distances for ability to host senior event
- It was also questioned if Super Senior could win the overall if they did have forward tee boxes
- It was agreed to formulate an Age PLUS Handicap requirement which will determine who may play the forward tees in the Super Senior status
- Any Super Senior would then be entitled to win the overall low prize

### **WingHaven Country Club**

- Vickie reported WingHaven Country Club asked to join STLWDGA
- Vickie reported our membership has been dwindling and that WingHaven could provide between 15 to 17 players
- Vickie reported she was in favor of adding WingHaven
- Discussion ensued regarding Team issues – i.e., teams could opt out with fewer players, uneven teams, etc.
- Gerry reminded us that only 8 or 9 members play in an event even when there are 20 members from a club that could play.



- It was pointed out that when Persimmon Woods joined with 15-16 ladies, only 10 out of 18 play now or 56%
- Margaret Farrell, Team Chairman, was positive about addition of WingHaven. She suggested WingHaven not play Team the first year until a new format is adopted with uneven teams and suggested a rotation system for teams with least points sitting out and again rotating back in unless someone bows out. She mentioned if clubs don't participate and then left out, it would encourage everyone to play in team events
- Gerry suggested Vickie speak with Past Presidents for their input and mentioned that Persimmon Woods would have an issue with "full" Mixed Event because their dining facilities would not hold 200 people but they were accepted.
- Vickie reviewed the guidelines in the by-laws, i.e., any 18-hole club qualifies, and such club must accept reciprocity and submit an application in writing and be approved by 2/3 of the Board of Directors
- Vickie stated WingHaven could accommodate 64 couples for Mixed Event
- Vickie asked for a vote to move forward with pursuing WingHaven Country Club for membership with STLWDGA.
- A vote was taken by the Board Members and was unanimously approved to move forward with accepting WingHaven and Vickie will refer to Past President Pattie Canter who welcomed Persimmon Woods into District
- Vickie stated WingHaven would likely not play Team for at the least the first year and would not play Opening Day 2020 but could play in Best Ball and all other events in 2020 once member dues are paid and accepted.

### **Lorette MedArt Fund**

- Vickie explained the Lorette MedArt Fund was established for Past Presidents to buy flowers for the Past Presidents.
- She mentioned it is funded by Past Presidents and would like to have this funded by District instead by keeping the funds at \$500.
- All Board Members agreed and this fund shall now become an expense of STLWDGA.

## **TOL Trophies**

- Vickie reported 20 new TOL trophies will be ordered at All Star Trophy.
- These trophies are bigger and without a base, but names can be etched on the crystal.
- Trophies cost \$94 each with funds to come out of Dorothy Gould reserve.
- Mr. Gould would like to know how money was used from his contribution. Vickie proposed the low net winner prize be a \$250 gift card.
- Pro Shop Credit of \$100 will still be given for Over-all Low Net and Over-all Low Gross winners
- The Over-all Low Net winner will also receive a \$250 gift card.
- Vickie will be in touch with Mr. Gould about these amounts.

## **Tipping**

- Barb Witbrodt suggested giving gift cards to the locker room attendants instead of cash. Vickie's preference is to still use cash tips as she thinks the attendants would rather have cash.

## **SES Charity Selection**

- A list of charities was distributed to the Board Members for their review via email from Vice President Bev Frein
- The following charities were considered:  
Kids in the Middle submitted by Gerry Wisniewski, NW; Crisis Aid International submitted by Nancy Howald, LG; No Woman Left Behind, Covenant House, and Operation Food Search submitted by Carol Stampley, WM; The Foundation for Barnes-Jewish Hospital submitted by Marilyn Steinbeck, WW; Smile Train submitted by Nancy Gulick, STL; Today and Tomorrow submitted by Kelly Pfister, BR; All Among Us submitted by Carol Bloss, LG; and St Louis Area Diaper Bank submitted by Christine Mikesell, STA
- Carol Bloss shared her knowledge of All Among Us and Gerry Wisniewski and Jan Miles shared their experience with Kids in the Middle
- The voting was narrowed to Kids in the Middle and All Among Us
- A ballot with these two charities was distributed to board members with and Kids in the Middle becoming our 2020 Charity with a vote of 5-3

## **Spring Executive Meeting**

- Vickie requested the Spring Executive Meeting date be determined at this time
- March 5, 2020 at 9:30 am at Meadowbrook was selected

Gerry asked if there was any other new business to discuss.

- Barb Witbrodt asked if online registration for tournaments could be a possibility for the future. She believes our membership would benefit through registration on Golf Genius and would attempt to implement it. She will look into it and discuss at Spring Meeting
- Carol Bloss then asked where everyone saves their documents
- Barb Witbrodt responded she uses Drop Box and will look into a price for STLWDGA – at a non-profit rate

A motion to adjourn was made by Bev and Margaret seconded the motion.

**THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 12:00 noon**

Respectfully submitted,  
Jan Miles  
Recording Secretary

Converted 2019 FALL EXECUTIVE MINUTES