

WILLOWCREEK WOMEN'S 18-HOLE GOLF ASSOCIATION

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 11, 2023

Call to Order

President Sue Brooks called the meeting to order at Marinette Recreation Center at 1:00 p.m. There were approximately 61 in attendance.

Approval of Minutes

Terri Simpson made a motion to approve the February 7, 2023 minutes. The motion was seconded by Teresa Otto. Motion carried.

Announcements

Sue Brooks extended congratulations to our Team Play Captains and all of the players for their great season, taking first place in gross and second place in net. Sue also congratulated our club champions Mary Engert, Marcia Grenier, Nancy Gray and Renee Hawkins for representing us in the Sun City Champion of Champions.

Sue also offered thanks to Jean Emerson and her crew for a well-run Member/Guest Tournament, to Thorine Peterson for agreeing to be our league historian and to Janet Buchholz for being our website coordinator for the last several years. Janet will step down next year and a new coordinator will be needed. Sue asked that interested volunteers contact either Sue or Renee Hawkins.

Treasurer and Membership Report

Barb Halpin reported that the ledger balance as of April 1, 2023, was \$6,023.35. The 2023 budget is \$1,106.17 and the 2022 unpaid budget is \$8.07. Forward liabilities are \$1,879.28 and the unbudgeted balance is \$3,029.83.

Barb noted that we have 121 regular members and 4 social members.

COMMITTEE AND REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:

SCWGA/Umbrella

Sue Brooks relayed Karen Madison's report on the March Better Ball Tournament, where 188 players signed up to play but due to cancellations on the day of play, only 184 played. Karen wants a discussion with the Umbrella committee about possible consequences when a player cancels within 5 days of the tournament.

Sue noted that Mary Engert had made a motion that was approved for Team Play, requiring a rule that lift, clean and place will be in effect on days when players are restricted to using the cart path only. Linda Metzger, this year's Team Play Coordinator, and Mary Engert, next year's Team Play Coordinator, both agreed that Team Play should continue to be played next year as it was this year. They both recommend leaving the tee boxes as is (yellow for North Course, Willowcreek and South Course, and combo tees for Lakes West and Riverview). The index range will remain at 0-20.4 for A level, 20.5-26.5 for B level and 26.6-36 for C level. Payout will continue with both net and gross scoring. With no more changes to Team Play and with the recommendations of the Team Play coordinators, Sue asked the membership with a show of hands if they want to continue using these same tee boxes for Team Play and Tournaments next year – all were in favor.

AGA/Handicap/Hole-in-One

Polly Fischette reported that the most improved golfer last year was Teresa Otto. Teresa had a starting index of 31.4 and an ending index of 26.5. Teresa was introduced and given a certificate and \$25.00 check.

CAGD

Nancy Masters reported that the next draw will be April 18, 2023, with no more after that until November 2023.

Greens Committee/Golf Advisory

Cristi Dorsch reported that straight sheets will continue through April and crossover sheets will begin in May. Brown spots on the greens are due to sudden temperature changes and small rocks on the practice green come from blowers cleaning the parking lot. Cristi noted that smoking on the patios has become an issue and Brian Duthu is to address this with a consideration for signs. Cristi asked that we notify her when greens plugs are not evenly replaced so that she can inform Chuck Manning.

Rangers will receive a \$2.00 golf voucher for each 4-hour shift completed with a required minimum of four 4-hour shifts per month. Rangers will also receive reimbursement for gas when they use their own cart.

The USGA will do a course review and Harry Emerson and Cristi will participate in the review and emphasize a focus on our sand traps and greens.

Cristi asked for volunteers to adopt holes 3 and 13 and there will be a pizza party for the volunteers, hosted by Brenda Franks at her home.

Turf conversion is planned for this spring and summer, for the area between the 2nd hole tee boxes and the 8th hole green.

Beautification

Laura Horvatic reported that the Beautification committee from each course agreed to adopt a uniform protocol that would be consistent throughout Sun City. Memorial markers will not be replaced and new memorial markers will not be allowed. Damaged markers will be permanently removed. Current undamaged markers will remain until they become damaged, at which point they also will be removed. Sponsors of current undamaged markers may remove them for personal preservation elsewhere. In areas where turf will soon be removed, any markers, whether damaged or not, will also be removed and not replaced. The future focus will be on beautification, with items placed around the snack and pro shops. Willowcreek and Willowbrook will be combined, with one donation box to cover both courses. There will also be no more memorial benches and benches will be removed when damaged beyond repair.

Member Guest

Jean Emerson passed out a questionnaire that asked for input on continuation of and/or suggestions for this tournament. Cheryl Medeiros has agreed to organize this tournament for 2024.

Pairings

Kathy Hutchinson had nothing to report.

Ringers and Birdies

Kryssy Brown had nothing to report.

Rules

Carol Arend noted that: (1) when on the ¼ minus surface, twigs and tiny rocks around the ball can be picked away but a player cannot perform a “sweep” of the area; (2) when near a bridge and the ball is **not** in a penalty area, a free drop is allowed if the

bridge interferes with the player's swing or stance; and (3) a ball on or under a bridge is always considered to be in a penalty area.

Arlene Balazic has placed plexiglass holders in the bathroom stalls that have information about different rules. Members were encouraged to let Arlene know about rule questions and she will put that information in the holders. Arlene recommended that members look at the USGA app about rules and to download it to their phone. There is a 2023 hardcopy book that can be purchased through the USGA.

Information was given regarding immovable obstructions on hole #14, between the homes and the bunker on the left. Free relief is available where there are large rocks with one club length no closer to the hole. The relief ball must be dropped, not placed. A ball in the ¼ minus rock does not qualify for free relief. Arlene also explained the 3 options for relief of an unplayable ball and noted that the concrete edging on the creeks is part of the penalty area and there is no free relief from the concrete.

A request was made for Cristi Dorsch to ask the greens committee to have the penalty lines more clearly visible.

Team Play

Mary Engert reported that Willowcreek won gross. Carol Arend and Dar Hedin will be the A team captains for next year. The date schedule for next year has been set and will be posted on our website but tee times are not yet determined. The Umbrella committee voted that all Team Play players must use a cart during play. No players can walk.

Tournaments

Marcia Grenier extended congratulations to Mary Engert for being the club champion this year. The President Cup dates for 2024 will be November 28, December 5 and December 12.

Gloria Stump thanked Marcia for coordinating the Willowcreek tournaments.

Welcoming Committee

Kathy Cea introduced new members Cat Felker and Judy Jondahl. Kathy requested that members adopt a "big sister" approach and make an effort to include new members in their grouping instead of playing with the same group repeatedly.

Cat Felker thanked the committee for its efforts.

Old Business

Barb Halpin reminded us that 2024 membership dues can be paid online through the Arizona Golf Association. She does not yet know what the new fees will be. Online registration will begin in October via www.azgolf.org. Our registration page will be created in September and available for use approximately October 15. Paper registration and payment by check can still be done through our treasurer and new members must use the paper application.

Nancy Masters reported that our website marketplace is now active. Items must be golf related. Sellers can email the webmaster and provide their name, item description and sale price. Buyers will use their member directory to obtain the seller's phone number. The webmaster must be notified when an item has sold. Items not sold within 14 days will be automatically removed from the site.

Barb Halpin noted that Chris Linum at Riverview accepts equipment donations for young golfers.

New Business

Sue Brooks asked for a motion and vote to allow current Treasurer Barb Halpin to remain in that position for 2024. Pam Nichols moved that Barb remain as Treasurer for 2024. The motion was seconded by Michelle Hrynew. Motion carried.

Motion to Adjourn

Arlene Balazic made a motion to adjourn at 1:50 p.m. which was seconded by Carol Arend. Motion carried.

Submitted by Tricia Affleck
Secretary