

OCEAN STATE WOMEN'S GOLF ASSOCIATION, INC.
Board of Director's Meeting

DATE: September 26, 2013 TIME: 5:40 PM

PLACE: Greggs Restaurant
North Kingstown, RI

PRESENT: Trudy Dufault Co-Founder
Jackie Booth President
Pat Dickson Vice-President
Luanne Googins Treasurer
Liz Duguay Recording Secretary
Carolyn Brown Tournament Chairperson

ABSENT: Kathy Chorney Corresponding Secretary

GUESTS: Robert (Bob) Ward Executive Director, Rhode Island Golf Association
Judy Davis President, Rhode Island Women's Golf Association
Nancy Chaffee Vice-Pres., Rhode Island Women's Golf Association
Kathy Mis Rules Committee Co-Chair

CALL TO ORDER: The President welcomed everyone in attendance and called the meeting to order at 5:40 PM.

NEW BUSINESS: *Jointly running State Amateur and Senior Amateur with RIGA/RIWGA (Discussion with Bob Ward, Judy Davis & Nancy Chaffee)*
Representatives from both RI Golf Association (RIGA) and RI Women's Golf Association (RIWGA) were interested to discuss the merger between RIGA and RIWGA as well as discuss the idea of having one Women's State Amateur and One Women's Senior Amateur. Bob Ward confirmed that the merger between the two associations is now official and will become effective as of November 1, 2013, once the agreement has been signed. It was confirmed that assuming the agreement would be signed, the merged organization will hereinafter be referred to as "RIGA". The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the thought of OSWGA and RIGA working together to have one State Amateur and One Senior State Amateur supported and coordinated by both organizations Otherwise it is possible to have 2 Women's State Amateurs both sanctioned by the USGA in RI.

There are still many details that still will require further discussion such as the number of players, the number divisions, and the number of days it may take to run the event with respect to the total number of players. Currently, OSWGA runs the USGA sanctioned RI Women's State Amateur and the RIWGA runs their RIWGA Championship-often mistakenly referred to as the State amateur by local press. With the RIGA/RIWGA merger any female player of a RIGA member course (which will include semi-private, public and private courses) will be able to play in RIGA events. RIGA is also hoping to expand their member courses further south to include CT players that currently play in RIGA events. For the State Amateur, RIGA proposed that both associations will run the event and if combined the State Amateur Championship would be classified as the RI Women's Amateur Championship. Several questions were raised by OSWGA board members, such as would the State Amateur be an open event, to all female players and not just members of the associations. There was also a lengthy discussion as to naming the State Amateur event and the name of the trophy to be awarded. At present, RIGA wants to use a perpetual trophy they have used for a number of years, which was renamed "the Julie Green Trophy, in honor of said player in her memory. OSWGA does not use a perpetual trophy and awards a small trophy annually. It was mentioned that the reason why OSWGA has been running the USGA sanctioned RI Women's State Amateur is because RIWGA, who previously ran the State Amateur, refused to open it up to ALL female golfers regardless of course affiliation and/or handicap-As a result, the USGA awarded the event to OSWGA as it was open to all.- There was a discussion as to where the event would be held, would there is a limit to the number of players, costs of the State Amateur, will there be a handicap limit, etc. In summary, it appears both organizations are open to the idea of having one State Amateur as well as one Senior State Amateur, however there are many issues that need to be addressed and ironed out before that happens and it was agreed for both organizations to come up with suggestions and concerns that need to be addressed and agreed upon in order to work towards this goal of having one State Amateur and to meet again at a later date.

Elections: Information and Instructions needs to be posted regarding obtaining absentee ballots for the upcoming election for those members who will be unable to attend the annual banquet.

Banquet & Invitations: Invitations will be posted on the website and an email will be sent to members regarding the details of the upcoming annual banquet. It was suggested non-members have the opportunity to attend, however they will have to pay the full price of the banquet meal.

MINUTES:

Minutes from the August 19th Board Meeting were reviewed and revisions were suggested as follows: pg 2 – regarding the statistician report – amending the first sentence to add “USGA “before points; removing the phrase” and two alternates for the State team”, located after RIWGA gets to choose 2 players and to change the spelling of there to their, the last sentence of the first paragraph.

A motion was made to accept the minutes as amended.

VOTED: to approve the Augusts' Board minutes as amended.

TREASURERS REPORT:

The Treasurer handed out a written financial report for the month of August and pointed out that there was a \$ 24 charge issued for reimbursement for bank fees. She noted that upon review of the gift certificates redeemed to date, it is somewhat misleading as most of the free gift certificates were used by the handicap chairperson. So far 98 gift certificates have been redeemed to date. Some of the Nathalie Price scholarship recipients sent in “Thank You” letters, namely Jessica Grasso and Kelsey Heyward. In addition, Ali Prazak sent in a “Thank You” letter for her appreciation in participating and winning the RI State Amateur Event.

TOURNAMENT CHAIRPERSON:

Provided a written report for the following events: Green Valley – everything went smoothly, the only comment was the length of time it took to score and receive the results. Most enjoyed the format being a surprise and the food was very good in comparison to the meal served last year. Fenner Hill – the main concern was slow play as some of the players finished their round in 6 hours. The Rules committee spoke at length of the slow play and handed out a sheet listing tips to speed up play. Midville GC – Everything went smoothly, except one team played out of sequence of the 9 hole format. Segregansett CC- Everything ran smoothly. No complaints or issues. Acoaxet Club- Course was in good shape, everything ran smoothly. Alpine CC – Some members questioned why they were placed in the divisions they were in, and some of the players were expecting Italian food that Alpine is noted for.

WEBSITE REPORT:

No major problems. Appears everything running smoothly

HANDICAP REPORT:

No report.

NOMINATING REPORT:

No report at this time. Information on the elections has been posted.

RULES COMMITTEE:

No report. Slow play will be addressed later under “ New Business”.

STATISTICIAN REPORT: No report. The last tournament for the 2013 Player of the Year and Players Championship will be Wanumetonomy event on September 30th. Points must be tallied as soon as possible, so players eligible to play in this event can be notified, as the tournament is scheduled for October 6th.

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR: Several of the courses have been confirmed for next years schedule. Looking to have Acoaxet scheduled on a Wednesday. Tournament at Alpine will be in August and the Four-Ball scheduled to be held at Pawtucket CC has been finalized. Will concentrate on scheduling more medal play events for next year and since everyone enjoyed the format at Alpine, which was a modified Pinehurst, will most likely keep it the same for 2014.

A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's Report, Tournament Director's Report and all Chair reports as presented.

VOTED: to approve the Treasurer's Report, Tournament Director's Report and all the Chair's reports.

OLD BUSINESS:

Baskets – To date, Six courses have indicated that they will be donating Gift Baskets to be raffled off at the annual banquet.

Banquet Invitations- will be posted on the website. Members will only need to email Ocean State Women's Golf Association, Inc their response to the Vice-president and written invitations will be mailed to those who do not have access to a computer as well as be available at the remaining tournament events.

Raffle tickets – There will be two different colors, one color for the gift baskets and another color for the golf course raffle.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) – Tabled till next meeting.

Training – Board members and Committee Chairs were reminded again to begin thinking about having someone in mind and write down what their responsibilities and duties are so that if someone else needs to fill their position they could follow the instructions or protocol.

NEW BUSINESS:

Slow Play – The Board discussed at length how to address the concerns surrounding slow play and what to do about it. It appears since the tournament at the Fenner Hill event, people are playing quicker and someone did raise that the format may have contributed to slow play at that event as well. The course is challenging and drop areas should have been used for some of the divisions. Someone suggested having some signs made, to be placed at courses that are challenging and may need drop areas, if the courses do not have them

There were also questions on how Divisions are established. For example at Alpine, some people having the same number of strokes were placed in different divisions. It was mentioned that the Handicap Chairperson makes the division up and are usually based upon the lower handicap person(s) in the group. It was mentioned that the Handicap Chairperson makes the division up and are usually based upon the lower handicap person(s) in the group and will vary depending on the format. It was also mentioned that we plan to form a committee over the winter to examine the formats and come up fairer guidelines for assigning handicaps and splitting divisions. –Usually teams with the same handicaps are placed in the same Division, but there are exceptions depending upon the number of people or teams signed up.

Player's Championship- This year's event to be held at Newport National on October 6th and the dinner to follow at Portofino's located in Middletown. Invitations will be sent to the top twelve players as soon as the Points have been tallied.

Cancellation Policy- The Board may reconsider the cancellation policy, One of the teams had to cancel due to an injury of the female player and the Board needs to re-examine their policy especially at mixed events where it would be difficult to find a replacement for the female player in the mixed team event. Since Alpine CC only charged for the number of players that actually played at the event, the Board agreed to refund the entry fees to both players. However, if the course does end up charging for the initial number of players provided before the event than refunds cannot be issued, as the organization will still be responsible in paying for the cancellations.

Rules Committee & Disqualified Equity – It appears there was a problem with the sequence of the holes played by a team at the Midville Event. In essence they played out-of-order and were notified by another team that they played out-of-order. The Tournament Director did approach the scorer to let them know that the team was DQ'd, however it appears no one told the team they were DQ'd. and the Rules Committee never had the opportunity to let the team know they were DQ'd or that all players were told ahead of time, which caused some frustration with the players learning of this after the fact. The Board agreed that if indeed an individual or a team is to be DQ'd at an event, someone on the Rules Committee should take them aside and discuss the events leading to the DQ, first to be sure it isn't hearsay, and to give the team the opportunity to defend themselves and finally because it is proper procedure. The Board and Committee Chairs need to make sure this doesn't happen in the future

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ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM. Next meeting was tentatively scheduled in October, a date and location to be determined later.

Respectfully Submitted,

Liz Duguay

Recording Secretary