

Minutes of the Spring Board of Directors Meeting, April 20, 2016

Attendees: Joe Kress (BE), Steve Windich (CC), Rich Bull (CM), Gene Weir (CR), Jack Heidenreich (DW), Mike Phillips (LO), David George (PF), Al Byrd (SM), Bob Sideikas (SU), and Tom O'Halloran (WE) and Art Kreutz (SF)..

Absent: David Shaak (CN), Jim Delaney (RT).

Location/Time: Coosaw Creek Golf Club from 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM.

Summary:

1. Previous Minutes: Reviewed with no discussion and approved the Fall 2015 Board Meeting Minutes.

2. Reports:

- Treasurer – Dave George reported a healthy Treasury report, with over \$1000 in the account as of 4/17/2016. We are on budget and we should be able to give a \$2,000 contribution to our charity this year if no other monetary issues arise.
- Tournament Chairman – Rich Bull reports that things are going well for our tournaments.
 - Reminded directors to communicate Ready Golf rules to speed up play. Mike indicated he would hand out more of the Ready Golf flyers for the next tournament. Also, Mike noted that the Ready Golf guidelines are on our website – *Action 1: Directors should download the PDF and send to their players with comments on any areas they believe need to be emphasized.*
 - Rich once again indicated players are not putting their home Club association on the Closest-To-Pin sheets...this helps speed up prize determination and distribution. *Action 2: Rich will either make up a CTP sheet with a column for Home Club or annotate such on all CTP sheets made by each club before they are carried out to each hole.*
- Handicap Chairman – Al Byrd provided some stats he felt demonstrated the need to make play a little fairer for those people having to make 35 points or less. Discussion ensued on how to do this. Consensus was that we can try to make the course somewhat fairer for the short hitters using a couple of suggested course setup changes. *Action 3: Mike will craft some “draft” wording to be put in the Tournament Checklist on course setup with regard to drop areas, carry distances over hazards/marsh (150 yards max), and Par 3 lengths (150 yards max)...these will be “preferred” or “suggested” but not mandatory guidelines.* Note: There was considerable discussion about Directors trying taking a stronger role in course setup with the pro/superintendent with regards to course setup (discussed further in new business).

3. Old Business – None.

4. New Business

- **2016 Charity Nomination/Selection:** Two charities were brought up for possible selection as our 2016 Interclub Charity – TriCounty Family Ministries and Ronald McDonald House. After discussion, the Board voted and selected unanimously the Ronald McDonald House. Not only is this a great program, but the money would go to the Charleston local chapter which is always a desire for our Association to keep the funds in the Charleston area. Monetary amount will be determined at the Fall BoD meeting.
- **2016 Schedule Conflicts:** Mike pointed out that there are 4 conflicts this year with SC Coastal Seniors (SCCS). This was primarily due to the way holidays fell in 2 months (July and September),

putting our second match in March on the 3rd Monday which conflicted with SCCS, and the makeup Muni match on the 3rd Monday in May which conflicted with SCCS (almost always SCCS schedules for the 2nd Monday of each month). Unfortunately, sometimes we can't avoid these types of issues due to golf course availability and holidays, but we need to try to do better. These conflicts can hurt several of our clubs in putting teams together for our events. *Action 4: The President/Secretary will try to do a better job of de-conflicting events by using other dates or days of the week in scheduling/re-scheduling events. Any conflicts will be communicated in advance to the directors for consideration if at all possible. FYI, the SCCS schedule can be downloaded on their webpage at <http://www.sccoastalseniors.org/tournaments.html>.*

- **Pace of Play**

- **Pick Up After Double Bogey:** There have been a couple of cases where players played past the Max Stroke limit (Triple Bogey). Predominantly new players may have this problem and other players in the group should help educate the new player. *Action: Rich will make a point of bringing this up when discussing Ready Golf at the next Pre-Brief before the match. Directors will communicate/educate their teams on this rule. Mike will include wording in the Rules and Regs to address this Interclub rule.*
- **Ready Golf:** The group carried on some further discussion about emphasizing the Ready Golf rules (see Action 1 above). There were some suggestions once again about 8 players to a team but that was unanimously tabled since we had rejected that proposal in the fall 2015 BoD meeting. *Action 5: Mike will provide Steve Windich with Ready Golf printed sheets to be put on carts at May 2nd Coosaw Creek tournament (provide by Friday, April 29th).*
- **Par 3 Wait Times:** Have seemingly increased this year for some reason. The thought was to make the "standard" to always allow the group behind to hit up once your group has reached the green. We thought that was too hard to control/manage, so decided on just emphasizing at Pre-Brief that if there are long wait times on a specific Par 3, to allow the group behind to hit up once you've reached the green. *Action 6: Rich will add this as a Pre-Brief item for the next several tournaments.*
- **Course Setup:** There were good discussions about course setup with regards to marking certain areas (or making event rule – e.g., some Wescott woods aren't marked and should be hazards to speed play by avoiding lost ball process time), distance for Par 3s (limiting to 150 yards), drop areas for carry areas (limiting to 150 yards). *Action 7: Mike will add suggested wording to the Tournament Checklist to suggest/prefer the setup described above – this will be coordinated/approved by the directors via email and implemented as best possible for all matches after approved.*
- **Round Playing Time:** The group had a good discussion about how we can improve the overall playing time per round.
 - In general, the group felt the rangers (or lack thereof) hasn't made that much difference in pace of play so while we prefer to have rangers, inconsistent execution and inability to control Interclub players makes this a preference not a mandatory requirement.
 - There was consensus that the Directors needed to stay together in A groups but that if we spread the groups out over the course, we might get a better feel for Pace of Play as well as be able to impact play if a slow down is noticed (especially if you don't see anyone behind your group). *Action 8: Al will ensure Director groups get spread out over the course (e.g., Group 1 – 4 directors off #1 tee, Group 2 – 3 Directors off # 5 tee, Group 3 – 3 directors off # 10 tee, and Group 4 – 3 directors off # 15 tee).*

- **Rule Changes:**

- **WD After Start of Play:** We had a recent event when a player had to withdraw (WD) due to injury after playing 17 holes. That brought up the question as to whether the score could count or

not (e.g., if they were -5 at that point, their score would be -5 and might be useful to the “team score”). The group voted and it was decided a “WD is a WD” and would not count for individual or team score. *Action 9: Mike will add this rule to the Rules and Regs for coordination and approval of verbiage by the directors.*

- **Individual Prize Tiebreaker:** A question was brought up about the fairness of using a scorecard playoff to determine the individual prizewinners in the 11th – 25th place group when there are more than one player tied for the last prizes in this group. For example, if there are 8 players at -3 and there are only 4 prize spots (Places 22, 23, 24, and 25), we use the #1, #2, #3, etc. handicap holes on the course scorecard to determine who had the best scores on those holes to pick the four remaining prize spots – that generally results in selection of the lower handicap players since they “should” score lower on the hardest holes. The group agreed and decided the only “fair” method would be a random drawing to break the ties instead of the scorecard. Henceforth, and only for ties in the 11th – 25th place position, would use an impartial random draw of the tied scorecards to determine the last prize winners. *Action 10: Tournament Chairman and President/Secretary will implement this change in the scorecard laddering process to determine individual prizewinners effective with the next match at Coosaw Creek and all subsequent matches. Mike will craft wording in the Rules and Regs to change the existing verbiage on scorecard tiebreakers.*
 - **Different Tees for Lower Handicappers:** It was suggested there be separate tees for the high Target Point (low handicap) players to “even the playing field”. There was insufficient interest in adopting this approach and the discussion was tabled.
 - **Playing the Ball Down:** It was proposed that to have more “fun” we should just go with “lift, clean, and place” rules all the time (regardless of whether it’s cart path only or not). Most directors agreed that playing it down on a couple of courses this year was not the best decision (a decision, by the way, that is up to “us”, not the course pro). While in most cases we need to stay fairly close to USGA rules, this is one rule that can be a local decision and the group majority voted to invoke a standard rule of “lift, clean, and place in your own fairway” for **all** events (exception when it is decided the course is wet enough to lift, clean, and place “through the green”). *Action 11: Mike will put this rule change wording in the Rules and Regs for review and approval by the directors. This rule will go into effect starting with the Coosaw Creek match on May 2, 2016.*
 - **Sand Traps:** The group discussed the fact that sand traps can also be problematic on wet courses and are often not mentioned by the club Pro when there might be water/mud problems. We discussed the idea of permanently using a “lift, rake, and place” rule in all bunkers as this is yet another rule we can implement without the club’s permission. The group agreed that we need to be more diligent and, in some circumstances, *consider* invoking the “lift, rake, and place” rule for bunkers/sand traps when it makes sense.
- **Closing:** Adjourned meeting at 12:45 PM after enjoying a nice lunch at Coosaw Creek Golf Club. Golf followed (weather was spectacular!).

On behalf of the BoD, I extend our sincere thanks to Steve Windich for his usual excellent preparation and execution of the Spring BoD meeting at the Coosaw Creek club. The facilities were perfect, the food was great, and the golf was very nice (Gene Weir won the match).

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Phillips
President/Secretary
CHS Area Men’s Interclub Golf Association