

2024 VSWGGA Annual Club Rep Meeting Summary Report

The annual Club Rep meeting took place on October 1, 2024 at Lake Morey Resort. This half day meeting is a chance to bring all Club Reps together, to report out the performance of the organization, and to gather feedback from the reps as to their experience, as well as that of their club and its members, during the past season (oh, and to sneak in some afternoon golf).

Members of the Board and Committee Chairs present included Linda Jane Parson, Amy Butcher, Jayne Magnant, Dana Cassidy, Sarah Lee, Nathalie Lascelles, Sis Capeless, Jen Farrington (VSWGGA Operations Manager), Pam Boyd (VSWGGA Operations) with Kate Mitchell, Ellen Grimes, Fran McCune attending on Zoom.

Clubs Attending (in person and on video conference) included:

Alburg: Tapp Barnhill

Bomoseen/Lake St. Catherine:

Ann Hubbard + Mo Quinn

Brattleboro: Tracy Sloan + Judith Manley

Burlington: Jen Farrington + Anne Conolly +

Jeanne Chenoweth (board applicant)

CC of Barre: Peg McBride + Patricia Baroudi

Champlain: Karen Slowinski

Country Club of VT: Ginny Chenoweth

Crown Point: Darlene Remy + Trish Wade (board applicant)

Dorset: Jen Shaw

Equinox: Sarah Lee

Essex: Ellen Grimes

Fox Run: Peg Margiota +

Jill Appel (board applicant)

Haystack: Beth Johnson

Killington: Patty Haas

Kwiniaska: Ashley Bond

Lake Morey: Jen Steck

Lakeside: Susan Gregory

Manchester CC: Melissa Rice

Montague: Ellen McAndrew + Sandy Bigham

Mount Anthony: Susan Rice

Mount Snow: Nancy Morris

Mountain View: Jayne Magnant

Neshobe: Kristin Mahoney

Newport/Orleans: Irene Farrar

Proctor-Pittsford: Liz Fothergill + Maggie Rafter

Quechee: Vicki Goodrich

Ralph Myhre: Susan Rand

St Johnsbury: Jayne Magnant

Stratton: Carolann Mitchell

Vermont National: Michelle Rocheleau

West Bolton: Nathalie Lascelles

Williston: Wendy Drolette + Lois Dolan

Woodstock: Sandye Carpenter

Election of new Board Members:

- There were three 3-year positions open on the board with the expiring terms of Dana Cassidy, Ellen Grimes, and Linda Jane Parsons. Candidates included Barb Masterson, Dixie Mercier, Jenanne Chenoweth, Jill Appel, Patty Wade and Susan Rand. Once votes were tallied, the new board members elected were Dixie Mercier, Jill Appel, and Susan Rand.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

President's Report:

- **Review of 2024:**

- Filled operations position first held by Amy Mason, then Karen Bowser, and then subsequently by Jen Farrington
- Zoom Training for club reps
- Membership: 436 members with 43 new members, 3131 rounds this year
- Rules training attended by Amy Butcher, Susan Rice, Linda Jane Parson
- Implemented lottery for 4 courses
- Clubs now offering two state days: Links at Lang Farm, Haystack, Brattleboro; Stratton added as new club.
- Focus on Pace of Play, Split up to catch up, and rules awareness.
- Continued relationship with VGA, hopeful to keep VSWGA and VGA separate for many more years to come, and we will share how we run VSWGA with them
- Great year with Majors and thanks for all Jen Steck does
- Focus on social media with Meredith Parker as new social media wizard.
- Fox Run Invitational - Thanks to Doug, Peg & members.
- The Sarah Hunter tournament moved from Manchester to Haystack in 2024. Next year's dates will be May 31-June 1, 2025.
- Wishing long-time member Edith Hiller all the best as she moves to NV.

- **2025 Goals:**

- Continue training for Club Reps, Golf Genius and Liaisons
- Junior Golf - Goal is to grow this program. Would like to create a new Junior Golf committee since the former members are no longer available. Holly taught a mindset golf lesson.
- Facebook and website person: Meredith Parker (covered earlier)
- Rules Training VGA-VSWGA Explore a Golf Rule Initiative- continue this effort
- Continue relationships with VGA.

- **Amendment to the Bylaws approved:**

- Revision to By-Laws regarding Annual Rep Meeting & Board Meeting timing, giving flexibility to schedule for a different day than first Tues in October and second Tuesday in October respectively, with at least two month's notice. Language was distributed in advance of the meeting and voted to approve. The amended Bylaws are available on the website.

Treasurer's Report:

- Linda Jane presented Jayne with an Unsung hero award for ALL of her hard work as Treasurer.
- Jayne Magnant reported a summary of 2024 Season Revenue and Expenses. Comparison of 2024 to the previous three years. (2023, 2022, and 2021).
- Thank you to all the members that make a donation when they register for State Days.
- Money that comes in from the Ruthie Schamback and Closest to the Pin must be set aside for Junior golf so it is important to have an active Junior golf committee since it has a budget.

- VSWGGA invested in our future by hiring Jen Farrington as Operations Manager.
- Jayne's will be big shoes to fill as she exits her role as treasurer in October 2026.

State Day Report:

- Linda Jane presented Dana Cassidy with a thank you gift and an Unsung hero award for all her hard work over the last 6 years on the board and managing the State Day schedule.
- Announced that Basin Harbor is dropping us for next year.
- Dana Cassidy & Nathalie Lascelles & Jen Farrington reported 52 State Days scheduled. 1 rained out and 1 canceled. 5 Monday, 44 Tues, 3 Wed (one of those was a rescheduled event).
- 7640 points awarded to 308 individuals (70% of membership)
- 95% of membership is playing in State Days.
- What worked well - Jen Farrington:
 - Weather, 7am registration time vs 6am in 2023, Club Reps & Liaisons (Liaisons did great job closing out the Sate Day: Amy Butcher, Ellen Grimes, Sarah Lee, Fran McCune, Nathalie Lascelles) did a great job with scoring/flighting, State Day final results team (Shout out to Dana, Ellen, Dee, Nathalie, Alicia who double check the info), Lottery process (singles and twosome have same chance of getting into the event, if there is a single slot open, we offer the single slot to the next in line whether it's a single or a team).
- What needs improvement - 51 waitlisted, lottery process needs fine tuning (consider allowing foursomes?), Scheduling more than one State Day on any given day (11 solo days in 2024).
- Draft calendar was presented. Majors are not finalized yet. We lost Stowe and Basin Harbor but gained Stratton. 3 courses will have 2 state days (Links, Brattleboro, Haystack).
 - Lotteries for 2025: VNCC, Manchester, Fox Run, Proctor-Pittsford, Dorset, Woodstock
 - Max of 2 tee times for club reps at their own events
 - Guest fees - were not doubled in 2024 per the handbook - Only had 4 guests in 2024.
 - Live Scoring at more events

Tri-States Report:

- Mary Jane Shomo is team captain and led the team to victory in Brattleboro this year!
- Trish Wade reviewed the application and selection process. It is all totally blind data so there is no individual preference in selection.
- Handicap range and number of players:
 - 0-14.9 hdcp: 10 players
 - 15-21.9 hdcp: 12 players
 - 22-30 hdcp: 8 players
- Thank you to new assistant captain Nancy Devaux.

Pace of Play Report:

- 10 group slow play letters sent, 3 second letters sent to individual imposing tee time restrictions
- POP has greatly improved as players are more mindful but we still encourage feedback on extenuating circumstances.
- Remember the start time is when the first person tees off and end is when the last person's ball goes in the cup
- Jen Farrington-Split up to catch up testimonial-it truly does work. For new VSWGGA members please refer to the handbook for how to implement or ask other players for verbal help.
- Forward Tee Report:
 - 99 players played forward tees in 2024 at 8 courses, net awards only.
 - Possibly add Fox Run, Crown Point, Neshobe as forward tee available for 2025.

- Currently criteria to play the forward tee handicap index=22 or above. Reps feel that 22 is too low. Board will review at a future meeting.

Major Tournaments Report:

- Great turnout at all of the Major events.
- Unsung heroes - Fran McCune and Jen Farrington and all the other Board members and Reps that helped. Thanks to Kathy Kemp who helped in the Fall Classic this year.
- Jen would like to promote more Juniors to participate in the Majors.
- Reviewed pro shop credit for winnings vs doing as a chit. Not as easy as it sounds based upon the business setup at the specific course, where the course and the pro shop may be separate businesses. (course and pro shop different owners).
- Let's be good guests: tip your servers, tip for the golf cart at the end of round, smile.
- 2025 Amateur may have a different format with flights. The Board will review with input from Reps that would like to participate in the discussion.
- 2025 venues: Senior July 8 & 9, 2025 @ Champlain
Amateur August , 2025 @ (contract not finalized)
Mid Ams September , 2025 @ (contract not finalized)

Gift and Appreciations to Linda Jane:

- Linda Jane presented with thank you gifts for all her hard work over the last 4 years as President. Fantastic job!