

2024 VSWGGA December 11th Board Meeting

Meeting: Video Board Meeting
Date/Time: December 11th, 2024 4:00 PM
Place: Video

Board and Committee Members Present via Video: Amy Butcher, Fran McCune, Jayne Magnant, Kate Mitchell, Nathalie Lascelles, Jill Appel, Susan Rand, Linda Jane Parson (Past President), Jen Farrington (VSWGGA Operations Manager), Pam Boyd (Operations)

Board and Committee Members Absent: Dixie Mercier, Sarah Lee, Jen Steck (Majors)

Call To Order 4:00 PM

November 13th, 2024, Meeting Minutes Approval

Jill Appel moved to approve as written. Fran McCune seconded. **Approved.**

Jayne Magnant Treasurer's Report:

- Discussed the Tri-State committee request for more subsidies and new uniforms.
 - The budgeted net operating loss has increased so the Board is uneasy about allocating more money to Tri-States.
 - Mary Jane Shomo joined the meeting to go over the requests for more of a VSWGGA subsidy and new uniforms.
 - Out of pocket expenses by the player include: entry fee (\$165), practice round, travel lodging, and meals. In the past the VSWGGA has paid for the practice round (\$50ish) but that is being discussed if that will happen for 2025 due to budget constraints.
 - Mt Washington is a resort and expensive. NH captain is trying to negotiate a group rate for a small discount.
 - Out-of-pocket expenses will be high for participants.
 - Possibly have VT players stay elsewhere for a cheaper rate? There are not a lot of other options that would not require a long drive.
 - NH and ME subsidize their players much more than VT.
 - It is important to note that NH and ME are merged with the men's golf organization, so they have more resources. VSWGGA is a standalone organization operating on a much smaller budget.
 - Mary Jane asked if the shirts request was approved. Amy Butcher asked Mary Jane to come back with a requested amount.
 - Other ideas to offset expenses if the subsidy is increased:
 - Emphasize donations aspect when players register as offset to net operating loss.
 - Look at more ways to boost the revenue side.
 - Get sponsors?
 - Ask VPGA for subsidies and info on shirts at better rates.

State Day & Majors

- Majors: the Jens (Farrington and Steck) will be meeting on Dec 13 to discuss. More details on the budget for the majors will follow.
- Lottery open and close dates and Golf Genius Lottery functionality update.
 - Lotteries will always open on a Friday.
 - Lotteries will always close six days later.
 - There will always be an opportunity to sign up for the alternate event if a player does not get into the lottery because the lottery will close the day before the other event opens.
 - Golf Genius lottery software seems to be a new capability and not a lot of organizations are utilizing it per Jen. Jen warns that there will be lots of questions by players. The benefit will be that it weighs players' priority for future lotteries if you get into one. There are some limitations that Jen and Pam are testing.
- Fox Run will not be a lottery for 2025 since they do not have a limit on the number of tee times being offered per Peg Margiotta. Fox Run has been removed from the lottery list for 2025.
- Updated Lottery list for 2025: Dorset, Manchester, Woodstock and Vermont National.

Handbook

- Jen Farrington is working on the draft and will provide it to the Board by January 4th. All edits will be done electronically so the Board can provide updates/edits and all will be able to see the edits.

Forward Tees – finalize decision

- Qualifying rules? Rather than bringing in age as a factor, Fran recommends returning it to course handicap index. This is a net division only.
- It was 25+ handicap index in 2023 and we lowered it to 22+ in 2024.
- For 2025 it will return to 25+ handicap index, with no age component. This is a change from the rule of 90 we had approved at the October annual board meeting. There were some Reps that felt 22+ is too low so we reviewed this extensively and felt the return to 25+ is appropriate.

Jayne Magnant moved to approve. Jill Appel seconded. **Approved.**

Google Docs – Evaluate as a place to give feedback

- Briefly discussed if this is working for the board to avoid the flurry of emails. More discussion is needed.

Open Time: N/A

Future not addressed at this meeting:

- Website refresh

Next Board Meeting: January 8th, 2025, Zoom, 4pm
Adjourned 5:09 PM.