

2025 VSWGGA May 24th Board Meeting

Meeting: Video Board Meeting
Date/Time: May 24th, 2025 9:00 AM
Place: Video

Board and Committee Members Present via Video: Amy Butcher, Fran McCune, Jayne Magnant, Kate Mitchell, Nathalie Lascelles, Sarah Lee, Jill Appel, Dixie Mercier, Susan Rand, Linda Jane Parsons (Past President), Jen Farrington (VSWGGA Operations Manager), Jen Steck (Majors)

Board and Committee Members Absent: Pam Boyd (Operations)

Call To Order 9:07 AM

April 9th, 2025, Meeting Minutes Approval

Nathalie Lascelles moved to approve with the next meeting date updated due to change. Dixie Mercier seconded. **Approved.**

Warm up - All

- What is one thing that brought you pleasure on the course this week?

State Day Status Report – Jen Farrington

- Registration Frenzy:
 - 75% of registrations occur between 7:00-7:15.
 - Jen has been able to resolve the tee time conflicts that happen when picking a tee time.
 - Many women have expressed frustration
- Lotteries/Waitlisting:
 - All lotteries (Manchester, Dorset, Woodstock) were run and everyone on waitlists ended up getting into the events.
 - At Dorset there are slots open, but one foursome opted not to play if they could not play together.
 - The only waitlisted event was Burlington with 3 on the waitlist.
- Pace of Play:
 - Generally good.
 - Only 2 letters sent out through Manchester 5/21. One of the two letters was voided after learning the group had to wait for quite a long time for the train to pass to get to 18.
- State Day GHIN:
 - Why “A” for away vs “C” for competition (VGA posts as “C”)?
 - For GHIN handicap purposes this does not change the way the handicap index is calculated but it does allow Committees to evaluate if any players perform better or worse in competitive versus recreational rounds, which may be used during a handicap review to look for sandbaggers.
 - Jen recommends marking state days at “C” (the VtGA uses “C”).
 - Discussed further if we wanted to do this mid-year.
 - Jen will contact GHIN to discuss further and report back.
- Calendar:
 - Some feedback that there has not been a great spread of event locations so far.

- None in the Northeast yet.
- New Liaisons: Susan Rand, Jill Appel and Dixie Mercier are doing a fantastic job. Thank you!
- Social Media:
 - Players often send Jen pictures from State Days.
 - Meredith has posted them in the past, but her work/move makes that difficult.
 - Jen does not have access to VSWGGA Facebook or Instagram accounts.
 - We need to look for a new social media person volunteer and will include in the next newsletter
 - People can post on their own accounts and tag@vswga (FB) or #vswga (Insta)
- Events Coming Up:
 - Bradford/Mountainview – Jayne Magnant is the rep. Does Jayne need any help?
 - Per Jayne, she is all set handling these two.
 - St. Johnsbury – Does anyone know if they are planning on holding a state day? It was tentative when they were approached in the fall.
 - Fran McCune has contacted them multiple times with no replies and left another voicemail.
 - Jayne Magnant added that the course is struggling.
- Blush Hill state day management help (since on same day as Amateur)
 - Dixie Mercier stopped by earlier this week to introduce herself and discuss.
 - Spoke with woman who runs the Wed night league.
 - They only have 14 carts, meaning only 28 players can ride. Others would need to know that walking might be necessary before registering.
 - Dixie can do the scoring that day.
- Season long State Day Points are now automated and can be seen on Golf Genius leaderboard.

VGA/VSWGGA Working Group Updates – Fran McCune, Amy Butcher, Jen Farrington

- Approve 2025 Agreement. We receive \$14 per GHIN member and in return we provide support to VGA, specifically around course rating and supporting lobbying efforts.
Susan Rand moved to approve. Jayne Magnant seconded. **Approved.**
- The working group reports that the meetings have been very collaborative and cordial.
- Update from working group conversations
 - Fran shared discussions about VGA and VSWGGA merger with a possible 3–5-year timeline. The pressure is coming from the USGA to the VGA to make this happen. It is not VGA pressuring us. The USGA want to have just one Associated Golf Association (AGA) per state to represent all golfers, male and female.
 - Amy Butcher and Jen Farrington helped the VtGA event this year. Next year, the VtGA would love to have a women's flight.
 - Know that the weather is always a factor!
- Alburgh Links Golf Club is now called Lakewood Links Golf Club.

Tri-State Update on Housing and Banquet Location – Fran McCune

- Discussion with Mary Jane Shomo (Team Captain).
 - NH did not make any plans with area hotels.
 - All local hotels are already filled.
 - NH has still not booked the venue for the banquet.
 - Practice rounds are \$59 between 10am-2pm on Wednesday.

- Rule that players need to have 5 rounds posted in GHIN to be selected. -Some NH players don't have that yet. Concerned that they will ask for exception.
- VT team will be chosen on May 28th.

Majors – Jen Steck

- Fran asked which tees at Champlain for Seniors. White.
- Jayne Magnant passed along a request from Orleans for Seniors and Amateur for 2028 for their centennial. They do not want to host the Mid-Am since it takes place on a weekend.
- There was discussion about why the Mid-Am takes place on weekend. Jen Steck explained that it draws a different field, usually working women, thus the need for weekend competition.

Committee Chair Updates – Various

- Communications – Jill Appel.
 - Who is doing our social media now? *This is also under Jen's State Day Report.*
 - What are our plans/needs for the Amateur (education/PR)?
 - Encourage members to tag VSWGGA when posting pictures.
 - Susan Rand was added as an Admin to the Facebook account. She says that the setup is funky, and she's been unable to post yet. She suggests we define what types of posts we'd like and find a few volunteers from different regions to post them.
 - Jill and the communications committee will work on this.
 - Amy Butcher has a social media person that she will ask for consultation.
- Pace of Play – Kate Mitchell
 - Two letters emailed through Manchester 5/21.
 - One voided (Manchester) due to having to wait for the train to get to hole 18
- Because of time restraints, no other committee updates were provided.

Website Update – Pam Boyd via Email

- Due to time limits for meeting Kate Mitchell did not have the opportunity to voice this, other than to state that Kate had an update from Pam, so this info is added into the minutes, so the board is aware.
 - We are getting close with more photos to be added and small bits to be worked out.
 - Membership tasks are slowing down, and Pam can put more effort into the website with an expected launch in June. Pam will share access information for board members to take a look this week and invite their feedback.

Finance Report -Jayne Magnant:

- 86% of membership has been collected vs budgeted.
- Major tournaments have brought in some good funds.
- Budget is on target with a few cautionary line items.
- Tax return filing was extended due to the accountant's schedule delay but will be filed.

Open time:

- N/A

Future items not addressed at this meeting:

- Susan Rand – Juniors Update, due to time constraints.
- From April meeting – Jen will check to ensure there is photo release default language in the registration process so we can continue to use event photos on the website without having to get individual permission. This language will also be in the next newsletter.
- Trophy issues – Paquet Cup engraving.

Next Board Meeting: Sat June 21, 2025, Zoom, 9am
Adjourned 10:08 AM.