



## Carolinas PGA Section Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Charlotte County Club  
Tuesday, October 2, 2018  
8:00 am – 5:00 pm

- Officers:** Paige Cribb – President, Bob Byrnes – Vice President, Chris Byrd – Secretary and John Marino – Honorary President
- Board Members:** Jeff Avant, Andrew Shuck, Josh Wagaman, Brett Miller, Tom Mason, Ben Smith, A.J. Sikula, Brock White, Jim Lohbauer, Donald Clement, Robb Wade & Buddy Lawrence
- Absent:** Marshall Stott
- Staff Present:** Jeff Abbot, Cory Armstrong, Jessica Asbury, Kurt Battenberg, Talma Kee, Sally Morgan, Mike Mueller, Patrick O'Reilly, Telvin Walker, Mike Whitenack
- Special Invitees:** Steven Hartwig, Dan O'Boyle, Josh Riley

### Call to Order

President Cribb called the meeting to order at 8:00 am. She thanked Charlotte Country Club host professional Andrew Shuck, welcomed everyone including PGA Field Director Section Business Operations Josh Riley and incoming board members Steven Hartwig (Palmetto Area) and Dan O'Boyle (Atlantic Area). Secretary Byrd then performed roll call.

### Approval of Minutes

Byrd asked for a motion to approve the June 19, 2018 Board of Directors meeting minutes. The motion was offered, seconded, and approved.

### President's Report

President Cribb issued her President's Report which included a section update on the impact of Hurricane Florence. Many areas were hit hard and the Section responded with a campaign call to approximately 250 members and associates in impacted areas. The Section provided information on available Disaster Relief funds and is also requesting gift card donations to distribute to members. Abbot confirmed that Eagle Point will still be hosting the Pro-Official Championship on the October 29<sup>th</sup>, but the Pro-Pro will now be using Pinehurst #8 instead of #4 due to the impact of Hurricane Florence.

President Cribb then asked Executive Director Abbot to lead the rest of the meeting.

Abbot provided an update with information from District 10 Director Kelly Williams regarding the hiring of new CEO Seth Waugh and an update on the possible PGA headquarters move to Frisco TX. The PGA of America is considering a "hybrid" move to Frisco to have some departments move there while others stay in Florida. Abbot then provided an update on Rick Murphy's PGA Secretary Campaign. Murphy is gaining momentum and is currently one of the leading candidates with seconded nominations and national PGA past president support.

### Vice President's Report

Abbot presented a written report with the Section's current updated finances. He reviewed notable variances and reported that finances were in line with expectations. The Investment Fund was up 2.7% for the year with a current balance of \$2,178,482. He also noted the plan to introduce the proposed dues increase for discussion at Area Town Hall meetings this Fall and Winter in preparation for the Section vote at February's Annual Meeting.

### Secretary's Report

Abbot referenced Secretary Byrd's Section Membership report and noted that the drop in membership was expected following the end of the annual dues cycle. These drops typically rebound once delinquent members pay their dues and / or catch up on MSR deficits.

### Area Director Reports

Abbot welcomed Steven Hartwig and Dan O'Boyle who will be sworn in to the Board at February's Annual Meeting. Abbot then asked for any verbal updates from Area Directors to add to their written reports. Robb Wade noted that Area 9 will hold a Pro-Pro on October 30 at Brier Creek and invited all to participate. Abbot reminded the Area Directors of their \$2,000 in funding to use for Area events by the end of the year. He asked that Area Directors try to pair up and schedule Fall or Winter meetings together. Lastly, Abbot discussed the officers' response letter to CPGA member Art Colasanti's inquiry to Cape Fear Area Director Marshall Stott regarding the Section's decision to support the PGA of America's board on their stance regarding President Levy's DUI.

## **Committee Reports**

Committee updates were presented in writing during the business planning session. Recaps of 2018 were presented, along with plans for 2019 and any funding requests. The tournament committee submitted in writing the following five (5) proposed amendments to the tournament rules and regulations:

### *PROPOSED AMENDMENT #1*

The CPGA Tournament Committee recommends that the Section should follow suit with the PGA of America and adopt the new 8 tour event rule. The Committee also recommends adding language that clarifies that if a new tour is added to the list, an individual's participation on that tour within the last 12 months of the date the tour is added to the list will count towards their total tour event participation. The Committee has also agreed to update our list of applicable tours, removing any that are obsolete and adding the "Minor League Golf Tour" to the list.

### *PROPOSED AMENDMENT #2*

The Tournament Committee recommends a change in the Tournament Rules & Regulations to read that instances involving insufficient amateur handicap verification or if a professional fails to appear for a team in a pro-am, any applicable prize money will now go toward the PGA REACH Carolinas Foundation.

### *PROPOSED AMENDMENT #3*

The Tournament Committee recommends that the Carolinas Section create its own "CPGA Woman Player of the Year" award beginning with the 2019 season. Points will be awarded in the same way that Bob Boyd CPGA Player of the Year Award points are awarded.

### *PROPOSED AMENDMENT #4*

The Tournament Committee recommends that the fields for the South Carolina Open, North Carolina Open and Carolinas Open to be limited to 156 competitors and for all registrants above 156 to be placed on an alternate/waiting list. There will be no qualifiers prior to or after the deadline for entries.

### *PROPOSED AMENDMENT #5*

The Tournament Committee is recommending that contestants be permitted to carry their own clubs if they wish, while being expected to keep up with pace of play standards. It is also recommended that we remove the stipulation that caddies and players cannot ride in the same cart, letting the participants figure out who rides in the carts among themselves if there are open seats, while still only providing two golf carts per group.

Motions were offered, seconded, and unanimously approved for all five (5) proposed amendments.

## **Old Business**

Abbot reviewed the discussion of renaming Big Week and proposed the name "Carolinas PGA Super Show" for 2019. The Board approved of this name unanimously. Abbot reviewed plans for the PGA REACH Carolinas HOPE Cup to be held on November 12 in Pinehurst. He invited the Board to attend and noted that the Teaching Summit will be the following day also in Pinehurst. The Teaching Summit will have 24 soldiers from Fort Bragg available to receive golf instruction and a complimentary round of golf and lunch.

## **New Business**

Abbot discussed the Wyndham Championship's new Rewards Top 10 Program. The program will likely enhance the field for the Wyndham Championship by enticing the top tour players to jockey for position in the final FedEx Cup points standings. Abbot announced the Section's hiring of former tournament intern Ben Weeks to be the new CPGA Tournament Coordinator. He noted that the position will change slightly and have additional responsibilities onsite at tournaments.

## **Planning Session**

The board then moved into its strategic planning session moderated by Field Director of Section Business Operations Josh Riley, PGA. The afternoon session formulated a strategic plan for the PGA REACH Carolinas Foundation. Joining this discussion was PGA REACH Senior Director Ryan Cannon and CPGA REACH Committee members Perry Green, Ryan Brickley, Chris Brown and Frank Maynard. The session adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeff Abbot  
Recorder for Secretary Byrd