



2019 CPGA ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

Monday, February 18, 2019
Greensboro Coliseum Special Events Center – Greensboro, NC

The Carolinas Section conducted its Annual Meeting on Monday, February 18, 2019 at the Greensboro Coliseum Special Events Center in Greensboro, NC. In attendance were President Paige Cribb, Vice President Bob Byrnes, Secretary Chris Byrd, Honorary President John Marino, Tournament Chair Jeff Avant, PGA of America President Suzy Whaley, District 10 Director Kelly Williams, At-Large Director Andrew Shuck (NC), At-Large Director (SC) Josh Wagaman, Area Directors Bret Miller, Tom Mason, Ben Smith, A.J. Sikula, Brock White, Jim Lohbauer, Donald Clement, Marshall Stott, Robb Wade, Dan O’Boyle, Executive Director Jeff Abbot, and approximately 725 PGA Members and Associates.

Cribb called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM and lead the Pledge of Allegiance. She then asked Awards Chair Mike Harmon to give an invocation.

Executive Director Abbot recognized Club Car for its support of the CPGA Awards & Honors Dinner which took place on Sunday evening. He also thanked Private Estate, Merchant Services LTD and Signature Golf for their support of the Annual Meeting and the SUPER SHOW Cash Jackpot drawing.

President Cribb observed a moment of silence for the CPGA Members who had passed away in the previous year. Secretary Byrd performed the official roll call for those on the Board of Directors. The minutes for the 2018 Annual Meeting and all 2018 Board of Directors Meetings were approved.

President Cribb delivered her report which included an update on area enhancements including new geographic area names and dedicated area funding, the success of the second year of the PGA REACH Carolinas Foundation spearheaded by the inaugural Harvick4Heroes Charity Pro-Am, the formation of three new HOPE Chapters (Kiawah Island, Columbia and Southern Pines), and increasing PGA Junior League participation by 25% with over 2,900 juniors. She also commended the staff for their response to hurricanes Florence and Michael by contacting affected members about PGA Disaster Relief. She recognized the 2018 CPGA Award Winners and 2019 Hall of Fame Inductee Bobby Howard, in addition to thanking the board and officers for their service.

Vice President Byrnes delivered his report with an update on the Section’s financial status. The Section directly maintains three separate funds: (1) Operating, (2) Foundation and (3) Investment. The Operating and Foundation funds are balanced “break-even” budgets, while the Investment fund is budgeted to yield an 8% return.

For the year ended 2018, Byrnes reported the (1) Operating Fund had a net operating gain of \$93,295. The majority of this gain was due to increases in corporate partnerships. Our PGA REACH – Carolinas Foundation was established in 2017 to coordinate growth of the game (PGA Junior League & Drive, Chip & Putt), military (PGA HOPE) and diversity initiatives (Sunny Harris Hutchinson PGA Works Fellowship). The (2) Foundation Fund generated net revenue of \$53,645. The (3) Investment Fund income was down 7.9% for the year, which yielded a loss of \$173,462 and a year-end balance of \$2,005,132. This loss was in line with industry benchmarks. The consolidated operations yielded an overall net income loss of \$24,741 in 2018.

Byrnes reported that based upon financial projections, an aging membership and the tournament committee’s recommendation to eliminate individual facility pro-am sanction fees, the board was requesting the membership’s support of a modest dues increase in 2019 as detailed in Resolution 1 which was e-mailed to the membership in January. He humbly asked for support of this important resolution to ensure the financial stability of the section.

Secretary Byrd gave his Membership Report reporting a gain of 18 PGA members, a decrease of 10 associates, for a net increase of 8 professionals in 2018. The total enrollment of the Carolinas PGA is currently at 2,041 members and associates – the largest of the 41 sections.

Tournament Chair Avant reviewed highlights of the 2018 tournament season and then presented the dates and locations of the five major stroke play championships, and the three Section Professional Championships for 2019. He reviewed

the sanctioned events policy and promoted our 9 members participating in the 2019 PGA Professional Championship at Belfair this April.

Executive Director Abbot commented on his third year of service and how much of an honor it is to serve the section. Abbot introduced and thanked his staff, and then gave an update on the PGA REACH Carolinas Foundation. He discussed several new initiatives in 2019 including a newly launched section website, plans for a fall business summit, a women's only section social tournament, Drive, Chip & Putt events for PGA professionals only and the introduction of structured fall and winter area meetings. He concluded by reviewing the SUPER SHOW cash jackpot rules.

Abbot then reviewed the section's military initiatives. He first asked veterans in the audience to stand to be recognized. A Folds of Honor Foundation video message from Major Dan Rooney noted the section raised \$758,000 from Patriot Golf Day in 2019, bringing the inception to date total to \$4.8 million. Abbot then addressed the success of our HOPE Chapters with the addition of 3 new chapters in 2018. He then asked all attendees that supported a military charity in 2018 to stand to be recognized.

As there was no old business or new business to discuss, President Cribb reviewed the board of directors' proposed dues increase in Resolution 1. She invited the officers to join her on stage to review the most frequently asked questions. After seeking questions from the membership, Cribb called for a vote by show of hands. By show of hands, the resolution clearly passed by the necessary 2/3 majority.

PGA President Suzy Whaley, District 10 Director Williams and President Cribb then conducted a town hall session with updates from headquarters on PGA.Coach, Cadillac being named the official vehicle of the PGA, PGA Journey messaging, updates on the CBS-ESPN PGA Championship broadcast agreement and the headquarters move to Frisco, Texas. The panel then fielded questions from the membership. Incoming District 10 Director John Madden and PGA of America Chief People Officer Sandy Cross were recognized for their attendance.

Abbot conducted the Past Presidents forum with comments from Bill Lytton, Chip King, Ron Stevenson, Zack Veasey, Rick Murphy, Kelly Childs, Karl Kimball, Mike Casto and John Marino.

Incoming Area Directors Steven Hartwig (Palmetto Area II) and Dan O'Boyle (Atlantic Area X) were sworn into office by Honorary President John Marino.

There were no comments during Open Forum.

Executive Director Abbot went over a few important items relating to the CPGA Merchandise Show and Education Seminars.

President Cribb thanked the Membership and adjourned the meeting at 10:00 AM.