

**MINUTES OF SAWGA MEMBERSHIP MEETING
OCTOBER 4, 2024**

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 by President Linda Bonuccelli at the Wandermere club house. Linda thanked Herb Brown and his staff for providing the room and setting up the tables.

A quorum was confirmed. All members of the executive board were present, along with parliamentarian, Leslie Sevigney.

Linda reminded those present that only the Senior and Junior representatives (or their proxies) were eligible to vote. She also asked that all important information from this meeting be relayed back to the home clubs.

Standing chairs were asked to introduce themselves as was the executive board. SAWGA tournament chairs and the web coordinators were not present.

Secretary Ro Bury asked that someone move to approve the minutes from the spring meeting (as posted to the SAWGA website). Karen Madison made the motion. It was seconded by Teri Zollinger and unanimously approved.

Darcia Waples gave the Treasurer's report. We brought in a total of \$48,761.00 and paid out \$32,094.35. There are lots of uncashed certificates. When all certificates are paid, we will have a \$5,654.00 profit. Darcia did some research on 501C businesses. They are allowed to make a profit within certain parameters for which we qualify. Karen Madison made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report. It was seconded by Jackie Babin and unanimously approved. Darcia mentioned there will be no audit this year, but new Treasurer Teri Zollinger will review the records over the winter. Darcia mentioned there was a problem with the use of discount cards at the first Numerica Cup so there's a discrepancy on the books. Vickie Leavitt from Liberty Lake reminded members that when an event is held at KGCC, their members don't pay green fees.

1-3 Sweeps chair Susie Luby reported that Marcy Holt would be assisting her next year. She mentioned that no rounds were over 5 hours, which was an improvement. She suggested that the first 2 players to putt out should move to the next tee box to speed up play. Linda Bonuccelli recommended that the clubs discuss Susie's recommendations. There was a discussion about the large index spread in some of the flights. Sue Meyer suggested that more attention be made to getting players with closer handicaps in each 4-some and not worry so much about mixing up the home clubs. Nancy Johnson suggested that the higher handicaps be grouped in 3-somes. She also mentioned she played with the same people in the Sweeps

events this year. Jacki Blumenthal said that there are additional options in Golf Genius to prevent duplication of 4-somes. Susie will look into the suggestions.

4-6 Sweeps chair was not present.

Scramble co-chair Sue Meyer said the event this year was successful, as usual.

There was a discussion about the need to post addresses for club officers. It was agreed that the only people who need to provide an address are the Junior SAWGA reps. so that certificates can be mailed to them.

There was a conversation after Nancy Johnson mentioned that SAWGA.com was an unsecured website. Taryn Hutchins and Laura Bossart will be asked to look into getting it secured. Nancy Johnson offered to research the issue and find out if there are associated costs.

There was no championship tournament report. Dona Forrester, from Indian Canyon, announced that she is co-chair for next year's tournament.

Leslie Sevigney asked for a volunteer to eventually take over the role of parliamentarian (and described her duties). Susan Conard will assist next year and then take over.

OLD BUSINESS:

Karen Madison moved that the entry fee for the championship tournament be raised to \$50 and the early bird rate be eliminated. Marcy Holt seconded. There was a long discussion about this rate increase reducing the amount of cash the hosting club needs to raise. The \$50 still won't cover all expenses. The motion was passed unanimously.

Karen Madison moved that the championship tournament cap the payouts. Diane Malmoe seconded. Linda Bonuccelli explained the pros and cons. Darcia Waples mentioned that the Sweeps payouts have been capped for many years. There were questions about who decides what the cap is. Other questions involve the number of players, and whether the entry fee should determine the payouts. After further discussion, a committee was appointed to research how to cap the payouts. Committee members are Darcia Waples, Teri Zollinger and Ronna Ricco. The motion to cap payouts was approved unanimously.

Diane Malmoe made a motion to change the championship tournament from 3 days to 2. It was seconded by Joyce Thomas. There was a long discussion. Pam McClenny said that Qualchan was forced to go to a 2 day championship tournament this year, and it resulted in lots of ties. Players didn't hang around to participate in playoffs so the committee was forced to determine winners by card offs which wasn't satisfactory to the group. Kathy Skrabac said she

didn't play this year because the courses were too hard. There were 20 fewer players this year compared to 2023.

A vote was taken. Those in favor of changing the tournament to 2 days were Deer Park, Downriver, Esmeralda, Kalispel and Wandermere. Those opposed were Chewelah, Qualchan, Indian Canyon, Latah Creek and Liberty Lake. Because of the tie, the motion failed.

Jackie Babin made a presentation about Meadowwood joining SAWGA. She read a letter requesting a one year probationary membership. The club will ask for permanent membership after insuring the membership numbers stay up, and the club can handle the SAWGA requirements. Sue Meyer mentioned that the Meadowwood pro shop is 100% behind the membership. She also said the SAWGA scramble has been successfully held there for many years. There currently are 20 women willing to declare Meadowwood as their home course. Jackie felt it was hard for women to change home courses but it's good for SAWGA to expand, and we need to replace the courses that have left.

A motion was made by Marcy Holt to accept Meadowwood as a probationary member. It was seconded by Diane Malmoe. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

Karen Madison asked if spectators should be allowed. They currently are allowed. There was a discussion. Leslie mentioned that none of our rules have an enforcement mechanism other than tournament committees plus the course pro. Ronna cited the LPGA rule that spectators are not allowed to interact with the players. SAWGA doesn't allow caddies. No changes were made to the SAWGA standing rules.

Karen questioned the eligibility requirements for Numerica Cup. They currently require "accurate and updated" handicaps." Karen made a motion that instead of requiring just 3 rounds from the home course, we consider 10 posted rounds in the last 2 years (to include 3 rounds from the home course). The motion was seconded by Mary Duhon. 16 representatives voted to adopt the proposal. 3 voted no. There was 1 abstention. The motion passed.

Karen asked whether SAWGA had a Code of Conduct. She made a motion to adopt a Code of Conduct that reads: "By majority vote of the Executive Board, a player may be disqualified for any past or future events for behavior including, but not limited to, throwing clubs, swearing, yelling or any other behavior deemed to be distracting to other players. It is understood that disqualification should only happen after repeated attempts to counsel the player." Diane Malmoe seconded the motion. There was a long discussion. Jackie Babin thinks things should be handled at the club level. Leslie Sevigney cited the WaGolf position that each person involved should be interviewed separately and that the players must report the incident to the

committee immediately. Karen Madison said that there is a need for consequences. It was brought up that the USGA rules seem to cover this issue and it would be redundant to include in the SAWGA rules. Linda Bonuccelli said that each club has authority to make their own rules outside of SAWGA.

A vote was taken to adopt a SAWGA Code of Conduct. 3 representatives were in favor. The majority were opposed. The motion failed to pass.

Linda Bonuccelli mentioned we will need a new banner to remove Manito and add Meadowwood. It was agreed to postpone the order for a new banner until Meadowwood is accepted as a permanent member of SAWGA.

Cheryl Hull requested that the luncheon entry form be included on the championship tournament entry form. Next year's co-chair Dona Forrester will look into.

There being no further business, Linda introduced the 2025 officers: President Ronna Ricco, Secretary Ro Bury, Treasurer Teri Zollinger. The Vice President will be determined at a later date. The 3 officers were unanimously approved. An email vote will be taken for the Vice-President.

Ronna Ricco was introduced as the new president.

The SAWGA draws were made.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:28.

Submitted by:
Ro Bury, Secretary