

SIR STATE GOLF COMMITTEE
MANTECA GOLF COURSE
305 N. Union Road
Godfather Room

Minutes Meeting
Tuesday February 09, 2016
8:30am

Call to Order: 8:30 am.

Verify Quorum Present -Participants SSGC Members

Bill Wilhelm, Gilbert Matossian, Bob Mannell, Jerry Strain (left at 9am),
Dave Betts
Jim Lynch (D1), John Boyer (D2), William Ikerd (D3), Stephen Johnson (D4),
Bruce Evans (D5)

Guest(s): none

Treasurer Report

a) Balance Sheet, Profit & Loss sheet, as of February 8, 2016 were distributed. As of 1/11/2016 Dave Betts closed the accounts at Chase Bank, and all funds were transferred to Wells Fargo Bank. Treasurer report was approved as presented, motion passed.

b) Proposed 2016 Budget not yet ready, will be done by next meeting.

Secretary Report:

1. Division information was received from all Divisions, with copy to Bill Wilhelm. The 2016 SSGC members information posted on our website is correct.

2. Approval of October 13, 2015 Minutes. Requested by Bill Wilhem, seconded, motion passed.

Chairman's Statement:

With no new information to report, that has not been already shared, the Chairman proceeded to the divisions reports.

Division Reports:

- **Division 1** Jim Lynch - Division meeting held in January had an estimated 85% turnout. Bill Wilhem and Rich Seyler spoke in this meeting. No unusual business. Branches would like to have the Divisional Qualifier information in December.

- **Division 2** John Boyer - Division meeting held. Major problem was the loss of two Area chair, however they were replaced. Dates set for Team & Individual Tournaments. Some Area chairman mentioned that the State tournament's cost remains the main complaint for some players, however the players who attended enjoyed the tournaments. Jerry Strain: any comparison between tournaments needs to take into account differences in lodging and venues.

- **Division 3** William Ikerd - Division meeting held. Awaiting for tournaments cost info. Areas Chairman were involved in renewing the 2016 NCGA certification, however some branches did not send their certification renewal by 12/31/2015 due to an alleged lack of notice. Bill Ikerd shall follow up with the NCGA. Bill Wilhelm: each branch is required to have a NCGA certified Handicap chairman, who is usually notified by the NCGA, and that its up to the branch to contact the NCGA in the event they were not notified. Gilbert Matossian indicated each branch Handicap chair or Golf chair should be attentive to keep the annual NCGA SIR Club Officials Roster current, this is the main record kept by the NCGA Membership to contact a branch official.

- **Division 4** Stephen Johnson - Division meeting went well. Decided to keep the "old" O/B rule.

- **Division 5** Bruce Evans - New Division Chairman- Will hold the Division meetings on February 24th (North and South). Qualifier for Individual State Tournament tentative date set for August 16th, 2016 at Pheasant Run, Chowchilla. Area 14 Chairman learning TPP and passed the NCGA Handicap certification. Any realignment in the Area 14- Area 22 boundaries shall be tackled in the near future; it involves SIR State and the NCGA approval since they have the areas listed as A14 only. Any change made will take place after 1/1/2017.

There is a \$200 travel expenses limit by the State, any excess to be picked up by the Division.

Bruce Evans will contact Ron Witort for getting the Division 5 Treasurer report, if available. Currently, there is no checking account set up for

Division 5. It was suggested to use a sub-account from Area 29 account, and keep the same tax id number. Bruce Evans will look into it.

Area 27 indicated they felt forgotten and they would like to hear more from the State for the tournaments. They enjoyed the Whitney Oaks Tournament. Bruce Evans to look into what tournament format is preferred.

Policy Report:

- 2016 Hosts Assignments per Peter Lumberton was handed out and confirmed as prepared. Gilbert Matossian will help at the Chairman's Tournament.

- Rich Seyler's report was read by Bill Wilhem. As of 02/01/2016, there are 4,276 SIR's NCGA members; membership continues to decline from a high of 5,000, probably for several reasons. Membership in SIRs is down also. Divisions 3, 4 and 5 need to send their Qualifiers so the dates can be posted. The Team event requires only an Area qualifier, no Division qualifier, and depending upon the participation extra team(s) may qualify. Feather in the Cap Awards: Steve Johnson will replace Jerry Strain as contact person. Website to be updated accordingly.

- 2016 State Golf Manual : Jerry Strain reported that many Area and Branch chairs are not reporting to their players changes in the 2016 State Manual, in particular the change for a lost or O/B ball. John Boyer stated that the website is still not used as it should. Bill Wilhem showed his new business card showing the website. Evans mentioned all his emails have a link to the website.

Each Division Chairman shall communicate rule changes to their Area and Branch chair. The lost or O/B rule applies to SIR State tournaments only, including qualifiers, each branch remains free to set a local rule as they want. John Boyer reported that the vote to adopt the new rule was unanimous; Evans reported the change was well accepted too. Bill Wilhelm stated all rule changes should be stressed at all tournaments in 2016.

The policy subcommittee shall promptly advise as to the legality of anchoring the putter in the 2016 State Tournaments and the rule should be written in the State Manual before the Napa tournament. Branch can make an exception if they choose to in their tournaments.

2016 Napa Report

Bill Wilhem - Current sign up is approx 90 men and 22 ladies, which is close to the 2015 level at this time and it is expected to sell out. Charge is \$160 per player (green fees, cart, prizes fund and State fee). The two courses set up are perfect because it accommodates the men and ladies players cart check-in and drop off at the same spot. Bill Wilhem will send an email to all participants.

2016 Reno Tournaments:

- Week 1: 6/13/16 thru 6/17/16
- Week 2: 6/20/16 thru 6/24/16

Two revisions folders to be sent out by end of February. We have a great contact with Connor (last name) our Atlantis lodge contact. A flyer with the check-in info will be provided and a directional sign posted. Flyer should include the players GHIN and branch info.

2016 Fall Classic

- September 18 to 21, 2016, River Course at Alisal GC, Solvang. Stephen Johnson- Two-day tournament was preferred rather than a three-day tournament, after feedback review from last year participants. Lodging offered at Marriott. In 2014, charge was higher due to 3 day tournament. Flyer will be posted on the website. All previous participants will get an email.

2016 Team Event

- Poppy Ridge GC, Aug 8th. Committee decided to charge \$55 per player, including the State fee. Bill Wilhelm to verify whether range balls are included in the contract. Payment by all Areas team(s) shall be collected by the Division, then one check per Division to be sent to the State. Only prize is a jacket for each player of the winning team.

2016 Individual Championship

- October 17 & 18 at Laguna Seca GC. Bill Wilhelm reported that Poppy Hills was full and that Blackhorse/Bayonnet initial quote was \$110, then \$95. The Committee confirmed the decision made to select Laguna Seca (our cost is \$47 with \$3 credit) and voted to charge \$75.

Day 1: Open play (140 players). Day 2: Individual tournament (70 players invited) and Open play (70), flight winner's prize is a jacket. Buy-in \$20 optional.

2017 Tournament Discussion Locations & Format

Bill Wilhelm- All tournaments decisions shall be made at the April 2016 meeting, so all information regarding the 2017 State Tournaments will be posted on the website by June 2016. Each Division Chair shall pursue players participation in the State Tournaments and verify that the information be filtered to all areas and branches, down to the individual players.

Group discussion on several topics- Attract the lower handicap players, open to guests? The consensus was that word of mouth is really what gets more people to our tournaments.

- **Napa**- After discussion, it was decided to continue this successful tournament at the same venue (Chardonnay & Eagle Vines); tentative dates are April 24th & 25th 2017 (week after Easter).

- **Reno** - 2015 did not fill both weeks for several reasons. Dave Betts stated that Branch chairs do not actively promote the State events. The Atlantis casino has not commented on the minimum number of players and nights required. Bill Ikerd's suggestion to offer one week with a 2-day tournament was well received. Bill Wilhelm will contact Atlantis for the cost for a 2-day tournament.

- **Team Event** - 1-day tournament. 2017 Poppy Ridge green fees are unknown but reasonable. It's a popular venue, centrally located, where SIRs are well treated. Bruce Evans would like to move things around and Stephen Johnson would like to play elsewhere. The other members voiced their approval of the status quo.

- **Fall Classic** - It's a tournament that can be moved elsewhere. Whitney Oaks 2015 was a disappointment. Bob Manell, John Boyer and Steve Johnson voiced for Solvang, and Dave Betts raised the question of the hotel contract. Bruce Evans suggested a 2-day tournament in the Fresno area, where SIRs has excellent contacts with two local country clubs (Sunnyside CC, Belmont CC) and a very good participation from the local branch players. Fresno offers many hotels. Dave Betts and Gilbert Matossian supported the idea and will look into a lodging package for the out of town players.

- **Individual event** - October 2017. The reputation of the golf course does impact the number of the participants. Dave Betts would like to get back into Poppy Hills provided the price is right. Poppy Hills is too hard to play even for mid-handicappers and golf carts are usually restricted to cart path only; Rancho Canada fairways would be covered by too many leaves.

Laguna Seca remains a viable option. Del Monte appears very suitable for our tournament. Bill Wilhelm will call Del Monte.

- Bruce Evans suggested adding a new 1 or 2-day Tournament in the Sacramento area. Overall comments - No need to replace the Fall Classic. It may be a viable option. Evans and Boyer will look into for mid-November or March.

- Dave Betts suggested an away Tournament. Steve Johnson will look into the Palm Springs area in mid-November or January 2018.

Old Business

The question whether to realign the team handicap when an A, B, or C player(s) missing from the team (page 17 of the Manual) was discussed and the Committee decided to leave the rules as it is.

New Business

The Committee decided that the recent USGA rule change banning "solo scoring" was beyond purview.

Next Meeting: April 12, 2016 at 8:30 am.

Adjourned 12:30pm