

Jan 14, 2009 Meeting Minutes

Location: South Windsor Community Center

Attendees: Kieran Curtis, Al Cusson, Jared Albert, Jose Flores, Rick Frechette, Joe Staszowski, Larry Frechette, Brian Lathrop, John Sawka, Rick LaBruna, Doug Cadiz, Steve Cullinan

Meeting was called to order at 6:00pm.

Kieran Curtis opened the meeting.

- **Approval of December 03, 2008 Meeting Minutes:**

A motion to approve the minutes was made, seconded and passed by the attendees.

- **Membership Report:**

Jose Flores updated the Board on membership issues. Pre-printed membership forms have been sent out. As of 1/14, approximately 11 members paid their 2009 membership fee. Kieran asked Jose to send out periodic updates to the Board on the number of membership applications received.

- **Membership Communications:**

Phil Richards has sent out emails containing a membership flyer asking members to post the flyer at work. Kieran indicated he has updated information on the web regarding our by-laws and contact information. He also discussed the goal of creating an operational manual for Board activities during 2009. Kieran indicated new member packets have been drafted and will be sent to the Board for comment before being sent to new members. Jose was asked to send Phil a list of new members and any email address changes on a regular basis. The Board decided to continue to have new members pick up their bag tags in the Pro Shop. Jose was asked to check with Casey to determine how many bag tags remain. The Board discussed and decided that if a returning member is not current with their Pro Shop charges, they will need to become current before their membership application is accepted. The Board was asked to email Phil with any suggestions about membership mailings or web site changes.

- **Tournament Committee:**

Al discussed the tournament schedule: the season will start with a scramble or shamble, 2 man best ball will be played over two weekends (Sunday and following Saturday), no Ryder Cup will be held this year, alternate shot and progressive tournament will continue again this year. The number of match play qualifiers (32 or 64) will depend on the number of players signing

up. The goal will be to limit the number of byes in the first round. Some plaques denoting event winners from past years are missing names, Board members were asked to email Al if they know who might have won those events.

- **Handicap and Rules Report:**

Doug discussed the round times for 2008. For 2009, the Board decided that letters should be sent out if a group was more than 9 minutes behind on the last hole. The letter will be emailed out (if the member has an email on file) with a cc to Casey. Doug will attend the CSGA sponsored handicap class.

- **Treasurer's report:**

Jared and Jose are meeting every two weeks for the next few months to insure a smooth transition of the treasurer's function. Kieran and Jared have updated signatures on the bank account and will submit the required forms to the state. Jose passed out the year end financials for 2008. The year end balance for 2008 was \$3013.02 as compared to \$7005.78 for 2007. This carry-over balance meets the Boards goal of increasing tournament payouts to carry over less money from year to year. This was accomplished as follows:

- Average payout per round is well over \$7.50. Explanation: If we always have at least enough members in every flight to warrant 2 payouts (1 gross, 1 net) then the expected value of payouts/round would be \$7.50. But for every time we don't have enough, we have to pay out \$50 in that flight anyway, which causes an upward variance.
- We had about a \$6,000 surplus at 12/31/07. We had a discussion about lowering that balance. We currently have about a \$3,000 balance at 12/31/08 so we successfully gave back to the membership. We could change the \$7.50 figure to a lower number in order to actually yield a \$7.50 payout/round for the year.
- Payout/round modeling that was done on July 1 was very successful in predicting year end payout budget (within 0.5% on a total of ~\$37,000). This procedure will be refine and use next year in order to more accurately project year end budget and in turn produce an expectable level of surplus at year end.

The 2008 financial audit will be done near the end of January.

- **Professional Report:**

No report was given.

- **Old/New Business:**

A description of new USGA and Connecticut rules (both metal and match play) will be posted on our web site.

Any Board member wanting to coordinate the Spring and Fall banquets is asked to email Kieran.

- **Adjournment:**

A motion to end the meeting was made, seconded and passed by the attendees at 7:30 pm.

Next meeting date:

- February 11, 2009 at South Windsor Community Center

Feb 11, 2009 Meeting Minutes

Location: South Windsor Library

Attendees: Kieran Curtis, Al Cusson, Jared Albert, Jose Flores, Rick Frechette, Joe Staszowski, Larry Frechette, Brian Lathrop, Rick LaBruna, Doug Cadiz, Steve Cullinan, Phil Richards

Meeting was called to order at 6:00pm.

Kieran Curtis opened the meeting.

- **Approval of January 14, 2009 Meeting Minutes:**

A motion to approve the minutes was made, seconded and passed by the attendees.

- **Membership Report:**

Jose updated the Board on membership issues. As of 2/11, 171 members have paid their 2009 membership fee. Kieran asked Jose to continue to send out periodic updates to the Board on the number of membership applications received. Jose indicated as he receives a member's 2009 dues, he will send them a confirming email. Membership applications will only be processed for members in good standing.

- **Membership Communications Report:**

Phil will be sending out an email reminder regarding membership dues, spring banquet (3/11), and Topstone's planned opening day (3/13) within the next few days. As a way to reduce costs, the Board agreed that reminders about the banquets, new membership packets, and communications to the membership will be sent via email to save postage and printing. Letters will be sent via paper mail for those few members without an email address. Phil indicated he would be updating the format of the web site by reducing the number of categories on the Men's Club home page and moving links to these category selections.

- **Tournament Committee:**

Al discussed the tournament schedule with the Board. The Ryder cup event will not be held in 2009, the President cup and Jim Owens (seniors) tournament will be held on a Saturday /Sunday respectively in Sept, the format of the 4 man best ball will be an A, B, C, D handicap or minimum handicap based, the 2 man best ball will be held on successive weekends and turkey shot will pay out only 1 turkey per winner. The match play qualifying will be 64 slots if at least 56 members sign up, otherwise the number will be reduced to 32. The tournament schedule will be finalized within the next two weeks. The tournament payouts will be discussed again at the

March 4th Board meeting when membership totals will be better known such that a decision can be made and communicated to the members at the Spring banquet.

- **Handicap and Rules Report:**

Doug will be attending a CSGA handicap course at Yale Golf Club 2/25. An on-line course is also available if anyone would like to learn more about this topic. Pace of play was discussed and the board decided to send out letters to groups more than 8 minutes behind on the last hole. If a member receives more than 3 letters, he will have to sign up at the end of the starting times.

- **Treasurer's report:**

- Jared and Jose are meeting every two weeks for the next few months to insure a smooth transition of the treasurer's function and to transfer membership checks. The 2008 year end financials were distributed. The year end balance was \$3013.02. The 2008 audit will be completed before the March 4th Board meeting. Jared developed and discussed potential budgets for 2009 assuming 350, 325, and 300 members. The Board discussed ways to reduce costs including reducing postage and printing, board expenses, banquet costs, trophy expenses, and tournament payouts. It was decided that the spring banquet costs would be reduced compared to prior years. Brian will discuss options with Maneeley's including just having hot appetizers. Jared indicated the 2009 insurance and CSGA bills have been paid.

- **Professional Report:**

Casey was not present but talked to Kieran before the meeting. Green fees for 2009 have not been determined yet. Opening day is scheduled for 3/ 14 (weather permitting).

- **Old/New Business:**

Doug Cadiz volunteered to collect the donated golf equipment for the First Tee event at the spring banquet. Rick agreed to help transport the equipment if that was required.

- **Adjournment:**

A motion to end the meeting was made, seconded and passed by the attendees at 8:10 pm.

Next meeting date:

- March 4, 2009 at either the South Windsor Library or South Windsor Community Center. Kieran will email the Board the location.

March 4, 2009 Meeting Minutes

Location: Ellington Board of Ed Offices

Attendees: Kieran Curtis, Al Cusson, Joe Staszowski, Larry Frechette, Brian Lathrop, Rick LaBruna, Doug Cadiz, Steve Cullinan, Phil Richards, John Sawka

Meeting was called to order at 6:00pm.

Kieran Curtis opened the meeting.

1. Approval of February 11 2009 Meeting Minutes:

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Doug seconded by Al and passed by the attendees.

1. Membership Report:

Jose was unable to attend the meeting but informed Kieran that the 2009 membership level is now at 230. Kieran discussed a letter he received from a long time Men's Club member that, due to a medical issue, could prevent him from playing this year and beyond. A motion to grant this person a one year honorary membership was made by Phil, seconded Steve and passed by the attendees.

1. Membership Communications Report:

Phil discussed two emails he sent out last week: one to new members and one to those 2008 members that have not paid 2009 dues as yet. He also discussed some statistics on percentage of emails opened within the first few days of being sent (65% -January membership email and 50% -Banquet email). The attendees discussed options to increase membership including emailing and/or calling past Men's Club members. Kieran will supply Phil with the email list. The Board will discuss the option of calling past members, that we don't have email addresses for, at the next meeting.

Some Board members and Casey feel that the 10 rounds played requirement might be a reason some 2008 members are not joining for 2009. The Board agreed to waiver this requirement for 2009. Phil will send out another email, within the next day or so, indicating this change. He will also remind members that there is still time to pay 2009 dues and attend the Spring Banquet

4 Tournament Committee:

The attendees agreed that as long as the course opens before April 4, the first tournament will be a Shamble. The 2009 tournament schedule is now finalized and will be distributed at the Spring Banquet along with the 2009 round card.

5 Handicap and Rules Report:

Doug attended a CSGA handicap course at Yale Golf Club 2/25.

6 Treasurer's report:

Jared was not able to attend the meeting but emailed his report to the Board members. This report included "what if" scenarios for membership levels of 350, 325, and 300. The Spring Banquet expense has already been cut back as compared to 2008. Additional ways to cut costs were discussed including cutting back the payout ratio for prizes. A decision on payout ratios will be made in May based on the number of 2009 Men's Club members.

The attendees discussed how to contract for the 2008 audit as well as the extend of audit. This will be discussed again at the April meeting.

7 Professional Report:

Casey was not present but talked to Kieran before the meeting. Green fees for 2009 have not been determined yet. Opening day is scheduled for 3/ 14 (weather permitting).

8 Old/New Business:

Spring Banquet – Brain indicated 85 have signed up as of 3/3. There will be a 50/50 and a prize raffle at the Banquet. Al and Doug will purchase the prizes from Casey and spend \$1000. Steve will be managing the donated golf equipment for the First Tee event at the Spring Banquet.

9 Adjournment:

A motion to end the meeting was made Joe, seconded by Doug and passed by the attendees at 7:50 pm.

Next meeting date:

April 15, 2009 at a location TBD. Kieran will email the Board the location

April 15, 2009 Meeting Minutes

Location: Topstone Golf Course

Attendees: Kieran Curtis, Al Cusson, Joe Staszowski, Larry Frechette, Brian Lathrop, Rick LaBruna, Steve Cullinan, Phil Richards, Jared Albert, Jose Flores, Rick Frechette, Casey Morris

Meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm.

Kieran Curtis opened the meeting.

1. Approval of February 11 2009 Meeting Minutes:

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Rick Frechette seconded by Al and passed by the attendees.

1. Membership Report:

Jose informed the board that the current membership is now at 299. The Board discussed options to increase membership. It was decided that Phil would email members that did not return in 2007 and 2008 indicating there are opening for the 2009 season and that the 10 round level to join is being waved for 2009. The board also discussed a request by a member to return his membership fee because of an injury received in March that could prevent him from playing in 2009. The Board asked Jose to send the member a letter indicating that if he could not play in 2009 his membership fee will be rolled over to 2010.

1. Membership Communications Report:

Phil will be sending out an email to the membership reminding them about the May events and several changes to future tournaments. New member packets have been emailed out.

4 Tournament Committee:

The Board discussed the upcoming single and two man qualifying. Standing will be updated weekly and kept in the Pro Shop. Also kept in the Pro Shop will be an updated listing of those in the hole in one pool, ringers, skins, and event winners. The Board agreed that seniors could use the gold tees for all tournaments except trophy events. Al discussed that the number of paid flights had been reduced based on the number of players in the flight, as the board agreed at the last meeting. To help reduce expenses, a motion was made by Rick Frechette, seconded by Jared and passed by the attendees to pay only one place in trophy events. The weekend events during those weekends will be paid in the standard way.

5 Handicap and Rules Report:

Doug was not in attendance at the meeting, but Jared will ask him to develop a list of total members eligible for each flight and email it to the board members. This list will be used to determine if any adjustments are needed between flights. The Board agreed to offer a handicap service for non-members at a rate of \$50/yr. The hope would be that this would encourage them

to join the members club in the future.

6 Treasurer's report:

Jared distributed the financial spreadsheet. The board discussed options to meet 2009 expenses and payouts with the reduced membership. The achieved reduction in the Spring and planned reduction in the Fall Banquet expense will help reduce 2009 expenses. The board agreed to continue to discuss the budget at future meetings and if necessary reduce payouts to keep the budget in line. The board discussed how to economically meet the financial audit requirement. Several options were discussed. The Board agreed to make a final decision on this at the May Board meeting.

7 Professional Report:

Casey updated the Board on the first month of Men's club events.

8 Old/New Business:

Brian was asked to get a quote from Maneeley's for the Fall Banquet (same type of meal)

9 Adjournment:

A motion to end the meeting was made Joe, seconded by Rick Frechette and passed by the attendees at 8:15 pm.

Next meeting date:

May 13, 2009 at Topstone

May 29, 2009 Meeting Minutes

Location: Topstone Golf Course

Attendees: Kieran Curtis, John Sawka, Joe Staszowski, Larry Frechette, Brian Lathrop, Rick LaBruna, Steve Cullinan, Phil Richards, Jared Albert, Jose Flores, Rick Frechette, Casey Morris, Doug Cadiz

Meeting was called to order at 6:15 pm.

Kieran Curtis opened the meeting.

1. Approval of May 15, 2009 Meeting Minutes:

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Steve seconded by Phil and passed by the attendees.

2. Membership Report:

Jose informed the attendees that the current membership is 310. Jose distributed information on membership renewals by month from 2004 through 2009 which showed that the membership shortfall is mainly due to fewer new members this year. Jose indicated he received no comment when he informed the member requesting reimbursement of 2009 dues that if he could not play in 2009, his membership fee will be rolled over to 2010 as the Board decided last month.

3. Membership Communications Report:

Phil will be sending out an email to the membership reminding them about the June events and the match play schedule. Phil shared the list of approximately 160 past members he will be emailing inviting them to rejoin the Men's Club as discussed last month. This email will be sent out within a week.

4. Tournament Committee:

The match play singles event has 56 players. They will be reminded that their matches do not have to be played on weekends, can be 9 holes and can be played at other courses.

5. Handicap and Rules Report:

Doug discussed the information he emailed to the Board regarding members' handicaps and breakpoints between flights. The Board decided to keep the handicap breakpoints as is. Doug will post a list of members' handicaps in the pro shop. Doug discussed the methodology he uses for a pace of play letter, the number of letters sent out to date and the comments he has received. Casey indicated he believed the current methodology is not strict enough to encourage a reasonable pace of play. The Board discussed pace of play and changes that could be made. It was moved by Jared, seconded by Steve and unanimously approved to send pace of play letters to any group that completes their round in more than 4 hours 15 minutes **and** also completed the eighteen hole more than 12 minutes behind the group in front of them.

6 Treasurer's report:

Jared distributed the financial spreadsheet showing actual 2008, proposed 2009 and actual (to date) 2009 income and expenses. The board discussed options to meet 2009 expenses and payouts with the reduced membership and felt as of now that coming in within budget is acceptable. The board will continue to watch the budget closely and make changes if necessary. A motion was made by Jared, seconded by Phil and unanimously passed to keep the win, show and place payout for major evens. The board discussed and agreed to use the same financial audit procedure and person to perform this review as in past years.

7 Professional Report:

Casey discussed that the golf cages are up, cart paths are newly repaved on 6, 9 and 14 as well as that two trees that were cut down on the front right of the second tee. Casey informed the attendees of a proposed state law to tax green fees, driving ranges purchases, etc. He asked attendees to voice any concern they have to their state representatives.

8 Old/New Business:

The Board agreed to look into a dues question posed by a friend of a member who died during the 2008 season and discuss it further at the next meeting.

9 Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Larry, seconded by Steve and passed by the attendees at 8:10 pm.

Next meeting date:

June 10, 2009 at Topstone

June 10 , 2009 Meeting Minutes

Location: Topstone Golf Course

Attendees: Kieran Curtis, John Sawka, Joe Staszowski, Brian Lathrop, Rick LaBruna, Steve Cullinan, Phil Richards, Jared Albert, Jose Flores, Rick Frechette, Casey Morris, Doug Cadiz, Al Cusson, Larry Frechette

Meeting was called to order at 6:10 pm.

Kieran Curtis opened the meeting.

1. Approval of May 13, 2009 Meeting Minutes:

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Larry seconded by Rick Frechette and passed by the attendees.

1. Membership Report:

Jose informed the attendees that the current membership is 318.
There are currently two non-members paying for handicaps through the Men's club.

1. Membership Communications Report:

Phil will be sending out an email to the membership reminding them of the July events and the match play schedule. He will also remind members that five rounds must be played to be eligible for the club championship.

Phil discussed the 138 emails sent to past members and statistics from our email service. This effort will likely lead to 1 or 2 new members based on the responses to date.

4 Tournament Committee:

Al indicated that most 1st round matches have been played in the match play event. Additional members are needed for the interclub match with Blackledge on June 27-28.

5 Handicap and Rules Report:

Doug discussed pace of play letters and comments received.
He suggested, and the board agreed, that all members' handicaps should be posted in the Pro Shop. Phil will work toward posting the handicaps on the website as well.

6 Treasurer's report:

Jared distributed the financial spreadsheet showing actual 2008 as well as planned, latest estimate and actual (to date) 2009 income and expenses. The latest estimate showed acceptable results, therefore no changes were proposed. The Board will continue to closely monitor the financials and make changes if necessary. There are currently 317 members in the Men's club.

Jared indicated the audit for 2008 is in progress and will be completed before the next board meeting.

7 Professional Report:

Casey indicated the \$5 food credit per 18 holes greenfees will continue. There are no issues to report.

8 Old/New Business:

The 2008 dues were returned to the wife of a member who died during the 2008 season.

9 Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Larry, seconded by Steve and passed by the attendees at 7:30 pm.

Next meeting date:

July 15, 2009 at Topstone

July 15 , 2009 Meeting Minutes

Location: Topstone Golf Course

Attendees: Kieran Curtis, Joe Staszowski, Rick LaBruna, Phil Richards, Rick Frechette, Al Cusson, Larry Frechette

Meeting was called to order at 6:10 pm.

Kieran Curtis opened the meeting.

1. Approval of June 10, 2009 Meeting Minutes:

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Larry seconded by Rick Frechette and passed by the attendees.

1. Membership Report:

Kieran indicated that the current membership is at 320 members. He also indicating he talked to a group considering leaving another Men's club and joining Topstone. Kiernan has not heard back from them after the discussion.

1. Membership Communications Report:

Phil will be sending out the August update within the next week reminding members about the club championship, getting their match play rounds completed and the results of the Blackledge interclub match. A picture of the victorious Topstone team wearing their team jerseys will be posted on the website.

4 Tournament Committee:

The motion was made by Rick Frechette and seconded by Larry that in place of a cookout during the club championship, a \$5 food voucher will be given to players.

5 Handicap and Rules Report:

The board discussed pace of play and low attendance for the 4 Man Best Ball Championship.

6 Treasurer's report:

Kieran reported that Jared had nothing to report.

7 Professional Report:

No report was given.

8 Old/New Business:

None

9 Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Larry, seconded by Al and passed by the attendees at 7:50 pm.

Next meeting date:

September 9th at Topstone

September, 9 2009 Meeting Minutes

Location: Topstone Golf Course

Attendees: Kieran Curtis, Joe Staszowski, Brian Lathrop, Jared Albert, Rick Frechette, Casey Morris, Al Cusson, Larry Frechette

Meeting was called to order at 6:15 pm by Kieran Curtis.

1. Approval of July 15, 2009 Meeting Minutes:

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Rick seconded by Larry Frechette and passed by the attendees.

1. Membership Report:

Membership remains at 320.

1. Membership Communications Report:

Nothing new to report.

4 Tournament Committee:

Al discussed the Presidents Cup, Jim Owens Memorial Senior Cup, match play and upcoming Quarry Ridge interclub events. A note will be sent to Jim's wife thanking her for the traditional tray of bread she brings for the players. Casey discussed the rationale for all players using the white tees for major events. For these events, a senior's handicap is adjusted to account for using the white tees.

It was noted that Jared's automated spreadsheet to keep track of the Ringer statistics has greatly simplified this effort. It will also allow other types of ringer statistics to be determined.

It was decided that the Quarry Ridge team members would purchase team hats for the event.

5 Handicap and Rules Report:

Nothing new to report.

6 Treasurer's report:

Jared distributed the financial spreadsheet showing actual 2008, planned, latest estimate and actual (to date) 2009 income and expenses. The latest estimate showed acceptable results, therefore no changes were proposed. The 2009 year end balance will be lower than 2008. The Board will continue to closely monitor the financials and make changes if necessary. It was noted that the latest estimate included several conservative assumptions that lowered the year end cash balance estimate.

7 Professional Report:

Phil will communicate the date to redeem pro shop credits to the membership.

8 Old/New Business:

Brian has confirmed the arrangements for the Fall Banquet. The Board will discuss 2010 Board vacancies at the October meeting. The Board golf event will be October 12.

9 Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Al, seconded by Brian and passed by the attendees at 7:20 pm.

Next meeting date:

October 7, 2009 at Topstone.

Respectfully submitted by Joe Staszowski