

Val Halla Golf Association - Notes from Spring Meeting
Sunday April 25, 2021

President Mark Franco called the meeting to order at approximately 12:50

Roll call/member count established that we had at least 30 members present and 4 out of the 5 executive committee members (Tony Polito was not able to attend)

Executive Committee: Mark Franco (President), Karen Moody (1st Vice President), Tony Polity (2nd Vice President), Phil Ingraham (Treasurer), Meredith Koerner (Secretary)

Past Presidents were recognized and thanked for their service: Scott Johnson and Sally Williams

Moment of Silence: We had a moment of silence to honor the memory of Bob Leighton, one of the original founders, and Gren Hudson, both of whom had passed since our fall meeting.

Secretary's Report: Reading of the minutes from last fall's meeting was waived. Motion made to accept the minutes, seconded, and approved.

Treasurer's Report: is attached

Committee Reports

Tournament and Rules

Men's: Chris King (Chair), Steve Landry, Tim Matthews, Tony Polito, George Seamans, Sean Fennessy, Joe Gildart, Phil Ingraham

Women's: Sue Waltz, Celeste Ross, Linda Varrell, Fran McRay

Chris reported that the men's schedule is posted on the website. Ready for a good start. Sue reported that she and Chris had met, and that the Men's and Ladies' groups were in synch.

Handicap: Scott Johnson (Chair), Jay Burrell, Kate Harris, Judy Ingraham, Karen Moody, Wayne Schaab, Steve Sloan, Neil Williams, Dan Wood ?

Scott reported that we are trying to work with 1 posting computer in the clubhouse. He reminded us that the max score to post on a hole is a net double bogey, we shouldn't post if we are playing alone, and we should post our scores by midnight on the day we played.

Twilight Leagues

Men's: Mo Fisher & Bill Shane

Women's: Meredith Koerner & Linda Varrell

Mo reported that Men's Twilight has had a terrific turnout, they are excited to start the year. Meredith and Linda reported that signups are underway and they are looking forward to a good year. The Ladies will have a meet and greet at Rachel's on Wednesday May 12.

Scholarship: Tony Polito (Chair), Nick Bartlett, Jon Campbell, Mark Franco, Joe Gildart, Greg Palmacci, Paul Severino, Phil Ingraham (Treasurer)

It was reported that we awarded 9 scholarships of \$500 each this past winter.

Greens: Mark Stasium (Chair), Sally Williams, Mike Steinberg, Tony Polito, Wayne

Schaab, Steve Sloan, Meredith Koerner

Mark Stasium noted that the course is in great shape and thanked Toby for all of the hard work of his team. Mark referenced Toby's Superintendent report for the details of all that was done over the winter and projects that are planned.

Old Business

Golf Genius Fee \$3,500 - There was discussion about whether the Association should take on payment for the premium Golf Genius fee. Nick noted that it is used by the Men's League, Ladies League, and the Weekend Tournaments, but not for Corporate Outings. Services that this provides are Live Scoring, Live Leaderboard, and assistance to the Pro Shop by way of online signups and payments.

After discussion, Dave Croxford made a motion that we approve VHGA taking responsibility for this service. Mark Stasium seconded this. The majority were in favor, with at least one not in favor.

Further to this Mark Stasium made a motion to increase the VHGA fee by \$10 (increase from \$40 to \$50 for next year) in order to pay for the Golf Genius fee going forward (it was noted that we have sufficient to pay for the current year). George Seaman seconded this, and the majority voted in favor to approve the VHGA dues increase.

New Business

Mark Franco started discussion regarding the # of scholarships we award and the amount of each scholarship. Typically we award scholarships of \$500 a piece totalling \$3,500 to \$5,000 a year. Discussion ensued regarding whether we want firm guidelines or not. Motion was made to leave this to the discretion of the Scholarship Committee. Motion was seconded and the majority were in favor.

Sally Williams suggested that we help the course with aesthetics, per the mission of the VHGA, by improving the look of the granite markers - straightening them and redoing them where needed. Current markers were done by Jay Richardson, and many are dated, with incorrect yardages. Mark Stasium said that Toby brought this up at Greens Committee and Toby had suggested that we replace with quality wood markers that could be made in house with a CNC machine, if one were purchased. Some discussion ensued, it was suggested that this be discussed further at Greens Committee to which Sally stated it had already been discussed at Greens Committee. Mark Franco said that he would look into this with Toby.

Toby Young said that he sent his report to everyone the week prior. George Seamans mentioned what great shape the course is in. Toby mentioned that work on #5 would start in the fall.

Nick Plummer started by saying that there has been a surge in memberships, particularly in the U35 group. Currently there are 360 members, of which 190 are Eagle members and 170 are Birdie members, and there are 13 Corporate memberships. In the leagues, 120 men have signed up for Twilight, and 33 women. Regarding Junior programs, Nick will no longer be partnering with the PGA on the format for his summer camps - camps are filling up. Regular greens fee play is up significantly, and there are about 12 outings planned for the season, trying to avoid peak summer months for most. He also noted that VH will be hosting the NE Junior

Championship August 15 through 17. He encouraged people to get out and watch, emphasizing that these players are quite good. Nick wrapped up by reading key event winners from last season and said that he had trophies for all whose names he read.

There was a motion to adjourn at 1:36. It was seconded, and a majority approved.