

**Val Halla Golf Association - Fall Meeting Agenda**  
**Sunday October 24, 2021**

**Call to Order at 4:00 pm**

Roll call/member count - there were 17 members present

Executive Committee: Mark Franco (President), Karen Moody (1st Vice President), Tony Polity (2nd Vice President), Phil Ingraham (Treasurer), Meredith Koerner (Secretary) - Mark, Tony, Meredith present, and Karen gave her proxy to Mark

**Recognition of Past Presidents** - We recognized Scott Johnson as one of our past presidents.

Moment of Silence: no members that we were aware of had passed since our spring meeting

**Secretary's Report**: recommend that we waive reading, but noted that in the spring we had voted to increase the VHGA fee to \$50 to offset the Golf Genius fee, and that we had voted to assume the Golf Genius fee since the Town was no longer going to pay it.

It was moved and seconded to waive the reading of the Secretary's report. All were in favor.

**Treasurer's Report**: Mark read the Treasurer's report, which is attached. Linda Varrell asked for clarification regarding the MSGA fees, reminding people that individuals no longer pay to be a member of the MSGA (to keep this in mind as we think about the \$50 VHGA fee since we used to have to pay a VHGA fee and an MSGA fee).

There was some discussion regarding Phil's thoughts on raising the VHGA fee even further for 2022. Decision was to stay with the fee that was approved at the Spring Meeting and revisit next fall if necessary.

It was moved and seconded to accept the Treasurer's report

**Committee Reports**

**Tournament and Rules**

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

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

Not a lot of discussion. It was noted that 1 group was penalized for slow play early in the year, but no penalties after that. The group acknowledged that it is helpful to have people keying their scores into Golf Genius. There was discussion regarding the importance of having the Leaderboards functional in Rachel's.

For the women it was noted that weekend participation was light. Hoping that with more women members joining from other clubs, maybe attendance will improve in 2022. Linda suggested that it would be helpful to have a list of men who would like to participate in the Sadie Hawkins tournament.

## **Handicap**

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

Scott said that it is really helpful that Golf Genius takes care of a lot of the score posting. Now just need to remind people to turn in their scores from casual play, provided they play with at least one other person.

## **Twilight Leagues**

Men's: Mo Fisher & Bill Shane

Women's: Meredith Koerner & Linda Varrell

Men's Twilight - a very successful year with 120 participants. Nick is likely to cap it at 96 in 2022, but will maintain the flexibility to open it to 120 if warranted.

Women's Twilight - also a successful year, with 44 participants and likely to grow in 2022. Meredith suggested that it would be helpful to have a rules review at the start of the 2022 season.

## **Scholarship**

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

Tony said that we have done well collecting for scholarships via the member guest and some 50/50 raffles. He spoke about the importance of being able to assist with scholarships in the amount of \$500 per person.

## **Greens Committee**

Mark Stasium (Chair), Sally Williams, Mike Steinberg, Tony Polito, Wayne Schaab, Steve Sloan, Meredith Koerner

There was no specific Greens Committee report however it was mentioned that because of the new Men's Tees there would be a bell installed at the culvert on #5.

There was general discussion regarding the Golf Genius fee that we should expect in 2022. Nick advised us that because the USGA is moving away from Golf Genius, the discount previously given to each club would go away, resulting in a \$300 increase in the Golf Genius fee (from \$2800 to \$3100). George suggested that since the VHGA agreed to pay the Golf Genius fee, which he believes is generally paid by other clubs as opposed to the membership paying, that Nick should have the town pay the \$300 increase. Nick said that he would look into this, but did not commit.

## **Golf Professional's Report**

Nick Plummer

Nick reported that we had close to 450 members in 2021 and that we have 170 signed up already for 2022. He is looking at 9 minute tee times on the weekends next year to try to accommodate more play.

## **Superintendent's Report**

Toby Young

Nick spoke on behalf of Toby and reminded the group that Toby's staff was 1 person short all season and that Toby was going to try hard to fill that position in 2022. Nick reminded us of the key things that were accomplished in 2022: widening some fairways, finishing between 7 and 8,

in the process of moving the #7 cart path, and constructing new tee boxes on 5 and 9.

Off season tasks include: adding 3 more greens covers, and working with the town regarding equipment needs for the next 5 years.

We are planning to have the MSGA re-rate the golf course in the spring.

Steve Landry said, and others all agreed, that the course was in the best condition in several years.

### **Old Business**

Golf Genius update - will continue to be used in 2022

Reminder that in the spring we voted to increase the VHGA fee to \$50 in 2022 (extra \$10 to support Golf Genius)

Tee Box Markers - no update on whether we are moving to wood or staying with granite

### **New Business**

People asked about ball washers for 2022.

Nick stated that there would be no water on the course for drinking for the foreseeable future.

Mark concluded the meeting by thanking Nick for a great year and said that Toby keeps the course in tremendous shape. He said that this is his last meeting as President and that next year Karen Moody will assume that responsibility, with Tony being the 1st Vice President.

We are still in need of a 2nd Vice President. If anyone is interested, please make Mark or Karen aware.

The meeting was adjourned at about 5:00.