

## VGA MINUTES FOR Q. 2 2023

Members present include: Rusty Silverman, Danny Campos, Warren Meehan, John Adair, Tom Hecoeks, Jim Cox, Mark Alway, Lloyd Snively. Ron Amstutz, Jeff Currie, Dan Christiansen, and Ben Hughes were not in attendance. Ben Hughes and Jeff Currie provided Rusty Silverman their voting proxies but were not required throughout the meeting.

Meeting start time @ 7:05 PM, April 19, 2023, Ajo Al's on N. 16<sup>th</sup> Street, Phoenix, AZ.

### On-Going Business Items:

1. Treasury Report – Ron:

<b>Valley Golfers Association</b>					
03/31/23	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Petty Cash	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$307.38	\$182.00
Savings	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$25.00		
Checking	<u>\$ 6,282.36</u>	<u>\$ 4,283.31</u>	<u>\$ 4,925.60</u>	<u>\$ 4,494.04</u>	<u>\$ 1,514.87</u>
Total	\$6,307.36	\$4,308.31	\$4,950.60	\$4,801.42	\$1,696.87
Members	159	161	168	143	133
Hole In One Fund	\$ 530.00				
General Fund	<u>\$ 5,777.36</u>				

*Board members all voted in favor of approving Treasurer's report.* Board recognized an increase of approximately \$1,700 from typical amounts over quarters past. Partial reason is due to an increasing number of members.

2. Larry and Danny's Q. 3 2023 Schedule – *To be posted on our website at a very near future date from the meeting date.*
3. Dial in a date for Club Championship in September, Prescott, AZ. *Board approved the two-day Club Championship tournament to be held the first weekend in October (7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>) at the Prescott Country Club.*

4. Discuss JPO. *No actions required. Rusty Silverman will follow-up with the hotel on room block issues. On April 23, 2023, the hotel indicated that 7 rooms have been booked with an ample number rooms still available.*
5. VGA's LLC updated with the State of AZ and we are formally signed up with the IRS as a non-profit. Mentioned to the board but no action taken.
6. Discuss additional tournaments, President's Cup, Champion of Champions and Two-Man team events (See New Business below). *Board decided to abolish the President's Cup and Champion of Champions tournaments in favor of more Two-Man Best Ball tournaments. See motion below.*
7. On March 22, 2023, Neal Fisel resigned all his volunteer duties with the VGA. *Mentioned to the board. No action required, but Neal continues to volunteer with the club as an active consultant.*
8. Per Neal: Revisit the Desert Rule. If a ball is lost in the desert, Neal recommends that the player either re-tee or use the E-5 rule. Reason: The club is confused as to how the Desert Rule works since the E-5 was established a few years ago. *Board Response (Not changed but clarified):*  
***The Desert Rule (interpreted as a red-lined penalty area) is a local VGA club rule enacted to speed-up play with a one-stroke penalty and will be designated by the tournament director prior to time of play based on the following requirements: 1. If a player hits a ball in the desert, the ball **must cross grass**. 2. The ball does **not** have to be found but must be in-bounds. If the ball is determined to be out-of-bounds by the player and the four-some, then the player has two options (per USGA rules): Invoke the E-5 Rule with a 2-stroke penalty or Re-Tee with a 1-stroke penalty (hitting 3 off the tee). 3. If the ball is determined to be in-bounds and found, the player has three options: a. Play the ball where it lies. b. Drop the ball in the grass at the approximate location where it crossed grass no closer to the hole. c. Drop the ball 2 club-lengths from where the ball came to rest, no closer to the hole. 4. If the ball does not cross grass, then the Desert Rule cannot be invoked and USGA rules apply as follows: a. Player finds the ball in the desert area and plays it as it lies without penalty. b. Player finds the ball and determines it unplayable. Player may drop the ball 2 club-lengths from the point***

*of the found ball, no closer to the hole with a 1-stroke penalty. c. Player does not find the ball, the player can re-tee the ball with a 1-stroke penalty (hitting 3 off the tee).*

9. Discuss Payouts and Distribution of the Payouts for a regular tournament. *Discussion ensued based on the rare occasion that there is an odd number of payouts in a flight. In other words, if there are certain number of players in a small turn-out event, say 21 or 23 players, then five players are paid (two in one flight and three in the other) versus an even number of players paid in each flight. No action taken because of the rarity of this occurrence.*

### **New Business Items:**

1. Two-Man Best-Ball Tournaments Revised and Expanded. Jim Cox presented the following motion: *Increase the Two-Man Best Ball Tournaments from 1 per year for both Wednesday and Saturday to 1 per quarter or 4 per year for both Wednesday and Saturday. VGA will pay-out \$200 per tournament from its Treasury. The Tournament Director will choose pairings either by handicap or a blind-draw. Pay-outs: 50% of prize money for first place. 30% for second and 20% for third. Motion seconded by Warren Meehan. Vote: All board members voted in favor of the motion.*
2. Discussion: Establishing Committees. Tournament Committee. Handicap Committee. Rules Committee. Reason: Avoiding our board collectively making decisions for these committees. *Board concurs. No action taken.*
3. Discuss who wants to volunteer to be Treasurer. *Shelved until the next meeting.*
4. Hold an annual meeting the fourth quarter of every year and invite the entire membership. Members can offer their ideas on how to make the club better. Elect officers in front of the entire membership. *Board concurs. Secretary to send out invitations for the Annual Meeting via Golf Genius when the board decides to hold its annual meeting. The most likely location will be a highly demanded tournament venue such as Ken McDonald or Encanto.*

From Tom:

**Title:** Annual Member Meeting proposal

**Reason:** The articles require an annual membership meeting yet recent meetings have been largely ignored by the membership.

**Proposal:**

The articles don't say anything about a quorum requirement. If we designate the board meeting as the annual meeting and invite all members, then we'll have key players in attendance and all members would have the option to participate. That's the best quorum we can expect given poor participation in recent years.

The proposal is to designate one Board Meeting per year as the "Annual Members Meeting" with the following agenda:

1. Nominate, accept and vote on the board members
  2. Nominate, accept and vote for officers
  3. Give out Awards
  4. Social hour where the VGA provides some snacks and a drink (budget to be determined), and maybe play some cards.
- 
3. Update the board and officer names as needed on the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) web site and pay the annual report fee.
  4. File the nonprofit return with the IRS in January for the previous year. This return should be a simple matter of attesting that revenue to the VGA is less than \$50K. That's not an issue for us.
    - a. The IRS account is currently registered to Rusty's personal email address. It's also used with the ACC. *You should consider purchasing a low-cost email service for use by valleygolfers.com.* This way the email accounts will be owned by the VGA and we can avoid turmoil down the road.

From Tom:

***It's important to note that, currently, you three are the only real board members.*** You are identified as directors with the Arizona Corporation Commission. I suggest adding two directors. They don't have to be officers. The board has few responsibilities. It ensures the VGA adheres to the articles and that it behaves as a nonprofit. Nonprofit compliance is no longer an issue. Adhering to the articles requires an Annual Members Meeting. I also believe the board can appoint officers but I'm not sure about that.

***What we have been calling the board has been acting as a committee, not a board.*** We need to begin treating them as such. They can be rules, scheduling, or all the above but they aren't officers or directors. What I propose here doesn't diminish their role. It merely codifies what they have been doing, e.g., voting on rules, payouts, scheduling, etc. The reality is they are a committee, and they currently perform the role of all committees identified in the articles. *Board concurs. No additional action taken.*

5. Neal Fisel makes the following motion: All tournament directors use his excel spreadsheet to run golf tournaments? *Discussion ensued between two tournament directors, Danny Campos and Jim Cox. Both concurred that the spreadsheet is not required but to be utilized as a tool at the tournament director's discretion. As of 2023, Golf Genius will be the VGA's primary financial method of determining its net income status with the IRS.*
6. Motion by Tom Hebert: *All VGA members must pay the mandatory \$10.00 tournament fee (subject to possible changes in the future) with an exception of VGA members of 25-year+ tenures. These members may pay a tournament fee of either \$1.00 or \$7.00 at their discretion (subject to possible changes in the future).* Seconded by Lloyd Snively. All members voted in favor of this motion except Warren Meehan and Jim Cox. The motion passed unanimously.
7. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM. *Motion to adjourn by Jim Cox. Seconded by Danny Campos. All members voted in favor.*