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**GOLF AUSTRALIA  
RULES OF GOLF & AMATEUR STATUS COMMITTEE  
MEETING – THURSDAY 16 OCTOBER 2008  
AT GRANGE GOLF CLUB, ADELAIDE, SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

**SUMMARY**

**Present from the Committee:** John Buckley (Chairman), Ian Read, Frank Gal, Jenny Hoff, Andrew Langford-Jones, Val Oswald

**Apologies:** John Hopkins

**In Attendance:** Simon Magdulski (Manager – Rules & Handicapping), Therese Ritter (Manager – Championships), Trevor Herden (Director – Championships) (*NOTE – Trevor Herden was only in attendance during discussion of Agenda item 6*)

**GENERAL**

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**1. Previous Meeting Summary**

This was agreed.

**2. Determination of Vacant Positions on Committee**

The Chairman advised that the Committee positions of John Hopkins and Val Oswald had automatically been declared vacant as a result of the expiration of their designated term and in accordance with the Committee Charter. Nominations for the vacant positions on the Committee had been received on behalf of; Robert Crosby (GSA), Sue Fabian (WGNSW), John Hopkins (WAGA), and Barry Shepherd (GQ). Val Oswald advised she had chosen not to re-nominate.

[NOTE – At the AGM on 6 November, Robert Crosby and John Hopkins were announced as the successful nominees (Sue Fabian's nomination was withdrawn after she was announced as a successful nominee for the Handicapping & Course Rating Committee).]

**RULES OF GOLF**

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**3. 2009 Golf Australia Hard Card**

The following changes to the 2008 Hard Card were confirmed:

- ◆ Incorporate the amended penalty re Rule 4-1 (2008 Rules of Golf revision) into the penalty for carrying but not using a non-conforming driver.
- ◆ Amend the condition re Practice to the following – “Players may use all recognised practice areas within the bounds of the course for practice.”
- ◆ Prohibit practicing around the green of the hole last played.
- ◆ Specifically allow ‘ball-relief’ for paint markings on the fronts and backs of greens.
- ◆ Re timing, amend the description of when the 40-second and 50-second allowance applies to directly mirror the Australasian PGA Tour description (NB this is a cosmetic change only).

#### **4. Golf Australia Rules & Referee Accreditation Program – Update on Development of Structures**

##### **4.1 Consideration of Club Level Resources**

Frank Gal and Jenny Hoff updated the Committee on the work of the Rules & Referee Accreditation Review Group. [This Review Group comprises Jenny Hoff (GA), Frank Gal (GA), Rod Clark (NSWGA), David Greenhill (VGA), Simon Magdulski (GA), Therese Ritter (GA), and Alan Wickenton (VGA).] The composition of the Review Group recognises that the NSWGA and VGA have been the two bodies which have been the driving force behind the establishment of the Club Level program over many years. GA has been very keen to ensure the program moving forward bears out the full benefit of their expertise and experience in developing all of the relevant systems.

The Review Group has been developing and refining the resources already in use in most States.

After consideration, the following resources put forward by Frank Gal and Jenny Hoff on behalf of the Review Group were approved by the Committee for incorporation into the official GA Club Level Rules Accreditation Program (NB these resources will soon be distributed to all Member States, together with support documentation):

- ◆ Study Booklet
- ◆ Workshop (Power Point presentation)
- ◆ Exam 1 & Exam 2
- ◆ A Quick Guide to the Rules of Golf – Workshop (Power Point presentation)

##### **4.2 GA Visit to the Northern Territory**

Frank Gal and Jenny Hoff updated the Committee re their upcoming trip to Darwin to assist Golf NT with the establishment of their Rules & Referee Accreditation Programs. Whilst in Darwin, GA will conduct a State Level Rules Accreditation Workshop and will conduct a training program for the development of Club Level Workshop presenters.

##### **4.3 GA Assistance to State Associations in Establishing Rules Accreditation Programs**

GA will provide on-the-ground training and assistance to any State Association looking to establish either a GA Club Level or GA State Level Rules Accreditation program.

##### **4.4 Advanced State Level – Update**

Simon Magdulski updated the Committee on the development of the Advanced State Level Tier. Notably, The R&A has indicated its willingness to join with Golf Australia in the co-operative formulation and delivery of this program, whilst discussions are progressing to establish some formal involvement from the Australasian PGA Tour.

GA and The R&A are working towards holding the first Advanced State Level School in late-2009 for approximately 10-15 people. Attendance will be via invitation only. Invitees will be determined after consultation with Member States. Schools will be held annually.

#### **5. Thoughts re changes to Rules of Golf for 2012-2015**

Further to a memorandum from The R&A, the Committee noted and discussed potential changes to the Rules of Golf. This matter is to be considered further before a formal response is formulated.

## 6. Referees for 2008 Men's Australian Open

The following are to be invited to referee at the 2008 Men's Australian Open at Royal Sydney Golf Club:

Ishwar Achanta (Ind)	Trevor Herden (GA)
Clayton Bell (WA)	Jenny Hoff (Vic)
John Bowring (NSW)	John Hopkins (WA)
John Buckley (GA)	Andrew Langford-Jones (PGA)
Simon Butterly (PGA)	Simon Magdulski (GA)
Rod Clark (NSW)	Jean Moran (NSW)
Anne Court (Vic)	Val Oswald (Vic)
Bob Crosby (SA)	Michael Palmer (NSW)
Tom Duguid (Vic)	Ian Read (GA)
Bruce Eaton (Tas)	Therese Ritter (GA)
Sue Fabian (NSW)	Graeme Scott (NZ)
Greg Fitzhardinge (WA)	Barry Shepherd (Qld)
Frank Gal (NSW)	Moya Shepherd (NSW)
Tim Gale (Vic)	Peter Spence (SA)
David Greenhill (Vic)	Russell Swanson (PGA)
Ian Hepburn (PGA)	Scott Wagstaff (Qld)

## RULES OF AMATEUR STATUS

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### 7. General Thoughts for Rule Changes for 2012-2015

Golf Australia's representative to The R&A, John Buckley, updated the Committee re The R&A's general thoughts moving forwards to the 2012-2015 version of the Rules.

## FUTURE MEETINGS

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### 8. Next Meeting

Scheduled to take place in April 2009 in Melbourne.