

GOLF NSW LIMITED

Minutes of the Meeting of the **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**
held at 1A Duncan Street, Arncliffe
on Tuesday 31st January, 2012 at 10.00am

Present: Chris Allen (Chair), Frank Gal, John Lock, Jean Moran, Lynne Ritchie, John Waanders & Darrell Watts

Apologies: Sue Fabian and Alan Harrison

In Attendance: Greg Mills, Graeme Phillipson and Cherie Allan

Conflict of Interest: Declarations – Nil

Confirmation of Minutes: The minutes of the meeting held on Friday 16th December, 2011, were approved.

Action Items from Last Minutes: Tri-State Forum
It was noted that John Hopkins agreed that GA does not need to take an active role in the forum. The Board agreed to raise the subject of inviting a representative from other States for the next meeting as there are several issues that should be discussed with all states present.

It was also agreed to advise that this Board wishes to take Strategic Plans off the Agenda.

Working Group for Council

It was noted that Jean Moran is currently convening a meeting of the Working Group and would like to secure a room at the Mercure Hotel for this purpose.

Ipads

Graeme Phillipson advised that Telstra is offering two year contracts at approximately \$60/month with no upfront costs as an option. Graeme is also looking at Dropbox, Goodreader and email software to be installed onto the Ipads. Quotes will be finalised shortly. Chris Allen suggested Steven Cameron (JNJG Director) be contacted re Optus options.

Offshore Clubs

Greg Mills noted that GA is taking on the affiliation of overseas clubs from Golf NSW but we will retain Lord Howe and Norfolk Island Golf Clubs.

Advanced State Level Rules & Competitions Course

Frank Gal recommended Golf NSW nominates Chris Allen, John Robinson and Moya Shepherd for consideration by GA. The Board endorsed the recommendation.

Women's Honour Boards

It was agreed that Graeme Phillipson to resolve which and where the Honour Boards will be displayed.

Chairman's Update: Golf Australia
It was noted that John Hopkins and Steven Pitt were currently visiting

State Boards and have recently been to Queensland and were currently in Sydney to interview two prospective independent director candidates, with a decision to be made re such appointments by the end of March. It was noted, Malcolm Speed has already been appointed as the first independent director on the GA Board.

Deputy Chairman's Meeting

Concern was raised regarding the poor communication between GA and the States regarding a meeting being set up by Frances Crampton for the female Deputy Chairs of State Boards. This Women's Advisory group has been established to discuss women's issues and GA is paying for them to go to the Women's Open in Melbourne. Sue Fabian is unable to attend but no invitation was issued for an alternative representative from NSW.

It was also noted there has been an Australian Sports Commission 'Women's Strategy' developed and GA will investigate 'women in golf' programs.

IT and Communications Manager

Thirty applications have been received thus far. It was noted that the closing date for applications will be extended to Friday 10 February because it hadn't been possible to place the advert with Sportspeople due to technical difficulties.

Lake Macquarie Men's & Women's events

Graeme Phillipson commented that both events were very successful although there are areas that require fine-tuning. Greg Mills mentioned that with our level of involvement it is seen as a Golf NSW event and will be judged accordingly, so we need to either rectify the problems or reduce our investment.

Graeme to prepare a plan for their committee with the aim to reduce our commitment next year.

National Ranking Events

It was noted that we intend to apply for the right to host more national amateur ranking events. Currently Victoria has 8 and NSW has 4.

Graeme Phillipson mentioned that it was also raised at the recent HP meeting to approach GA about national ranking events.

Meeting of the GA Handicapping Committee at Woodlands G.C.

Chris Allen provided an update on the most recent meeting of the GA H&CR Committee and had noted the Board had received copies of the minutes from recent meetings. The new handicap system was still a WIP and no final decision has been made to date as GA was looking at other global handicap solutions. He also mentioned that statistical evidence suggests that introduction of a DSR would affect handicaps.

Women's NSW Open

There was excellent media coverage and great exposure realised generally. Additional signage was used to promote the event on the extensive fencing around the Club.

There was also discussion relating to the name on the trophy "NSW Women's Open Ken Lee Trophy" and the question was asked as to what impact this connection would have if the tournament was to be moved from Oatlands?

Additionally, there was no recognition of Golf NSW as a joint venture partner provided by Oatlands at the presentation. Dick Peet also announced publicly and prematurely that the Open would be held there again next year. Greg Mills to arrange a meeting in the coming weeks to discuss the future of the event with the Club.

Development Program

Darrell Watts mentioned that an application form was not on our website and it was suggested that a template needs to be prepared and loaded onto the website to give the Districts more information.

Affiliation

Greg Mills was requested to post on the website the list of benefits associated with affiliation with Golf NSW.

Business Arising:

1-1 Finance Report

John Lock presented his Finance Report. It was mentioned that the 2011 Men's Open cost was approximately \$164k, but it did provide good promotion of the game and a genuine pathway for our elite players.

John Lock also reported on the Audit Report which was all positive and a letter of engagement was tabled for review and sign off.

It was noted that the Finance Committee recommend that the latest training be carried out for anti-discrimination and HR with Greg Mills to look at what is available and make sure we have a training schedule established where required.

It was noted that Mitsie Kent is our MPIO.

It was agreed by the Board to nominate Graeme Phillipson as a signatory on our bank accounts (replacing Nicky Bethwaite).

It was noted we have invoiced GA \$60k for the 2011/2012 CCA arrangement.

It was agreed by the Finance Committee and Board to upgrade five of computers and monitors to the value of \$8k.

1-2 Accommodation Update

Greg Mills, John Lock, Peter Van Wegen and Graeme Phillipson visited Bingara in December – still a work in progress.

Graeme Annesley advised he would be keen to support the Moore Park project.

General Business:

2-1 New Staff Appointment

Applications will close on Friday 10 February for Communications & IT Manager position and interviews conducted from a short list of selected candidates.

Nicole Bessant started with us in early December as Events Coordinator.

Sub Committee Reports:

3-1 High Performance

First meeting was held to review the structure where minor changes were made to the program.

Other States have now signed sponsorship agreements with Srixon including - SA, QLD, WA, as well as Golf New Zealand.

3-3 Rules

No meeting/report this month.

Definition of Referee – Frank Gal explained that the definition of a referee had changed.

3-4 H & CR

No meeting/report this month.

It was noted that the criteria for National Accreditation is set down in the GA minutes. It was agreed by the Board that Graeme Phillipson and Rod Clark maintain their accreditation by rating a few courses.

It was noted that there are approximately 70 courses yet to be rated, mostly in the Western and Murray districts. It is not realistic to have completed by end of May but the majority will be covered by then. It was also noted that some courses will need to be rated again at the end of this exercise. Lynne Ritchie to create a five year plan for re-rating when all initial ratings are completed.

3-5 Women's Match

Next meeting to be held at Concord on Monday 6 February.

3-6 Men's Match

No meeting held this month. Next meeting to be held at Kogarah Golf Club on Wednesday 21 March.

CEO's Report:

4-1 CEO's Report

Zone B & C Council Member Nominations

Chris Allen recommended John Barbour be appointed to replace Stuart Cox in Zone B.

It was also recommended to appoint Barry Rowley to replace John Lock in Zone C.

The Board supported both nominations.

CEO's Tele-Conference with GA

Greg Mills gave brief overview of meeting and undertook to send the meeting notes to the Board.

Council Information Package

Greg Mills reported that this will be ready for the Zone A meeting to be held at Killara on Monday 20 February.

Commercial Activities

A report from James Black was received.

Golf Club Connect Launch Update

Greg Mills reported that this will be firmed up at the Tri-State Forum. GA has not had any response from the clubs at this time.

Affiliation

Greg Mills reported that we had had an application from Crowne Plaza at Hunter Valley which was progressing.

Vintage GC

Greg Mills reported that Michael Palmer had received an apology from the club and they will cease advertising. The Board has agreed to drop any further action against them.

NSW Open's

Greg Mills raised the query about running the Men's and Women's Opens together as has been done in Victoria.

World Firefighter Games

Greg Mills reported that this will be held at Moore Park, Bonnie Doon and St Michaels in October with approximately 200 players. A fee for our services will not be determined until a formal approach is received.

CRM & Tournament Management System

Greg Mills advised that there are still teething problems with the Tournament Management System. However, this and the CRM are expected to be very successful. Sportal website still an issue and will be looked at more closely when TMS/CRM and new IT staff member are all up and running and in place.

ClubsNSW Corporate Governance Work Group

Greg Mills is attending this meeting which discusses areas such as reducing size of Boards, mandatory director training and voting eligibility in clubs.

Other:

- Lynne Ritchie proposed that we send Adam Dransfield as our representative to the National Accreditation Program when next held. The Board agreed.
- It was also noted that we have not had any feedback from John Hopkins regarding the letter to GA about Handicapping & Course Rating and the possible introduction of a Daily Scratch Rating.
- Darrell Watts suggested we should approach HSBC for sponsorship as they have shown interest in golf and we have significant funds to invest which could assist negotiations.
- Jean Moran suggested she would like to see photos of Council members on the web site. It was noted to take pictures at the next Council meeting.
- It was agreed to use St George Rowers Club as the venue for upcoming Council meetings and AGM in October, if possible.
- It was advised Lynne Ritchie will be attending the Northern Rivers Office Bearers meeting.
- It was agreed that the next topic at the Council meeting will be on Discrimination and Greg Mills to contact Brett Boon as a speaker.
- Graeme Phillipson mentioned difficulty in securing 2 free courses for the Golf Foundation Committee Golf Days.

Correspondence:

The following correspondence was received:

- 5-1 Mitchelsen vs Parkes
Darrell Watts undertook to look at this next week. It was noted the clubs solicitor is acting for the complainant and little Golf NSW can do to intervene.

Close:

Meeting closed at 1.40pm

Next Meeting:

10:00am Thursday 22nd March 2012

Date:

Chairman:

ACTION ITEMS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Actions arising from last meeting				
Ipads	Investigate options for all Board members.	GP/JB	Jan	Progress well advanced
Advanced State Rules Course	Select persons to attend	CA/FG/SF	Dec/Jan	Completed with adjustment. CA to be replaced by Nicole Bessant.
Women's Honour Boards	Arrange new and replace some Honour Boards	GP	Jan/ Feb	In progress
Lake Macquarie Men's & Women's	Graeme to draw up a plan for their committee next year and reduce our commitment.	GP	March	Strategy in progress
Development Fund Application Form	This program not on our website.	GM/RC	March	In progress
Affiliation Fees	Put GM's paper on the website indicating what clubs get for their affiliation fees from Golf NSW.	GM	Feb	Completed
Anti-Discrimination & HR training	Look at what is available and make sure we have current training.	GM	March	In progress
Bank Signatory	Graeme Phillipson to be added as signatory in replacement of Nicky Bethwaite.	JL/DR	Feb	In progress
Council Members	Advise new Council members of their appointments - John Barbour to replace Stuart Cox in Zone B. Barry Rowley to replace John Lock in Zone C.	GM	Feb	Completed
CEO Tele-Conf.	Send the meeting notes to the Board	GM	Feb	Completed
World Fire Fighters Games	Set a fee for our services	GM	Not until formally requested	
Council Information Package	This will be ready for the Zone A meeting to be held at Killara	GM	20 Feb	Completed
Bank Investments	Approach HSBC	JB	Feb	In progress
Council Meeting Topic	"Discrimination" - contact Brett Boon as a speaker.	GM	Feb	Completed
Council Members	Take individual/group photos at next Council meeting.	Cherie	March	