

GOLF NSW

Minutes of the Meeting of the **RULES AND AMATEUR STATUS COMMITTEE**
held at the Golf NSW office at 1A Duncan Street, Arncliffe,
on Tuesday 16th October 2012, at 1.00p.m.

Present: F. Gal (Chairman), C. Allen, S. Fabian, I. Fraser, J. Haddrick,
J. Moran, D. Shannon and J. Robinson

Apologies: M. Palmer, M. Shepherd and J. Waanders

In Attendance: R. Clark, S. Fraser and G. Phillipson

Confirmation of Minutes: The Minutes of the Rules and Amateur Status Committee meeting held on Tuesday 16th October 2012 were confirmed.

Business Arising:

<u>Date created in minutes</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Who</u>	<u>Progress</u>
16/10/2012	Request GA clarification regarding status of visitors handicap when printed on card from computer	RC	GA advised matter is going to meeting for discussion
16/10/2012	Investigate use of USGA Rules animations for slide shows, link on website and e-mail link to Rules database people	RC	RC reported GA would prefer use of R&A materials and RC to request GA supply inventory of available material & Chairman to make other enquiries
16/10/2012	Respond to query from Bexley GC re use of I-phones as measuring devices	RC	Completed
16/10/2012	Chairman to request confirmation of quarterly meetings	FG	Chairman commented this be discussed at upcoming board meeting
16/10/2012	Respond to Nelson Bay query regarding mat for teeing ground	RC	Response to club completed – Chairman advised GA meeting endorsed use of Local Rule
16/10/2012	Request GA develop national list of players in breach of amateur status	RC	response from GA asking what was sought to be resolved – meeting agreed RC to respond and list some situations where said

			list would have assisted
16/10/2012	Request feedback from Advanced referees course	RC	Received and collated for sub-committee debrief - completed
16/10/2012	Review Hard Card	GP and FG	Chairman reported almost complete
16/10/2012	Funding scheme documentation	GP and FG	Ongoing

Business:

2-1 Correspondence / Memorandums from Golf Australia:

- a) R&A, USGA notification of proposed change to prohibit use of anchored strokes.

Noted

2-2 Chairman's report and update on Golf Australia matters

The Chairman advised the meeting that Golf Australia Rules committee had met the previous week during the Australian Open.

Information from the meeting included:

- The National Club Level Accreditation Program was near completion, just awaiting completion of two new exam papers which had been vetted at sub-committee meeting also held in the previous week – during this meeting the possibility of conducting exams on-line was discussed with favourable interest by the subcommittee members present (NSW, Victoria & South Australia)
- State Level was also near completion
- The Chairman advised he had informed GA of the Golf NSW Advanced Referees Course recently conducted and indicated GA was very keen at developing such a resource, particularly as the GA Advanced Course will now only be conducted every two years to coincide with the bi-annual publication of the Decisions book
- The Chairman also advised GA is also very interested in our recent sessions for Club Captains and Committees and indicated they would like to develop materials for a national program

2-3 Chairman's report and discussion regarding 2013 program / schedule for:

- a) Club Level Rules Seminars and Exams
- b) State Level Rules Seminars and Exams
- c) Club Rules sessions
- d) Advanced Referees course

The Chairman's report on item 2-2 covered some of these matters and the following was also discussed and agreed to.

- a) John Robinson and Rod Clark will investigate possibility of utilising the program used for our monthly quiz and whether suitable for the proposed Club Level Rules Exams
- b) The State Level program will be re-structured to include components of the recently conducted Advanced Referees Course
- c) It was generally agreed to attempt more club rules sessions where possible as it is believed these get to a wider audience
- d) Feedback has indicated this was a successful venture and likely one or two more may be conducted in the future (dependant on interest and numbers)

Chairman’s report on Club information sessions for Captains and Committees

The Chairman advised the committee of a request to conduct a rules seminar in Lismore late February-early March and hence it is intended to arrange a Captains and Committee Session in Northern Rivers whilst there. Then travel and do session for New England area the following night.

It was agreed to try and get councillors local area more involved in promotion of these events and possibly generate and advertising style flyer that may have greater emphasis and impact.

- 2-4 Query from The Australian GC regarding individual cards issued for Fourball due to use of “autoscore” system and who must mark and sign cards. Includes response from Golf Australia.

The Golf Australia response indicated that if individual cards are issued for a Fourball event, there must be two signatures on each card attesting the scores, that of the marker and that of at least one of the team members

- 2-5 Query from Moruya GC requesting advice on ruling for player who played provisional, then proceeded incorrectly under water hazard rule and then reverted to provisional ball.

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- 2-6 Query from Chairman to Golf Australia regarding Rules 12-1 and 12-2 and when a player should proceed under one or the other relevant to identifying his ball. Includes response from Golf Australia and R&A

- 2-7 Amateur Status query re member of Camden Lakeside GC :

Mr Franjo Blazevic, who has been in playing in PGA events as a “Non-Member Professional” and also playing in amateur events. Copy of letter to Mr Blazevic explaining that Golf NSW and Golf Australia consider him to be a professional golfer and not eligible to participate in amateur events

Also Golf Australia query regarding whether Golf NSW wish to take any action regarding his Australian Handicap (possible withdrawal/suspension)

Amateur Status:

3-1 The following have been re-instated to Amateur Status.

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3-2 The following have been advised they are eligible to re-apply on or after the dates shown:

James Sampson	-	1/5/2013
Jarrett Schier	-	14/3/2013
Cameron Braid	-	TBA
Steven Turner	-	TBA
Tim Davis	-	TBA
Katy Jarochowicz	-	TBA
David Batten	-	TBA

General Business:

Addendums:

1A Advanced Referee Course feedback – Ian Fraser

2A Apology and comments on agenda items – Michael Palmer

3A Apology and comments on Advanced Referee Course – Moya Shepherd

4A Query on caddies from Horizons GC

5A Proposed Golf NSW wording for use of “Autoscore” system and cards at Golf NSW events

6A Query from Far South Coast DGA regarding possible Local Rule to permit use of supplied brooms to clear greens of debris

Committee Members:

F. Gal (Chairman)	C. Allen	S. Fabian
I Fraser	J. Haddrick	J. Moran
M. Palmer	J. Robinson	D. Shannon
M. Shepherd	J. Waanders	

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Business:

2-8 Correspondence / Memorandums from Golf Australia:

b) Copy of GA advice regarding future Club Level Rules of Golf Newsletters

Tabled and noted

c) GA response to query about cards printed by club with player's handicap on card – GA position is that when a club prints handicaps on

cards in this manner the player has no further obligation to check his handicap

After discussion the Committee agreed to request Golf Australia clarification whether this was applicable to visitors to a club or only the specific clubs membership.

Action: Rod Clark to make request

- d) GA response to query indicating a committee may nominate preferred lies only allowed on the fairway of the hole being played

Tabled and noted

2-9 Chairman's report and update on Golf Australia matters

The Chairman advised there had not been Golf Australia Rules Committee meeting since last report and the next meeting is scheduled for December 2012.

The Chairman advised the meeting that he had attended and assisted in the running of a State Level Rules course in Perth. He thanked all Committee personnel who assisted in the updating of the national resources that were utilised at the Perth Seminar and Exam.

The Chairman advised that Golf Queensland is this year to run their first State Level Seminar and Exam without assistance and also gave a brief overview of the Golf NSW 2012 schedule for Club Level Seminars and Exams almost completed.

2-10 Chairman's report and update on 2012 Club and State Level Rules Seminars and Exams

Reported under 2-2

2-11 Chairman's report on Club information sessions for Captains and Committees

The Chairman gave overview of the presentations conducted at Penrith GC, Stonecutters Ridge GC, Merewether GC and Wyong GC. Presentations at Cootamundra and Parkes were soon to be held.

The meeting was informed that the presentations for geographic purposes had been based on the twenty men's DGA boundaries. It was envisaged five excursions per year with two districts covered each trip would see all NSW covered in a two year window.

The experience in running the previous metropolitan presentations had found it too difficult to run both afternoon and evening presentations. It was agreed the metropolitan sessions would have the one presentation to which

the men's and women's Captains of each club would be invited (or their nominated replacement)

2-12 Request from Bexley Golf Club to approach R&A for reconsideration of the distance measuring device ruling that renders i-phones and other smart phones non-compliant

A response from Golf Australia as addendum had been received by time of meeting and confirmed the position that a phone or device when not used as a measuring device is only in breach if it has accessed not permitted information. Golf Australia also commented that they continue to bring to the attention of the R&A the various feedback received on this matter.

Action: The meeting agreed Rod Clark to respond to the request as per the Golf Australia advice.

2-13 Golf NSW Advanced Referees Course – update and report

The Chairman advised the meeting that this was scheduled to be conducted at Pennant Hills GC on Sunday 4th November 2012. The selection process for invitees included such parameters as – rules personnel who are active referees, contribute and assist Golf NSW regularly and would benefit from the course, personnel who may hopefully contribute well into the future.

Upon request it was agreed Committee members D. Shannon and I Fraser would also attend as invitees for the course.

The Chairman further advised that he wished further education of our rules personnel to continue in the form accompanying senior personnel at future tournaments.

2-14 2013 schedule for Rules and Amateur Status Committee meetings – discussion.

The meeting agreed to recommendation by the Chairman that the schedule for 2013 meeting should be based on quarterly meetings. Subject to board approval recommendation is for: mid-late February / May / August / November-December

Action: Chairman to present to Board of Directors

2-15 Possible use of USGA animations in rules presentations.

The Chairman commented to the meeting that he believed the resources on the USGA website that included videos and animations for Rules and Etiquette to be very good and possible tools we would like to utilise in our presentations.

The meeting discussed issues such as possible copyright issues and whether permission would need to be granted.

The meeting also considered and agreed to look at having links available from our website and forwarding these links for information to all persons on our rules database

Action: Rod Clark to investigate

2-16 Discussion regarding processing of rules queries and committee involvement

The meeting agreed that in the interest of responding to queries in timely manner the current procedures for the Chairman and Rod Clark to answer queries on behalf of the committee should remain as is. However, if neither the above are available, or a query is not of an urgent manner, or a query is of significant interest or educational significance, it should then be forwarded to committee members for response.

Amateur Status:

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Steven Turner - TBA

General Business:

Query received from Nelson Bay GC enquiring whether they could introduce Local Rule forcing players to play from synthetic mats provided on two teeing grounds

The meeting was informed that the mats mentioned did not fill the entire area of the two club lengths indicated in the dimensions of a teeing ground, the committee did not want to have players playing from behind the mats provided.

The Committee agreed to forward the query to Golf Australia for comment and permit a temporary Local Rule until a response to this query is received.

The following options were also offered that may assist in achieving the desired outcome.

- Provide bigger mats that would equal the area of the teeing ground
- Make the area surrounding the mats as GUR "Play Prohibited", thus making it against the rules to play from this area (including stance)
- Make the area, immediate to the mat, long grass or such that it would not be likely a player would attempt to utilise the area.

Action: Rod Clark to respond

The Committee was advised that Judy Haddrick was now taking responsibility for the collation of questions for the monthly rules quiz.

It was requested all Committee members forward questions to her by the second Friday of each month.

The Chairman and the Committee thanked Jean Moran for her time and efforts as the previous co-ordinator of the rules quiz

John Waanders commented on the recent Club Level Rules Seminar held at Newcastle GC and in particular a query regarding information if and when a caddy was shared by two players.

He indicated many in the seminar were surprised that the relevant decision allows a player to obtain any information from his caddy, even if that involved information such as what club the other player had just used (Decision 8-1/12)

The Chairman gave an overview of some possible consideration for future State Level Rules Courses to possibly include components of the soon to be held Advanced Referees Course.

The Chairman suggested consideration of the following:

- State Level to include components of advanced course – how to effectively be and act as a referee
- On the weekend of the traditionally held seminar and exams – use the weekend seminar to include the above and then only conduct the practical exam that weekend– hold the written exam at a later date to be overseen by selected personnel at suitable local venues for the participants
- Not holding written exam at that time would give an extra half day to incorporate the elements from the advanced course

It was agreed the Committee review of the State level Rules program will include the referee components and exam scheduling

After some discussion it was also agreed to request some feedback from the participants of the upcoming Advanced Referees Course.

Action: Rod Clark to follow up after session and make request for feedback

Review of 2013 Golf NSW Hard Card

Graeme Phillipson requested the Rules committee review the Golf NSW Hard-card due for publication for 2013 events. Some discussion ensued about which way to best approach the issue of which score to count when “autoscore” cards are used with both a written and autoscore recorded.

It was agreed Graeme Phillipson and Rod Clark would investigate how this is approached by other state Associations and Golf Australia and the matter was deferred for discussion at the next meeting.

Action: For review by Graeme Phillipson and The Chairman.

Amateur Status

After some discussion it was agreed to request Golf Australia to converse with the PGA and manage a list or database of golfers who have breached amateur status.

During discussion, possible issues included the possibility trainees in breach drifting back into the game at club level without ever re-applying for amateur status. Local players would likely come under some scrutiny but a player who may relocate from interstate may never be recognised or challenged.

Players competing at "Qualifying School" but being in breach by not signing the correct waiver was another example where these players will be known to PGA but probably not anyone else. Hence, the Committee agreed some form of a nationally co-ordinated list would be desirable.

Action: Rod Clark to make request to GA

Funding Schemes for Amateur Golfers

Following preparation of forms for completion by clubs with funding schemes for amateur golfers it was agreed the Chairman would prepare a document of explanation and appropriate Rules of Amateur Status references.

Action: The Chairman to prepare document

Committee Members:

F. Gal (Chairman)	C. Allen	S. Fabian
I Fraser	J. Haddrick	J. Moran
M. Palmer	J. Robinson	D. Shannon
M. Shepherd	J. Waanders	

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2.53p.m.

Next meeting scheduled for: Tuesday 11th December 2012 at 1.00p.m.

Date:

Chairman:

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