



FAIRFIELD SENIORS GOLF ASSOCIATION

Minutes of FSGA Board Meeting

September 6, 2017

Meeting Location: H. Smith Richardson Clubhouse

In attendance: Mike Herrington, Ron Wayne, Sal Fiordelisi, Gerry Menees, Bruce Woelfle, Brian Zukauskas, Bob Ellwanger, Weda Falasca, Bob Sherry, Bob Martinez, Len Tavormina. Therefore, a quorum was present.

President Mike Herrington opened the meeting at 1:35 pm.

Schedule: Vice President and Membership Chairman Ron Wayne distributed a tentative schedule for 2018 for review and comments prior to our next meeting. Board Member and Tournament Director Gerry Menees reported that he had checked with Oxford Greens regarding the availability and costs of holding an FSGA outing there next year. While it would not be possible to schedule a Monday outing, he indicated that Oxford Greens could host such an event on a Tuesday, at a total per person cost of \$50. The Board agreed that this would be a suitable replacement for Oronoque, and suggested that Gerry try to schedule Oxford Greens for Tuesday, 7/17/8. Gerry also plans to check with Oak Lane as a potential replacement for the Wheel, and Board Member Weda Falasca made a tentative inquiry with Orange Hills as to their potential availability/costs.

Golfsoftware.com: In his role as the FSGA Tournament Chairman, Gerry utilizes the Tournament Pairing Pro (TPP), which is being phased out by the end of this year. While the replacement program (Golf Genius) is currently available from the CSGA, it is only available at the club level (i.e., H. Smith Richardson). The CSGA informed

Gerry that the FSGA would have to obtain the right to use the program from the club. Despite, the fact that he has attended the mandatory training session, and repeated requests to the club, Gerry has not received log in credentials for Golf Genius.

Fortunately, Gerry has identified another program that is available online from Golfsoftware.com. It is comprised of three modules (League Manager, Handicap Manager, and Tournament Manager), and while not explicitly in the current FSGA budget, giving the savings we will realize from revising the weekly/cumulative awards (see discussion below) as well as FSGA retaining more of the raffle proceeds this year, Treasurer Sal Fiordelisi indicated that we would be able to fund the purchase of this program.

Mike made a motion (seconded by Ron) to purchase the League Manager software now, and purchase the remaining two components in April 2018 to facilitate league, handicap and tournament administration. The motion was unanimously approved.

Weekly/Cumulative Competition: Mike introduced a discussion of the overall approach, rules, management and format of the weekly and cumulative competition. He stated that the weekly/cumulative competitions are the basis of returning upwards of 60% of our annual dues collections, and that this represents a significant FSGA expenditure. He then shared the following data which Gerry spent a considerable amount of time gathering and analyzing, using USGA formulas to determine the odds or probability of net scores based on the course rating, the member's handicap index and the results of a specific round. After analyzing the data for every round played so far this year with a net score of 65 or lower, Gerry reported 20 such instances, with probabilities ranging from 14:1 to as high as 591:1. An additional analysis of a player's scores on league days versus non-league days shows that in several instances a member's scores on league days were considerably and consistently lower than on non-league days, with weekly net scores at higher than expected odds. In summary, players not posting scores – or posting incorrect scores – is problematic, creates false handicaps, and unfairly skews the results of the weekly/cumulative competition.

Gerry suggested that the solution to this is the creation of FSGA player handicaps based solely upon members' results in FSGA league play. Members will continue to maintain their GHIN handicaps. In all FSGA league play, members will play to their

FSGA index or their FSGA adjusted index. Gerry also described zero-hedge Handicapping, based on USGA calculations:

1. Shooting a 3 under net differential score based off of the course rating will raise a red flag as an exceptional round. For example: the white tees course rating is 71.1; a net score of 68.1 is an exceptional round of 3 under for a 0.0 index player.
2. Each player may have 1 exceptional round in a 10 round stretch. If a player's exceptional rounds exceeds this frequency, the player's index will be immediately lowered by 2.0 for their next 3 tournaments unless a player's FSGA index is calculated lower than the club's adjustment. After the 3 round adjustment, a player's club index reverts back to their FSGA index.
3. The tournament where a 2nd exceptional round is shot, within a 10 round stretch, will result in an immediate FSGA index adjustment and will affect that same round before the winnings are calculated.

In addition, Gerry suggested establishing flights based upon FSGA handicap indexes, given that flights having disparate handicaps tend to give an advantage to the higher handicap player, and that some members are being awarded flight completion points even though they don't play within the blocked tee times. Currently, FSGA has six flights, with awards for the top 5 per flight for a total of 30 players. Currently, members are placed in a given flight based on their handicap of the prior year end – and members cannot move between flights during the season itself. After considerable discussion and with the assistance of new software that would make it easier to track flights as well as a desire to reward more member while at the same time paying out less in awards than we do today, Mike made a motion to approve (with Ron seconding) the following flight competition handicap brackets, point schedule, and annual cash awards:

Flight Handicap Brackets:

- 1st Flight = 0.0 – 14.9
- 2nd Flight = 15.0 – 18.9
- 3rd Flight = 19.0 – 23.9
- 4th Flight = 24.0 – 39.9

Points Schedule:

- 1st – 15
- 2nd – 12
- 3rd – 9
- 4th – 6
- 5th – 3
- 6th through 10th – 1

Annual Cash Awards for Flight Competition Winners:

- 1st - \$100
- 2nd - \$75
- 3rd – \$50
- 4th - \$40
- 5th - \$35
- 6th - \$30
- 7th - \$25
- 8th - \$20
- 9th - \$15
- 10th - \$10
- \$400 x 4 flights = \$1,600 (significant savings over current payouts)

The Board unanimously approved this motion.

Once purchased, Gerry will use the newly purchased League Manager software to determine the new flights beginning next season. Use of the program will relieve Ron of the tedious, repetitive, and time-consuming task of tracking and regularly updating flight information, and allow us to track FSGA handicaps from week to week. While members will still be required to enter their score(s) into GHIN, we will implement the following additional requirement at the start of next season: *members must have their score attested to in writing by another player, and turn their score card into a new mailbox in the pro shop for manual inputting into the new software.* Gerry will initially work with Ron to familiarize him with the software. We intend to inform members of these changes to the weekly/cumulative competition prior to the end of the current season.

Tee it Forward: Mike reminded the Board of the current requirements for those playing off the Green Tees (either age 75+ or a 25+ handicap), and observed that there are members ages 70-74 who continually play from the White Tees when for all practical purposes they should hit from the Green Tees. A brief discussion of “Play it forward” and pace of play ensued. Mike suggested a motion (seconded by Gerry) to change the requirement by lowering the age to 70, while retaining the 25+ handicap component of the requirement. The motion was unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 pm.