

Kentucky Section PGA Board of Directors Meeting

August 18, 2010

Golf House Kentucky - Louisville

I. Call to Order

President Steve Shafer called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m. (EDT).

Present were: Gary Bebelaar, Carmello Benassi, Chris Brown, Ralph Landrum, Bill Moore, Chris Osborne, Mike Riley, Bryan Slone, and Kelly Williams. Also present were Dick Bradow, PGA Employment Consultant and staff members Mark Hill, Bill Coomer, Barbara Peak, and Patsy Fitzpatrick. Absent were Russ Johnson, Mike Thomas, and Amy Wilson.

II. Minutes

Mr. Riley made a motion to approve the May 26, 2010 minutes as presented. Mr. Moore seconded the motion. Motion approved (unanimous).

III. Financial Report

Mr. Osborne referred the Board to the financial statement and notes, which had been distributed prior to the meeting. He reviewed the special projects account, and noted that the Las Vegas Pro-Am was projected to net approximately \$5,000, Tee Pass was projected to net approximately \$3,000, Growth of the Game efforts were projected to net approximately \$1,000, the Challenge Cup would realize a loss of approximately \$500, and the Kaiser Cup would realize a loss of approximately \$3,200. He noted that a Financial Controls Policy was in development and would be presented at the next Board meeting. Mr. Landrum made a recommendation that the section adopt a policy regarding a per diem for meals for attendees at the PGA Annual Meeting.

Mr. Landrum made a motion that the section add the following to its policy regarding attendance at the PGA Annual Meeting – The KPGA will follow the PGA of America's policy regarding expenses for meals at the PGA Annual Meeting. Mr. Riley seconded the motion. Motion approved (unanimous).

Mr. Moore made a motion to approve the financial report as presented. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. Motion approved (unanimous).

IV. President's Report

Mr. Shafer reviewed an article from the *New York Times* which shed perspective on the ruling involving Dustin Johnson at the PGA Championship. He asked the Board to review a proposed resolution from the PGA Board of Directors regarding recovery from Class F status, and that this would be voted upon at the PGA Annual Meeting. He congratulated KPGA member Keith Ohr for representing the section at the PGA Championship and for his performance there. He stated that to date, Mr. Osborne and he had not committed to a particular candidate for Secretary of the PGA of America.

V. District 10 Director Report

Mr. Hill read from notes he had been given by Mr. Thomas. Mr. Hill reported that the Carolinas Section had seconded Derek Sprague for Secretary of the PGA of America. He noted that the PGA Championship at Whistling Straits was successful, and reviewed the schedule of events for the upcoming PGA Annual Meeting.

VI. PGA Employment Services

Mr. Bradow noted that Glasgow Country Club had hired Michael Johnson as Head Professional, and that Henderson Country Club and Mayfield-Graves Country Club were in the search process. He noted that the unemployment rate for the Kentucky Section remained at 4.3%. He noted that currently, 63.1% of all 18-hole facilities in Kentucky have a PGA presence, 67.1% of all private facilities, and 60% of all public facilities have a PGA presence. He noted that currently, there are 66 non-PGA facilities in Kentucky, and that 30% of these facilities currently employ a former PGA member or apprentice or suspended

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apprentice in the golf professional position. Mr. Landrum asked about compensation in the Kentucky Section compared to the overall PGA figures. Mr. Bradow reviewed these numbers.

VII. Executive Director Report

Mr. Hill noted that KPGA currently ranks 16th in participation among all sections in key PGA programs. He noted that the Instruction area of the website had been expanded to list individual PGA members and apprentices, with 21 currently participating. He noted that the Economic Impact Study would begin within the next few weeks. He noted that the KGA-PGA, Inc. would meet budget in terms of handicap revenue and that junior golf revenues were up approximately 4%. He noted that Golf House Kentucky had hosted approximately 30 junior golfers from First Tee Chapters in Kentucky and Tennessee, and that KPGA Member Craig Heibert led the efforts. He reviewed plans for promoting Tee Pass in 2011.

VIII. KPGA Foundation Report

Mr. Shafer stated that no additional activity had taken place since the previous meeting.

BREAK

IX. Committee Reports

Assistants/Apprentices – Mr. Moore read a report from Amy Wilson which noted that Patrick Vadden won the Callaway Golf KPGA Assistant Championship; thanked Harmony Landing Country Club for hosting the event on short notice; thanked Callaway Golf and Callaway representative Doug Schoerke for their support; noted that the Assistant Match Play Championship will take place September 8 at Audubon Country Club; and that a new point system for assistant playing privileges was in development.

Communications/Employment – Mr. Riley stated that the Employment Committee would become more active in the near future.

Education – Mr. Williams stated that Dr. Gary Wiren had been secured as the guest speaker for Monday, October 25 at the KPGA Fall Meeting, and that David Downing, former President of the GCSAA, would be the guest speaker for Tuesday, October 26. Mr. Shafer noted he would arrange for a location for the Board of Directors meeting on October 24.

Government Relations Committee – Mr. Osborne noted that the Economic Impact Study should be beneficial information for any future discussions with government entities.

Junior Golf Committee – Mr. Benassi stated he was present for the final round of this year's KPGA Junior Championship. Mr. Landrum noted that two Kentuckians, Justin Thomas and Emma Talley, were on the U.S. Junior Ryder Cup team.

Membership – Mr. Williams reported 261 members and 51 apprentices in the Kentucky Section. **The Board went into Executive Session to discuss an individual membership issue.**

Growth of the Game – Mr. Benassi mentioned a promotion in July from the Kentucky State Park Golf Courses in which adults play free when accompanied by a child. Mr. Shafer noted that a written report from Mr. Landrum had been presented at the start of the meeting. Mr. Landrum reported that Bill Coomer, Travis Simpson, and Mark Hill had assisted him with a promotional event at the Florence Freedom's baseball game on July 29. He stated his desire to expand the committee and to begin efforts to schedule Play Golf America events for 2011 before the KPGA Fall Meeting. Mr. Riley asked about the possibility of conducting a Play Golf America event at Fort Knox. Mr. Landrum stated he would

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contact Clyde Hill to discuss the possibility. Mr. Shafer thanked Mr. Landrum for his efforts.

Seniors – No report.

Special Awards/Scholarships – Mr. Slone reported that the Special Awards Committee would meet on September 15 at Golf House Kentucky.

Sponsorship – Mr. Hill reported that Ahead had increased their support, and would serve as title sponsor of the Tournament Series Championship. Mr. Landrum asked about the Powerbilt sponsorship of the Kentucky Open. Mr. Hill stated he expected an answer by the early fall.

Tournaments – Mr. Shafer noted that a written report had been submitted by Mr. Johnson, and a copy had been presented earlier in the meeting. Mr. Landrum asked several questions about the Kaiser Cup, including eligibility, governance, and financial performance. He noted that approximately 88 KPGA Members were not eligible for the Kaiser Cup. Mr. Shafer stated that the event was classified under Special Projects on the financial report. Mr. Benassi stated he had voiced concerns in the past that the Kaiser Cup was not conducted in the section. Mr. Moore noted that when changes were made approximately five years ago, the event had been elevated, but, perhaps the time has come to re-evaluate the event. Mr. Shafer stated he would form a task force, on behalf of the Board, to review the issue, and that Mr. Landrum and Mr. Johnson would be a part of that task force. Mr. Bebelaar asked if the host facility is paid a range fee at the Kentucky Open. Mr. Coomer noted that is it not, and that players pay for use of the range.

2011 Senior PGA Championship – Mr. Hill stated that the KPGA's role for the 2011 event would be very similar to the role in 2004. He stated that the section would begin the volunteer recruiting process in January. He stated that work would begin on a budget for the section's role in the event, and that he expected the same level of funding from the PGA received in 2004. Mr. Shafer noted that the committee would also focus on conducting a special event, possibly a clinic, in conjunction with the event.

X. Old Business
None.

XI. New Business
Mr. Hill stated that Brett Richards had been granted dual membership in the Tennessee and Kentucky sections, with Tennessee as his primary section.

XII. Adjournment
At 8:00 p.m., Mr. Slone made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. Motion approved (unanimous).