

Kentucky Section PGA Board of Directors Meeting

March 20, 2011

The Clarion Hotel - Lexington

I. Call to Order

President Steve Shafer called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. (ET).

Present were: Gary Bebelaar, Carmello Benassi, Chris Brown, Ralph Landrum, Brad Morrow, Garry Nelson, Chris Osborne, Mike Thomas and Kelly Williams. Also present were PGA of America Secretary Derek Sprague; District 10 Director Mike Ahrnsbrak; PGA Employment Consultant Dick Bradow; Assistants/Apprentices Representative Chris Redle; and staff members Mark Hill, Bill Coomer, Patsy Fitzpatrick, and Barbara Peak

Absent was Board member Mike Riley.

II. Minutes

Mr. Bebelaar noted that the motion at the previous meeting following the discussion regarding meeting requirements and playing privileges for assistants and apprentices did not reference playing privileges. Mr. Shafer noted that the words "in order to have playing privileges" would be added to the motion and reflected in the minutes. *Mr. Thomas made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Mr. Bebelaar seconded the motion. Motion approved (unanimous).*

III. Financial Report

Mr. Osborne stated that an overview had been distributed prior to the meeting. He stated that before the Investment Committee meets, he would like a recommendation in regard to the amount of money the section should have on hand for operations and how much should be invested. Considerable discussion followed, and it was determined the section should keep a minimum of \$100,000 in checking, with the remainder to be invested per recommendation from the Investment Committee, and the Investment Committee would report back to the Board with specific recommendations.

Mr. Nelson made a motion to approve the financial report as submitted. Mr. Landrum seconded the motion. Motion approved (unanimous).

IV. President's Report

Mr. Shafer stated he would challenge the membership to actively promote the game in his speech tomorrow.

V. District 10 Director Report

Mr. Ahrnsbrak announced that Dick Johns would be retiring as Executive Director of the Middle Atlantic Section at the end of the year. He stated that the PGA Conference of Leaders would take place March 29-30 in St. Louis, and that an adjustment to requirements for exiting Class F would be discussed. He stated that a new strategic plan for the PGA of America would be discussed at the conference. He referenced a recent study which revealed that only 30% of PGA Member owners of golf facilities were aware of PGA of America player development programs. Mr. Sprague addressed the proposed changes to requirements to exit Class F and considerable discussion followed.

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VI. PGA Employment Services Report

Mr. Bradow noted that the KPGA finished fifth in the PGA Compensation Survey. He stated his report tomorrow would include information on enhancements to Jobfinder, efforts to bring a PGA presence to non-PGA facilities, and to encourage KPGA Members to keep their employers updated on PGA player development programs. Discussion followed regarding the number of apprentices in the Kentucky Section at Level I under suspension.

VII. Executive Director Report

Mr. Hill thanked the staff for their efforts and service. He noted that resumes for the Director, Membership and Communications will be accepted through Friday, with over 100 received to date, and

the goal is to have the individual begin service by May 9. He reported that relations with the KGA remain very positive. He reported on recent allied association and education seminars conducted at Golf House Kentucky, and reported that 32 applications had been received from members and apprentices to volunteer at the Senior PGA Championship.

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VIII. KPGA Foundation Report

Mr. Shafer reported that the KPGA Foundation Board of Directors had met in February, and announced the following grant recipients – The First Tee of Louisville - \$1,000, The First Tee of Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky - \$1,000, Boone County School System Golf Development Program - \$1,980, Royal Spring Middle School Golf Program at Cherry Blossom Golf Club - \$400 and golf equipment, Operation State Tournament Program - \$1,500, and Barren River State Park Golf Course Introduction to Golf Program - \$750.

IX. Committee Reports

Assistants/Apprentices – Mr. Redle reported a merchandising seminar will be held on April 25 at Campbellsville Country Club with Mike Kehoe and a study session for apprentices on June 5 at Golf House Kentucky. He stated that French Lick Resort had offered prizes for the raffle for the Assistant Championship. He announced that KPGA Member Ron Roberts would give a presentation to the Assistants/Apprentices Division at tomorrow's meeting regarding his in-school physical education program.

Communications/Marketing – Mr. Nelson submitted his report as written and stated he would work to strengthen relations with the media representatives in the major markets. He stated he would work with the new Director, Membership & Communications to strengthen the KPGA's efforts with Facebook.

Education – Mr. Williams reviewed the agenda for tomorrow's education and seminar. He stated that Lexmark would have a special display set up at registration. He stated that Chris Brown would take over in planning the fall meeting.

Employment – Mr. Shafer stated that Mr. Riley was unable to attend the Board meeting and that his report is submitted as written.

Government Relations Committee – Mr. Osborne noted his report would be submitted as written.

Junior Golf – Mr. Thomas thanked Mr. Tahara for his efforts in securing AJGA recognition for some of the KGA-PGA, Inc. junior events. He stated that the recipients for the Ryder Cup Junior Golf Academy had been determined and would be announced in the near future.

Membership – Mr. Williams stated that two new members, Jeff Bostic and Matt Hoagland would be recognized at tomorrow's meeting. Mr. Ahrnsbrak complimented the KPGA on the number of master and certified professionals in the section.

Growth of the Game – Mr. Landrum stated he would have a Powerpoint presentation at tomorrow's meeting promoting Get Golf Ready and statistical data regarding the number of individuals in various areas of the state with an interest in playing the game.

Special Awards/Scholarships – Mr. Nelson reported the awards had been determined and the committee was prepared for tomorrow's ceremony.

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Sponsorship – Mr. Morrow reported that Golf Buddy had been secured, which meant that title sponsors had been secured for all events and with a 12% increase in sponsor revenue over last year.

Tournament – Mr. Bebelaar stated he would present his report as written at tomorrow's meeting, and would mention the following specifically: the new Amazon.com Pro-Senior Championship, the players card fee, and the groove policy for 2011. Mr. Bebelaar stated that the issue of moving the entry deadline time to midnight from 5:00 p.m., which had been suggested at the Fall Meeting, was not feasible primarily due to the fact staff would not be available to service web registration issues or problems.

2011 Senior PGA Championship – Mr. Shafer stated that Mr. Hill had addressed the topic in his report.

X. Old Business

None.

XI. New Business

Mr. Shafer stated that upon further review of the playing privilege issue that had been addressed earlier in the meeting during discussion of the minutes, it was noted that further language was needed to clarify the appeal rights of members or apprentices not meeting the requirements. *Mr. Osborne made the following motion in relation to Article IX, Section 1 of the KPGA By Laws: All Kentucky Section PGA members and Kentucky Section PGA apprentices, except members with twenty or more years PGA membership and tournament Players Division members, are required to attend (1) semi-annual KPGA Business Meeting and (1) Education Seminar conducted at the Fall or Spring Meeting within the accredited period. Failure to attend will result in loss of playing privileges for the following year. Appeals may be directed to the Kentucky Section Board of Directors. Mr Thomas seconded the motion. Motion carried (unanimous).*

Ms. Fitzpatrick stated that she had received a request from a member in regard to the resolutions which were not passed at the PGA Annual Meeting, and Mr. Shafer stated it would be addressed at tomorrow's meeting.

XII. Executive Session & Adjournment

The meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 8:40 p.m.