

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN SECTION PGA  
SNAKE RIVER CHAPTER  
SPRING MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
Tuesday, February 19, 2019  
The Club at SpurWing – Meridian, Idaho**

**Call to Order**

Tim Reinke, President, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**Approval of the Previous Minutes**

A motion was made by Dave Carollo to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. The motion was seconded by Warren “Stoney” Brown and passed unanimously.

**Special Presentation**

Branden Thompson, PGA Jr. League Regional Manager was introduced. He announced that the Section had 9 leagues and 48 teams in 2018 and is hoping for 12 leagues and 60 teams in 2019. He advised allowing 20 days lead-time to get the team kits to facilities on time.

Tim Reinke and Pinecrest Golf Course will again host the Section Championship and the date for 2019 is Friday, August 16<sup>th</sup>.

He also touched on PGA.coach. It will increase the value of members and provides a framework to create more long-term golfers. It takes approximately one hour to become certified on the site.

PGA Family Cup – Using the Jr. League format a family, as many as 6 members, with 2 playing at a time, will compete. The allowance to substitute will allow for those who do not compete a great deal to play and enjoy the competition.

**Report of the President**

President Tim Reinke provided the President’s Report. A copy of his report is attached to the original of these minutes.

- He asked for a moment of silence for members lost in 2018; Buster Whitney and Marshall Adams.
- He congratulated the following Snake River Chapter PGA members who won Section Awards for 2018:

**Golf Professional of the Year:** John Van Vleet, Preston Golf and Country Club;

**Teacher of the Year:** Paul Weyland, Falcon Crest Golf Course;

**Horton Smith Award:** Jonathan Gibbs, BanBury Golf Course;

**Bill Strausbaugh Award:** Mike Dayley, Blackfoot Golf Course;

**Player Development Award:** Lucas Brick, The Valley Club;

**Merchandiser of the Year, Resort:** Tate Mills, Elkhorn Resort;

**Merchandiser of the Year, Private:** Paul-David Milton, Huntsman Springs;

**Merchandiser of the Year, Public:** Jerry Breaux, BanBury Golf Course; and

**Assistant Golf Professional of the Year:** Luke Sestero, Crane Creek Country Club;

**Senior Player of the Year:** John Graham, Sand Creek Golf Course, Idaho Falls, Idaho;

**Women’s Player of the Year:** Katie Somers, BanBury Golf Course; and

**Player of the Year:** Ben Bryson, BanBury Golf Club.

- The Employment Verification Form is once again required for 2019. Members and associates were asked to return their completed forms by February 15<sup>th</sup>, and it is mandatory for all professionals wishing to obtain a Player's Permit.
- The Player's Permit fee is \$55 if paid prior to March 1<sup>st</sup>. The fee increases to \$75 for all players that sign up from March 1<sup>st</sup> on.
- Items the Board approved in December that will affect the Chapter:
  - All pro-ams must use the John Van Vleet Excel Sheet and either Golf Genius or equivalent tournament software for their events. Cash skins games will be allowed.
  - Pro-Am hosts will be emailed a pro-am criteria sheet that will have to be filled out and returned to the Section in the pro-am packet. This has been made necessary because of consistent complaints about handicaps, Rule 3-5 not applied or applied incorrectly and also failure of the host to transmit the scores after the event. Failure to return the form or complete the items on the criteria sheet may result in the loss of a pro-am date in 2020.
  - The Board also approved allowing those members classified as A-4 to host pro-ams. That change has been made and posted online in the Tournament Rules and Regulations.
  - The Board made every attempt to provide an Idaho Open playing opportunity of worth in 2019 and it disappeared underneath our feet at the last moment. In December of 2018 a message went to all of you that included the schedule and a message on the way-ahead for the event. The parameters are: A minimum of a 2 and preferably 3-year contract with the host facility; At least \$5,000 in sponsorship money with preference to a site offering more, all of which must go to the purse; The Open must be contested in June or July and weekend dates are preferable; The deadline for proposals is October 31, 2019.
- Volunteers to not host a pro-am event every year.
- Generalarea.org. There is a study-aids area on there that will help all of those looking for help with the Rules of Golf.
- He mentioned that Stoney Brown and Jerry Breaux were ahead of their time and that successful members are those that care and provide the most effort.
- He was most complimentary towards his fellow Chapter officers, Lucas Brick and Brett Kleinkopf and said that the Chapter was in good hands moving forward.

### **Report of the Vice-President**

Vice-President Lucas Brick reported. A written copy of his report is attached to the original of these minutes. Items mentioned during the Vice-Presidents report included:

- He congratulated all of the award winners in 2018 and looks forward to an excellent year of golf in 2019.
- He thanked Michael Kastner for putting together a great tournament schedule. He encouraged everyone to take a look at the tournament schedule for the year and to try to set a goal to play in a

new event that they previously have not played in. He reminded everyone that participation is important for the viability of the Section and also to support each other.

- Dates to remember:
  - The Chapter's Facility Championship will be hosted here at SpurWing on Monday, April 8<sup>th</sup>.
  - The Larry Malone Scholarship Pro-Am will again be contested at Hillcrest. The date for the event is Monday, April 15<sup>th</sup>.
  - The Pro-Pro Shootout will again be at Pinecrest on May 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> with the Annual Meeting of the Section preceding the event on the evening of the 19<sup>th</sup>.
  - The 36-hole Assistant Championship will be played on June 13<sup>th</sup>. Jackpot Golf Club will host.
  - The Junior Section Championship will be hosted by Canyon Springs June 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>.
  - Laurel Golf Club will host the Senior Section Championship July 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>.
  - The Rocky Mountain PGA Section Championship will be hosted at Black Bull in Bozeman, Montana August 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>.
  - The Fall Meeting of the Section will be September 30<sup>th</sup> in Idaho Falls and the Fall Pro-Pro will be contested on that day and the next one, October 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - The Chapter Match Play Championship will be contested at Blue Lakes Country Club on the dates of Monday-Tuesday, October 14-15.
  - The Fall Meeting of the Snake River Chapter is scheduled for Tuesday, November 19<sup>th</sup> at Hillcrest Country Club.
- He thanked those facilities for hosting each of the events and also the PGA members and apprentices and staff because of the extra work involved.
- He asked everyone to type or pen a note of thanks to our very valuable and appreciated sponsors.
- He again reminded everyone as to the handicap rules and for the need to get players activated for early-season pro-am participation.

### **Report of the Secretary**

Secretary Brett Kleinkopf reported. A written copy of the Secretaries report is attached to the original of these minutes. Items covered included:

- He also congratulated the 2018 award winners as well as Nick Blasius and Paul-David Milton for running for office.
- The current MSR cycle ends June 15, 2021. Section members are required to complete 54 Member Service Requirements in order to retain Class A status. Those needing to check on their status may check it at PGA.org or may call the National Office. He noted that the Association made available some free online education on PGA.org.
- Failure to meet the requirements will result in a transfer to Class F. Any member who has been reclassified Class F must remain in that classification until the deficit MSR's have been made up.
- As of February 14<sup>th</sup>, 10 of 53 apprentices are suspended in our Section for a percentage of 18.8.
- The PGA Financial Assistance Fund Scholarship Program is taking applications and will take them until 5:00 p.m. eastern time on March 4<sup>th</sup>. Refer to PGA.org, the end of year e-newsletter or call Valerie Johnson at (888) 713-9098 for further information. The website address is <https://www.pga.org/articles/pga-financial-assistance-fund-scholarship-program>.

- The RMSPGA Foundation Larry Malone Scholarship Program continues and applications for disbursement are available on the registration table and on the current website under the Junior Golf tab. Please promote to any graduating seniors that you know are going to college beginning next fall. The deadline for return of the applications is Friday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- The Chapter suffered a net loss of (\$5,882) due to the write-off of a previously unpaid sponsor and the costs associated with hosting the Carter Cup. Once every four years we host the event and so in those years a loss will not be a surprise. Sponsor payments are up to date as of this moment.
- The balance for the Snake River Chapter's investment fund is \$6,775 as of December 31, 2018. Interest totaling \$46 was earned last year. We have been advised that the current interest rate is 1.50%.
- He thanked Tim for his service and mentioned he was a role model of his.

### **Report of the District 9 Director**

District Director Ron Rawls reported. He commented on the following:

- 1,000 vendors 8,000 attendees and 90 countries were at the PGA Merchandise Show. He also touched on the Teaching and Coaching Summit and all of the education opportunities available.
- He spoke about PGAcouch.com and the American Development Model.
- National Board Meeting at the PGA Merchandise Show. Among items he discussed:
  - Players Ability Test now good for 8 years from date first passed;
  - Collegiate events to be used for a Player's Ability Test;
  - 77%, in a straw vote at the Annual Meeting, voted in favor of a PGA At-Large Member Director to be added to the Board. The Board passed the measure;
  - An additional Independent Director will be added to the Board and they can be elected to consecutive terms;
  - Removal of the Honorary President from the Board after the 2019 PGA Annual Meeting, 86% of the delegates were in favor of the change and the Board approved it;
  - He also spoke to the proposed District Director election process change.
- Seth Waugh is working on the pension plan and health care packages for members;
- Cadillac named official vehicle of the PGA of America. They will also have a discount program for members and also will include the rest of the General Motors line.
- PGA Retirement Plus. He mentioned again the benefits of participation in such a program. Ron stated that invoice discounts and contributions to retirement are able to be combined, unlike when the program first launched.
  - PGA PERKSPOT. He said this could be extended to family members and that automobiles have just been added to the program.

### **Report of the Section Business Development Director**

Section Business Development Director Jim Empey reported.

- Jim stated that he was tasked with marketing the Section/Foundation to us and to the public/sponsors;

- He mentioned the fundraising events conducted at facilities across the Section and that we could and should mention this to the public as to the good works our members do in the communities they live in and serve;
- He mentioned the changes anticipated to the Section and Foundation that are intended to benefit the member;
- Larry Malone Scholarship Pro-Am and the Yellowstone Chapter Scholarship Pro-Ams that will be used as fundraisers for the Foundation.

### **Report of the Executive Director**

Executive Director Vaughn Jenkins reported. What follows are some of the topics he touched upon.

- President Reinke touched on the loss of Mr. Whitney and Mr. Adams and he encouraged everyone not to forget their impact. As well, Honorary Member Wayne Berry and Brian Eekhoff, of the Yellowstone Chapter was lost in 2018. Mr. Berry was very visible in this Chapter and he will be very fondly remembered for his volunteer efforts.
- He announced the undertaking of an experiment by closing the office at some point this year. If it does not work another site will be identified and the office reopened. Mr. Kastner will work from his home under this arrangement.
- The adding of additional staff, at the outset part-time, will be undertaken at some point in the year.
- Brandon Kahl has been serving as Section Secretary since May of 2017. Last month he was offered and accepted the job of Head Professional at Hidden Valley Country Club in the Utah Section. As a result, he is no longer Secretary and, per the Section Constitution, the Board has elected Ryan Troxel to finish his term and Ryan will stand for Vice-President of the Section during the election at the Section Annual Meeting. Ryan will begin his Secretarial duties after the conclusion of the Yellowstone Chapter Spring Meeting in March.
- An email will go to those facilities who have been participants in our Foundations Junior Golf Access coupon program. That program will continue into the foreseeable future.
- The 2019 Directory will be mailed out when available.
- He congratulated the award winners from 2018 and reminded everyone that the awards will be presented during the Annual Meeting on Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup> in Idaho Falls. Dave Dierinzo of the Folds of Honor Foundation will be at that meeting.
- PGA HOPE. He thanked Ryan Nielson for hosting the HOPE program in the Chapter this year. A training session date will be announced when known.
- He thanked Brett Kleinkopf for hosting the Chapter's scholarship pro-am this year.
- Drive Chip and Putt to again be held at Ridgecrest on Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>.
- David Gubbels and Bridgestone Golf will continue to support the Facility Championship.
- Mizuno will return to sponsor the Fall Pro-Pro and TaylorMade, adidas and Bushnell Golf have signed on again to support the Shootout. JC Golf Accessories is a new sponsor of the event for 2019. He thanked Cody Faught of Mizuno, John Johnson of TaylorMade, Jeff Smith of adidas and Charley Carlson of JC Golf Accessories and Bushnell Golf for advocating the support to the management they answer to at each of these companies.

- He also thanked fellow member Andy Hollister for again working with the Section, on behalf of Heritage Creations, to lower trophy costs for the year. He will also be working with the Section representing Cutter & Buck.
- The PGA Compensation Survey --The survey went live on January 18, 2019 to the entire membership; he encouraged everyone to complete this survey before March 31<sup>st</sup> so that the Association can continue to provide PGA members and apprentices with the best available compensation data. Members may receive up to two MSR credits by completing the survey by the deadline.
- He thanked Michael Kastner for all of his good service that he has and is providing the members and associates of the Section.
- Finally, he congratulated Jaime Sharp for capturing the first Warrior Award as the leading Folds of Honor Donation Box performer in 2018. Over \$20,000 was raised and he encouraged everyone to again prominently use those boxes to raise the respect and admiration level of our professionals where we work and live.

### **Unfinished Business**

#### **A. Match Play Championship Proposal.**

- Proposal would be registration to be started in March and concluded in April. Blind Draw for those without any Carter Cup Points.
- Lance Rieber asked what if a person could not play due to injury, etc?
- Tad Holloway spoke in favor of the proposal. Ryan Nielson stated that he likes the event the way it is and would not play under the proposal provided.

#### **B. Pro-Am Reminders and Changes for 2019.**

- Local Rules Sheets must be used.
- John Van Vleet sheet must be used for all events.
- Golf Genius or a similar tournament software must be used. This will provide for Rule 3-5 to be used/applied correctly and for the scores to be transmitted within 24 hours after the conclusion of the event. An explanation of using ForeTees and the proper application of Rules 3-5 followed.

### **Open Forum**

Ben Bryson asked whether course marking could be added to the criteria sheet.

### **Election of Officers**

Honorary President James Brown administered the election. The following individuals were elected to office and will serve a two-year term in that office.

President – Lucas Brick

Vice-President – Brett Kleinkopf

Secretary – Nicklaus Blasius

## **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Vaughn P. Jenkins, PGA  
Executive Director  
Rocky Mountain Section PGA