

## **Minutes, Palo Alto Golf Club Board of Directors, May 5, 2011**

The meeting was called to order at 6:38 p.m. Secretary Sehl, Director Bazinett, Director Breedove and Club Professional Bin were absent. All other directors were present. Director Segol took the minutes in Secretary Sehl's absence.

Minutes for March and April were approved. Director Segol abstained from approving the April minutes, since he was absent for that meeting.

**President's Report:** none

**Vice President's Report:** Planning for The Invitational is progressing. The tee prize will be a choice of Titleist NXT or Pro V1 golf balls. For this year's tournament, players will have the option of purchasing mulligans at a cost of 2 for \$5, with the money collected being added to the prize fund. There will be closest-to-the-pin prizes on at least three of the par three holes, with golf balls or other prizes being offered.

**Secretary's report;** absent

**Tournament Chairmen's Report:** The Match play tournament starts May 28/29, with two flights of 16 players each likely. Co-TC Mayer is working on the payout amounts, based on the pay-in to the tournament based on the number of players. Other tournaments upcoming include Poppy Ridge, with a field of 28, the Red, White & Blue and the Senior Four-Ball. The rescheduled Los Lagos tournament is this weekend. President Matkowski asked why pairings requests for Los Lagos were not honored. Co-TC Allen said he determined that it would be preferable to have the lowest handicap group play together, and that pairings requests were not guaranteed. Discussion ensued as to the Board policy regarding pairings requests, with the following points being made:

- Honoring requests when a long car drive is involved makes sense, because it encourages people to play in away events, and to carpool.
- Having people play in the same groups all the time may give certain players a comfort level, and therefore a competitive advantage.
- If someone is paying the higher cost of an away tournament, and wants to play with someone they particularly enjoy playing with, the club should honor that, to encourage away tournament play.

Co-TC Allen acknowledged that perhaps he should have handled his decision more diplomatically, in terms of informing people why he was not honoring their pairing request. The Board agreed to discuss this issue further, in terms of any potential changes to club policies, during the June meeting, and also to review whether to continue to give players the option to pick tee times at select events, or requiring them to make a specific request to the Tournament Chairman.

**Treasurer's Report:** The club account is balanced, and expenditures and revenues are pretty much on budget. Treasurer Cali noted that he has worked out how to provide refunds of tournament fees via Paypal, including avoiding a fee Paypal previously charged for those transactions. He said he would bring his proposal to do the club's bookkeeping via a cloud computing option on Intuit to the Board in June. This approach would allow other club officers to more easily monitor club finances.

**Membership Chairman's Report:** Members are running slightly behind last year. Membership Chairman Frykland asked how the Board wanted to handle the annual July-December membership discount. The Board agreed to offer new members a reduced initiation fee of \$79 starting July 1.

**Handicap Chairman's Report:** none

**Old Business:** Director Segol asked President Matkowski to report items discussed at the recent NCGA meeting, which the President and other club representatives attended. Subjects discussed included enhanced web access to the NCGA web site, planned Poppy Hills renovations, and the NCGA's discount program with golf courses and other vendors, including American Airlines. President Matkowski agreed to forward electronic information about the meeting to other directors who would like to review.

It was also noted that the Club's NCGA four-man Zone team has reached the finals of that tournament, winning their regional in a playoff.

**Adjournment was at 7:30 p.m.**