



Upper Peninsula Golf Association

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Minutes of the 2016 U.P.G.A. Annual Meeting

October 29, 2016

Terrace Bluff

10:00 A.M. EDT

Clubs in Attendance:

Little River; Terrace Bluff; Oak Crest; Pine Grove; Riverside; Wawonowin; Highland; Indian Lake; Gladstone; Irish Oaks; Marquette; Escanaba C.C.

Additions/Deletions/ Corrections to Agenda:

Add discussion/action of annual dues

Add discussion/action of entry fee collection for U.P. Tournaments

Move Constitution/By-Laws to later in the agenda

Motion by Oak Crest, seconded by Pine Grove - motion carried.

Approval of 2015 Minutes:

Motion by Gladstone, seconded by Little River – motion carried.

Finance Report:

Secretary/Treasurer Glen Reinke gave an overview of the U.P.G.A. finances. Miscellaneous Revenue of over \$9,000.00 was explained due to the maturation of a three-year CD. The money was rolled into the checking account. Discussion ensued about where to put the money. Since interest rates are not attractive, it was decided to leave the funds in the checking account.

Report of the U.P. Senior Tournament: (Oak Crest)

Dale Ward representing Oak Crest reported on the Senior U.P. Tournament. Glen Reinke was asked by PGA Professional Ryan Gordon to write a letter to the Oak Crest Board of Directors regarding the tournament. The letter was discussed at length. Points of contention included the banquet, condition of the greens, hole locations and other tournament information.

The issue of how to handle ties within flights was thoroughly discussed. A motion by Pine Grove, seconded by Marquette, to pool prizes and split prize money/certificates equally between tied participants, with the exception that ties for 1st place in all flights will be decided by a sudden-death playoff. Motion carried.

There was considerable discussion on whether prizes should be cash, gift certificates or both. Some years it was all cash, other times it was all gift certificates and sometimes it was both. It was decided that the host club will determine how prizes will be awarded: all cash, all gift certificates or the top 3 places cash and the 4th-6th places gift certificates. It was also stipulated that if a club issues cash prizes, 100% of the allotted cash payout must go to the participants; the

club must not keep any percentage. In any event, the host club must publish how prizes are to be awarded on the promotional poster and on the authorized entry form.

A team event, similar to the U.P. Championship team event, will be instituted for the 2017 U.P. Senior Tournament. A plaque will be awarded to the winning team with no individual prizes awarded to the team. The 2017 UP Senior Tournament will be held at Irish Oaks.

Report of the Junior Committee:

Marc Gilmore reported on the U.P. Junior Tour. Nine events were scheduled with the finals held at Escanaba Country Club. The Newberry event was cancelled due to lack of participants. Marc commended Jamie Davison for his outstanding handling of the finals. The Junior Tour was a huge success with more clubs eager to host the events.

There was discussion about getting medals to host clubs as Portage Lake did not receive medals this year or last. The cost of tee prizes for the finals was brought up, as was promotion of the Junior Tour events.

Newberry was removed from hosting the finals in 2016, as they had not reimbursed the U.P.G.A. per the tour platform for the past two years. Glen Reinke commented that Newberry paid for the two years in question earlier this year and is now in good standing.

The U.P.G.A. reimbursed parents/guardians of players that competed in the G.A.M. Junior invitational \$250.00 for expenses. A Motion by Oak Crest, seconded by Escanaba Country Club, to increase the amount of reimbursement to \$300.00. Motion carried. It was also decided that only the five boys and two girls that qualify for the G.A.M. Junior Invitational would be eligible. No alternates will be considered.

Report of the U.P. Championship Tournament: (Sault Ste. Marie)

No representative from Sault Ste. Marie Country Club was present. Attendees that participated in the event led the discussion. The tournament had 72 participants. The general consensus was that the tournament was run poorly. Practice rounds could not be completed on the day preceding the tournament due to local leagues. The tournament director refused to post large score sheets on the first two days because they would need to be redone after flights were determined. Team score sheets were not completed and posted in a timely manner. Hole location sheets were requested but refused. The long-drive contest was cancelled do to local play on the course at the time of the event. It seemed as if hosting the tournament was an inconvenience to Sault Ste. Marie Country Club.

A letter from Tim Kramer and the Secretary/Treasurer's response was shared with the group.

A request from Portage Lake to allow individuals to enter either tournament without going through their respective clubs was discussed. Entry fee collection will remain the same: players must sign up through their member club.

UP and Senior UP Champion Garment:

Eliminating the garment for the champions of both the UP Championship and Senior UP Tournament was proposed. Rationale was that beginning with the 2015 champions, the U.P.G.A would pay the entry fee for the champion during the following year. Since the winner gets the first place prize, a trophy/plaque and free entry the following year, the garment was not needed. A motion by Irish Oaks, seconded by Pine Grove, to eliminate the garment. Motion carried.

Procedure for Awarding Tournament Sites:

The current procedure for awarding tournament sites based on a five-region rotation was questioned. While it is equitable that each region receives a tournament in the current rotation, it penalizes clubs that have numerous courses requesting the tournament from a specific region i.e. the Escanaba/Gladstone area, and rewards clubs with few course in a region more frequently. Although many suggestions were offered, no decision was made to alter the current system, with the exception that Portage Lake was added to the U.P. Championship in 2023.

Dialog concerning attendance at the annual meeting brought much discussion. A motion by Riverside, seconded by Oak Crest, that clubs interested in hosting either tournament **MUST** be in attendance at the Annual Meeting no less than two years prior to hosting or be removed from the schedule. The club could fall back on the rotation schedule. Motion carried.

Since the Senior UP Tournament was scheduled to be held at Sault Ste. Marie Country Club (Michigan) in 2020, and since there was considerable discussion earlier in the meeting about the issues that were evident at the UP Championship in August of this year, there was conversation regarding whether to honor the schedule. A motion by Oak Crest, seconded by Irish Oaks, to remove Sault Ste. Marie Country Club from the 2020 rotation, with reconsideration for future dates. Motion carried.

Approved tournament hosts:

U.P. Championship

2017 Wawonowin/Marquette (Heritage)
2018 Oak Crest
2019 Terrace Bluff
2020 Riverside
2021 Indian Lake
2022 Pine Grove
2023 Portage Lake

UP Senior Championship

2017 Irish Oaks
2018 Marquette
2019 North Shore
2020 Terrace Bluff
2021 Pine Grove
2022 Indian Lake
2023 Wawonowin

Note: On November 16th, Wawonowin contacted the U.P.G.A. and announced that they would host the U.P. Championship alone and not share the tournament with Marquette.

Annual Dues:

The question arose as to why 9-hole clubs paid less in annual dues than 18-hole clubs. Since members of 9-hole clubs have the same benefits as those at 18-hole clubs the dues should be the same. A motion by Pine Grove, seconded by Terrace Bluff, to have the annual dues set at \$125.00 for all clubs.. Motion carried.

Constitution and By-Laws:

The proposed revisions to the Constitution and By-Laws, which were posted on the U.P.G.A. Website, were explained and discussed. Minor changes to the revisions were suggested. A motion by Terrace Bluff, seconded by Riverside, to approve the Constitution and By-Laws revisions. Motion carried.

New Members:

An inquiry was made by a projected new member club. No representative of the club was present.

Web Site:

After much discussion, it was decided that the U.P.G.A. needs to obtain the domain name. Explore the possibility of upgrading the site to make it mobile-friendly and to give the site a “facelift” and to allow the Secretary/Treasurer to make revisions to the site.

Election of Officers:

A motion by Little River, seconded by Irish Oaks, to elect Tony Pouliot as Vice President. Motion carried.

A motion by Oak Crest, seconded by Pine Grove, to elect Glen Reinke as Secretary/Treasurer. Motion carried.

A motion by Pine Grove, seconded by Irish Oaks, to elect Dale Ward as President. Motion carried.

New/Old Business:

A large bronze plaque that includes U.P. Tournament Champions from 1912 through 2014 was brought to the attention of the membership. The U.P. Sports Hall of Fame executive committee agreed to display the plaque at the U.P. Sports Hall of Fame at Pine Mountain. The person in charge of the Hall of Fame reported that Pine Mountain will not allow any holes to be drilled for mounting the plaque and the plaque is too heavy to be mounted and could not be housed in the Hall of Fame. Dale Ward will bring the plaque to Oak Crest to see if it could be displayed in one of its trophy cases. He will report back to the executive committee. It was decided that the plaque needs a home.

Adjourn:

A motion by Oak Crest, seconded by Riverside, to adjourn. Motion carried.

Glen Reinke

U.P.G.A. Secretary/Treasurer