

RGA Membership Meeting Notes – 2/22/24 via MS Teams Skype Video

Attendees: Drew, Bill, Paul Phillips, Jim Wetzel, Jim Kane, Don Morrison, Peter Dunbar

- Verify leadership – Continue with Drew as Club President/Treasurer and Bill as VP/Secretary

- Tell of financial position – Balance in checking account is approx. \$3100. Recent transactions are deposits for Fox Hollow and Rocky Point on the contracts. And we owe a third deposit for Compass Pointe (which Bill paid on 2/23/2024). Minimum account balance should stay above the \$2500 a criteria for free checking until we have months with 5 transactions which is another criteria for free checking. Only one of those criteria is required for free checking. We do have some members who carried a balance forward from 2023 and they will be credited on 2024 tournaments.

- Please send payment in advance of the tournament. We can take personal checks or Pay pal. We do not accept credit cards. Cash is 'a last resort' for guests or other last-minute players, but we do not like to handle much cash and our auditor is unhappy as well. If you want to include dues and a tournament on one check or even send a check to cover several tournaments, this is totally fine- just indicate what the check covers on the form or in the memo.

- Checked to see if there are new members – Jim Kane suggests that Rich Brooks may join. Drew said Rich is already on the RGA mailing list! Bill will look at establishing a handicap with his rounds as a Guest. We have about 19 of the 28 last year who have committed to return. John Rixham is the only one who has stated he will not be back. If someone has a new member in mind and they join before first tournament, \$5 (for each new member) will be reduced in your entry fees.

- Review Schedule – We have contracts for 24 golfers Fox Hollow and Rocky Point and Compass Point. Baltimore County again has made changes and with the contract we will need to pay for a minimum of 16 golfers (usually we have no issues with Fox Hollow and Rocky Point in getting that minimum). We will again get tee times for Diamond Ridge (a Thursday). Clustered Spires may only give us 20 players/ 5 tee times. Schedule at

<https://rgagolfclub.com/2024-schedule> shows all courses are confirmed and those noted are awaiting final pricing. Keep an eye on the web site for any changes in dates and confirmation of remaining tournament prices. NOTE the Fox Hollow Entry Deadline is APRIL 5, 2024 - EARLIER THAN MOST TOURNAMENTS because Drew is traveling from April 8 until April 25 and the tournament is April 27.

Heads up is helpful: If you know you cannot make certain events or maybe you think you can play them all...please let Drew know. If we need more than the 24 player/ 6 tee times and we know EVERYONE is planning to play, we can try to get another time.

- Scoring and Handicaps – Demo of website pages with starting Handicap Indices for every member and for individual Member Scoring History.

Information is on the Members Info page on the website

<https://rgagolfclub.com/members>, We need 3 – 18-hole rounds to determine a handicap. They do not necessarily need to be tournament rounds to get you started. If you are a new member sent three scorecards to Bill and we will work on your handicap.

- Special rules & GOY – Special rules for RGA are:

We try to conform to USGA scoring rules, but RGA members approved some changes:

- 1) Picking up at or BEFORE double par except for an **8 on par 5's** - voted on and approved at today's meeting. Reminder, if you are not yet on green or unlikely to make the double par shot(or 8 on a par 5), pick up to speed up play.
- 2) For more consistent play, a gimmee on the green will be measured with the "captain's" putter - from putter head to the start of the grip. A gimmee counts as a stroke on the scorecard. Pick the ball up after declaring a gimmee. An additional note, if you decide to putt the ball (defined as actually lining up and trying to make it) AFTER it is determined to be a gimmee - and you miss, you void the gimmee, count the putted stroke and, if offered another gimmee add the gimmee stroke.
- 3) No Mulligans (aka 'do overs') unless you count them as a stroke.

4) Whiffing on a swing (e.g., defined as when you meant to attempt to hit the ball) count as a stroke.

5) Anytime a ball goes out of bounds, if you move it to put it back within two club lengths of where it was out of play and count a penalty stroke. Reminder that you should take no more than 3 minutes searching for the ball if it is out of bounds or lost. Drop another and take the penalty stroke!

6) If you suspect that you hit a tee shot out of bounds (e.g., wrong side of white stakes) and you play a provisional ball to avoid going back to the tee if you are OB. The provisional ball is your third stroke. If you find your ball in bounds, you play that ball as your second stroke.

7) You may re-tee if you flub your first shot, but your next shot is your 3rd stroke. Same as if you hit your initial shot into a pond or 'out of bounds'

8) Local rules apply to balls lost in hazards (e.g., drop zone).

9) You can roll your own ball, in your own fairway throughout the round to avoid a divot. Not in rough, not in sand traps and not in another fairway.

10) At the meeting we voted not to adopt a "leaf rule" for balls lost in the fairway as a general rule. If necessary, it could be implemented as course conditions warrant .

Drew wrapped up the meeting by asking if there were questions and there were none.

Hope to see you all at Fox Hollow.

Bill Keagle

Scribe

2/23/2024