

October 25, 2011 Annual Meeting Minutes
Inland Empire Senior Golfers Association
Meeting at Northern Quest

President Mike Kobluk called the annual meeting to order at 7:50 PM. Mike introduced the board members in attendance; Paul Bettinger, Pete Fortin, Les Harris, Rick Itami, Phil Thompson, Dick Gammon, Jeff Colliton Richard wood, and Past President Bob Woody. He then introduced the Tournament Chairman Lee Spencer, Handicap Chairman Chuck Sylvas, and the new, in-coming Secretary/Treasurer, Jack Lawson. Mike than asked for a motion to appoint the three previously named individuals to serve in those same capacities for 2012. The motion was made by Joel Rogers, seconded by Dick Gammon, and approved.

Mike then recognized the out-going Secretary/Treasurer Mel Hamilton for his years of service and stated that the Board has bestowed upon him a Lifetime Honorary Membership and gifted to him a bottle of scotch as a token of their appreciation. The Board also gifted Mel's wife Joan a gift certificate to Northern Quest as a "thank you" for supporting Mel and the IESGA over so many years.

President Mike Kobluk introduced Past Presidents who were present at the banquet. They were Joel Rogers 2005, George Stevens 2006, Ken Degerman 2008, and Robert Woody 2010.

Mike then asked incoming Secretary/Treasurer Jack Lawson to present the minutes from the last Board meeting held at Esmeralda on August 15, 2011. Jack Lawson read the minutes of the last meeting as prepared by Mel Hamilton, who was not present. Pete Fortin moved that the minutes be approved as presented, and was seconded by Phil Thompson. The motion carried and the minutes were approved.

President Mike Kobluk then introduced the new Association officers and Board members. President for 2012 is Pete Fortin, and Vice President will be Rick Itami. The new incoming Board members for a three year term are Kirk Danekas, Jerry Hopkins and Jon Solberg. Mike then thanked the outgoing Board members Shelton Wade, Greg Jones, and Bob woody for their service.

Mike then introduced new members and spouses to the IESGA present at the meeting/banquet. They are Mike and Marilee Codd, Doug and Patti Kearsley, Roger and Carol Peterson, and Mike Ruscio.

The Treasure's report was then presented by Jack Lawson as prepared by Mel Hamilton. The liquid assets balance sheet disclosed that the Association has a negative balance of \$3,814.52. Lawson assured those present that does not mean the Association is overdrawn by that amount, that there is money in the bank and will be replenished as annual dues are received in the coming year. However, it does indicate that the Association needs to look at its income in relation to its expenses. Lawson stated that Hamilton had made a note recommending that the Officers and Board need to look at increasing dues and/or fees. A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. The motion was seconded and approved.

President Kobluk then stated that the dues and tournament fees have remained the same for over ten years, even though the operating expenses have increased over the same period. Mike then referred to the IESGA By-Laws, specifically, Article VIII which states: "The annual dues shall be twenty-five dollars (\$25.00), which must be paid prior to participating in any Association sanctioned event".

Mike indicated that the Association needs to amend the By-Laws to allow an increase in dues, and rather than be explicit, the Officers and Board suggests wording to the effect that “annual dues will be set by the Officers and Board of Directors and confirmed by a vote of the membership at the annual meeting”.

Mike asked for a motion to change the By-Laws wording as presented. The motion was so moved, seconded and approved. Mike then asked for a motion to increase the 2012 membership dues to \$30.00. The motion was made by Jerry Hopkins, seconded by Jeff Colliton, and approved.

President Kobluk then asked Tournament Chairman Lee Spencer to give a report on the 2012 schedule, and give the results of the membership voting on the new practice of only requesting one playing partner, rather than three as in the past. Lee reported that faster play was now the norm, and that most rounds were completed in 4 to 4½ hours. Lee asked Rick Itami to present the results of the membership vote regarding whether to keep with the new procedure, or go back to the old method. Lee had asked Rick to analyze the data due to Rick’s past experience in statistical analysis.

Rick Itami stated that we had 179 verifiable responses, which is a statistically viable percentage of the total membership. Three votes were tossed out. One vote because an individual voted twice; once for and once against, thereby voiding each other. Another individual voted twice the same way, and only one of the votes was counted. A third person voted as Clyde Drexler, who is an ex-NBA player and not a member of the IESGA. Of the 179 votes, 61% were for continuing with the current practice of selecting only one playing partner. 39% were for going back to the past practice of selecting three playing partners.

George Sparks made a motion that the membership not accept the results of the vote as presented because the minutes for the August 15, 2011 Board meeting stated that a suggestion was made to mail out an advisory vote to the membership to obtain the memberships input as to what they preferred. George stated that wasn’t done. Instead, we had an on-line vote. Lee Spencer explained that the decision was made to do an on-line vote because of the cost of postage both to and from the membership. Lee also explained that a postcard had been mailed to all members advising them of the annual meeting and of the vote and that they had the opportunity to request a paper ballot if they were unable to vote on-line. Lee stated that he received only one phone call requesting a paper ballot, which Lee sent to the individual along with a self-addressed, stamped envelope. The member did not return the ballot.

George Sparks restated his motion to not accept the voting results, and stated that 179 responses from 385 members was not enough to be acceptable. Discussion was heard from the floor. Past President Joel Rogers stated that the voting responses were equivalent to the national vote for the President of the USA. Further discussion stated that all members were contacted and made aware of the vote and the procedure to do so. It was their choice to respond or not. George said that he had made a motion.

President Kobluk restated the motion, which was seconded by Paul Bettinger. President Kobluk asked for a show of hands in favor of the motion. Four votes were cast for the motion. The vast remaining majority cast a vote against the motion. The motion failed.

A request for a motion was made to accept the voting results to keep the current practice of selecting only one playing partner. The motion was made by Ken Degerman and seconded by John Felice. The motion carried.

Additional discussion was heard from the floor regarding the Tournament Committee's decision to not play Canyon Lakes in Kennewick in 2012. Lee explained that there are more courses to play than there are dates in our tournament schedule, so we like to move venues from time-to-time. Lee mentioned that next year we are going to Stoneridge rather than Twin Lakes, and have added Wandermere to the rotation. Lee asked for a show of hands for the three venues in the Tri-Cities. Up for consideration were Canyon Lakes, Columbia Point, and Sun Willows. The majority voted for Columbia Point and Sun Willows.

President Kobluk then introduced Handicap Chairman Chuck Sylvas, who explained his system of adjusting IESGA handicaps in accordance with accepted USGA standards and the slope and rating of the courses we play. Chuck stated he has a problem with a very small percentage of our members who have a low GHIN, but establish a much higher handicap with the IESGA, and then are subsequently placed in a higher flight that they don't belong in. Chuck has begun to adjust IESGA handicaps to within 3 strokes of a player's GHIN when he feels it is necessary to protect the integrity of our tournaments fairness and the best interests of the members. He said the practice does not affect the majority of the members, only a few. However, the By-Laws as written do not allow the handicap chairman to do that, so Chuck asked the members to approve an amendment to the By-Laws that would allow the handicap chairman to take the action necessary to adjust IESGA handicaps when warranted. The proposed amendment to Article VII is as follows:

"All handicaps shall be determined by the Handicap Chairman based on the scores posted at golfing events sponsored by the Association. For new handicaps, the Callaway system (Callaway) shall be used for the first three (3) events. However, GHIN handicaps may be used in lieu of Callaway. Earned handicaps will be used subsequent to Callaway. All IESGA handicaps are subject to review and may be adjusted when necessary. All members must have 3 tournament rounds posted to qualify for the IESGA Championship."

Pete Fortin moved to amend the By-Laws as recommended. The motion was seconded by Ken Degerman and approved.

President Kobluk then introduced the Ladies Chairperson Joan Rogers who stated how much the wives enjoy playing in the tournaments they are invited to attend. Joan stated they had twenty women come to the Walla Walla tournaments, and they had a great time. She then extended an invitation to all the wives present to consider playing in the future.

Lee Spencer and Mike Kobluk recognized and presented plaques to the club champions in their respective flights, both gross and net.

President Kobluk then adjourned the annual meeting and turned the podium over to incoming President Pete Fortin, who oversaw the drawing and disbursement of the door prizes raffle drawing. Ball markers, wine bottle totes, and ladies umbrellas were passed out at the door as gifts to the attending members and spouses as they were leaving.

Submitted by Jack Lawson, Secretary/Treasurer