

2011 Southern Chapter SFPGA
Annual Spring Meeting Minutes
4/25/2011

South Florida Section Secretary Election

Dick McNeill introduced the candidates running for the position of Secretary in the South Florida Section. Each candidate gave a short speech on their qualifications for the position. The three candidates running for South Florida Section Secretary are Jeff Nixon (Southwest Chapter), Chad Kurlmel (Southeast Chapter), and Mark Van Dyck (Southern Chapter).

Dick McNeill then reminded those in attendance to register for their absentee ballots if they could not attend the Annual Section Meeting on May 9th, 2011. Registration for an absentee ballot could be done at the registration desk or by contacting Carol McPhee at the section office.

Golf With The Pros

Bruce Lowen, co-founder of golfwithpros.com

Bruce gave a short speech on his new business venture and its concept.

Concept of golfwithpros.com- Allows amateur to play with better golfers. Professional golfers can register their resume on golfwithpros.com. Professionals sign up at no cost to them. Amateurs look at the registered resumes and choose a professional to play with. The professional must upload their schedule of availability and update it on a weekly basis. Each professional that registers through the site can charge any price for their round. The price that is set by the professional is for one group and one round. For example, the professional charges \$300 for a round. If one amateur signs up, he or she pays \$300. If three amateurs sign up, each would pay \$100. Golfwithpros.com takes 20% of all booking fees. A professional that charges \$300 would receive \$240 after golfwithpros.com takes their share off the top. When an amateur signs up to play with a professional, the pro will receive a bio of all the members in their group.

For more information on golfwithpros.com, contact Bruce Lowen at
brucelowen@golfwithpros.com

(W) 248-987-6107

(C) 248-207-0331

Phil Berry, speaking on behalf of Geoff Lofstead

The South Florida Section will be ramping up Junior Golf Activities through additional tournaments and clinics this season. Each chapter and/or host professional will be responsible for providing volunteers for events within their respective chapter. MSR service hours will be awarded to those that volunteer.

Class "F" Status Update

When the requirements for education and meeting points were established for each MSR cycle, no thought was given toward what would happen to members that failed to meet the requirements. There has also been some discussion of the limited opportunity to get meeting points. In response to the

questions about what happens to members falling into Class "F" status as a result of insufficient points, the PGA has established the following guidelines for getting out of Class "F" status.

To get out of Class "F" status:

- A member would need to make up the deficit plus an equal amount to the deficit during the next cycle. For example, if a member is two points short in the meeting category. This member would need to get two points to cover the previous deficit and then an additional two points on top of the requirement for that cycle. If the current cycle demanded 12 points for meeting MSR, a member that was two points short in the previous cycle would need to achieve 16 points to cover the two points in deficit and the additional two during the current cycle.
- A member would need to get out of the deficit before the end of the next cycle or the member would be terminated from membership.

The pay for PGA Professionals has kept pace with inflation over the past decade. We are up 3.3% in South Florida from '07 to '10.

The PGA of America has established an overall goal of achieving 40 million golfers in the United States by the end of year 2021. We are currently at 30 million golfers now.

Current President, Dick McNeill, on Southern Chapter Election Results

The votes have been counted and the results of the election are as follows.

President- Mark Van Dyck

Vice President- Dick McNeill

Treasurer- Bob Mallek

Secretary- Chad Middaugh

At-Large Representative – Bill Plotkin

Congratulations to those elected!

Dick McNeill discusses....What does the PGA do for me?

- A member can get into any PGA/LPGA tournament for free including The Masters.
- A member can play almost any golf course at no charge.
- Liability insurance on the course
- Life insurance

Committee Member Reports

Treasurer Report- Bob Mallek

The cash position of the Southern Chapter is excellent. We are currently at \$26,985 which has been typical over the recent years. Be sure to encourage golf pass sales this season as this is extremely beneficial to the financial situation of the Southern Chapter.

Secretary/ Website Report – Chad Middaugh

Thank you for recognizing me amongst the many fine golf professionals in our Chapter. It is an honor to serve you all as the new secretary. I will still serve as the Website Chairman. Thank you to all of the committee members. They have done a great job making the Southern Chapter a better place to work. The website is up-to-date and there is a lot of information on it. Online tournament registration is active for this year's schedule. When you go to register, The Southern Chapter tournaments are listed on the same page as all of the Section Tournaments. A Southern Chapter Tournament will be designated by the letters "SO" in front of the tournament name. "SO" is the abbreviation used for Southern Chapter. Look for the "SO" in front of a tournament name when registering for a Southern Chapter event. Let me know if you ever have any suggestions or questions about the website and I would be happy to assist you.

Apprentice Report – Bill Plotkin

We currently have 50 apprentices working in our chapter. I contact all of them on a regular basis and help them with their bookwork and career advancement. I do not do the work for them but I make suggestions on how they can do the work more efficiently and effectively. I am also there for them if they have any questions about anything. Our suspended apprentices are down 20% over the past two years. Be sure to support the apprentices at your facility because they are the future of our organization. They are our future head professionals, directors, teachers and leaders.

Dick McNeill, speaking on behalf of Education Chairman – Jared Isaacs

We have two more education seminars scheduled for this year. The next education seminar is May 23rd at Heron Bay in conjunction with a Southern Chapter Tournament. The following education seminar will be on July 1st at Doral, also paired with a tournament.

Partnership Committee Report – Dan McCarthy

We have created a new partnership program with different levels of sponsorship. For details, be sure to pick up a brochure that we have been handing out at the door. The brochure is also available online for you to download and print. Getting companies to sponsor our chapter is very important because it helps to fund the various programs we administer. These programs include junior golf clinics, special Olympics, Midnight Golf, and tournament purses amongst other programs. If you know anyone that would like to contribute, we will compensate you 10% of their sponsorship amount. Help us continue to grow our programs.

Tournament Committee Report – Mark Van Dyck

We have created a new division for Super Seniors this season in Pro-Only events. The Super Senior division is for members 65 years of age and older. This division will play for a separate purse and from tees of approximately 6,000 yards. See the rules and regulations on the website for a complete breakdown of tee placements for all divisions in Pro-Am and Pro-Only tournaments. We are hoping the new division will encourage more play in a competitive atmosphere from our senior members that cannot hit is as far as they once could.

Thank you to all of the committee members. They have all done a great job for the chapter. The tournament schedule has been finalized and posted on the website. We have two travel Pro-Am tournaments this year, Key West and Ocean Reef. Be sure to sign up early for these events as they will fill early. We look forward to hosting the Chapter Championship at Fort Lauderdale Country Club this season. Get out and play this year, we have a lot of great events on the schedule.

There have been some rumors on what I am going to do as the new president of the Southern Chapter if I get elected as secretary of the South Florida Section. I will step down as president and allow Dick

McNeill to move back into the presidency. Dick McNeill has done a terrific job as our president the past two years and he loves the position. Dick, unlike most of us, has a lot of time to make sure everything is running smoothly. Dick is a great asset to our chapter and we are lucky to have him remain on board as the vice-president. I look forward to continuing to work with Dick. If I do not get elected, then I will continue to serve as the president of the chapter and I am excited about the opportunity either way. Be sure to get out and vote at the Section Meeting on May 9th.

License Plate Programs – Jim Kiely

I travel around the state of Florida and grow the awareness of the license plate program. The purpose of the program is to grow funding for junior programs across the state of Florida. We currently have approximately \$80,000 to distribute to anyone running a junior program that needs funding. The program was started by Charlie Delucca and is run by the Florida State Golf Association. For every Florida Golf License Plate that is purchased, \$25 is donated to the junior golf fund. There is no reason for every PGA member to not support this program. The more plates we sell, the more money you can get for your programs. Next time you renew your plates, get the junior golf plate and support junior golf across the state. Encourage your members to get the plate as well.

Dick McNeill

Does anyone have any questions, comments or discussion topics that need to be discussed at this time. If there are no further comments, I call an end to the meeting. Have a great day.