

Sandy Burr Inner Club Meeting
March 6, 2019
Sons of Italy, Waltham, MA

Members Present: Bruce Cavella, Chris Boyer, John Carrington, Bill Gardiner, Matthew Ginty, Darlene Rogers, David Aucoin, Sean Quinlan.

Members Absent: None

President Bruce Cavella welcomed everyone to the meeting and called the meeting to order. The first order of business was to read the minutes of the January 23, 2019, and generate a motion to accept the minutes. Member-at-Large John Carrington made the motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Member-at-Large Sean Quinlan, and unanimously accepted.

The President informed the Board that he and Tournament Chairman, David Aucoin, met with Sandy Burr Country Club owners Ken Munsey and Ben Cibotti to discuss the upcoming season. The discussion focused around the tournament formats and how if some changes/alternations to some of the tournaments could hopefully encourage more play. Ken and Ben did have one suggestion; that perhaps the Inner Club could offer more non-tournament play on a more regular basis. Could members just play for fun, not be in a tournament that day, and not pay the tournament fee. Ken and Ben thought by offering that option that perhaps more members would come out and play. The President agreed that the suggestion was a good one, but by allowing non-tournament players in the same foursome as the tournament players would be disruptive to the tournament that day. The President suggested that perhaps the members that wanted to play non-tournament would be allowed to do so, but would have to play at the back of the tournament group and would not be allowed to change their mind on the day of the tournament. It was agreed that non-tournament play needed more discussion and was tabled until the next Board meeting. The President mentioned he has not heard the ten dollar tournament fee was a barrier to playing.

Ken and Ben informed The President and Tournament Director that the course tee boxes were re-rated; the blue tees and white tees will remain the same, the red and greens tees will have a new rating. This, therefore, may be a change to the stroke deferral between tee boxes for the Inner Club. Additionally, there will be several tee location changes for both red and green tees and some of the holes may have different par ratings. The green and red tees are going to be reviewed and re-rated for handicap purposes. The green tees will likely have 6 stroke differential and the red likely a 3 stroke differential. Hopefully, new scorecard will be ready before the opening day and will reflect any changes.

The June member/guest tournament, Sandy Burr/Franklin Park, and the end-of-the-year 3 clubs tournament was discussed and dates tentatively confirmed. The cost of the scholarship tournament may have a slight increase of 10 dollars this year. The 3 clubs and a putter tournament should be the same price as last year. Sandy Burr may consider a course fee downward adjustment in April and May subject to course conditions. For members with punch cards, they may want to consider paying the daily fee (if the fees are adjusted for conditions) and save the punch card until the fees return to normal rates.

The date set for the opening meeting at Sandy Burr Country Club is Sunday, April 7, 2019 at 2:00PM and will held be in the barroom. The 2019 Sandy Burr Inner Club Member Information Packet has been completed by Handicap Chairman Bill Gardiner and will be distributed at the opening meeting. The

packet is quite detailed and informative. Both existing members and prospective new members are encouraged to read it.

The President asked Treasurer Chris Boyer to present the FY 2019 preliminary treasurer's report. Treasurer first reported that the FY 2018 budget is still subject to audit with the Members-at-Large and past President, Tom Rooney. The FY 2019 preliminary budget was presented next. After a lengthy discussion concerning the FY 2019 budget, some recommended changes, the President asked the Treasurer to prepare a final budget for the next meeting. The President acknowledged that the Treasurer did a nice job, and asked the Board Members if they had any questions. There were none.

John Carrington made a motion to accept the preliminary budget. Vice-President Darlene Rogers seconded the motion. Asked if there was any further discussion on the motion, there was none. Unanimously accepted.

The President read a prepared speech to the Board stating how difficult it is to try to balance a budget, do what's right for the members of the club, and do what's right for the board. He made several recommendations regarding the Board's role and stated that he valued everybody's opinion and what everybody offers to this board and to the Inner Club. He acknowledged that the Board members were here because they care and because they wanted the Inner Club to continue as it has been and as it should be going forward. The President wanted to make sure that what we do, how we do it and that there might be changes that need to be made to make sure that we are running this club in a responsible but also sustainable manner.

The President continued....There are three functions that are critical to the Inner Club operations; Treasurer, Handicap Chairman and Tournament Chairman. The President thinks it's critical to attract and maintain quality people in these positions because these roles are at the heart of the operations of the club. So, if we didn't have somebody minding the books, if we didn't have someone doing the handicaps and we didn't have someone running the tournaments, we would not have a successful Inner Club. The President, Vice President, Secretary, and Members-at-Large also play an important role.

After a very lengthy discussion on the Board's benefits for the 2019 season, it was decided that Tournament Chairman, The Treasurer, Handicap Chairman, and Vice President should receive the benefit of an appropriate number of golf rounds commensurate to their contributions to the Inner Club. The Secretary and Members at Large annual dues were recommended be waived for their service to the Board.

The end result is that there was a reduction of the Board's benefits of 18 percent.

Sean Quinlan made a motion to accept the President's recommendations. Tom Rooney seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Tournament Director wanted to discuss training someone to help out running the weekly tournaments which eventually may turn into a job sharing arrangement or replacement. Dave has plans to be away several times this coming year and his backup will be President Bruce Cavella. It's a lot of work and not certainly not easy. Tom Rooney concurred that's it's important that we start grooming the assistant tournament chairman.

Dave Aucoin has volunteered to go to a seminar on our new rules adopted by the USGA. He has contacted several members about being on the rules committee and will report back after he hears from them. Once he has those volunteers, someone will have to chair the committee.

It was agreed that the season would start on April 13th. The final 2019 schedules should be ready for distribution at the annual the meeting.

Tom Rooney requested that the timeline for the Scholarship applications be moved up to better align with the beginning of the school year. The President has no problem moving it up. June 30th will be the new application deadline, the review period will be in July, and the check gets sent no later than August 15th.

The annual donation to First Tee for the MGA was discussed and tabled for this year and will be revisited at the next meeting. This was based on this year's budget projections and the board's responsibility to our members first.

The President's last item on the agenda was the discussion of revised Players Cup 2.0. Due to the time, the discussion was tabled until the next meeting and should be ready to present to the members at the annual meeting.

MEETING WAS ADJOURNED