

**Opening Meeting Minutes
St. Louis Women's District Golf Association
Forest Hills Country Club
April 10, 2015**

The meeting was called to order by President Marian Sinnett at 11:07 a.m.

- Marian introduced herself and the remaining 10-member board and asked each to stand to be recognized:
 - Kathy Gugger, Sunset Hills CC, Vice President
 - Gerry Wisniewski, Norwood CC, Tournament Chair
 - Vickie Ressler, Meadowbrook CC, Asst. Tournament Chair
 - Liz Moore, Algonquin CC, Team Chair
 - Ronnie Burg, Persimmon Woods CC, Asst. Team Chair
 - CJ Evans, Lake Forest CC, Treasurer
 - Carol Ann Jones, SLCC, Recording Secretary
 - Patty Heinrich, Legends CC, Corresponding Secretary
 - Laurel Palmer, Algonquin CC, Rules Chair
 - Pattie Canter, Norwood CC, Parliamentarian / Past President
- Marian recognized and thanked Past Presidents in attendance:
 - Lucinn Sams (1995-96) Forest Hills CC
 - Kathy Reid (2001-02) Forest Hills CC
 - Belinda Green (2007-08) Bogey Hills CC
 - Marsha Rheinnecker (2009-10) Old Warson CC
 - Pattie Canter (2012-13) Norwood CC
- Marian recognized and thanked the Standing Committee Members:
 - Auditor: Kathy Gugger
 - Course Rating Coordinator: Jayne Watson
 - Mixed Event Chair: Jane Hayo
 - Nominating Committee: Pattie Canter, Sue Springmeyer and Marian Sinnett.
 - Prize Chairs: Boobie Light and Vickie Wolken
 - Historian/Publicity: Gerry LeGrand
 - Rules: Laurel Plamer, Nancy Davidson and Terry Lucas
 - Webmaster: Ronnie Burg
- Marian recognized and thanked Forest Hills CC staff:
 - Andy Crowe, General Manager
 - Nick Bouyoukos, F&B Manager
 - Tom Ackley, Events Manager
 - Andy Zipf, Asst. Clubhouse Manager
 - Lute Cain, Executive Chef
- Marian asked non-District 18-hole chairs to stand and be recognized:
 - Forest Hills CC: Ann McLaren
 - Westwood CC: Annette Fudenberg and Nancy Herzog

- Marian remembered those District members who have recently passed away:
 - Millie Wolling, Westborough CC (passed away 10-11-14)
 - Peggy Atkinson, Forest Hills CC (passed away 2-17-15)
- Marian said that roll call was taken upon arrival. Voting privileges are extended to the Executive Board, the Past Presidents and three Directors from each club. She asked Carol Ann Jones if we had a quorum present to vote, and Carol Ann confirmed a quorum was present.
- Marian requested members review the minutes of the Fall General Meeting held on October 10, 2014. She asked if there were any additions or corrections, and hearing none, asked for a motion. Susan Suggs motioned to approve these minutes, and Betty Chomeau seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

REPORTS FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President – Marian Sinnett (report attached)

- Marian said this year's Tournament of a Lifetime will be held at Algonquin Golf Club on Friday, May 15. There is no new Honorary Life Member this year, so we will appreciate our present Honorary Life Members.
- The Invitational will be held at Forest Hills on August 3 -7. Marian hopes many members will enter this tournament. The entry form is in the back of your yearbook. This event will again be a pre-flighted event. Monday will be used as a seeding/qualifying day, and the 16 lowest handicaps will comprise the Championship Flight.
- Sunset Country Club will host the Mixed Event on Monday, July 20. Jane Hayo has offered to chair this event, and the entry form is in the back of your yearbook. Marian thanked Jane for volunteering.
- The Susan E. Shepherd Charity Event will be held at Bogey Hills on Friday, September 25. The chosen 2015 Charity is "The Little Bit Foundation."
- Marian said scheduling for the 2016 season will begin in early summer. She asked everyone to mark their calendars and come out to play in 2015.

Vice President – Kathy Gugger (report attached)

- Kathy thanked Pattie and Marian for their work last year on the yearbook, and those that proofed and found errors. Even with all the "eagle eyes," she noted that some additions and corrections to the yearbook are necessary. The CDs have received the yearbooks for their clubs along with a list of corrections. She asked that CDs slip in the list of corrections into each yearbook before you distribute them. She also asked that everyone check their personal information for errors and contact her with any changes or corrections.
- Kathy said she thought the time has come to give the yearbook a modern update. Next year, the yearbook will list each member's name first with their spouse's name, if applicable, in

parenthesis. She noted that if anyone wishes to continue the former style with their spouse's name first, to let her know.

- Kathy said the Junior Invitational Tournament will be at Lake Forest Country Club. The date was changed this year to July 27 and 28, rather than in August after the Invitational Tournament in hopes that it not interfere with tryouts and the start of the school year. She asked for volunteers as we will need many extra hands to make it a success.
- Kathy said she looks forward to the beginning of the season at the Opening Day Scramble on Friday, April 24 at Sunset Hills Country Club.

Tournament Chair – Gerry Wisniewski (report attached)

- Gerry introduced herself and Asst. Tournament Chair Vickie Ressler from Meadowbrook Country Club. She said she is looking forward to the 2015 season starting with the Opening Scramble at Sunset Hills Country Club on Friday, April 24. She said there will be a Puma Trunk Show.
- Gerry asked if there were any new members here today that have not received their District pin and asked them to come forward. None were present.
- The Opening at Sunset Hills and the Closing at Norwood Hills will be four-person scramble events. The Tournament of a Lifetime at Algonquin on Friday, May 15 and the Senior Tournament at Greenbriar on Friday, August 28 are individual stroke play 1 day events. The Three Day Stroke Tournament this year will start at Meadowbrook on Tuesday, June 2 followed by Bellerive on Wednesday, June 3 and ending at Persimmon Woods on Thursday, June 4. Gerry said anyone at the meeting planning to play in this event could fill out the entry form on page 145 of the yearbook and turn it into her after the meeting.
- Gerry said there will be two 4-person Best Ball events this year. The first will be at Whitmoor on Friday, June 26 and the second will be at St. Clair on Thursday, September 10. We seldom get the chance to play with other District members unless they are in the same flight, but this year we'll get that chance at the first Best Ball. The Tournament Committee will be doing the pairings for the Whitmoor event according to an ABCD format. For the second Best Ball at St. Clair, you will be able to make your own foursome.
- The Susan E. Shepherd Charity Tournament will be at Bogey Hills on Friday, September 25, and it will be a two person event.
- Gerry will be providing the CDs with a document they can send to all their members that explains the details about the 2015 tournaments. All of this information can also be found in your yearbook. However, if your CD chooses to handle sign-ups at your club, the information must be sent and received by Gerry no later than 10:00 a.m. one week prior to the event. For any changes after the cutoff, the individual should contact Gerry directly. Her home number, cell and e-mail are listed on page 5 of the yearbook.
- Our member clubs allow up to 100 golfers per event. Gerry said we wish that for every event, everyone who signs up would get to play, but with 100 golfers we have 25 foursomes, and that means we're doubling up on 7 holes. Even with the best Pace of Play, it will take 4+ hours to

complete a round. If necessary, we will use the Merit System again as we unfortunately had to do a couple of times last year. The Merit System is points based. You earn one point for each tournament played, two points awarded for the Three Day and Invitational and ½ point if signed up but merited out. No points are awarded for Team or the Mixed Event. Preference will be given to players with the most points. Additional details of the Merit System can be found on page 5 of your yearbook.

- As in prior years, you must be checked in and at your cart at least 15 minutes prior to tee off. This allows the Pro an opportunity to give specific course instruction and to get us out to our tees so we can get started on time. If you check in late you can still play but will not be eligible for prizes. After the round please turn your scorecard in as soon as possible so Vickie and Gerry can get the results tallied.
- We are very fortunate that we have 20 private clubs willing to give up their course to us for a day. It's important that we support all these clubs in return by filling the events, so please sign up for as many of the tournaments as you can.

Assistant Tournament Chair – Vickie Ressler
No report

Team Chair – Liz Moore (report attached)

- Liz Moore introduced herself, along with Asst. Team Chair Ronnie Burg.
- She thanked former Team Chair Cindy Herrin for all that she did for the past four years.
- Liz congratulated the 2014 Team Play Winners. Algonquin was the Low Net Champion with The Legends as Runner up. The team from St. Albans was the Low Gross Champion with Bogey Hills as runner up.
- Liz said we have a full 20 team field to compete this season. Scorecards will continue to be placed on the carts before team events. Each team will have two printed scorecards. One card will be the official card, either gross or net and the other will be used for comparing scores with their opponents.
- Close attention will be paid to Pace of Play during Team Play. She said that Pace of Play has improved the last few years with the help of spotters and asked team captains to once again ask for spotting help when their club is hosting an event. She said team captains will be in contact with players about pace of play, rules, regulations and procedures. We ask that players please take some time and review the Team Play Section of the Year Book.

Assistant Team Chair – Ronnie Burg
No report

Treasurer – CJ Evans (report attached)

- CJ asked that everyone review the 2015 Operating Budget on their table, which was approved by the Executive Board at their spring meeting in March. She asked if there were any questions, and with none, ended her report.

Recording Secretary – Carol Ann Jones

No report

Corresponding Secretary – Patti Heinrich

No report

Rules Report – Laurel Palmer (report attached)

- Laurel said during the winter she contacted all of the Club Professionals requesting the Local Rules from each of the clubs. Upon receiving the rules, she rewrote them in the STLWDGA generic Local Rule form. The format is the same for our tournaments and team events, so the rules should be easier to understand and follow.
- For those interested, you can download the free Rules of Golf App for your iOS or Android phone. This will allow a golfer to access the rules quickly and to jump to specific rules with little effort. This App can be downloaded directly from iTunes, Google Play, or the App Store. Although this will be a faster way to find a rule, it will be necessary to announce to your foursome that you are using your phone for that purpose.
- Laurel said she would like to make Pace of Play a key rule for the upcoming season. The basic time frame of 40 seconds per shot, 15 minutes per hole, resulting in a 4 hour and 30 minute round should be followed. A few guidelines for achieving this goal are:
 - Time your pre-shot routine. If you find that you exceed 40 seconds from the time your cart gets to your ball and the time you actually strike the ball, you might consider dropping that second practice swing or using your distance measuring device as you approach your ball. In general, try to correct whatever is slowing you down.
 - Use the cart to speed play. Drop off your cart mate and go to your ball rather than wait for her to shoot, put her club away, and get into the cart.
 - Talk in the cart while you are moving instead of on the tee box or in the pre-shot routine.
 - If carts are restricted to the cart paths, take a variety of clubs rather than going back and forth to the cart.
 - Make sure you keep up with the foursome in front of you.

Honorary President-Parliamentarian – Pattie Canter

No report

REPORTS FROM THE STANDING COMMITTEE**Auditor – Kathy Gugger**

- Kathy reported she had reviewed the finances for the 2015 year-to-date and the figures are valid and correct as entered in the ledger.
- The reserves of \$2500.00 and the 100th Anniversary fund of \$6000.00 are at the proper level. There is also \$150 in the Medart Fund.

Webmaster: Ronnie Burg

- Tabled for New Business

No Reports

Course Rating Coordinator: Jayne Watson

Mixed Event Chair: Jane Hayo

Nominating Committee: Pattie Canter, Sue Springmeyer and Marian Sinnett.

Prize Chairs: Boobie Light and Vickie Wolken

Historian/Publicity: Gerry LeGrand

Rules: Laurel Plamer, Nancy Davidson and Terry Lucas

OLD BUSINESS – NONE

NEW BUSINESS

This Year's Charity

- Kathy Gugger read the mission statement for this year's charity, Little Bit Foundation, which was unanimously approved by the Executive Board.
- Marian asked members with suggestions for next year to submit them to any Board Member with a brochure and mission statement.

Website

- Marian acknowledged Ronnie Burg's incredibly hard work on our STLWDGA website, and asked Ronnie to make a presentation about the site and a new online Roster option to consider.
- Ronnie reviewed the features of the overall website and encouraged members to save it as a "favorite" for easy reference.
- She then demonstrated the "About Us" section, where she would like us to consider password-protected access to our roster information. Ronnie noted that members also would have the option to "opt out" of the online roster.
- In discussion, it was agreed this would be a wonderful resource and would be popular with the membership. Sara Crook said she would like to see the addition of email addresses to the online roster.
- Jackie Dezort said she would like to see yearbook go completely online so that we can put the \$3,000 we spend on the printed booklet toward prizes. Julie Frank said she thinks a booklet will always be needed for some members. Marian Sinnett agreed and said the Executive Board will keep working toward producing fewer and fewer booklets as years go on, but there will probably always be some hard copies available for those who want them.
- Joyce Jackson made a motion that we adopt a password-protected online roster available to the membership. Susan Springmeyer seconded the motion. The motion passed.
- The password was then distributed. Ronnie said it will be a few days before the roster is available online.

STLWDGA Visors and Hats

- The new line of visors and hats that Laurel Palmer coordinated were displayed. They were available to purchase at the meeting and will be shown on the website as well. They are \$13 for a standard hat or visor and \$15 for the large visor. No money will be made from these in keeping with our non-profit status.

Miscellaneous

- Betty Chomeau noted a discrepancy with the entry closing date for the Invitational. The handout date of July 21 will be followed, but if anyone needs an extension until July 24, please contact Marian Sinnett.

- Patty Stockell asked for clarification on the merit system, and Tournament Chair Gerry Wisniewski explained how it works based on a player's participation in the previous season's tournaments.
- Kathy Reid asked what the average amount is that we give to charities. Pattie Canter said it is about \$2,000 every year.

There being no further business, Linda McFarland moved to adjourn the meeting, and Susan Suggs seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 11:54 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Ann Jones
Recording Secretary
April 14, 2015

Attachments:
Reports from the following:
President, Marian Sinnett
Vice President, Kathy Gugger
Auditor, Kathy Gugger
Tournament Chair, Gerry Wisniewski
Team Chair, Liz Moore
Treasurer, CJ Evans
Rules Chair, Laurel Palmer