

Minutes of East Bay Team Play Spring Meeting

March 13, 2012 at Round Hill Country Club

Attendees, listed captain then co-captain unless otherwise noted:

Blackhawk: Andrea Petralia and Betsy Sevillano
Castlewood: Ronda Henstorf and Ann Angst
Claremont: Gayle Kirkorian, co-captain
Contra Costa: Debbie Pellegrini and Jody Watson
Crow Canyon: Barbara Mehan and Debra O'Regan
Green Valley: Patti Williams and Linda Brooks
Mira Vista: Marsha Conwill and Jan Bridges
Moraga: Denise Acker, captain
Oakhurst: Gisela Coddington and Marianne Gausman
Orinda: Yolanda Peacock, captain
Richmond: Rena' Bruton, JoAnn Lorber, co-captain and Patsy Tarabini, co-captain
Rossmoor: Alice Sprague and Bari Mantel
Round Hill: Sue Ohanian and Cindy Taylor
Sequoyah: Barbara Barton, co-captain

Cindy Taylor, Director, convened the meeting at 1:15 and introduced she and Sue Ohanian, Co-Director.

Cindy announced that the Fall season wrap and awards lunch and golf will be held at Round Hill on November 8, 2012. We will have a meeting at approximately 10:30, followed by lunch, then golf for those who wish to stay and play.

Cindy then introduced for discussion the following issues that were raised at the Fall, 2011 meeting and determined to need further discussion at this Spring, 2102 meeting:

Definition of Governing Body -- Cindy proposed the following composition of the Rules Committee for handling on-course disputes: League Director or Co-Director (1); Pro from the Hostess Club (1); Captain, Co-Captain or Captain of the Day from each of the Clubs involved in the dispute (2), and Hostess Club Captain or Co-Captain (1)

Patti Williams asked if the Hostess Club could designate a representative for their club in lieu of the captain or co-captain (in Green Valley's case, an NCGA rules Rep.)

Patsy Tarabini asked for clarification as to who gathers the Rules Committee together. Cindy clarified that at the end of the round, when it is time to turn in the Green Cards,

the Clubs in dispute will announce their dispute, and the Hostess Captain or Co-Captain is responsible for convening the Committee at that time.

Andrea raised the subject of what happens at the hole at the time. Cindy clarified that the players need to agree on the facts of the dispute at the hole when the dispute occurs, and play on until the end of the round. A second ball is never played.

A motion was made to accept the proposed Committee composition with the amendment that the Hostess Club may designate a representative. The motion was carried unanimously.

Pace of Play -- Cindy reminded the group that at the Fall meeting we had voted 8-6 to have no warning proceed a Marshal's requirement that a slow playing group halve a hole or holes to become on time as stated on the scorecard. However, we agreed that with such a close vote, we should revisit the issue in the Spring.

Several comments were made about the problems of no warning. JoAnn Lorber raised the possibility of being allowed to complete a hole and then pick up. Alice Sprague opined that Marshals might be more inclined to in force pick-up if they had warned before. Several people were concerned that lost balls can throw off a hole and the group is not otherwise playing slow. Rena' stressed that as long as it is not playing out of turn, a group should continue to play while a ball is being located. Gayle stated that Hostess Club Pros should include pace of play instructions with their instructions for play that day. Barbara expressed that pros should be admonished to not double up groups on tees to keep tees clear for Hostess Club members, because that slows EBTP play down.

Following discussion, a motion was made to change the no warning rule to a one warning rule. The motion did not carry, with a 5 to 9 vote. Therefore, the original Fall vote will remain -- no warning will be given by the Marshals before they ask a group to pick up and halve hole(s) in order to catch up. Cindy reminded the group that the Marshals will have to use their discretion on when a group warrants this -- if a group is a minute late on the finish of their hole, there would not be a need to have them halve the next hole, for instance.

Andrea raised the question of how teams will be noticing people that the 4:45 time limit for the round had been reached, if they did not have a horn to call people in. Cindy stated that Marshals will need to alert people that they must halve remaining holes and come in. Sue Ohanian mentioned that with five Marshals monitoring the course, as we voted to have last Fall, many Hostess Clubs may wish to confine Marshals to a small number of holes rather than having them all roam the course. This would make timely notice of the 4:45 stopping point possible for all groups fairly simultaneously.

Cell Phone Use -- Cindy confirmed that it is correct that the penalty for use of a cell phone on the course, other than for approved distance measuring, is penalized by team loss of hole, not cell phone user loss of hole.

Charge for Match Play -- Cindy and Sue discussed what we agreed at the Fall meeting to do re:confirming with our catering people what could be provided for the cost range we had in place in 2011, \$45-\$49. Cindy proposed that, as in 2011, Clubs keep within this cost range and provide what they could for that amount, and asked if any Club needed to charge more. Green Valley indicated that they needed to charge \$50 to provide a full breakfast, snacks and lunch, but could charge \$45 for a continental breakfast, snacks and lunch.

It was agreed without a motion that we would continue current fees and practices, and Green Valley will provide a continental breakfast and keep within the \$45-49 range.

At this point, we built our binders with handouts that included Club and Captain/Co-Captain names, match dates, rules, responsibilities, forms and history of winners.

Barbara Barton raised the idea of using first of the month indexes only, not first and fifteenth, in determining team players. After a small discussion, a motion was made and it passed 9-5.

Rena suggested that a change in index ranges for determining player level (A, B,C) be considered. Cindy suggested we see what effect the first of the month use only would have, and that we revisit this in the Fall.

Cindy reinforced here and at several points in the meeting that all policy/rules changes we had decided upon were subject to change once we work with them for a while and see how they impact play.

The Meeting was adjourned at 2:30 PM.

Minutes from Fall East Bay Team Play Meeting
November 10, 2011 -- Mira Vista County Club

In Attendance:

Blackhawk: Andrea Petralia and Betsy Sevellano
Castlewood: Kathy Berg and Ronda Henstorf
Claremont: Gayle Kirkorian and Joan Upshaw
Contra Costa: Christine Anderson and Debbie Pellegrini
Crow Canyon: Judy Donnelly, Barbara Mehan and Deb O'Regan
Green Valley: Linda Brooks and Patti Williams
Mira Vista: Marsha Conwill and Mary Goulart
Moraga: Denise Acker
Oakhurst: G. Coddington and Lindy Whalen
Orinda: Yolanda Peacock
Richmond: JoAnn Lorber and Patsy Tarabini
Rossmoor: Bari Mantel and Alice Sprague
Round Hill: Sue Ohanian
Sequoayah: Barbara Barton and Yoshie Masuda

Each attendee received hardcopy of the schedule for 2012 at their place setting

Mary Goulart convened the meeting at 12:00

Everyone introduced themselves and their role in 2011 and 2012. Mary introduced Cindy Taylor, Round Hill, as League Director and Sue Ohanian, Round Hill, as Co-Director.

Mary announced the winners of each award for the 2011 season and handed out trophies:

Best Overall Net: Blackhawk
Highest Gross A: Claremont
Highest Net A: Oakhurst
Highest Net B: Richmond
Highest Net C: Blackhawk

Mary introduced topics for discussion as follows:

Pace of Play

Mary discussed the problem of maintaining pace of play. Difficulty of Marshals maintaining pace of play was discussed. In 2011, 1/3 of the teams did not include time to be beginning or completing a hole on player scorecards. It was discussed that both the scorecards and the Marshals need time at the hole information.

The concept of a horn sounding to stop play at 4:45 or 5:00 hours was discussed. Joan Upshaw commented that Claremont did not have a horn and that this would be ineffective given their geography, and a number of other clubs concurred they would have that problem as well.

Lack of proper signage was discussed. Andrea from Blackhawk commented on their need for more signage and Marshall directing based on the experience of this year's match at Blackhawk when some players became lost. The belief that some players refused to pick up at the Marshall's request to speed up pace of play was raised, and Sue Ohanian disputed that (two of the players involved in this alleged incident were from Round Hill.)

It was agreed one representative from each club should vote on a motion.

A motion was made to require the ending time for each hole be printed on each scorecard. The motion carried unanimously.

A discussion occurred on requiring Captains and Co-Captains to act as Marshals on the days their club was hosting a match. Some attendees expressed concern that this would place a hardship on their team, because Captains and/or Co-Captains were required to field a team. A possible modification to the requirement was discussed wherein in a case of emergency (which includes the need to play the Captain or Co-Captain to field a team), the Captain or Co-Captain would not serve as Marshals.

A discussion of the role of Marshals versus spotters occurred. Barbara Barton expressed the opinion that sometimes more spotters were needed, not more Marshals.

Patti Williams expressed the belief that experienced players needed to be coached to watch the timing on the scorecard and keep things moving.

A motion was made and then amended that Captains and Co-Captains are required to monitor the course on their club's day of play, except in the case of emergency (which included needing to play to field a team). The amended motion carried 12-2.

Cutoff time for play was again discussed and it was agreed that at the Spring Meeting, the cutoff time would again be reinforced. It would also be announced at time of play, both in local rules handed out to players and/or on scorecard, and be announced by the pro making welcome remarks and announcements. It was discussed that there would be times when the 4:45 time might not be practical (days with bad weather possibly included), and the ability to extend the playing time could be extended on the day of play.

A motion was made to cease play at 4:45, unless special circumstances as determined by the "governing body" of the day at the club were announced. Motion was carried unanimously.

(Note: It was implied but not conclusively stated that clubs that could use horns would do so, and clubs that could not would need to have Marshals cease play. Also -- the concept of the "governing body" was intentionally not clearly defined. The entity could be the Rules Committee that was subsequently discussed at the meeting. The formation of that Committee will be further discussed at the Spring Meeting).

A motion was made that the number of Marshals required at each match be 5. The motion carried 12-2.

A discussion of lack of warnings occurred; that is, a foursome would not be warned of slow play but would be told of slow play and asked to halve the hole and potentially subsequent hole(s) and move to the position needed to be caught up. Several teams felt strongly against this idea. A motion was made to have no warnings made. The motion was approved 8-6, but it was agreed that this should be discussed further at the Spring Meeting and the by-laws consulted to see if they addressed this requirement, since there were some strong dissenting opinions.

Handling of Disputes

Mary raised the issue of cheating, and stated that four spotters noticed cheating by players from four different clubs, which was met with great consternation by the attendees of this meeting. The violation was usually moving a ball from an out of bound position to an inbound position. Again the role of spotters was discussed, and the eventual conclusion was that spotters are not, due to potential lack of rules knowledge or clear vision on the hole, in a role to call out cheaters for possible censure at the match.

Several teams expressed the position that monitoring of behavior should be among the four players in the match. Mary expressed that the team captains and co-captains should talk to players about the issue of cheating. And if a player calls another player for cheating, the hole would be played under the rules of dispute.

Debbie Pelligrini brought up the issue of a cell phone violation (talking on a cell phone during play), and whether the team or the player talking were out of the hole with this violation called. It was agreed the player, not both players, was out of the hole.

Sue Ohanian raised the issue of rules disputes and who settles, them, and when. The concept of a Rules Committee was discussed.

Charge for Play

A discussion occurred about the charge for play for 2012. Green Valley has announced that they will charge \$50 in 2012. Patti discussed the fact that part of this cost was due to outside cart rental fees, and Rossmoor concurred that outside charges were very high. It was agreed that all teams will research their costs with their food and beverage staff and and what possible options there might be -- a lighter breakfast, no breakfast,

no snacks, etc. It was agreed that all clubs should be charging the same amount. In the Spring Meeting we will share our findings and agree on the amount of food and the charge.

Wrist GPS

The use of a wrist band GPS monitoring device was discussed. All agreed it is fine for use in team play -- no vote was taken.

Alice asked if a rangefinder that includes altitude is still illegal -- it was agreed that it is.

Caddies

Mary raised a situation that came up wherein the Captain of the Oakhurst team asked if she could ride as caddie with a player who would not have a partner on a match day and was not experienced at a course or in team play. Mary made the decision at the time to deny that request as providing an unfair advantage to that team. It was agreed that the use of non-playing caddies in this manner should not be allowed -- no vote was taken.

Joan apologized on behalf of Claremont for a communications snafu that resulted in not enough caddies being available for EBTP at Claremont this year. A discussion of the use of caddies at Claremont ensued -- a number of teams felt that the ability to use caddies at Claremont was a fun aspect of the game, and it should be allowed. A motion was made to continue to allow caddies at Claremont -- it was unanimous that they continue to be allowed.

Sue reminded everyone of the March 13 date for the Spring Meeting, and again raised the Rules Committee and our need to discuss this at the Spring Meeting. She mentioned what the Diablo League is doing re: a "knowledgeable expert" available by phone, rather than relying on the consensus of a committee. Some teams liked this idea. We agreed to give the need for a consistent method of resolving disputes thought prior to the next meeting.

Sue stated that there will be future communication from Cindy regarding collecting the names, email addresses, etc. of Captains and Co-Captains.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:50.