

FGCSA board opposing some proposed GCSAA Bylaws changes

Minutes of a special meeting of the FGCSA Board of Directors regarding GCSAA bylaws changes

A meeting of the FGCSA Board of Directors took place on Wednesday, Dec. 2, 1992, at Palm Beach National GC. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the proposed GCSAA bylaws amendments and establish a position statement to be published in the next issues of *The Green Sheet* and *Florida Green*.

All officers were present. Also attending were external vice presidents Dale Kuehner, Prentice Knott, Alan Puckett and John Gallagher. Kevin Downing, who served on the GCSAA Standards Committee, and Gary Grigg, GCSAA board member, were also present.

President Mark Jarrell began the meeting by stating that the FGCSA wants to be open-minded about our views on the proposed amendments. Much time has been spent studying them at board meetings, informal discussions, and at the local chapter level. By coming up with a published position statement, the FGCSA is letting our position be known so that any FGCSA member who is planning to vote with the FGCSA bloc and disagrees with any of our views, will still have time to remove their name from the bloc at Anaheim during check-in.

It is no secret that the FGCSA is opposed to many of the proposed changes and we do not feel that we are the only chapter opposed to the amendments as they are written. We feel that compromises could be made to make them more acceptable and, where prudent, will offer suggestions and changes to improve the current procedures. Our position statement is not to be misconstrued as a vote of "no confidence" to the current GCSAA board. Rather, we feel it is our inherent

right as dues-paying members of this association to disagree with any proposed change to the GCSAA Bylaws that we feel are not in our best interest.

After some discussion, the following was established for each of the ballot proposals. In the interest of space, we have condensed the reasoning behind the decisions.

Ballot A: Name Change.

Position: Yes

Ballot B: Majority Vote.

Position: No

Reason: We feel that if the proposed amendment is a good amendment then it should not have trouble getting a two-thirds of the voters to agree that it should pass. If it can not get this type of support, then maybe it is not a good amendment.

Ballot C: Elimination of Voting Delegate

Position: No

Reason: While we feel there are some problems with the current method of voting at the Annual Meeting, we do not feel that a member's right to vote through either a delegate or a proxy should be eliminated. Rather we propose that it be amended to allow for voice vote or have all vote results published, listing each chapter's vote.

Ballot D: Legal changes

Position: Yes

Ballot E: Qualifications for memberships

Position: No

Reason: Qualifications for Class A memberships should be set and approved by member vote.

Ballot F: Additional Classifications

Position: Yes

Ballot G: Dues increase without membership approval.

Position: No

Reason: We feel this proposed amendment could merit our approval if it were re-written to include a ceiling for the amount the increase could be in any one year, and perhaps a time lapse period between increases. As far as anyone could remember, the GCSAA has always received approval by the membership when a dues increase was needed.

Ballot H: Voting Procedure

Position: No

Reason: As stated above, we are in favor of delegate voting. However, we do agree with the proposal to vote for secretary/treasurer rather than having an appointed position. We also agree with having the option of running the president-elect unopposed.

Ballot I: Majority Voting

Position: No

Reason: See Ballot B above.

The FGCSA board voiced their concerns with the field staffing program. Even though the majority of the board is in favor of field staffing, it was felt that this should be phased in very slowly.

This person should do more than recruit new members. Concern was raised over the type of person that would be hired for these positions.

Would we be creating our own outside consultants? The board is aware that if Ballot G is not approved, there will be a vote at the annual meeting to increase dues to cover expenses of field staffing.

We, the FGCSA, feel that the best course of action on many of these proposed amendments would be to restructure them into member-oriented posi



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tive changes which would merit further consideration and put to rest those proposed changes which offer little value to the membership.

In that line of thinking, we have offered brief descriptions of what some of the changes might be changed for the betterment of the association. To conserve space, we deliberately made them brief and are available for further discussion on the options we feel are open to us.

TURFGRASS QUIZ

Answer: Paul Frank, Hole-In-The-Wall Country Club, had just weathered the 1962 hurricane. Fairways had plenty of water. A jeep was used to check the damage.

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About the Hurricane Andrew Research Project...

A total of 42 superintendents responded to the FGCSA hurricane research survey, three with photos.

The surveys revealed a wealth of information and each questionnaire contributed something to this issue — even the ones which reported no damage.

When the questionnaires were written, we had hoped to tabulate some comparative data on damage totals, operating days lost, trees lost, etc., but we discovered that the questions had not been worded precisely enough to yield comparable answers. Each superintendent interpreted the damage estimates differently; superintendents who were able to get part of their courses back in operation quickly while taking their time with the remaining holes were unsure how to estimate the number of revenue days lost; private courses do not happily reveal financial data. And so on.

The inadequacy of our questions became more apparent as each survey came back.

Furthermore, superintendents at some severely damaged courses could not find the time to fill out the questionnaires. Therefore, any chart or table based on the surveys returned would be incomplete and misleading. So no comprehensive damage report is possible.

But the survey responses did enable us to present the “big picture” quite accurately. We are extremely grateful to Scott Wahlin and Ed Ramey for their eyewitness accounts and to the



Gouge at Deering Bay CC #4 green.

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Florida Green Hurricane Andrew Research Project

continued

following superintendents for responding to the survey:

Surveys with photos: Bob Allen, Hibiscus GC; Robert G. Klitz, Inverrary CC; John Snyder, Kendale Lakes G&CC.

Surveys: Tad Altman, Marriott's GC at Marco; Mark Atwood, Bears Paw CC; Robert Bittner, Club at Pelican Bay; Allen R. Bunn, Orangebrook; Jim Campoli, Woodland CC; Buddy Carmouche, Hole-in-the-Wall GC; Tom Chandler, Island CC; David Court, Boca Lago CC; John Cowndon, Sombrero CC; David Demmery, CGCS, Quail Ridge CC; Cliff Downing, Jacaranda GC; Scott Foster, Villa Del Ray GC; Dan Garson, Coral Ridge CC; Mark Hampton, CGCS, Royal Poinciana GC; Rick Hill, Kendall GC; Glen Klauk, Delray Dunes G&CC; Jeff A. Klontz, CC of Florida; Dale Kuehner, Colony West CC; William J. Lanthier, North Palm Beach CC; Dick McCoy, Wyndemere CC; Bill McKee, Oak Tree CC; Carlos McKeon, Palmetto GC; John Mike, Palm Beach Lakes GC; David Moyer, Broken Sound GC; Dick Naccarato, Naples Beach Hotel; Jeff Newman, Boca Woods CC; Joe Panteleo, Fort Lauderdale CC; Steve Pearson, The Falls CC; Peter Powell, Boca Greens CC; George Ralish, Polo Trace G&TC; John Sherban, Greenview Cove GC; Bryan Singleton, Riviera CC; Wayne Spano, Key Colony Beach Par 3 GC; Bill Sutton, Sunset GC; Jeffrey C. Taylor, Indian Creek CC; James R. Walker, Briar Bay GC; Dale Walters, Royal Palm CC; C. Stanley Weaver, Cypress Creek CC; Terry Wood, Royal Wood G&CC.



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