
Grand Haven Croquet Club Annual Meeting Minutes

Call to order at 4:05pm on April 19, 2023

An Annual Meeting of the Grand Haven Croquet Club (GHCC) was held at the Creekside Amenity Center on April 19, 2023. Attendees included the members of the Executive Board Nancy Crouch, President; Edmund Giancola, Vice President; Patti Paukovich, Treasurer; David Paukovich, Secretary; Cheryl Adamonis and Patricia Blinn, Co-Social Directors; Marsha Cargill, Membership Director and Bill Todd, Tournament Director. Rich Iuliucci and Dana Silliman, Co-Chairs of the Grounds and Equipment Committee, were also in attendance. David Paukovich verified a quorum of 83 members (70 members in attendance and 13 members not in attendance had given proxies to David Paukovich for voting) for a total meeting representing 123 Grand Haven Croquet Club Members.

Membership Approval of Minutes from April 20, 2022, Annual Meeting

Nancy Crouch reviewed the minutes from the last annual meeting of the club. Prior to the meeting, David Paukovich emailed copies of the minutes to all members of the club, and additional copies were available at the meeting for the members to follow along if they desired. After discussion, a motion was made by John Fitterman, seconded by Robert Carlsen, and approved by all GHCC Members present to accept the minutes of the Grand Haven Croquet Club Annual Meeting dated April 20, 2022.

Reports

President – Nancy Crouch

- Nancy presented a Power Point presentation outlining the goals the GHCC Board had set for themselves starting in May 2022. To date the GHCC Board has been able to accomplish the following:
 - Education:
 - Create Golf Croquet Instructional Clinics.
 - Host onsite Golf Croquet referee testing and certification.
 - Seven new Golf Croquet referees certified in 2023.
 - Started a GHCC Golf Croquet League Schedule.
 - Created weekly 6-Wicket instructional game play using Hi/Lo pairings and alternate shot techniques.
 - Grounds and Equipment:
 - Increased number of times wickets are rotated to avoid “rabbit runs”.
 - Worked with the Grand Haven CDD to get:
 - Canopies, fans, and water coolers installed on Courts 2 and 3.
 - Improved perimeter fencing to arrest stray balls on Courts 2 and 3.
 - Treasurer:
 - Created a yearly budget and review process.
 - GHCC hosted first croquet charity tournament with proceeds benefiting the Grand Haven Woman’s Club (\$10,700).
 - Membership:
 - Increased croquet club membership by offering free new members clinics and increased word of mouth communication in the community.

Vice President – Edmund Giancola

- Edmund thanked the membership for their continued interest and participation in our Golf Croquet Clinics, the First Coast Croquet League (FCCL), and our newly introduced GHCC Golf Croquet League play. Based on comments from the membership regarding the

variety of games offered, both Edmund and David plan to incorporate these suggestions into planned upcoming events.

Treasurer – Patti Paukovich

- Patti reported the following club financials at the annual meeting:
 - The balance as of May 1, 2022, was \$6,552.62. We have received a total of \$14,611.00 of income this year and final expenses are estimated to be \$13,467.05, after all receipts are received and verified by the month's end (April 30, 2023). The projected balance by April 30, 2023, is \$7,696.57, but will increase after May 1, 2023, since both GHCC members' dues and USCA membership fees are currently due, and payable by May 01, 2023.
 - The croquet club has received \$300.00 in donations from members for various projects and activities throughout the year.
- The current croquet club membership is 123.
- Patti acknowledge the help and support that Mark Leo, Dave Paukovich, members of the GHCC Social Committee, and the GHCC members who played and contributed to our Grand Haven Woman's Club Charity Tournament making it such a great success.

Secretary – David Paukovich

- David covered different projects and issues that are currently pending regarding the Creekside courts and Yellowstone, our new maintenance contractor.
- Information about the GHCC March 15th Member Survey was briefly covered and explained that both a tallied version and the 703-page complete version of the survey are available for download from the GHCC website.

Membership Director – Marsha Cargill

- Marsha reported that there were two New Member Classes held last fiscal year and we gained 13 new members.

- Marsha recognized the efforts and support each of our club members receives from the members of the Education Committee (Edmund Giancola, Bill Todd, Carol Burns, Robert Brightman, and herself).

Social Directors – Cheryl Adamonis and Patricia Blinn

- Both Cheryl and Patricia recognized the support they received from all the members of the Social Committee (Patti Paukovich, Jane Stanton, Kathie Gamble, Fran Giancola, Louise Dycke, Margaret Matuszak, Addie Szabo, Dorothy Silliman and Jeanne Seidel), the Wine N' Wickets Coordinators (Jim Boyd, Marsha Cargill, Robert Carlsen and Robert Brightman), and the members of the GHCC Board.

Tournament Director – Bill Todd

- Bill reported on the various club tournaments that were held throughout the year.

Grounds and Equipment Committee – Rich Iulucci and Dana Silliman

- Rich recognized the help and support they have received in moving the wickets monthly to mitigate the “rabbit runs” (Dorothy Silliman, Steve Davidson, Paul Szabo, Ray James, and David Paukovich).
- There was a trial run using stainless-steel wickets on Court 1. After reviewing club members’ comments, it was decided to return the courts back to our standard wickets and return the stainless-steel wickets back to the individual who loaned them to the club. Nancy suggested we may be able to hold onto these wickets and occasionally set up Court 1 for pre-tournament practice sessions.
- Rich has been monitoring the courts regarding our new maintenance contractor (Yellowstone) and believes there has been an improvement in how they play, but noted from club members comments there still needs to be more conversation about them using grass catchers to reduce thatch buildup.

Old Business

- Nothing to report.

New Business

- Nancy Crouch and Patti Paukovich presented to the membership the proposed GHCC dues for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. As explained, the dues would be dependent on a proposed revision to the GHCC Constitution and By-laws, dated April 16, 2014. The following is the proposed change submitted by the By-Laws Committee to the GHCC Board for a vote by the GHCC Members:
 - **Amendment to Article 2, Membership, Sections 1 and 2.**
 - **Section 1.** Membership is open to all persons aged 13 and over, provided that they have Grand Haven Amenity Privileges. Persons between the ages of 13 and 18 (minors), must be sponsored by an adult member. The sponsor is responsible for the minor's behavior, dress, and activities on the court.
 - **Section 2.** The Grand Haven Croquet Club (GHCC) offers two types of membership: Gold Member and Silver Member.
 - **Gold Member:** A person becomes a Gold Member of the GHCC after meeting the membership requirements of Section 1 of this article and payment of annual dues to both GHCC and the United States Croquet Association (USCA).
 - **Silver Member:** A person becomes a Silver Member of the GHCC after meeting the membership requirements of Section 1 of this article and payment of annual dues to the GHCC. No USCA benefits are available with this membership choice.
 - Silver Members will be designated as "SM" on the GHCC Handicap Roster in addition to a handicap (A footnote will be added to the roster to indicate that "SM" denotes Silver Member).
 - **Amendment to Article 7, Dues, section 2.**

- **Section 2.** Annual dues shall be assessed in coordination with the United States Croquet Association (USCA) regulations for the GHCC Gold and Silver Members.
- Nancy Crouch requested for approval by the membership for the proposed change to GHCC/USCA dues requirement as presented from the By-Laws Committee. After discussion, a motion was made by Mark Leo, seconded by Kathy Reichard-Ellavsky, and approved by a vote of 53 YES, 19 NO. The proposed change to GHCC/USCA dues requirements is accepted:
 - 67 GHCC Members present and voting.
 - 41 Members voted YES, plus 12 proxies voted YES.
 - 18 Members voted NO, plus 1 proxy voted No.
 - 67 Members X .66% = 44.22 votes needed to approve.
- GHCC dues for the 2023-2024 fiscal year as accepted will be:
 - **GOLD MEMBER:**
 - SINGLE - \$105 (\$35 GHCC DUES + \$70 USCA DUES).
 - COUPLE - \$195 (\$70 GHCC DUES + \$125 USCA DUES).
 - **SILVER MEMBER:**
 - SINGLE - \$35 (GHCC DUES).
 - COUPLE - \$70 (GHCC DUES).
 - **COUPLES MEMBERSHIPS:** Can be both GOLD or SILVER, or a combination of one GOLD and one SILVER.
- Nancy Crouch requested that Dave Yurk, Chairman of By-Laws Committee address the membership on the second proposed change to the GHCC Constitution and By-laws dated April 16, 2014. The following is the proposed changed submitted by the By-laws Committee to the GHCC Board for a vote by the GHCC Members:
 - **Amendment to Article 6, Elections, Section 3.**
 - **As currently written:** After reviewing the applications, the Nominating Committee shall present a slate of at least one but not more than two of the most qualified candidates for President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer...
 - **Proposed change:** After reviewing the applications, the Nominating Committee shall present a slate of at least

one but not more than two qualified candidates for President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer...

- Nancy Crouch requested for approval by the membership for the proposed change to Article 6, Elections, Section 3 removing the term "of the most" as presented from the By-laws Committee. After discussion, a motion was made by Marsha Cargill, seconded by Mark Leo, and approved by a vote of 68 YES, 8 NO, 4 ABSTAINED. The proposed change to Article 6, Elections, Section as amended is accepted:
 - 67 GHCC Members present and voting.
 - 57 Members voted YES, plus 11 proxies voted YES.
 - 6 Members voted NO, plus 2 proxies voted NO.
 - 67 Members X .66% = 44.22 votes needed to approve.
- Harvey Glastein inquired about GHCC having a "Community Appreciation Day" inviting the Grand Haven residents out to the courts. Both members of the Board and the club explained to Harvey that is what we have been doing, in addition to hosting events like National Croquet Day every year.
- Mark Leo reviewed some of the updates that are currently planned for Courts 2 and 3 and expressed to the club that our courts can be a premier amenity regardless of other amenity distractions and influences. The clubs strength lies within our desire to see these courts finished as we envisioned to the best of our ability.
- Nancy Crouch expressed to the membership the importance of using the Amenity Centers Signup Genius to record how much the croquet courts are actually used, and that the Amenity Centers' facilitators have been instructed by their managers to do random checks of resident ID's verifying you are a current resident.

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made by

Gary Gamble, seconded by Dave Paukovich, and approved by all GHCC Members present to adjourn the meeting at 5:30pm.

Secretary

Date of Approval