



**Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting of
Southern District Women's Golf Association of Arizona
Of
Wednesday, January 22, 2025**

Those in attendance include voting Executive Committee Members President Jean Cheszek, Vice President Jo Helms, Tournament Director Connie Hiles, Treasurer Denise Waddell, and Secretary Toni Graves

Non-voting Executive Committee Members in attendance include Parliamentarian Jan Rintala, Website Administrator Ellen Victor, and Rules Chairman Sarah Michelson

Not attending is non-voting, Awards Chair J. C. Thobe

The meeting was called to order at 11:35 am. A quorum was established.

Approval of Outstanding Minutes. Secretary Toni Graves presented Draft Minutes of the General Representative Meeting of November 19, 2024, which were deemed accurate and should be added to the website with a minor change. These Minutes will be approved by the Representatives at their next full meeting on May 13, 2025, at Omni Tucson National.

Jo Helms moved, Denise Waddell seconded that Minutes of an Electronic Meeting of the Executive Committee of November 20, 2024 regarding correction of awards at the November 19, 2024 tournament be approved and added to the website. With no discussion, the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report Denise Waddell.

Treasurer Denise Waddell presented the 2024 Treasurer's Report. Jo Helms moved that the report be accepted, Connie Hiles seconded; with discussion the motion passed.

2025 Budget. Treasurer Denise Waddell presented the 2025 Budget. In an effort to more precisely balance the budget, it was determined that Cash Reserves should be a line item, Computer and Printer Replacement items deleted, and Available Funds reduced over the next years. Jo Helms moved and Toni Graves seconded that changes to expenses and reserves be added, and the 2025 Budget be approved. The Motion passed.

Report of Vice President Jo Helms.

2026 contracts are booked for:

Winter Scotch, February 23, 2026, Arizonal National

Spring Partners, May 11 and 12, 2026, MountainView SaddleBrooke

Fall Partners, November 16 and 17, 2026, El Conquistador

In anticipation of assuming VP duties in May 2025, Sandy Szczerbin is accompanying Jo on all aspects of contract signing and tournament course setups.

Executive Director of AGA, Catherine Carmignani has been invited to attend the May 13, 2025 General Rep Meeting to discuss AGA issues and answer all questions.

Jo contacted the AGA about using their GolfGenius license so we would be able to do electronic scoring at our tournaments. To do this, we would need to register ten members at a cost of \$15 each. SDWGA would then reimburse those ten members so our cost would be \$150. Jo also distributed some research about our membership and GolfGenius (GG) usage. About half of the total membership does NOT use GG for electronic scoring today so we would need to do some extensive training on this, and we may still have some foursomes who won't use it. The question is whether there is a true benefit to us. Denise made a motion that on a trial basis for the calendar year 2025, SDWGA commits to up to \$200 to use the AGA's GG license to do electronic scoring at our tournaments. Much discussion followed that included the fact that we're too close to the Winter Scotch to get this completed. So, Jo amended the motion to be: On a trial basis for the remainder of the calendar year 2025, SDWGA commits to use up to \$150 to use the AGA's GG license to do electronic scoring at our Spring and Fall Tournaments. Denise seconded the motion and the motion was passed. Jo will continue to work with the AGA and Jean/Connie to get this accomplished.

Jo reported there wasn't a dessert included in the Feb 19 contract at Skyline (negotiated by someone else.) Chris Dompier at Skyline said it was okay for us to bring in our own dessert. Jo researched purchasing cookies at Costco. The cost would be \$60 for 144 cookies (assorted flavors of Macadamia Nut, Chocolate Chunk, and Oatmeal Raisin.) The group approved this purchase. Sarah volunteered to pick them up the day before the event, if necessary.

Tournament Director, Connie Hiles.

Handicaps. SDWGA will use the recommended USGA Rules of Handicapping (January 2024) Appendix C for handicapping of partners. Use of this guideline will resolve any issues of differences in handicaps between partners". Explanation: 85% is used for best two of four balls. For Four Ball, 90% of handicaps should be used. And for a Chapman 60% of the low and 40% of the high should be used.

Prize Payouts. Whether to continue both gross and net awards in each flight is a question. It is under discussion by the Executive Committee, which will confer with Representatives for further input. We also discussed whether to pay 33% of the field or continue to pay 40%. We decided to continue to pay more people a little bit less rather than pay fewer people a little bit more.

Team Entry Priority. Our recent tournaments have all had more applicants than we can accommodate. The random draw rules for selecting the teams for the tournament and on the waiting list are clearly spelled out in the Standing Rules (Rule #8). We will solicit input from the Representatives on this process and make possible changes.

Course Signage. The Tournament Director is pursuing options for best identifying each course's holes. The Tournament Team currently puts out SDWGA hole identifiers and will improve signage.

Terms of Competition, Walkers. Terms of Competition will be clarified regarding restrictions on walking, aimed at improving pace of play.

Miscellaneous.

Certain Southern District WGAs have zero members. Jo Helms moved that such associations be removed from the website and any list that Jan Rintala may use for taking roll call; Jean Cheszek seconded and the motion passed. Ellen Victor will accomplish the website update.

Jean Cheszek continues search for either Nominating Committee members or volunteers for the position of a new Secretary effective 5/13/25. Members will contact possible candidates.

The Executive Committee will work together to improve meeting length, improve concise and productive communication in person and emails.

The next Meeting will take place on Monday, March 31, 2025 at 11:30am at Rusty's. A short Executive Committee gathering will be held on May 13, 2025 at Omni Tucson after play and the General Representative Meeting.

Jo Helms moved and Denise Waddell seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 3:37pm. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Toni Graves, Secretary
Southern District Women's Golf Association of Arizona

ACTION ITEMS

- Jean Cheszek will gather input from Reps/Members regarding more equitable registration procedures and team selection; convey wisdom of 85% handicap usage; develop training aids for Golf Genius Live Scoring.
- Denise Waddell will revise the 2025 budget as approved by the Executive Committee. This revised budget will be sent to all on the Executive Committee.
- Toni Graves will update the Gen Rep Meeting Minutes of 11/19/24 for posting on Website.
- Ellen Victor will post Draft Minutes (General Rep Minutes of 11/19/24 and Electronic Meeting Minutes of 11/20/24) to the website.
- Ellen Victor will remove women's golf associations with zero members from the website.
- Sarah Michelson will correct Terms of Competition regarding using an "x" on score cards and regulations regarding "Walkers."
- Connie Hiles will continue improvement of tournament signage.
- Jo will determine who is available to pick up dessert cookies for 2/19/25 Skyline Tournament.
- Jo Helms will contact Logan and Catherine Carmignani at AGA, and Terri Burchett regarding her interest in Nominating Committee or Secretary positions.