

**Annual Meeting Minutes  
Baltimore Country Club  
12.7.16**

**Present:** Chris Harriman, President; Mike Bostian, Vice President/Treasurer; Ryan Kraushofer, Secretary; Mike Barrett, CGCS. Past President; Joe Haskins, Golf; Chris Fernandes, Member Services; Galen Evans, Education; Tyler Bloom, Newsletter; Jay Nalls, Government Relations; Chris Sandels, Assistants Representative; Sam Camuso, IAC Representative; David Norman, Chapter Executive; Tyler Eastham, Chapter Executive, and MAAGCS Members.

**Call to Order:** President Chris Harriman called the meeting to order at 1:06pm.

**Officer’s Reports:**

**President:** President Chris Harriman began the Annual Meeting with a "Year in Review" highlighting the success of the events throughout 2016 and thanks our partners.

**Request for Amendments to 2015 Minutes/Agenda**: None

**Approval of 2015 Annual Meeting Minutes:** Chris made a request for approval and Mike Barrett and Chris Fernandes seconded

**Golf:**  Golf Chairman Joe Haskins presented golf awards for the winners of this year's biggest tournaments. The Rick Fritz Award to Tim Davisson, Rick Wakefield Award to Doug Hall, Craig Swinney Award to Ryan Kraushofer and the Doug Witcraft Award to J.C. Clevenger.  Joe also presented, awards for MAAGCS season long match-play tournament – The overall winners Scott Cornwell and Patrick McNamara were not in attendance.

**Education:** Education Chairman Galen Evans presented this year’s scholarship winner:

* Stan Zontec Memorial Scholarship - $1,500: Brady Scales

**Government Relations:** Secretary Ryan Kraushofer gave an update in Eric David’s absence

* WOTUS – the rule is in a stay in the U.S. 6th Circuit Court of Appeals until further notice
* Department of Labor Rule - preliminary injunction has been issued by Judge Amos Mazzant from Eastern Texas.
  + 21 States had filed suit against the DOL about the rule.
  + The injunction could be challenged in court. Or, congress could defund he rule through appropriations and it would be unlikely the Trump administration would challenge.
  + Immigration and Labor – There is a possibility of H-2B reform that would allow for and expand returning worker exemption. The exemption allows workers with seasonal positions to return within three years to be exempt from the lengthy application process.
* FIFRA – Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, Rodenticide Act
  + The golf and Agricultural industries have proposed a more “risk based” approach to the law, incorporating sound science and research as the base for regulation.
  + There is a proposal to revise the Pesticide Certification Application Rule but the concern is that the EPA will have more control over certification than the states. If the states are unable to continue the certification process, education and training could decrease. The rule is not final and President Elect Trump could kill the legislation or Congress could defund the rule.

**GCSAA Business Update/Chapter Delegates Report:** Secretary Ryan Kraushofer gave an update to include an update on Dues Increases, Rounds 4 Research, Membership, Equipment Managers, International Members, Government Relations, and GCSAA Elections. Key points in the report include:

* GCSAA dues increase by $5 for classes A,B,C
  + In 2006 Chapter delegates approved a CPI based dues increase to keep dues increases smaller but more frequent.
  + The last dues increase was 2015.
  + Everyone was in favor of the dues increase.
* Rounds 4 Research
  + Continues to grow and raised $52,000 more this year compared to 2015.
  + 2017 Auction is April 1-9.
* GCSAA Membership
  + Down 1.29% in 2016.
  + Pushing for 20,000 members by 2020.
  + GCSAA would like to offer discounted dues for multi course operators.
    - They received a lot of push back from other chapters.
    - Everyone wants to make sure this won’t hurt the total revenue in the long run but GCSAA couldn’t show anything on paper to back it.
    - This would require a bylaws change in Article 2 Section 1.
    - MAAGCS board is against this change until GCSAA can show more evidence that this would make the association grow.
* Equipment Managers
  + Currently 606 GCSAA EQ Managers.
  + GCSAA is updating 6 certificated and adding 2 new certificates which are metal working and agronomics.
  + GCSAA partners with R&R to help recruit new Equipment Managers. If you sign up you EM with GCSAA and they sign up and pass a certificate then R&R will reimburse your dues on your next order.
  + Proposed EM Bylaws Change.
    - Currently Reads - To qualify for Equipment Manager membership; an applicant shall be employed as an equipment manager, assistant equipment manager or mechanic/technician within the golf industry and shall have such rights of the Association as the Board of Directors may specify by Standing Rules, except those of voting and holding office.
      * Change – Remove “within the golf industry”.
      * MAAGCS is for this change – trying to increase EM members.
* International Members – Bylaws Change
  + Currently reads – An applicant shall be employed outside of the United States as a superintendent or head greenskeeper and shall be required to maintain a membership in his/her recognized “home” organization, if one exists. International Superintendent Members shall have such rights of the Association as the Board of Directors may specify by Standing Rules, except those of voting and holding office.
  + Change To - An applicant shall be employed outside of the United States ~~as a superintendent or head greenskeeper and shall be required to maintain a membership in his/her recognized “home” organization, if one exists~~. International ~~Superintendent~~ Members shall have such rights of the Association as the Board of Directors may specify by Standing Rules, except those of voting and holding office.
    - MAAGCS in for this change – trying to increase members.
  + Currently 244 Grassroots Ambassadors – would like 535 by 2020
  + National Golf Day was a success last year opening it up to superintendents from all across the country. GCSAA was the most represented out of all the allied associations.
  + National Golf Day will be April 26, 2017
  + GCSAA is rolling out a National BMP Template at GIS. MAAGCS will be one of the first chapters to use the template.
  + Political Action Committee
    - GCSAA is forming a PAC committee – a group of individuals with a common interest who want to advance a specific political agenda by contributing to candidates who share their views.
    - Anyone can donate up to $5,000 per year.
    - This will not affect the fundraising efforts of EIFG since the target donors are different than those of the EIFG.
    - No money from GCSAA budget or funds will go to support the PAC but they can cover the operating costs of the PAC without using donation money.
    - PAC won’t impact member dues and GCSAA can’t take a portion of dues to put towards a PAC.
    - The PAC will give GCSAA better opportunities to lobby in Washington for the golf industry.
  + Elections
    - Secretary/Treasurer
      * John Fulling, CGCS – Michigan or Rafael Barajas, CGCS – Florida
      * MAAGCS will be voting for Rafael Barajas which means John Fulling will have to be nominated from the floor to fill the remaining year of Rafael Barajas’ term.
    - Board of Directors – Three Open Positions
      * **Mark Jordan, CGCS – Ohio – MAAGCS Vote**
      * **Jeffrey Millies, CGCS – Wisconsin – MAAGCS Vote**
      * **Kevin Sunderman – Florida – MAAGCS Vote**
      * Jeff White, CGCS – Kansas
      * John Walker – Texas
      * Rory Van Poucke – Arizona

**Bylaws Changes:** Class SM to be changed to Class B, a Class C member can be elected as a director on the board and the Equipment Managers Class Section to be added. Motion was made by Scott Wunder and Scott Barrett 2nd. All in favor – approved.

**Elections:** Elections ballets were passed out and results consisted of Chris Fernandes being elected into an officer’s position.  Joe Haskins was voted to serve a second term as director and Chris Sandels was voted to serve as a director. Mike Barrett has served his final year on the board and has stepped down as past president. He was presented with a plaque from President Chris Harriman. President Chris Harriman will be moving to Past President and Mike Bostian will take his place as incoming President.

**Address of Incoming President:** New President Mike Bostian made remarks on his vision of the association going forward. He also thanked Chris Harriman for an outstanding job as President the past two years, and he presented him with a special award.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 2:30pm