

Viera East Mens' Golf Association (VEMA)

Minutes of Board Meeting April 10, 2025

Attendance: Rich Gagliardi, John Perino, Glen Tarsha, Harvey Meister, Gary Tyler

Meeting commenced at 1:30 pm

Business:

Suggested Agenda as submitted by Glen Tarsha.

1. Weekly member participation
2. Club Championship
3. Cutoff date for new members
4. Financial update

There were no items brought up that required an approval by vote.

There was extensive discussion on some of the above topics which will be summarized below.

Weekly Participation – there has been a significant decrease in weekly event participation compared to last year. This is mainly pertinent to the early months of 2025 which is when we see the highest participation due to snow birds being here, and also driven by weather, both good and bad. The actual numbers vary but as there was full 72 participation for many events last year, this year we are seeing numbers from lows of 48 up to 65 (approx.) This amounts to about a 15 – 30% decline which is a significant drop.

It should be noted that overall membership is also down from last year. This does not in any way affect the finances of VEMA as payouts are based on participation and money from the 50/50 and entry fees for majors which all support the events along with annual dues, sponsorships, etc..

A discussion ensued as to what might be the reason(s) for this years decline. Here are some of the main points that surfaced.

- 1) Cost to play Viera East (also the change in policy for season passes has prompted some to no longer participate regularly as they have gotten better deals for golf at other facilities)
- 2) Weather
- 3) People either moving away, changing job schedules, retiring from competitive golf, injuries or passing away.
- 4) Dropped membership altogether
- 5) Unknown

In summation, it is impossible to put a hard number of members who fit into one of the above categories and come to a clear reason for lower participation this year.

On the plus side, there are quite a few new members this year who do participate regularly. The consensus of the board on this is that while it is noticed, changes in membership and participation can and will vary from year to year. They have in the past and will do so in the future.

Which then opened a discussion of ways to build up membership. This focused on the impending closing of Turtle Creek Golf Course. The board will reach out to whoever has some input into that course and it's men's club and ask if we can put out a letter inviting them to join VEMA when Turtle Creek Closes. The information will include what the membership fee is for the remainder of this calendar year as well as our annual fee which starts October 1st as well as other info about VEMA.

OTHER: It was suggested that a meeting with the course managers, Jim Moller and/or David Owens be held to review the VEMA -Viera East relationship. Gary Tyler will facilitate this and report back to the board. It was also suggested that such a meeting should be an annual occurrence and all agreed to that being a good idea.

2) CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

There was no substantive discussion about the Club Championship other than to confirm the dates which are on the calendar.

3) CUTOFF FOR NEW MEMBERS

If someone wants to join before June 1, they must pay a full membership fee.

If someone wants to join after June 1, the membership fee is \$20. Good until Sept 30th

4) FINANCIAL REPORT

We did not get to do financial review at this meeting due to time.

Meeting Adjourned 2:20

Harvey Meister

Secretary