



Meeting Minutes

Confidential

Minutes of the IGF Biennial Meeting

Monday, 19 September 2016, Cancun, Mexico.

PRESENT

International Golf Federation (IGF)

Diana Murphy, *IGF Joint Chairman*
Nobuko (Nicki) Hirayama, *IGF Women's Chairman*
Peter Dawson, *IGF President*
Mike Davis, *IGF Board Member*
Antony Scanlon, *IGF Executive Director*

Argentina
Armenia
Australia
Bermuda
Brasil
Bulgaria
Canada
Canada
Cayman Islands
Chile
Chile
China, People's Republic of
Chinese Taipei
Colombia
Colombia
Costa Rica
Costa Rica
Czech Republic
Denmark
Dominican Republic
Ecuador
Ecuador
Egypt
England
Finland
France
Germany
Germany
Greece
Guatemala
Haiti
Hong Kong
Hong Kong
Iceland
India
India
Ireland
Italy
Jamaica
Jamaica
Japan
Kazakhstan
Kazakhstan
Korea
Korea
Mexico

Matias Anselmo
Karen Hovhannisyan
Matt Cutler
Gary Venning
Klaus Behrens
Seth Underwood
Jeffrey Thompson
Leslie Dunning
Robin Jarvis
Mauricio Galeno
Gabriel Morgan
Jipo Jia
Ting-Heng Sung
Lazaro Perez Martinez
Clemencia Vargas
Francisco Jimenez Manuel
Rodrigo Cordero
Ales Libecajt
Jim Staffensen
Francisco Bordas
Francisco Torres
Alex Carpio
Kadry Taarit
Nigel Edwards
Antti Peltoniemi
Patrice Amadiou
Marcus Neumann
Marion Thannhäuser
Tommy Tokas
Arturo Aldana
Willy Mehu
Margaret Hamilton
Yoshihiro Nishi
Haukur Birgisson
Dilip Thomas
Arun Kumar Singh
Rollo McClure
Stefano Manca
Peter Chin
Mark Newnham
Keisuke Muratsu
Yerbol Bukharbayev
Yerbolat Ospanov
Kang Hyung-mo
Se hoon Chang
Pablo Suinaga

Moldova, Republic of	Vlad Volostnykh
Morocco	Benkerroum Yassine
New Zealand	Dean Murphy
New Zealand	Murray Ward
Norway	Jan Egil Naerland
Panama	Jorge Loaiza
Panama	Jean-Pierre de Roux
Poland	Januz Sikora
Puerto Rico	Sidney Wolf
Puerto Rico	Marilina Silen
Qatar	Fahad Nasser Al Naimi
R&A	David Rickman
R&A	Ian Pattinson
R&A	Shona McRae
Russian Federation	Nikolay Reminov
Scotland	Steve Paulding
Serbia	Dragan Solak
Singapore	Andrew Welsford
Slovakia	Rastilav Antala
Slovenia	Uros Gregoric
South Africa	Eden Thompson
South Africa	Karen Olivant
South Africa	Irena Suturovic Bogdanovic
Spain	Mar Ruiz de la Torre
Spain	Gonzaga Escauriaza
Sweden	Gunnar Hakansson
Switzerland	Paolo Quirici
Turkey	Alper Alp
Turkey	Huseyin Alp
Ukraine	Alena Tereshchuk
Ukraine	Valeria Saprionova
United Arab Emirates	Khalid Al Shamsi
United States of America (USGA)	Stasia Collins
United States of America (USGA)	John Bodenhamer
United States of America (USGA)	Stephanie Parel
Venezuela	Freddy Alcantara
Venezuela	Stephanie Gellen
Zimbabwe	Mafingei Nyamwanza

APOLOGIES

International Golf Federation (IGF)

Clive Edginton, *IGF Joint Chairman*

Argentina	Miguel Leeson
Canada	Scott Simmons
El Salvador	Gustavo Munguia
Italy	Marco de Rossi
Lebanon	Karim Salim Salaam
Qatar	Mohammed Faisal Al Naimi
South Africa	Geoff Taylor
R&A	Peter Unsworth
Wales	Richard Dixon

OBSERVERS

The Hong Kong Golf Club	Mr. Ian Gardner
The Clearwater Bay Golf & Country Club	Mr. Peter Downie

60 organizations were represented. The meeting was called to order at 9:00

1. ELECTION OF MEETING CHAIRMAN AND ROLL CALL

The IGF President, Mr. Peter Dawson, welcomed everyone and asked the assembly to observe a minute's silence in honour of the former IGF Women's Chairman, Mrs. Patsy Hankins, who passed away in October 2015.

Mrs. Diana Murphy was elected Chairman of the meeting.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Biennial Meeting held in Kuriuzawa, Japan on 8 September 2014 were approved as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT INCLUDED ON THE AGENDA

Junior Golf.

IGF taking responsibility for organisation of international Junior Golf events: The Administrative Committee determined that the IGF is currently responsible for the Youth Olympic Games and this is a sufficient role for the moment given the IGFs current budgetary constraints.

4. WORLD AMATEUR TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

a. 2016 Mexico

Ms Nicki Hirayama, Women's Chairman, reported that 55 countries participated at the 26th Espirito Santo Trophy, including Bulgaria and Morocco, who competed in the championship for the first time.

The Mexican Golf Federation, had done a wonderful job with the organisation and delivery of the Espirito Santo Trophy. Congratulations and thanks were also passed onto the Iberostar and Mayakoba venues for their assistance and for providing their golf courses in such excellent condition

It was noted that the standard of play throughout the week was exceptional and this was most especially exemplified by the Korean team who finished in first place with a score of 29 under par, followed by Switzerland with 8 under par and Ireland at 7 under par.

b. 2018 Ireland

Mr. Rollo McClure, informed the meeting that the 2018 WATC will take place at the Carton House, located 15 miles west of Dublin, Ireland, where it will be played on its two Championship Courses, the Montgomerie Golf Course and the O'Meara Golf Course. Carton House was described as an excellent venue for the 2018 WATC. It benefits from a great transportation system being only 30 minutes away from the Dublin International airport. The onsite 4* luxury hotel offers multiple facilities that will suit everyone attending the events

The dates for the 2018 WATC are confirmed as follows:

- Espirito Santo Trophy: 29th August – 1st September 2018
- Eisenhower Trophy: 5 – 8 September 2018

The IGU looks forward to welcoming all national federations to Ireland for the 2018 WATC.

c. 2020 Asia-Pacific Zone

The IGF received one bid from the Asia Pacific zone to host the WATC in 2020 and that was, from the Hong Kong Golf Association. The view of the Administrative Committee was that full support for this bid should be sought from the Biennial Meeting. This received the unanimous support of the meeting and Hong Kong was elected host for 2020.

Mr. Nishi, representing the Hong Kong Golf Association, thanked the meeting for its vote and informed the delegates that the championships will be played at the internationally known Hong Kong Golf Club and the Clearwater Bay Golf Club. The women's championship will be played at the Hong Kong Golf Club on the old and the new course. The men's championship will be played at both the Hong Kong Golf Club and the Clearwater Bay Golf & Country Club. Both golf courses are located 45 minutes from the International airport and 30 minutes apart from each other.

d. Items from Administrative Committee Meeting

The following matters were discussed by the members of the IGF Administrative Committee:

WATC Field Sizes at future World Amateur Team Championships

- The Committee discussed the possibility of reducing the number of teams participating at future WATCs due to the current size, cost and complexity of the Championships. The
- IGF administration was asked to review the format, size and qualification system and present their findings to the IGF Administrative Committee for consideration.

Timing of future WATCs

- Issue of the IGFs limited resources and impact this has on its operations with the current timing of WATCs coinciding with either the Youth Olympic Games or the Olympic Games was discussed. The Administrative Committee agreed to keep the timing as it currently is.

Zone rotations of future WATCs

- The current requirement for zone rotations for the hosting of the WATC was also discussed. It was noted that for the last two bidding periods that there was only one bid per region and interest in hosting the WATC was waning. The meeting resolved that for the 2022 WATC that the limitation on bids being from one zone only be removed and that it be open to all national federation members to bid.

5. FINANCIAL UPDATE

a. Audited accounts 2014 & 2015

The 2014 and 2015 Financial Statements were approved by Auditors, PwC, and copies of these have been distributed to the membership. The IOC contribution for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games is estimated at USD 12.7 million:

- 40% of this amount will be paid by the 30 September 2016,
- 40% is due by the 31 December 2016.
- 20% balance will be paid by 30 June 2017, upon finalisation of the IOC accounts.

The IGF has approximately USD 8.6 million in loan funds and interest from its delivery partner lenders and the IGF Board has committed to repay the lenders these loans in full by the end of the 2016 Financial year.

The IGF will still require funding either from delivery partners or other sources through to 2020.

6. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Antony Scanlon, Executive Director referred to his IGF Administration Report of 8 September 2016 and highlighted the following items:

a. Rio 2016 Olympic Games

The Rio 2016 Olympic Games had been a great success from all perspectives for the IGF and for golf.

Despite all the challenges that the IGF faced The athletes embraced and cherished a unique experience and some witnessed the “highlight of their career”. 80% of the athletes stayed in the Olympic village. Julieta Granada (PAR) and Mohammad Rahman (BAN) were the flag bearers for their countries during the Opening Ceremony. The golf competitions reunited 120 athletes coming from 41 countries. All 6 medalists come from 6 different countries which makes a great diversity promoting golf in their countries (e.g, Shanshan Feng in China).

The Olympic Games reached fantastic TV audience records and increased interest for golf on social media. The spectator level was a great surprise knowing that 80% of the spectators had never been to a golf tournament before. 7000 Brazilians were given the chance to hold a golf club for their first time thanks to the Fan Zone, sponsored by Bridgestone.

The IGF is proud of the 6 golf medalists, 2 of them are part of the IGF Athletes Committee.

The men’s medalists are:

- Justin Rose (ENG) : Gold medal
- Henrik Stenson (SWE) : Silver medal and part of the IGF Athletes Committee
- Matt Kuchar (USA): Bronze medal

The women’s medalist are:

- Inbee Park (KOR): Gold Medal and part of the IGF Athletes Committee
- Lydia Ko (NZL): Silver Medal
- Shanshan Feng: Bronze Medal

Designed by Gil Hanse and Amy Alcott, the Olympic Golf Course had exceeded all our expectations and was in great condition. It is the first public golf course in Brazil to be homologated by GEO.

b. Buenos Aires 2018 Youth Olympic Games

The Youth Olympic Games will take place at the Golf Club de Buenos Aires in Argentina, from October 1 to October 12, 2018. The age group has changed from 16/18 years to 15/18 years, allowing younger players to participate. The IGF is currently finalizing the qualification system of the YOG, which would probably be the same number of events and format as in Nanjing.

- Boys 54-hole individual event
- Girls 54-hole Individual event
- 54 hole mixed gender teams event

c. Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games

The PGA Tour agronomy consultants visited the Kasumigaseki Country Club’s East Course 4 times during the past 2 years overseeing and reporting on Fazio’s small modifications and improvements. Their last visit was before the Games.

d. IOC Related Events

The IGF and the IOC have an excellent relationship. The success of the Rio Olympic Games has strengthened the relationship between the 2 organizations. The IGF invited and welcomed many IOC Board Members in the Olympic Family Lounge for both the men’s and women’s medal ceremonies. Mr. Dawson and Mr. Scanlon were honoured to welcome the IOC President, Mr. Bach, during both events.

Mr. Scanlon continues to meet with the IOC Sport Department on a monthly basis. He also represents the IGF during various meetings throughout the year, namely during the Olympic Games Management

working Group for Agenda 2020 and the IOC Task Force meetings for Rio2016. Mr. Scanlon also attended the 126 and 127th IOC Sessions.

e. ASOIF, SportAccord Relations

The IGF also maintains an excellent relationship with ASOIF and the Executive Director, Mr. Andrew Ryan.

The IGF resigned its membership from SportAccord in 2015 in unison with the other 26 Summer Sports International Federations. The resignation of the IGF was due to the direct conflicts between SportAccord and the IOC. This action was approved by the IGF Board.

f. Membership

The IGF 's membership keeps growing at a fast pace. The IGF now counts 147 National Federation members representing 142 countries as opposed to 137 National Federations in 2014.

The IGF will continue enlarging its membership by inviting known organizations to join that are already R&A affiliates.

g. Anti-Doping

The importance was stressed for the IGF membership to continue to be WADA compliant and to implement a rigorous anti-doping programme.

The IGFs anti-doping programme that was implemented leading up to and during the Rio Olympic Games was an outstanding success. All 120 athletes were registered on ADAMS and while 198 urine and blood tests were conducted, no issues were reported. Showcasing that golf has CLEAN athletes.

The IGF's Medical Commission also worked alongside the National Anti-Doping Organizations and the Professional Tours to ensure the smooth coordination of the tests and to educate the athletes properly.

Mr. Staffensen, Danish Golf Union, shared his frustration towards the implementation of Rule 50 for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games events for golf and the decision to have tone-on-tone logos.

Mr. Scanlon acknowledged his concerns and frustration, but Rule 50 is an IOC Rule and not an IGF rule. The IGF will work closely with the IOC for Rule50 to be modified for the Olympic Games future editions to ensure it is consistent with other sports.

7. IGF WOMEN CHAIRMAN

The members of the Administrative Committee approved the appointment of Ms. Nobuko Hirayama (JGA) as the new IGF Women's Chairman for the next two years.

8. IGF BOARD APPOINTMENTS

John Byers (CBG) and Dilip Thomas (IGU) resigned from the IGF Board. The IGF Administrative Committee has appointed Mr. Sidney Wolf (PRGA) and Ms. Nobuko Hirayama (JGA) to replace them.

9. 2016 – 2018 ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

The Chairman advised that, at its meeting on the previous day, the Administrative Committee nominated the following for 2016 – 2018:

1) Asia-Pacific Zone

1. Australia
2. Hong Kong, China
3. India
4. Pakistan
5. Republic of Korea

2) American Zone

1. USGA
2. Argentina
3. Canada
4. Mexico
5. Puerto Rico

3) European-African Zone

1. R&A
2. Finland
3. Germany
4. Spain
5. South Africa

The IGF delegates approved the Administrative Committee members' decision.

10. PRESENTATION ON SIMPLIFICATION OF THE RULES OF GOLF & IMPLEMENTATION OF WORLD WIDE HANDICAP SYSTEM

Mr. David Rickman, R&A Chief of Staff and Rules, gave a presentation to the assembly on the simplification of the rules of golf project that is jointly being undertaken by both the R&A and USGA for implementation in 2019.

Mr. John Bodenhamer, Director of Rules and Competitions at the USGA, also provided a presentation on the implementation of the Worldwide Handicap System, that is also a cooperative initiative between the USGA and the R&A. It was stated that there are currently six different handicap systems creating inefficiency throughout the world. The idea of having a unique system would certainly be beneficial and grow the game. The R&A and the USGA will then jointly manage the World Handicap System, as they currently do with the rules of golf, the amateur status and the equipment standards.

The timeframe of this project is as follows:

- 2016 / 2017: testing of the Worldwide Handicap System
- 2018: Implement & educate the golfer.
- 2020: Launch of the Worldwide Handicap System as the 1st January 2016.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Nigel Thomas, England Golf, asked if the teams nominations for the WATC could be done at a later date as some National Federations have not completed their major amateur events and are unable to select the team by the current deadline. Mr. Scanlon answered that this will be considered at the post WATC review.

Mr. Freddy Alcántara, Venezuela Golf Federation, asked if the IGF was planning on creating a Disabled Golf Committee. He was informed that the IGF had established a committee for golfers with disabilities that will meet regularly.

There was no other business

12. DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

The next IGF Biennial Committee meeting will take place in Ireland on 3 September, 2018. There being no further business the Chairman brought the meeting to a close at 10:20.