

The American Legion

Department of Ohio

Golf Committee Meeting Minutes

Mid-Winter Conference

Date: January 17, 2026

Time: 11:00 AM

Location: Mid-Winter Conference (Virtual/Hybrid)

Chairman: Joe Law

Staff Liaison: Sherry Yockey

Call to Order

The Golf Committee meeting was called to order at approximately **11:00 AM** by Chairman **Joe Law**. Initial technical difficulties with the virtual meeting platform resulted in brief delays and audio issues. Once resolved, the meeting proceeded.

Roll Call / Attendance

Members present:

- Joe Law, Chairman
- Betsy Law
- Thom Stan
- Jason Rue
- 2nd Vice Commander, Holly Lewis

Staff:

- Sherry Yockey, Staff Liaison
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The Department reported that it had **received an email from committee member David Tracy indicating his intention to step aside.**

A **motion** was made by **Thom Stan** to accept the resignation of **David Tracy** from the Golf Committee. The motion was **seconded by Jason Rue**. The motion **carried**.

Old Business

Committee Membership

Tournament Format Discussion

The committee revisited prior discussions regarding potential changes to the Department Golf Tournament format to increase participation and maintain interest among golfers of varying skill levels.

Discussion points included:

- Challenges faced by higher-handicap golfers under the current format
- Desire to balance competitiveness with enjoyment
- Acknowledgment that similar changes have been discussed in previous years

A proposal was discussed to implement **two different formats over the tournament weekend:**

- **Saturday:** Individual play using submitted handicaps (best ball/play-your-own-ball)
- **Sunday:** Four-person best-ball scramble (current format)

The committee noted that conducting the handicap-based play on Saturday provides additional time for scoring and organization before Sunday's final results.

New Business

Tournament Format and Operations

Motion – Tournament Format Change

A motion was made by PDC Jason Rue to revise the tournament format as follows:

- All participants will submit a verified handicap
- **Saturday:** Handicap-based best ball / individual play
- **Sunday:** Four-person best-ball scramble

The motion was **seconded** by 2nd Vice Commander, Holly Lewis, and, following discussion, **approved by consensus.**

The committee agreed that updated guidelines and scoring procedures will be developed and distributed prior to the next tournament.

Future Host Sites

Discussion was held regarding future host locations:

- **Beverly Post 0389** was confirmed as the host for the **2026 Department Golf Tournament**
- Tournament dates will be **announced at a later time**
- The Post will complete and submit the formal proposal **once updated per guidance from Thom Stan**
- No formal bids have been received for **2027** at this time
- Cincinnati was mentioned as a potential future host, noting past success
- Host sites must have access to a nearby golf course and adequate lodging
- Typical tournament size was estimated at **approximately 20 teams (around 100 participants)**

Committee members agreed to continue outreach to potential host Posts and individuals to encourage bid sub

Additional Discussion

- The importance of recruiting participants and maintaining visibility of the event was emphasized
- Committee members shared informal feedback on past locations and logistics
- It was noted that updated tournament materials and links will be shared electronically

Action Items

- Staff Liaison to distribute a written recap and updated tournament format guidelines to committee members
- Committee members to identify and recruit potential host sites for future years

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately **11:25 AM**.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Yockey

Staff Liaison, Golf Committee

The American Legion, Department of Ohio