



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
BONITA NATIONAL GOLF CLUB, INC.**

Place of meeting: Bonita National Clubhouse
17501 Bonita National Blvd
Bonita Springs, Florida 34135

Date of meeting: February 17, 2025

Time of meeting: 5:30 p.m.

- 1. Call to Order:** Rich Donatuti, President on February 17, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.
- 2. Certification of Quorum:** Robert Jackson, Secretary.
- 3. Proof of Notice:** S. Coulls, GM, Troon Management. R. Jackson asked how notice was provided to the golf membership and S. Coulls stated that it was provided by email and by conspicuously posting the notice as usual. R. Jackson stated that no such notice is posted outside the Pro Shop as is usually done (the notice was not there yesterday and it is not there today). R. Jackson stated that Section 4.11 of our Bylaws requires that notice of Board meetings "shall be posted in a conspicuous place on the Golf Club Common Area at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance of a meeting" and that was not done here. R. Jackson objected to the meeting going forward. S. Coulls stated that the notice was posted outside the Pro Shop but someone must have taken it down. R. Donatuti stated that the meeting would proceed.

Attendees: R. Donatuti, President
P. Hanson, Vice President
R. Jackson, Secretary
N. Oliver, Treasurer
D. Jimenez, Director
R. Winter, Director
T. Casey, Director
S. Coulls, GM, Troon Management
J. P. Shepherd, Head Golf Professional

4. Old Business: None.

5. New Business – Member Violations

D. Jimenez stated that two incident reports had been submitted regarding the behavior of member XXXX on the morning of February 12, 2025. The reports state that, in front of 15-20 members, Member XXXX used profanities toward another member and expressed outrage about losing the last course superintendent due to that other member. D. Jimenez made the following motion: "To remove member XXXX from the GOC committee effective immediately for disruptive and disrespecting behavior and verbal abuse to another member. This member may not serve on any Golf Committee and/or ad hoc committees for the calendar years of 2025/2026." P. Hansen seconded the motion.

R. Jackson stated that he requested the Board, twice, to not rush this issue and to have this issue heard at the Regular Meeting on February 25. He asked Simon Coulls to confirm that Member XXXX as well as current Board members D. Jimenez, N. Oliver, and B. Winter are all candidates for election to the Board this year, and Simon confirmed. R. Donatuti stated that he and Simon Coulls had spoken to BNGC's counsel about whether Member XXXX would be precluded from running for the Board if he were suspended by this Board and that suspension was confirmed by a hearing panel. R. Donatuti stated that the lawyer advised that Member XXXX could still be elected but could not serve on the Board during the length of any suspension. R. Jackson then stated that D. Jimenez, N. Oliver, and B. Winter should recuse themselves from any consideration or vote on this matter, because that could be seen as a conflict of interest.

D. Jimenez stated that this was not the first time that this member had behaved this way. She stated that he was very disrespectful at a Board meeting to the President and other Board members. There was a discussion at that time whether to remove the member from a committee. The Board received an apology for his behavior at the Board meeting and he was advised that if this happened again he would be removed from the committee. D. Jimenez further stated that this Board does not make the decision on the suspension of this member and it would be referred to the Compliance Committee and the member could attend that hearing. The Compliance Committee would decide whether the suspension imposed by the Board would be upheld or rejected.

P. Hansen, and B. Winter expressed outrage at the statements made by Member XXXX, but B. Winter agreed that he would not vote on the issues regarding Member XXXX. N. Oliver stated that his interest is simply to review and understand the actions of this member in such a way that we are dealing with it properly and he has no

interest other than that in this matter. D. Jimenez and N. Oliver stated that they would not recuse themselves from discussing or voting on any discipline of Member XXXX.

R. Jackson made a motion to require Directors Oliver and Jimenez to recuse themselves as to any vote or motion regarding Member XXXX, and T. Casey seconded the motion. The Board did not recognize the motion.

N. Oliver asked if there were any precedents of members being disciplined for using profanities or engaging in behavior similar to that alleged here. R. Jackson stated that, two years ago, a member received a warning letter for cussing at and being disrespectful to the Pro Shop staff and, just last year the Chairman of the GOC stated, at an open meeting, that Director Jackson should resign from the Board and, if he did not resign, the Board should find a way to remove Director Jackson from the Board. That member was not disciplined, but instead was given another term as GOC Chairman.

The motion by D. Jimenez passed 4-2, with Directors Donatuti, Jimenez, Oliver and Hanson voting in favor, and Directors Casey and Jackson voting against. R. Winter recused himself from voting.

D. Jimenez made a second motion regarding Member XXXX: "To suspend member XXXX for 60 days due to disruptive and disrespecting behavior and verbal abuse to another member." The motion was seconded by P. Hanson.

T. Casey questioned whether Member XXXX was given proper notice of the potential discipline against him, and pointed out that the incident occurred on the morning of February 12; later that day the Board was notified that a Special Meeting was being scheduled for February 17 and the Board was provided with incident reports; on February 13 the Board was provided with the motions presented today. D. Jimenez read an email from Assistant CAM Shelley Olson stating that she notified Member XXXX on February 14 of the potential discipline against him and he stated that he would abide by the decision of the Board and later indicated that he would respond in writing by Wednesday, February 19.

T. Casey referenced the BNGC "Governance Policy," which was revised and approved by the Board in November, 2024, and it states, on Page 4, Paragraph 5: "Once the Member is notified of the violation, a Member may write a response to the CAM regarding the recorded violation. This must be completed within 5 days after being notified of the formal violation." Paragraph 6 states: "The Governance Board Liaison and/or CAM will present the violation with an incident report and all supporting documentation to the Golf Board." It then states that the Board "shall review all incident/violation reports, supporting documentation and statements of witnesses."

T. Casey stressed that the Board should follow its policies.

D. Jimenez stated that Member XXXX did not request anything else and it was understood that his response was received and would be the only action being taken by this member.

R. Jackson stated that Member XXXX, just like all members, is entitled to a fair process and R. Jackson is not commenting on whether the alleged behavior of Member XXXX was or was not appropriate or should or should not be disciplined. T. Casey stated that Member XXXX should have his time to respond before the Board considers any discipline.

R. Winter stated that JP Shepherd asked him if he wanted to file a complaint against Member XXXX and R. Winter stated at that time that he had a match to play and did not want to deal with it at that time. He further stated that when he finished playing golf that day he found out that two members had already filed a complaint against Member XXXX and he was asked to provide a statement based on the incident reports received. He advised that he wrote up such a statement on February 14 and provided that statement to his fellow Board members at this meeting on February 17. He further stated that this is not the first time and, in fact, Simon witnessed that at the most recent member-guest event. R. Winter stated that this is a pattern of behavior by Member XXXX.

R. Donatuti asked Simon Coulls if he has a view. Simon stated that, since the Governance Policy states that the member may respond within five days, the member should be given five days to respond.

D. Jimenez then made a motion to table the motion to suspend Member XXXX until the Regular Meeting on February 25. N. Oliver seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Adjournment: R. Donatuti made a motion to adjourn; seconded by D. Jimenez. The motion passed unanimously at 6:24 p.m.

Approved February 25, 2025
Robert Jackson, Secretary