

PROJECT

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING FROM THE QUÉBEC GOLF FEDERATION (GOLF QUÉBEC)

HELD ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2025, AT 2 P.M.
BY WEB CONFERENCE



Presences

Voting delegates from member clubs:

1. Arundel represented by Gilles Hamel
2. Baie-Comeau represented by Michael Leduc
3. Base de Roc represented by Daniel Sirois
4. Beaconsfield Golf Club represented by Louise Patry
5. Beloeil represented by Jean-Noël Routhier
6. Bic sur mer represented by José Arsenault
7. Chibougamau-Chapais inc. represented by Antoine Proulx
8. Como Golf Club represented by Janice Duross
9. Continental represented by Jacques Sevigny
10. Diable (Mont Tremblant Resort) represented by Scott Casey
11. Domaine Château-Bromont represented by Martin Ducharme
12. Géant (Station Mont Tremblant) represented by Scott Casey
13. Lac Ste-Marie represented by Paul Rollin
14. Lorette inc. represented by Lucie Lachance
15. Lotbinière represented by Michel Desjardins
16. Mirage represented by Yvan Benoit
17. Montcalm represented by Eve Gaudet
18. Napierville represented by Andre Chartrand
19. North Hatley represented by Claire Beaubien
20. Ottawa Hunt and Golf Club represented by Joshua Clarke
21. Parcours du Cerf represented by Susan Rake
22. Revermont represented by Roch Paradis
23. Rideau View Golf Club represented by Viren Joshi
24. Rivermead represented by Sarah-Andrea Landry
25. Rosemère Fontainebleau represented by Jean-Pierre Beaulieu
26. Royal Montréal represented by Diane Drury
27. Royal Ottawa represented by Serge Lafontaine
28. Sainte-Marie represented by François Langevin
29. Tadoussac represented by Paul Choquette
30. Valcourt represented by Patrice Desmarais
31. Vallée du Richelieu represented by Michel Dell'
32. Versant represented by Nadia Di Menna

Non-voting guests:

- Gisèle Carpentier, Marie-Pier Poulin-Breton, François Gagnon, Jean-Guy Gourdeau, Éric Lallier, Sylvain Gaudet (Golf Québec Board of Directors).
- Allan Smith, Annabelle Chouinard, Charlie Beaulieu, Claude Langlois, Daniel Legault, Denis Ladouceur, Eric Duguay, François Larrivée, Henriette Turbide, Jacques Brière, Louis-Bernard Bonneau, Marc Belanger, Marc-André Ménard, Marcel Paul Raymond,

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Marci Perreault, Mario Ouimet, Martin Hébert, Michel Dugal, Nancy Layton, Paul Cote, Philippe Duranceau, Raymonde Michaud, Richard Leduc, Richard Roberge, Robert Massé, Stéphane Cartier, Sylvie Lajeunesse, Thomas Ducharme.

- Adam Daifallah, Laurence Applebaum, Maxime Desjardins, Mark Selvadurai (Golf Canada). Eric Couture, David Tremblay (PGA of Québec).
- Diane Bruneau, Émeraude Beaupré-Ayotte, Émilie Bérubé, Guylaine Sirois, Maëlis Dieuzède-Cophire, Martin Joly, Michèle Raymond, Nancy Ross, Patrice Clément, Samuel Chainey, Sandrine Bigras (Golf Québec).

Welcoming Word

The Executive Director welcomes everyone and explains how the meeting will be conducted by web conference

He acknowledges the presence of Golf Canada representatives Adam Daifallah, who will become President of the national organization in March 2025, and CEO Laurence Applebaum. The latter addresses a few words to the assembly.

The Executive Director also highlights the presence of former Golf Québec presidents Diane Drury of Royal Montréal (2009) Louise Patry of Beaconsfield (2022-2023), Marcel Paul Raymond of Blainvillier (2014-2016), Charlie Beaulieu of Balmoral (2007-2011), and Claude Langlois of the Québec region (1981-1982).

Opening of the Meeting

Before opening the meeting, the President asks for a moment of silence in memory of those who have passed away since the last Annual General Meeting.

Patrick Rhéaume

A great friend to the golf industry, Patrick was taken far too soon by Lou Guerig's disease. A teacher and coach for over 22 years, he helped many people discover the pleasure of golf, and others excel in competition. For the last three years of his career, he was Golf Canada's Regional Director for Québec. In his honour and to continue his legacy, the Patrick Rhéaume Fund was set up to provide annual support to athletes whose commitment to their sport reaches a remarkable level.

Sylvie Gagnon

Volunteer of the Year of the Eastern Townships Regional Golf Association in 2024, Madame Gagnon left us suddenly last August after 21 years of dedicated service to the development of women's golf.

John Limeburner

Throughout his life, Mr. Limeburner dedicated himself to serving his communities, including the Québec Golf Association, of which he was President in 1997, and the Royal Canadian Golf Association, better known today as Golf Canada.

James Grant

Mr. Grant's service to golf was immense, both in his home province, where he served as President of the Québec Golf Association in 1992, and at the national level. He was a great contributor to the Golf Canada Foundation, helping it in its fundraising efforts in support of Canadian golf.

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Confirmation of Conformity of Notice of Meeting by the Secretary

The Secretary confirms that, in accordance with our By-Laws, the Notice of Annual General Meeting of the Québec Golf Federation was sent by e-mail to all member clubs on February 5, 2025, fourteen (14) days before the AGM. It was also posted on the website along with all relevant documentation.

Verification of Quorum by the Secretary (By-Law 2.9.1)

Article 2.9.1 of our By-Laws stipulates that fifteen (15) delegates from member clubs are required to form a quorum at an Annual General Meeting.

The secretary confirms that, with thirty-two (32) delegates in attendance and representing member clubs, the By-Laws are complied with, and the meeting is duly constituted.

Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was e-mailed to all member clubs on February 5, 2025. On a motion duly made and seconded, the agenda is adopted unanimously.

Adoption of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting Held on February 24, 2024

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held in a hybrid format, i.e. in person and virtually, on February 24, 2024, were e-mailed to all member clubs on February 5, 2025. The President asks if we may proceed to the adoption of the minutes as submitted and without reading them in full.

On a motion duly made and seconded, the minutes are unanimously approved.

Presentation and Ratification of Amendments to the By-Laws

Changes are proposed to *By-Law 3 - Board of Directors* and *By-Law 7 - Election Process*. These changes were presented to members in the documentation sent on February 5, 2025, and the Secretary provides an overview:

By-Law 3 - Board of Directors

Election of members and allocation of seats on the Board of Directors

Articles affected 3.1.1 - 3.1.2 - 3.1.3

At present, only six (6) of the ten (10) directors are elected by the general assembly. The other four (4) are appointed by associations. As required by the Code of Governance, all board members must be elected by the members at their general meeting. Articles 3.1.1. and 3.1.2. are adjusted accordingly.

In addition, the possibility of being appointed to the Board of Directors is open to our non-affiliated individual members (public golfers) with a maximum of two (2) seats, as set out in article 3.1.3.

Articles 3.3.2 - 3.6.1 - 3.7.1 - 3.8.2 - 7.1.3 - 7.4.1 were adjusted for consistency.

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Notion of independence
Affected article 3.1.4

The Code of Governance suggests extending criteria a and b to regional associations. It also suggests adding to the definition of independence a notion related to conflict of interest on a repetitive or continuous basis, as found in point e.

By-Law 7 - Election Process

Finally, the Board has updated the election process.

Composition of the Nominating Committee
Affected article 7.1.

Based on the governance models common to sports federations, and for the sake of administrative efficiency, it is recommended that this committee be appointed by the Board of Directors. To preserve its independent character, it is specified that none of its members may be a member of the Board of Directors. The composition of the committee is also specified in terms of the persons who will sit on it.

Nominating committee process
Affected article 7.1.4

Article 7.1.4 is adjusted to give committee members more time to carry out their mandate, as described in article 7.1.3.

Adoption and Ratification

On a motion duly made and seconded, all the proposed amendments to the By-Laws were adopted by the members of the Board of Directors at the January 30, 2025, meeting.

As the Nominating Committee carried out its mandate of verifying candidacies based on the By-Laws that were in effect in 2024 while planning for the 2025 elections, it is understood that the new By-Laws will only come into effect at the termination of the Annual General Meeting.

On a motion duly made and seconded, the amendments to Golf Québec's By-Laws are unanimously ratified.

Presentation of the Annual Report

The *2024 Annual Report* was e-mailed to all member clubs on February 5, 2025, and was available online ever since.

In addition to presenting the many initiatives of 2024, the annual report provides an update on the main programs and services offered by Golf Québec to its members.

In particular, the Federation has:

- Increased presence on social networks.
- Increased readership for its communications to golfers, now reaching over 85,000 people.

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- Participated with the PGA of Québec in the organization of the Women's Golf Week, with conferences, clinics, pro-ams, and provincial amateur competitions throughout the week.
- Dedicated the proceeds from its annual Fundraiser Tournament and Auction - over \$80,000 - to the development of junior women's golf.
- Carried out a diagnosis of all its programs for developing athletes to the highest levels of excellence; an action plan is currently being prepared.
- Continued to improve its support for regional golf association operations.

The annual report also provides an update on various programs already in place to achieve the Federation's mission of increasing participation, developing excellence, as well as promoting and governing the game of golf in Québec.

Finally, it provides interesting information on club services and the benefits of membership, as well as the importance of the Golf Québec network in growing the game.

Filing of Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Report as of November 30, 2024

The financial report prepared by the independent auditor was approved by the Board of Directors on February 5, 2024. An abridged version was published in the *Annual Report 2024*. A summary is presented to the members, but no vote is required.

The Treasurer reports on the activities of the Finance and Audit Committee and presents our financial statements for 2024. With a very slight deficit of \$2,000, we can speak of a breakeven year. Golf Québec's cash flow and balance sheet remain in an excellent position.

Appointment of the Independent Auditor

The Treasurer informs the members that we used the services of Alain Ouellette CPA inc. in 2024. The Finance and Audit Committee considers that the firm's services remain efficient, focused on the needs of not-for-profit sports federations, and that its fees are competitive.

On a motion duly made and seconded, Alain Ouellette CPA inc. is unanimously appointed independent auditor for 2025.

Election of Directors

Information on the election of directors was e-mailed to all member clubs on February 5, 2025. The election process began on October 7, 2024, with the publication of the Notice of election, and candidate files were accepted until November 7, 2024.

To plan for the 2025 elections, the members of the Nominating Committee were:

- Three (3) individual members in good standing with a member club: Louise Patry, Sonia Houde, and Denis Loiselle.
- One (1) director from the Association des clubs de golf du Québec: Mario Bouchard.
- One (1) director of the PGA of Canada - Québec Zone: Anne Rogerson.

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They met with Golf Québec's President to better define the skills required for the Board of Directors. Financial and legal expertise was needed to ensure the continuity of the projects managed by the Board. The committee's mandate was also to preserve gender equity, maintain a balance between private and public clubs, rejuvenate the Board, and maintain representation from at least three (3) Golf Québec regions.

Committee members reviewed all applications, which had to come from individual golfers of legal age at a member club. Applications included a completed volunteer form, resume, letter of recommendation, and photograph.

Depending on the eligibility of the candidacies and the skills sought, a second stage took place. This included a one-to-one interview with candidates who best matched the profiles sought, submission of a competency form, a declaration of interests, and a criminal background check.

The three (3) positions up for election for 2025 are those of Michel Dell'Aniello and two other vacant positions. These are two (2) year terms.

The committee received twenty-four (24) applications:

- One (1) individual member who wishes to renew his mandate.
- Six (6) applications were complete and eligible, four (4) of which were withdrawn during the process.
- Seven (7) applications were incomplete and therefore ineligible.
- Ten (10) candidates were ineligible due to membership status.

Three (3) files remain eligible for election. The Nominating Committee has submitted its report and recommendations to the Secretary in accordance with the By-Laws.

As Michel Dell'Aniello is already Treasurer of Golf Québec, it is recommended that he be reappointed as an individual director for a two (2) year term.

The committee members also recommended filling the other two positions for individual members in good standing with a member club, by selecting Jean-Guy Gourdeau (CPA, CFA), a member of the Royal Montreal Golf Club, and Éric Lallier (lawyer), a member of the Country Club of Montréal, whose candidacies met most of the criteria sought for on the Board of Directors.

On a motion duly made and seconded, the Nominating Committee's recommendation is unanimously adopted.

Adjournment of Annual General Meeting

The new Board of Directors meets separately for its first meeting to elect the corporation's officers.

The Golf Québec's Executive Director presents a video recap of 2024 while awaiting the return of the Board of Directors.

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Introducing the new Board of Directors

François Gagnon informs the members that the directors had placed their trust in him and re-elected him as President of Golf Québec for 2025.

He introduces the members of the Board of Directors for 2025 and those who have been appointed officers of the corporation:

- **PRESIDENT:** François Gagnon, member in good standing of a member club (Parcours du Cerf).
- **VICE-PRESIDENT:** Gisèle Carpentier, member in good standing of a member club (Le Mirage).
- **SECRETARY:** Ève Gaudet, designated by the ACGQ (Montcalm).
- **TREASURER -** Michel Dell'Aniello, member in good standing of a member club (Vallée du Richelieu).
- **DIRECTOR:** Marie-Pier Poulin-Breton, member in good standing of a member club (La Tempête).
- **DIRECTOR:** Jean-Guy Gourdeau, member in good standing of a member club (Royal Montreal Golf Club).
- **DIRECTOR:** Éric Lallier, member in good standing of a member club (Country Club of Montréal).
- **DIRECTOR:** Serge Lafontaine, appointed by the Regional Association Council (Royal Ottawa).
- **DIRECTOR:** Nadia Di Menna, appointed by the NGCOA – Québec Branch (Le Versant).
- **DIRECTOR:** Sylvain Gaudet, designated by the PGA of Canada - Québec Zone (Montcalm).

Introducing outgoing directors

The President thanks the outgoing directors for their generous contributions to the Board over the past few years. They are David Tremblay, Olivier Daneau, and Paul Schofield.

Special Presentations

Québec Golf Hall of Fame

Diane Dunlop-Hébert and André Maltais were inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2024 in the Builder category.

Volunteer of the Year

Jim Davidson was named 2024 Volunteer of the Year for his outstanding development work with juniors in the Ottawa Valley region and as a referee.

Pierre Nadon Prize

The selection committee comprised of sports journalists honoured Michael Richards with the 2024 Pierre-Nadon Award. He contributed to Montréal's international reputation by bringing back the Presidents' Cup. The future president of Golf Canada, Adam Daifallah,

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underlines this outstanding achievement, as the Presidents' Cup has only returned to the same city twice since its creation.

2024 Golfers of the Year

The 2024 Golfers of the Year are all on the top of their respective order of merit:

- Among our young mosquitoes aged 9-10, Amy Ma and Rafael Dagenais are in the spotlight.
- In the 11-12 year-old pee-wee category, Florence Ho and Owen Copp.
- The 13-14 year-old bantams are Kate Guo and Zack Bourgeois.
- Our juniors, aged 15 to 18, are Charlotte Boudreau and Antoine Jasmin.
- Our Amateur Golfers of the Year are Mackenzie Cloutier and Alexandre Mercier.
- In the senior division, the honours go to Marie-Thérèse Torti and Luc Guilbault, for whom this is a 4th consecutive title.

Quebecers on Team Canada 2025

Last December, Golf Canada announced the names of athletes who will make up Team Canada 2025. We are proud to see that two Golf Québec representatives were selected: Antoine Jasmin from Le Blainvillier and Isaiah Ibit from Camelot.

In the national professional squad are: Brigitte Thibault from Rosemère Fontainebleau, as well as Joey Savoie and Étienne Papineau, both from Pinegrove.

Québec Team Program

To better support our athletes and bring them to the highest levels of performance, we have maintained our Québec team program, made up of 25 athletes at *élite*, *relève*, and *espoir* levels. Our staff is already working on planning the 2025 program.

Obviously, this type of program could not be put in place without Golf Québec ensuring the safety of all its participants. That's why we have a Safety Policy that applies to all our competitions and training activities.

This is also why we're committed to implementing, publicizing, and enforcing the Policy on the Protection of Integrity in Sport adopted by all sports federations in February 2021. It's more than just a policy. It provides codes of conduct for directors, coaches, players, referees, and parents.

All of our coaches, staff, provincial Board of Directors, and regional golf association Boards of Directors must undergo mandatory training on this policy and the mechanisms in place to protect and support our athletes if something goes wrong.

The initiative also includes an athlete support service provided by Sport'Aide's team of specialists and an independent complaints officer.

We would like to thank the Québec Ministry of Education and the Minister of Sport, Isabelle Charest, for their support of Québec's sports federations.

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Other business

There is nothing further to discuss.

Termination of Meeting

On a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting is unanimously terminated at 3:20 p.m.

Signatures

François Gagnon, President

Ève Gaudet, Secretary