

9 September 2026 AHMGC BOARD MEETING



Call to Order

President Joe Gouveia called the meeting to order at 12:36 p.m. on September 9, 2026.

Members Present

Joe Gouveia, Fred Laskowski, Mark Ernst, George Skirm, Ron Brunswig, Fred Hartman, Butch Barrett, Mike Bensen, Bill O'Hara, and Barney Barber.

Member Absent

Jerry Woodward.

Approval of Minutes

Barney Barber made a motion to approve the minutes from August 12, 2026. Butch Barrett seconded the motion.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Barney Barber reported that the club's starting cash balance was \$9,558. Income totaled \$4,727, expenses totaled \$4,057, and ending cash was \$10,228. The savings account balance was \$4,216, and the three-month certificate of deposit had a balance of \$6,453, giving the club total assets of \$20,898. Barney reported that new memberships are driving an increase in revenue.

Monday/Wednesday Play

George Skirm reported that the October Monday/Wednesday schedule had been finalized and posted on the website. The Tournament of Champions will be held on October 14, the Masochist will be held on October 28, and the October Board meeting has been moved to October 7.

Membership

Bill O'Hara reported that the club has 275 members. Three people are on the waiting list, and the club has added twenty-four new members year to date.

Special Events

Ron Brunswig reported that the AGA qualifier was successful. AHMGC will sponsor the teams of Ray Hughes and Brett Menzie, and John Robinson and Barney Barber. The Board wishes them good luck in the AGA tournament as they represent AHMGC.

Ron also distributed an updated 2027 Special Event calendar. The President's Cup will be moved to March 17. Events are scheduled at Oakcreek on April 12, as well as at Corte Bella, Falcon Dunes, Briarwood, Palmbrook, and Antelope Hills. Some details have been finalized, while pricing for other events is still pending.

Mike Bensen noted that thirty-four players have signed up and paid for the Briarwood event to be held on September 16.

Handicap Committee

No report.

Rules

Mark Ernst reported that some members have been treating a tee shot or any shot that goes out of bounds as a lateral drop in the fairway with a two-stroke penalty under Model Local Rule E-5. AHMGC's position is that when a ball goes out of bounds, the player must return to the spot where the last stroke was made and drop a ball within one club length, or re-tee if the shot was made from the teeing ground. The penalty is one stroke plus loss of distance under Rule 18.2.

Players who suspect that a shot may be out of bounds or lost should announce and play a provisional ball before leaving the original spot, as provided under Rule 18.3. If the original ball is out of bounds, the provisional ball becomes the ball in play with a one-stroke penalty. This procedure should help improve pace of play.

Fred Laskowski noted that the South Course fairways were not in good condition and that play on September 9 should have been conducted under lift, clean, and place conditions. The Board ruled that LC&P will be in effect whenever play is on the South Course until further notice.

Mark offered to conduct five-minute golf-rule scenarios near the putting green before the shotgun starts if there is sufficient interest. The sessions would address common misconceptions about the interpretation of the rules.

Fred Laskowski noted that several members did not show for the day's play and did not call in. He acknowledged those who follow the notification procedure and asked members to notify the director or directors on duty whenever they are unable to play and have time to do so.

The Board discussed bunker conditions and agreed to follow the USGA position regarding relief options under Rule 12. For an unplayable lie in a bunker, a player may take stroke-and-distance relief within two club lengths inside the bunker or drop back on the line inside the bunker for a one-stroke penalty. Also in a bunker, a player may announce he is taking an unplayable lie and may drop back on the line outside the bunker, keeping the spot where the ball lay directly between the player and the hole, for a two-stroke penalty.

If a bunker is filled with temporary water, a player receives free relief to the nearest point of complete relief inside the bunker. A player may also drop outside the bunker back on the line for a two-stroke penalty. Bottom line is stay out of the bunkers!

Old Business

Ping Golf Bag Raffle

Mark Ernst reported that the club raised \$925 in raffle ticket sales. Barney Barber donated \$75 from the Club's general fund to bring the total to \$1,000, of which donations will be made to Prescott Area Shelter Services and Yavapai Exceptional Industries for \$500 each.

New Business

New Placard for Two-Man Scramble

A new placard will be produced explaining that, in the two-man scramble, the A player receives 35% of his handicap and the B player receives 15% of his handicap. The A player is the member with the lower handicap of the two players.

Board Member Committee Assignments

Mark Ernst asked Board members to volunteer for openings on various committees. The response was particularly good, and President Gouveia expressed his appreciation. President Gouveia distributed the new committee assignments, which were approved. The assignments have been posted on the website.

New Website

Mike Bensen, Mark Ernst, and Bill O'Hara are working with Matt Christopherson to develop a website and membership portal for online registration for Monday/Wednesday league play and Special Events. Matt distributed a preliminary website mockup that incorporates online sign-up for league play. A few bugs remain, but the project is very promising.

McCarley Cup

AHMGC lost the McCarley Cup event to Mile High Men's Golf Club. President Gouveia discussed several changes to consider next year, when AHMGC will sponsor the annual event. Barney Barber, Mike Bensen, and Mark Ernst will spearhead the event.

Adjournment

Mark Ernst made a motion to adjourn, and Mike Bensen seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on October 7 at 1:00 p.m.

Minutes compiled and sent by Fred Laskowski on September 12, 2026.