

ZONE 1 RULES REPORT 2022

I am so looking forward to seeing everyone at our Zone meeting. These past few years many championships have been cancelled completely or venues changed due to Covid. Last year again our own zone was cancelled and let's hope it's a go this year as Linda Tamblyn and her committee have worked hard to prepare for hosting it in Castlegar. Last season Loretta and I were prepared to do the Senior Amateur at Bootleg Gap but the venue was moved so we didn't do it. This season after our zone, I will be refereeing at Christina Lake for the Provincial Amateur and in Kamloops for the Canadian Junior Boys.

As most of you know, Loretta Bulfone has moved to Squamish and has done some refereeing at the Coast. We will certainly miss her! I had lunch with her earlier in the month and she sends on her best wishes.

I am so pleased that Roma Crispin has volunteered to take the Rules Chair position. She will take the Level 1 on-line and then in Spring of 2023 she will take the Level 2 (Provincial) seminar. Some years ago she was certified but decided that she still wanted to participate in zone competition. Our zone will need to pay for her expenses in doing the rules courses. With Covid, the past few years, Level 2 seminars were done on-line but I don't know if they will be again or if physical attendance will be required. There will be registration fees and perhaps travel and accommodation expenses if travel is necessary.

In 2023 there will be a new Official Guide to the Rules of Golf (replacement for the old Decisions book) possibly there will be a new Rule Book as well-I haven't heard. In 2020 the new handicapping system came out. If you haven't done the on-line seminar on that, you can access it on our BC golf website by clicking on "workshops". So now the whole world is using the same system for handicapping and you should be aware of the changes. Stress to your club that the main thing they have to remember is to enter their scores as soon as possible after playing (same day if possible) and enter them hole-by-hole. Then they really don't have to worry about anything as the computer does the work!! When they travel to another club, they just have to know their handicap index, check the handicap chart for the colour of tees they are playing so when they enter their score, they have the information they need.

Pace of play is always an issue! In casual play, encourage players to pick up once they've reached net double bogey on a hole.

I've been Rules chair for over 20 years and I've been saying for many years that it was time for me to step down for someone younger to take over and that time has come. I will assist Roma in any way I can and will pass on any information that I think will help her. I wish her great success and know she is very capable when she is doing zone refereeing in the future.

I certainly hope that the Zone is able to continue with other new executive members stepping forward.

April Biscaro