



Do you want to run for the board?

What does the Board Do?

Association board members, like all board members for US-based organizations, have three legal obligations: duty of care, duty of loyalty, and duty of obedience. In addition to these legal obligations, there is a lot of practical work that the board undertakes. These generally fall under the fiduciary responsibilities of the board and include:

- Overseeing Financial Performance
- Setting Strategy
- Setting and Reviewing Legal Policies
- Managing and supporting the Executive Director/CEO

How much time does it take?

The board meets at minimum every two months for two hours, and comes together for two-day retreats, usually scheduled to coincide with business planning for the following year. From time to time, the board may need to meet more frequently. You will want to invest time reading and learning as much as you can about PGA Membership not only in your district but also in the Minnesota Section and in the nation. As a board member, you can expect to spend approximately four hours per month.

Board Composition

The 11 seats are made up of the following:

- Three Officers (President, Vice President, Secretary)
- Honorary President
- Three District Directors (Metropolitan, Northern and Southern)
- Dakota Chapter Director (elected at the Dakota Chapter fall meeting)
- Three At-Large Directors

At the 2026 meeting, the Minnesota PGA board has three seats up for election for two-year terms. The positions of Secretary, Southern Director, and one at-large seat that represent members throughout the Section. To run for a local district seat, candidates must reside and work in the area the board seat represents.

The seats up for election include:

- Secretary, currently held by Tim Vernon
- Southern District, currently held by Matt Hauge;
- At-large seat currently held by Grant Hanson;
- The Dakota Chapter seat currently held by Jason Crisp will be voted on at the Dakota Chapter meeting being held in October.

Districts Defined

- Metropolitan – Minnesota Counties of Chisago, Isanti, Sherburne, Anoka, Washington, Ramsey, Hennepin, Wright, Carver, Scott, or Dakota.
- Northern – North of Highway 12 but not within any of the counties in the Metropolitan District, including North Dakota, the area in South Dakota north of Highway 12, and the area in Wisconsin north of Highway 12.
- Southern – South of Highway 12 but not within any of the counties in the Metropolitan District, the area in South Dakota south of Highway 12, and the area in Wisconsin south of Highway 12.

Who Can Run? How do I Run? What do I do?

Any Minnesota Section PGA Member in good standing may run for the board, and we welcome all candidates. However, we do want to point out that serving on the board is very different than many of the other opportunities to contribute to the Minnesota PGA. The board works at a strategic level, not a tactical one, and is often thinking one to three years out at a time. We want new board members to find ways to contribute and have a voice as quickly as possible, so we recommend that you have (or that you find) experience with any of the following types of areas:

- Other board experience
- Reading financial documents
- MN PGA committee experience
- Strategic planning
- Policy development

However, NONE of these are REQUIRED to run for or to serve on the board.

How do Nominations Work?

You may only be nominated by another PGA Member within the Minnesota Section and you must accept the nomination in order to be considered a candidate. Self-nominations are not permitted. After nominations, candidates will need to complete a short form that asks for information such as short bio, interest in running, what makes you a good candidate, as well as a photo and contact information. This information will be made available to all members in advance of the fall business meeting.

Please send your nomination to Jon Tollette, (jtollette@pgahq.com).

Nominations may be made on the day of the election if no individual is nominated prior to the thirty (30) day deadline. All nominations must be seconded on the floor during the fall business meeting.

How do Elections Work?

Each candidate should be prepared to provide a short presentation to be displayed on the Annual Meeting page of the Section website and included in all Annual Meeting correspondence with the membership prior to the Meeting. Each candidate will be asked to provide a brief presentation during the Annual Meeting about why they are running for a board position. We use the simple majority method. This method of voting ensures that whoever wins is supported by a majority of voters.

District Voting

Candidates running for a specific district (Metropolitan, Northern, Southern) will only have members from their district voting. Example, only members that reside and work in the Metropolitan District will be able to vote for a Metropolitan candidate.

At-Large Voting

At-Large voting will include all members within the Section. If there are two At-Large seats to fill, the top two candidates receiving votes will be elected.

District and At-Large voting will occur on the day of the Fall Meeting. All votes will be counted and new board members will be announced and sworn in the same day.

Dakota Chapter Voting

The one Dakota Chapter Director seat will be filled by a vote at the Dakota Chapter fall business meeting. Any member within the Section that is also a member of the Dakota Chapter may be nominated and run for the Dakota Chapter Director seat.

Proxy Voting

Proxy voting will be allowed for the positions available in 2026 (Secretary, Southern Director, and one At-Large Director). Beginning October 1, 2026, Section Members who are unable to attend the Annual Meeting October 26th can request a proxy ballot from the election director (jtollette@pgahq.com) and submit the ballot by October 24th to be counted.

When are the next elections?

Here is the schedule for the next election:

- Nominations (by September 26, 2026)
- Meet the Candidates – Meeting Page on Website (Late September 2026)
- Proxy Voting (October 1 – October 24, 2026)
- Annual Meeting Voting (October 26, 2026)

Board Commitment Letter

Each Board Member is required to agree to and sign a letter of commitment. This letter includes:

- Establishing a high priority of attending meetings
- Being prepared at all meetings by reading all materials beforehand
- Confidentiality clause
- Act always for the good of the membership and association
- Observe parliamentary procedures and always display courteous conduct
- Refrain from intruding on administrative, operating, and personnel issues
- Agree to serve on at least one committee
- Agree to participate in programs/seminars to enhance skills as a board member

Conflict of Interest

Each Board Member is required to agree to and sign a conflict of interest policy requiring him/her to disclose any potential conflicts with their personal/family business and Association business.

What if I need more information?

Have more questions? Please contact the Minnesota PGA Office.

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About the PGA of America

The PGA of America is the world's largest sports organization, comprised of 28,000 men and women golf Professionals who are the recognized experts in teaching and growing the game. Founded in 1916, the PGA of America has enhanced its leadership position by conducting premier spectator events – PGA Championship, Ryder Cup, KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship and KPMG Women's PGA Championship – as well as significant philanthropic outreach initiatives, and award-winning golf promotions.

About the Minnesota PGA

The mission of the Minnesota PGA is to promote the enjoyment and involvement in the game of golf and to contribute to its growth by providing services to golf professionals and the golf industry.

The Minnesota PGA will accomplish this mission by enhancing the skills of its Professionals and the opportunities for amateurs, employers, manufacturers, employees and the general public.

In so doing, the Minnesota PGA will elevate the standards of the golf Professional's vocation, enhance the economic well-being of the individual member, stimulate interest in the game of golf, and promote the overall vitality of the game.