

By: Representative Deweese

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 45

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE OLE
2 MISS REBELS WOMEN'S GOLF TEAM AND COACH KORY HENKES FOR WINNING
3 THE 2021 NCAA DIVISION I NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP.

4 WHEREAS, it was a fairytale ending for Ole Miss Women's Golf
5 at Grayhawk Golf Club in Scottsdale, Arizona, defeating Oklahoma
6 State University 4-1 on May 26, 2021, to capture the 2021 NCAA
7 Division I National Championship; and

8 WHEREAS, with the title, the University of Mississippi
9 claimed its first team National Championship since the school's
10 1962 football title, and these Rebels also became the first
11 University of Mississippi women's team to claim an NCAA National
12 Championship; and

13 WHEREAS, in the final match of the season, with a national
14 championship on the line, Sophomore Chiara Tamburlini was eager to
15 win her team a point for the first time and did just that out of
16 the third position when the Switzerland native came out strong,
17 birdieing three of her first seven holes, but more importantly,
18 building a commanding six-hole lead through nine; though she



19 conceded her first hole of the day on number 10 when she took a
20 par 4 on number 12 to put the pressure on Oklahoma State
21 University; and not wasting any time, Tamburlini won 6 and 5 to
22 put the first point on the board; and

23 WHEREAS, Kennedy Swann teed off in her customary leadoff
24 spot, extending her career match play record to 10-2 after being
25 tied through the first six holes in match play before the senior
26 began to separate herself by sinking an eagle on number 7 to go 1
27 up; and after the eagle, Swann continued with a birdie and a par
28 to go 3-up heading into the back nine and Oklahoma State managed
29 to cut the deficit to one, but the Austin, Texas, native
30 responded, going stroke-for-stroke before sinking the final birdie
31 on number 17 to snag the second point and inch Ole Miss that much
32 closer to the title; and

33 WHEREAS, "It took a lot of players to buy in," said Head
34 Coach Kory Henkes, "Our team is very disciplined, and I think
35 that's what I pride us on the most. When we come out to practice,
36 we have a purpose every single day, and we hold each other
37 accountable which is the really cool part about it. We don't
38 necessarily have to push them as much as they are going to push
39 each other. I think that's the important part of team chemistry,
40 having everyone buy into the same thing."; and

41 WHEREAS, during the postseason, the Ole Miss Women's Golf
42 Team received many awards following its first national title in
43 program history, including Head Coach Kory Henkes being named the



44 2020-2021 Division I Jackie Steinmann Women's Golf Coaches
45 Association "National Coach of the Year," presented by Golf Pride,
46 becoming the first Rebel Head Coach to earn the award from the
47 Women's Golf Coaches Association (WGCA); and

48 WHEREAS, Ole Miss finished in fourth place or better in nine
49 of the team's 10 tournaments during the 2020-2021 season,
50 including first place finishes at the East Lake Cup and Gators
51 Invitational; the top five Ole Miss single-round averages
52 throughout a season have all come during Coach Henkes' tenure,
53 including the 2020-2021 mark of 289.4, which ranks second in
54 program history; the nine top 5 team finishes during the 2020-2021
55 season are also a new school record; and Julia Johnson and Kennedy
56 Swann earned WGCA All-American honors, with Johnson becoming the
57 program's first-ever First Team All-American; and

58 WHEREAS, under Coach Henkes' guidance, Julia Johnson finished
59 the season ranked eighth individually in the NCAA by both Golfstat
60 and Golfweek and led the team in stroke average (71.34), tallying
61 five Top 5, eight Top 10 and nine Top 20 finishes during this
62 season, including a fifth place individual finish at the NCAA
63 Championship; and

64 WHEREAS, the Ole Miss Women's Golf Team earned its first-ever
65 WGCA All-Scholar Team GPA Award ranking 10th in the nation among
66 more than 300 NCAA Division I schools with a cumulative team grade
67 point average of 3.88 for the 2020-2021 academic year, and four



68 Rebels were honored with the WGCA All-American Scholars: Ellen
69 Hume, Andrea Lignell, Kennedy Swann and Chiara Tamburlini; and

70 WHEREAS, the members of the 2021 National Championship Ole
71 Miss Women's Golf Team were: Kennedy Swann, Chiara Tamburlini,
72 Julia Johnson, McKinley Cunningham, Natacha Host Husted, Ellen
73 Hume, Ellen Hutchinson-Kay, Andrea Lignell, Smilla Sonderby and
74 Macy Somoskey; and Head Coach Kory Henkes and Associate Head Coach
75 Zack Byrd; and

76 WHEREAS, we join the students, faculty and sponsors in
77 recognizing this special group of university athletes who reached
78 the pinnacle of collegiate women's golf and have brought honor to
79 their university, their community and to the State of Mississippi:

80 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
81 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
82 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend and congratulate the Ole Miss
83 Rebels Women's Golf Team and Head Coach Kory Henkes for winning
84 the 2021 NCAA Division I National Championship, and extend to the
85 athletes and coaches our best wishes for continued success.

86 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
87 furnished to Head Coach Kory Henkes and Ole Miss Chancellor Glenn
88 Boyce for the team, forwarded to the Board of Trustees of State
89 Institutions of Higher Learning, and furnished to the members of
90 the Capitol Press Corps.

