



HGRD Golf Committee Meeting Minutes

April 15, 2024 ~ 1:00 PM Card Room C

COMMITTEE MEMBERS	PRESENT	SUPERVISORS/OTHERS	PRESENT
Chair Bruce Johnson	X	Peter Overs, Liaison	X
Jon Edinger	X	J.B. Belknap, General Manager	X
Bob Herbstritt	X	Bruce Harris, Head Golf Pro	X
Dan Lyons	X	Tim Kortanek, Golf Maintenance	X
Ron White			
Karen Sullivan	X		
Lori Vivian	X		

I. **CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL** – Chair Bruce Johnson

II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**- Minutes were presented from the March 4, 2024 meeting. The minutes passed unanimously.

III. **GOLF COURSE MAINTENANCE REPORT** – Tim Kortanek- Golf Course Superintendent

- #17 bulkhead was discussed. Permitting work is still ongoing. The surveyor is scheduled to be out in the next several weeks.
- The weather has been extremely conducive for growing grass. Growth regulators are being applied. Rough is being cut at 1 ¼” compared to 2” over the winter. Tim reminded the committee that they do not change the height of cut on the fairways. The crew will be scalping the collars around the greens to promote increased growth and avoid what he calls “sand dams” around the perimeter of the greens.
- The first week of May fire ant control will be applied which is not toxic but small grooves will be present on the course. On Monday, May 6th the crew will use small aerification times with minimal top dressing to punch the greens and let them breathe. They will also apply the pre and post emergent along with spot spraying for weeds. Chair Bruce Johnson suggested Tim write a communication to the community regarding that information.
- On the first Monday in May, the plan is to fix #8 drainage as well as add drains to holes #9 and #1. GCM has fixed five or six of the worst draining areas and improved some of the low drainage inlets around the golf course. Dan Lyons commented that the new tree on hole #15 has rebar sticking out which could be a safety hazard. The committee asked Tim to put the 150-yard markers on the cart paths even though there's a marker in the fairway.

IV. **GOLF SHOP REPORT** – Bruce Harris Golf Professional

- Bruce will have his final Zoom CAP patrol meeting next week. Members will have 24 hours to post a score with a “Remind to Post” feature that will be emailed. The handicap committee is currently working through issues regarding posting a “postable” score, so the system doesn’t send reminder emails when members play in a scramble, for example. Bruce will have to tell the system which scores to post and which ones are not postable. Jon Edinger commented that in his experience communication is the key to the CAP Patrol’s success.
- Bob Herbstritt told the committee that 275 survey responses have been received so far and will report back on the information gleaned from the survey. He also reported that rounds from January through March of 2024 were down compared to 2023. However, nonmember green fee revenue is up.
- Lori Vivian reported the number of ball marks and divots that were repaired. She also expressed the need to solicit more members for next seasons Adopt-A-Hole program.
- GM JB Belknap gave a report regarding the status of the restrooms at the driving range. The LDO modification is in process but the restrooms are still planned to be constructed.

V. **NEW BUSINESS**- Bruce Johnson

- Bruce discussed the hazard on hole #18 by the green. He plans on showing the committee to make a recommendation. A new six tee on #9 was discussed. The conversation centered around either building an additional new tee or eliminating the current one. The problem stems from the distance between the number five and six tees which equates to a 90 yard differential. The committee will survey the 9 hole ladies for their input. Bruce will review with the committee.
- Golf cart standards were discussed related to traction tires. The committee intends to establish criteria for non-turf tires and whether tires should be allowed on the golf course, as many tires may cause turf damage, particularly when the course is wet. Discussion ensued about establishing criteria and what other clubs or the USGA is recommending. Bruce Harris found out the tire protocols for The Villages and will draft a proposal for the committee’s review. The committee suggested Tim communicate why we are on cart path only on some of the par 4’s and par 5’s throughout the season and why it’s beneficial to the golf course.

- The committee made a recommendation to make the golf cart parking spaces larger the next time we repaint to accommodate longer 4-seater passenger golf carts. Range balls have been going into the pool. Bruce will investigate signs to put on the driving range to encourage people to aim away from the area.
- Resident John Clark addressed the committee regarding the golf course blowers blowing dirt into his lanai cage. He understood that the blower has a useful purpose but it's getting excessive. He also addressed the need to fill up the shotguns with non-league play when the Tuesday and Wednesday morning leagues are not full in season. This would allow more players to play beyond league play.
- Reciprocals will be available after April 20th and will be published on the website.

Below are suggestions related to the golf course that Bruce Johnson passed out at the meeting:

Golf Committee Suggested Action Items:

- A. Jobs that Golf Course staff can do with HGRD workforce using annual budget funding.
- Adjust field drain inlets and valve boxes to proper grades throughout the course.
 - Continue to review pine straw areas for conversion to waste areas or grass.
 - Repair cart paths, add curbing where needed and enlarge pull off areas by tee boxes – use the list provided to Tim Kortanek by golf committee, in November 2023.
 - Complete a design for a flower garden on the back side of #14 tee box.
 - Construct a stand for the ‘sand box’ by practice range. Consider moving it to the practice range side of the row of bushes.
 - Construct and install additional floating targets for the driving range.
 - Evaluate the hazard area left of #18 green (with the head Pro) and determine if the area should be ‘modified’ to give players a better chance of recovery from the hazard (Speed of play issue).
 - Fill holes/washout areas next to the rocks surrounding the #4 green (Safety issue).
 - Monitor tee surfaces areas for ‘level’ and correct as needed, some areas have settled and others have started sloping on the sides.
 - Bathrooms need some upkeep and probable painting (not golf course staff, but needs coordinating with Club Maintenance, Nate).
- B. Jobs the Golf Course staff can do but will need additional funding.
- Create a new tee box on hole #9. Consult with Ricky Nix for proper location.
 - Complete Landscaping left of cart path area by new Pickle ball courts.
 - Fix drainage problem behind #8 tee boxes/ prior to start of rainy season.
- C. Jobs that will require additional resources and funding (Probable Contract work).
- Continue monitoring drainage problem areas and contract work out, as needed.
 - Lakeshore Management projects (Do we need additional funding?)
- D. Future wish list.
- New #4 tee on Hole #5.
 - Widening of cart paths
 - Snack Shack
- VI. **NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting is scheduled for May 6th at 9 AM.
- VII. **ADJOURNMENT** Adjourn 10:33 AM