



HGRD Golf Committee Meeting Minutes

January 8, 2024 ~ 9:00 AM 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	X	1 st Alt – Evan Slater	
Karen Sullivan	X	2 nd Alt – Lew Prince	X
Lori Vivian	X		
Ron White	X		

- I. **CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL** – Chair Bruce Johnson
- II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**- Minutes were presented from the December 4, 2023 meeting. The minutes passed unanimously.
- III. **GOLF COURSE MAINTENANCE REPORT** – Tim Kortanek- Golf Course Superintendent
 - Sewer View will be on-site February 1st to scope the drainage tile behind #8 tee. Once that is finished, an improvement plan can be developed moving forward.
 - The waste area screening at #9 is being finished along with side work and stump grinding. Several pine trees continue to die after Irma necessitating additional stump grinding. The club will investigate purchasing a stump grinder. Pine straw is being placed on #17 where the cypress pines are located.
 - Curbing: The staff is edging cart paths. Many areas are becoming worn due to constant tire wear. Tim is recommending curbing around these areas rather than sod. He has digital mapping of the cart paths for curb work which costs around \$10 per linear foot. Additional curbing will more than likely take place in the summer. He will compile a list of cart path improvements, develop a plan, and assign budget numbers to the plan.
 - Tim’s major concern is the replacement of equipment and getting the equipment in a timely manner. Because of shipping delays, many of our pieces have yet to arrive. It’s taken 18 months to get a Toro rough unit. The 2009-2011 Kabotas need to be replaced and new triplexes and sprayers are also needed.
 - Based on the El Nino weather pattern and cloudy conditions, the use of fungicides has increased. Tim will incorporate using pencil tines on the greens to increase air into the canopy.
 - Tim will reevaluate the cart path only policy although the fairways seem to be in very good shape because of it.
 - CE Engineering is scheduled to file a report on the lake bank erosion issue. JB is following up with their engineer.
 - Distance markers on the cart paths were discussed. Tim and Bruce will address.
 - Tim reported that Matthew and Britt, the mechanic, will be working on the par 3 sand box stands.
 - It was pointed out that the front part of #12 green is constantly wet. Tim will check for irrigation overlap and make any necessary adjustments. He may also incorporate spider drains on holes #10 and #1.
 - The committee asked about dollar weed on #9 left and #1. Tim says it is due to the abundance of rainfall we’ve recieved and is typical of over-watering. He has reduced irrigation by around 80% because of the excessive rain. He will look into spray apps to address. The committee was also concerned about the waste areas being too fluffy and soft. Tim and Matthew will address as well.
 - Regarding #17 bulkhead, the engineering firm has begun work on the permitting and a survey crew was on-site December 26th. A construction development plan is being established with Artistic Structures, but no timeline has been set. Tim thinks March is a reasonable start date.
- IV. **GOLF SHOP REPORT** – Bruce Harris Golf Professional
 - Bruce is attempting to use the Chelsea system to give an accurate round played report. He wants to ensure rounds are not counted if the course is closed. Bruce estimates that yearly rounds will total approximately 55,000 this year.
 - Public rates were discussed. Bruce said the public rate is increasing comparatively to several like-kind competitors.
 - Driving range use prior to shotguns was discussed. Mr. Prince stated that range should only be used for warm-up purposes only. Bruce will address in his newsletter.
 - Lori Vivian gave a report regarding the Adopt A Hole program.
 - The committee asked that the drop zones be rotated more frequently particularly on #4. Members asked if a sand bottle or sandbox would be useful at the #4 drop zone.
- V. **NEXT MEETING**: The next meeting is scheduled for February 12th at 1 PM.
- VI. **ADJOURNMENT** Adjourn 10:15 AM

HGRD Golf Committee Meeting Minutes - February 12 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	X	1 st Alt – Evan Slater	
Karen Sullivan	X	2 nd Alt – Lenny Prince	
Lori Vivian	X		

- I. **CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL** – Chair Bruce Johnson
- II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**- Minutes were presented from January 8, 2024 meeting and passed unanimously.
- III. **MEMORIAL TREES:** After the two pending memorial trees have been planted, Superintendent Tim Kortanek requested the committee discontinue the Memorial tree program for a variety of reasons. He cited examples of how residents are making special requests related to the upkeep, care, and replacement of the donated trees. District policy states, once a resident donates the tree, it has full control over the tree. However, regardless of the policy, these trees are very personal to the donors. Some become emotional when, in their opinion, the tree is not being properly cared for. Dan Lyons made a motion to discontinue the program. There was no second to the motion. Since the golf course will always be in need of tree replacement, some on the committee felt the District would benefit if residents purchased the trees. The motion was tabled so the current policy can be reviewed.
- IV. **GOLF COURSE MAINTENANCE REPORT** – Tim Kortanek- Golf Course Superintendent
 - The effects of the El Nino winter have been mitigated. The golf course is in excellent condition due to the wetter conditions and strategic fertilizer applications. Fairways are only cut once every two weeks and the height of cut has not changed. The increase in play, with the additional cart traffic, makes it seem like the fairways are shorter hence the ball isn't "sitting up" as much.
 - Tim reiterated the course will be closed for two weeks in July instead of having three 1-week closures in the summer. He feels they can perform all their aerifications in this period which will cut down on days closed for the membership.
 - Mitigating the encroachment of the Bimini grass onto the TifEagle greens will be a priority this summer.
 - The bulkhead on #17 is progressing slower than expected. Survey work is being done now for construction. The goal is to have Artistic Structures begin work in March. Cart path work will also be addressed at the same time the timber wall is installed.
 - Sewer Viewer confirmed the drainage pipe behind #8 tee had collapsed. The District will work with the HOA in installing more drainage to convey water to the canal. Committee members mentioned the drainage at #9 (50 yds. from the green) and to the right side of #1 needed to be addressed. Tim will review those areas. Sunken drainage heads will also be investigated to determine if they can be raised to prevent golfers from stepping in them. One area near #5 green side bunker was identified.
 - Committee members were very complimentary of the course conditions following the member guest tournament. Many said the waste areas are becoming firmer, which will speed up play.
- V. **GOLF SHOP REPORT** – Bruce Harris Golf Professional
 - Bruce is contacting the various GPS companies to update their measurements. He also had D.B Sound replace an antenna and re-angle the projection speaker at the starter shack so players can hear the announcements more clearly.
 - CAP Patrol will go live and send emails to members who do not post scores in a timely manner. Bruce is working with the handicap committee to recognize patterns for failing to post a score.
 - Golf rounds were discussed. Bob Herbstritt stated there were 59,293 rounds played in 2023. January '24 rounds decreased YoY due to the rainy conditions.
 - Lori Vivian reported on the Adopt-A-Hole program related to the number of divots and ball marks that were repaired. Many of the volunteers found it difficult to repair the course due to the high volume of play. Some committee members commented on the sand bunkers not being raked, particularly following a morning shotgun.
 - Peter Overs and Bob Herbstritt asked the committee for their input on presenting the golf membership with a survey to gather feedback. Bob provided the committee with sample questions. Discussion followed related to the merits and inputs the survey would provide. Bob asked for committee feedback and will bring forward additional information at the March meeting.
- VI. **NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT:** Adjournment took place at 2:11 PM The next meeting is scheduled for March 4th at 1 PM.



HGRD Golf Committee Meeting Minutes

March 4, 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	X	1 st Alt – Evan Slater	X
Karen Sullivan	X	2 nd Alt – Lew Prince	X
Lori Vivian	X		

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

II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**- Minutes were presented from the February 12, 2024 meeting. The minutes passed unanimously.

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

- Tim commented on the ideal growing conditions: 80 degrees during the day and 60 degrees at night. He also reminded the committee that the course will be closed for aerification and maintenance July 8th-19th.
- Permits for the bulkhead on #17 are still pending. Artistic Structures will likely begin work in May. Cart path work will also be addressed at the same time the timber wall is installed.
- The course renovation surveyor will be contacted to re-survey some of the property lines surrounding the course.
- Red penalty areas are being painted every 2 weeks. Out of Bounds stakes are being replaced wherever necessary. Bunkers are being edged every 3 weeks.
- Tim will be checking bunker sand depth for consistency. He said 4” is the minimum bottom depth.
- Along with sand depth, Tim will make sure the cup liners are at the correct height and the par 3 tee locations are varied so players aren’t hitting the same club on every par 3. The 200 yd. markers are being placed on the cart paths today. Additional floating island targets will be built by Tim’s team.
- Jon Edinger asked Tim about the landscape plan behind #14 tee on Skylar Dr. Tim has the layout and will inform the committee at its next meeting.
- The Committee members continue to be very complimentary on the course conditions.

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

- Bruce has contacted Bushnell and the other various GPS companies to update their measurements.
- CAP Patrol is going “live” soon. Emails will be sent to members as to score posting processes.
- Bruce will review the local rules for possible additions to the scorecard, including relief from rip-rap rocks and drop areas. He will also remind golfers to use the proper waste receptacles when disposing of cigarette butts.
- Bruce addressed improving visibility of the rangers particularly on Fridays and will also review the range use policy.
- Memorial trees and benches were discussed. Bruce Harris will be the point of contact for both the memorial trees and benches. He will then contact either Tim or Nate to coordinate. New memorial protocols will be disseminated to the residents by the District.
- Lori Vivian reported on the Adopt-A-Hole program related to the number of divots and ball marks that were repaired. The condition of the drop zones and the potential need for sand buckets in these areas were discussed. The committee felt moving the drop zones more than once a week was important. Tim will address.
- Peter Overs and Bob Herbstritt asked the committee for their input on presenting the golf membership with a survey to gather feedback. Bob provided the committee with sample questions. Discussion followed related to the merits and inputs the survey would provide. The committee recommended the survey be sent out to the residents.
- The committee members were reminded to re-apply for the committee if they wanted to continue next year.

V. **NEXT MEETING**: The next meeting is scheduled for April 15th at 9 AM.

VI. **ADJOURNMENT** Adjourn 2:05 PM



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



HGRD Golf Committee Meeting Minutes

May 6, 2024 ~ 1:00 PM Card Room C

COMMITTEE MEMBERS	PRESENT	SUPERVISORS/OTHERS	PRESENT
Bruce Johnson	X	Peter Overs, Liaison	X
Jon Edinger	X	J.B. Belknap, General Manager	X
Bob Herbstritt	X	Bruce Harris, Head Golf Pro	
Robert Regnier	X	Tim Kortanek, Golf Maintenance	X
Randy Swanson	X	Thomas Kiniry, Alternate	X
Karen Sullivan	X	Richard Weinberger	X
Lori Vivian	X		

- I. **CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL** – Board Liaison, Peter Overs called the meeting to order and welcomed the new members. Nominations for both chair and vice-chair were made. Bruce Johnson was selected Chair and Bob Herbstritt was selected Vice-Chair.
- II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**- Minutes were presented from the April 15, 2024 meeting. The minutes passed unanimously.
- III. **REVIEW CHARTER:** The charter states the Golf Committee is an advisory Standing Committee that provides management with input at meetings and makes recommendations to the Board. Committee members were reminded that they do not direct staff.
- IV. **GOLF COURSE MAINTENANCE REPORT** – Tim Kortanek- Golf Course Superintendent
 - A wall-to-wall fire ant slit injection is scheduled for 100 acres. Today, the team is aerifying the greens using small solid needle tines. Once completed, they will roll the greens so the holes will be mainly undetectable and won't affect tomorrow's play. Tree trimming will remain on-going throughout the summer and annual flowers will be installed this week.
 - July 8th-19th the course is scheduled to close for large core aerification on the greens along with other vital cultural maintenance practices.
 - The committee encouraged Tim to reconsider putting the par 3 yardage boards out again this summer. Tim communicated the time challenges during the summer regarding putting the boards out. He stated that it takes at least an hour and a half to set up the boards on the par threes. Tim explained both he and Matthew need to be on spray rigs in the morning so they get ahead of their spray applications due to the excessive heat and summer rains. He and Bruce will confer to see if the pro shop would be able to provide that function.
- V. **OLD BUSINESS- #17 bulkhead update:** South Florida Water Management District has 60 days to review the engineering report which is now complete. Grady Minor engineering has been updating management related to permitting fees. The golf course renovation surveyor, Alan Neal has been delayed due to health issues. Tim will explore other surveying options.
 - **Golf Course Survey:** Bob Herbstritt provided graphics that summarized the recent resident golfer survey. He stated 300 people participated in the survey and over 1,400 comments were collected. Topics like green speed, the effectiveness of the Rangers, the current flag system, etc. were discussed. How the survey gets disseminated was also discussed. A **motion** was made to send the survey analysis to all the resident and non-resident golfing members. Peter Overs **amended the motion** to post the survey analysis and comments on the website. The **amended motion passed**.
 - **Adopt-A-Hole:** Lori Vivian presented a summary report and provided the committee with the number of divots and ball marks that were repaired. She stated it is challenging to recruit new volunteers but will gather names for Board adoption.
 - **Driving Range Restrooms:** JB Belknap gave an update on the driving range restroom project. He stated that the engineer is still in the process of supplying the County with new drawings in order to modify the original limited development order (LDO). Once the LDO is modified, the permitting process will begin.
 - **Rounds Report:** Bob Herbstritt provided a rounds report for the first quarter of the year. Rounds are down the first three months of the year compared to 2023.
 - **#18 Issue:** Bruce Johnson presents a schematic of the left side of #18 green to discuss cleaning the area and creating a new hazard line to help speed play. Balls have been rolling into the hazard area slowing play. The committee will visit the area following the meeting today. Options will be discussed and a formal proposal from the committee will be forthcoming.
 - **Hole #9 tees:** The yardage differential between the 5 & 6 tees was discussed. Moving the 6 tees back was met with resistance. The issue will be tabled until further notice.
- VI. **NEW BUSINESS: Tire Policy:** Bruce Johnson read the proposed tire policy draft to the committee. It is similar to the policy the Villages Community adopted. The committee decided that more investigation should be done related to acceptable turf tires, six passenger carts, etc. and the course damage they may cause in wet conditions. Jon Edinger expressed his concerns

about weight and wheelbase issues. The committee will collect more information and define what's acceptable and what's not. Research will be done by contacting golf cart manufacturers Yamaha, Club Car, etc. for additional guidance.

- **Meeting Dates:** Bruce Johnson would like to change the meeting days to Tuesdays at 1:00 in June and August. (No meeting in July) He will contact Wendy, the events coordinator, to find out if a room is available during that time.
- **Budget:** As in prior years, the committee will review the budget process related to membership fees and nonmember fees.
- **#4:** Players unable to carry the water from the tee on Hole #4 was discussed. Options will be further explored regarding developing a local rule allowing players to use the drop area to begin playing the hole with the appropriate penalty.

VII. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** John Clarke expressed his concerns about the GCM team blowing dirt and debris into his lanai cage. Tim and Matthew will address the comments.

VIII. **NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 4th at 1:00.

IX. **ADJOURNMENT** Adjourn 10:33 AM



HGRD Golf Committee Meeting Minutes

June 4, 2024 ~ 1:00 PM Card Room C

COMMITTEE MEMBERS	PRESENT	SUPERVISORS/OTHERS	PRESENT
Bruce Johnson	X	Peter Overs, Liaison	X
Jon Edinger	X	J.B. Belknap, General Manager	X
Bob Herbstritt	X	Bruce Harris, Head Golf Pro	
Robert Regnier	X	Tim Kortanek, Golf Maintenance	X
Randy Swanson	X	Thomas Kiniry, Alternate	X
Karen Sullivan	X	Richard Weinberger	X
Lori Vivian	X		

- I. **CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL** –Chair, Bruce Johnson called the meeting to order.
- II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**- Minutes were presented from the May 6, 2024 meeting and passed unanimously.
- III. **GOLF COURSE MAINTENANCE REPORT – Tim Kortanek- Golf Course Superintendent**
 - Fungicides have been applied throughout the year based on the El Nino winter. Soil samples from several greens were sent out to the University of Florida to test for nematode pressure. The analysis showed some traces of nematodes on greens #13 and #14 but the counts were down from previous years. Tim and his team continue to employ best practices to control nematodes.
 - **#17 Bulkhead:** Lee County and South Florida Water Management District are in the process of submitting the first round of comments to Grady Minor, the engineering firm we are using. To date, \$4,600 in fees have been paid to the County. Construction can't begin until the county issues the permit.
 - Other comments: *Tim has noticed compaction on the fairways due to heavy seasonal cart traffic; *Issues on the #11 green-side bunker will be addressed. *On July 8th-19th, the course is scheduled to close for large core aerification on the greens along with other vital cultural maintenance practices.
 - Chair Johnson will present the following list of recommendations to the Board of Supervisors at its next meeting for disposition: 1.) Remove three large clumps of grasses next to the cart path by the green to visually locate the hazard markers; 2.) relocate the drop area on #18 so the distance is approximately 165 to 170 yards from the green; 3.) purchase solid color flags for the pins; 4.) complete the design and construction of a landscape garden on the backside of hole #14 tee near Skylar Dr.; 5.) construct a sandbox stand similar to the one on hole #11; 6.) contract with a new surveyor to survey several sites where questions have arisen on the location of the out of bounds markers.
- IV. **PRO SHOP REPORT- Bruce Harris, Head Golf Professional**
 - Comments included: May rounds were up due to favorable weather and outstanding golf course; Staff will restart painting hazard lines in October; Staff instituted the cold towel program again this summer.
 - The new Golf tire policy was handed out to the committee. Discussion ensued regarding the policy on turf friendly tires that will be allowed on the course. Based on the committee's input, Bruce will modify the policy and Chair Johnson will present the new policy to the Board of Supervisors for adoption at its next meeting.
- V. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - Cart path repairs and curbing were discussed. Tim will review the repair budget so a priority list can be developed.
 - The surveyor used during the renovation is unable to continue working with us so a new surveyor will be identified to help determine boundaries.
 - GM JB Belknap updated the committee on the driving range restrooms saying that the limited development order is still under review by the County. Once the LDO is modified, construction will begin.
 - A proposed new tee box on #9 was tabled.
- VI. **NEW BUSINESS: Range Targets:** Bruce Harris received a new quote from Aqua Greens regarding the driving range aqua targets. Four targets cost approximately \$55,000 and three targets were around \$30,000. The committee decided to make the recommendation to the Board of Supervisors that 3 targets be purchased to enhance the driving range practice experience.
 - **Budget Proposals:** Bob Herbstritt presented membership recommendations to the committee regarding next year's membership rates. A motion was made to recommend to the Board of Supervisors that the FY '24-'25 golf membership fees increase 2.5% for residents, 6% for non-resident singles, and 10% for non-resident couples. The motion passed.
 - The committee would like to see improved communications on a biweekly basis to better inform the members of what's transpiring on the course.
 - The stroke allocation process is in limbo at this point. Bruce and Jimmy will do more research and discuss it at the next golf committee meeting.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 6th at 1:00 in Card room C.

ADJOURNMENT Adjourn 1:55pm



HGRD Golf Committee Meeting Minutes

August 8, 2024 ~ 1:00 PM Card Room C

COMMITTEE MEMBERS	PRESENT	SUPERVISORS/OTHERS	PRESENT
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
Robert Regnier	X	Tim Kortanek, Golf Maintenance	X
Randy Swanson	X	Thomas Kiniry, Alternate	
Karen Sullivan	X	Richard Weinberger	X
Lori Vivian	X		

- I. **CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL** –Chair, Bruce Johnson called the meeting to order.
- II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**- Minutes were presented from the June 4, 2024 meeting and passed unanimously.
- III. **GM REPORT- #17 Bulkhead:** J.B. stated the County is requiring us to complete and close out our original LDO to obtain approval on the LDO submittal for the bulkhead. He contacted our bond engineer of record, Jim Ink to find out if we transferred the work to him, could he fold the #17 bulkhead LDO into our existing LDO and not have to wait for the other projects to be completed before starting work. Jim indicated that he should be able to convince the County that the bulkhead work would be “phase 6” of the original LDO. Grady Minor Engineering agreed to transfer the project to Jim who is initiating the proper notice per statute for the transfer to obtain the pertinent files from Grady. **Surveyor:** J.B. said Phil Mould is currently working on the storage area but will consider golf course work once he’s finished. **Driving Range Restrooms:** Jim Ink is still in the process of getting the County to modify the LDO before proceeding. Denmark Construction has been hired to do the work and will proceed once the modification is approved.
- IV. **GOLF COURSE MAINTENANCE REPORT – Tim Kortanek- Golf Course Superintendent-** Tim stated that their focus is consistent with the District’s mission statement of creating great value for the golfing members and residents. Tim said Herons Glen plays the most rounds of any area club and explained the challenges of preparing both the front 9 and the back 9 since the two nines are so spread out. He employs one crew on the front and one crew on the back. He is planning on engaging the USGA this fall for an agronomy evaluation. Once the meeting has been set with the agronomist, Tim will inform the committee.
 - 2-week closure: Tim was extremely happy with their accomplishments during the two-week closure. The crew aerified the greens resulting in the removal of 20% of the greens surface area (USGA recommended.) Aerification allows oxygen, water, and sunlight into the root system. The greens are still in the recovery stage, so they are a little slower based on the rain and humidity. The greens mower height is typically set at .125 but because of the current weather conditions, they are now set at .150, making the greens slower than normal. The other focus during the closure was to verticut the greens and remove thatch (spongy mat). This process eliminates scalping and gets the grass to stand up, decreasing grain and increasing speed. Once we get out of the rainy season, they will begin grooming (tickling) so the top-dressing sand falls between the leaf blades resulting in faster and truer greens. In the season, the greens are normally rolled 3x week. In the rainy season, based on the rain and amount of turf growth, mowing rough and fairways take precedent.
 - Cart Path Repair: Tim is working on getting quotes for the cart path repair and curbing scope of work. He anticipates 1 week of work for the contractor. Once bids are received, he will notify the committee, and the Board can consider funding. Bruce Johnson asked about the committee touring Tim’s equipment facility and pump houses to get a better understanding of daily operations. Tim suggested waiting until it cooled off before giving a tour. Tim is waiting to put additional fertilizer on the golf course until the heavy rains subside. Some of the thin areas on the greens are being plugged due to nematode pressure. Status of the hazard left of #18 green and the landscape bed proposal for #14 tee have been resolved.
- V. **PRO SHOP REPORT- Bruce Harris, Head Golf Professional:** Bruce reported that the handicap committee is using CAP patrol to monitor score posting and data entry. The main objective of the committee is to reconcile tee time data with score posting. Bruce said the Pro shop enters tournament play scores. The committee will send emails out to remind members to post. The new range targets will be installed sometime in October. Twilight golf rates were discussed. Typically, resident nonmembers receive 20% off but after 4:00 PM during twilight, they only receive 10% off the public rate. Resident Tim Kearns addressed the committee and said the Twilight rate was too high for the residents and asked that it be reduced. Discussion ensued regarding pricing with some saying that if you make the price too attractive, membership might be affected. It was decided that management will reduce the twilight rate 20% off the rack rate to be consistent with the other day part pricing.

VI. OLD BUSINESS: Bruce Johnson is meeting with the women regarding stroke allocation. He stated that some holes will change based on data. Communications: Tim stated that the golf course Instagram account has 250 followers and counting. He will supplement his videos with various articles. Scorecard review: Bruce Harris is condensing the local rules and will adjust them based on feedback.

NEXT MEETING: The next scheduled meeting is set for Tuesday September the 10th at 1:00 in Card room C.

ADJOURNMENT Adjourn 2:16 pm



HGRD Golf Committee Meeting Minutes
November 4, 2024 ~ 9:00 AM Card Room C

COMMITTEE MEMBERS	PRESENT	SUPERVISORS/OTHERS	PRESENT
Bruce Johnson	X	Peter Overs, Liaison	X
Jon Edinger	X	J.B. Belknap, General Manager	X
Bob Herbstritt		Bruce Harris, Head Golf Pro	X
Robert Regnier	X	Tim Kortanek, Golf Maintenance	X
Randy Swanson	X	Thomas Kiniry, Alternate	
Karen Sullivan	X	Richard Weinberger	X
Lori Vivian	X		

- 1) **CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL** –Chair, Bruce Johnson called the meeting to order.
- 2) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**- Minutes were presented from the August 8, 2024 meeting and passed unanimously.
- 3) **GOLF COURSE MAINTENANCE REPORT – Tim Kortanek- Golf Course Superintendent-** Tim stated they’ve been addressing weak turf areas around the perimeter of some of the greens. They're spraying twice a week for nematodes, which is typical of most clubs since this has been the wettest summer on record in Southwest Florida. Most clubs Tim has been in contact with reported some weakness in their turf due to the excessive rain. The octagon plugs that have been transplanted are between 3 and 4 weeks away from looking good. One of the weaker areas is on front of #5 green which will be marked ground under repair. This area has less root structure and will be marked off to prevent players from stepping on it. The maintenance team is currently working on waste areas, filling sand traps, and attending to the greens. Moreover:
 - i) Additional drainage on the left side on hole #9 will be added along with re-grading the area for improved drainage. Tim said they will sod most of the area once it's finished. In addition, the plan is to re-grade the right of #17 and #1 for better surface drainage.
 - ii) More trees are dying from the hurricane to the right of #1 including two oaks that have already been lost. Also, to the right of #16, 12 pine trees will be removed. Tim stated that we've lost 600 trees since hurricane Ian. Peter Overs stressed the importance of the tree replacement plan.
 - iii) This week, the annual flowers will be installed with new pine straw scheduled for Thanksgiving week. Prior to the pine straw going down, the staff will attempt to clean out some of the limbs and spray for weeds.
 - iv) The USGA agronomist is tentatively scheduled for a site meeting in January to review the course.
 - v) Currently, the rough height at 1 ¼” and the fairways are being cut at .600. The committee commented on how nice the ball was standing up in the grass, but Tim warned the ball stand will decrease with the increase in tire traffic during the slow growing months. The committee discussed the importance of the 90° rule to help mitigate turf damage. Tim is soliciting bids for concrete cart path and curb work on the course.
- 4) **PRO SHOP REPORT- Bruce Harris, Head Golf Professional:** Bruce started his report by saying the older range balls are being cycled out and will be replaced with all new balls. Several training devices will also be incorporated into the driving range this season along having the usual demo days featuring Cleveland/Srixon and Callaway.
 - i.) The member/guest sign-up started on Sunday. Guests will need a GHIN handicap to compete this year.
 - ii.) Bruce discussed the outside services staff. They will be marking the golf course and penalty areas along with straightening the OB stakes. Bruce is in the process of training the Rangers for improved pace of play this season.
 - iii.) Membership was discussed. Thus far, there are 562 members to a budget of 590. Bruce stated that he has additional nonresident members who are interested in joining. The committee reiterated that 54,000 rounds is the desired number of rounds for the upcoming year.
 - iv.) Bruce Johnson will review the status of the Comcast green boxes.
 - v.) Lori Vivian talked about the Adopt A Hole program explaining that we lost quite a few volunteers, especially on holes #6 & #13 which currently do not have coverage. She stated that they would prefer to have volunteers live on their adopted hole and will try to solicit more volunteers.
 - vi.) Other discussion topics included: Golf will be included with the annual survey; Waste bunkers were too fluffy & the rationale of placing the rakes inside the bunkers; A facility tour for the committee will be set up with Tim, Britt and Matthew sometime in December or January.
- 5) **GM REPORT-** J.B. Belknap stated the bond engineer of record Jim Ink is currently working with the County to start the #17 bulkhead after they allowed the work to be included in the existing LDO. Unfortunately, the County has not yet given the approval to begin the project. **Surveyor:** J.B. has reached out to Phil Mould to survey several areas around the golf course. **Driving Range Restrooms:** Jim Ink is still in the process of getting the County to modify the LDO before proceeding. Denmark Construction has been hired to do the work and will proceed once the modification is approved

Adjourn 10:15 AM



12/16/2024 Golf Committee Meeting Minutes

Committee Member	Present	Supervisors/Others	Present
Bruce Johnson	x	Peter Overs, Liaison	x
Jon Edinger	x	J.B. Belknap, GM	
Bob Herbstritt	x	Bruce Harris, Head Golf Pro	
Bob Regnier	x	Tim Kortanek, Golf Course Superintendent	x
Randy Swanson	x	Thomas Kiniry, Alternate	
Karen Sullivan	x	Richard Weinberger	x
Lori Vivian	x	Jeff Buxton	

1. Call to Order Roll Call by Bruce Johnson at 9:00 AM
2. Approval of Minutes from 11/4/24 meeting passed unanimously
3. Golf Course Maintenance Report – Tim K. Tim stated that mowing had declined to 1x per week. The course is stressed from cart traffic. Plugs on greens are progressing. Spraying insecticide is being done at max legal limit. New curbing was scheduled to be completed on the Front 9 today and completed by the end of next week. The new sod to the left of the 9th fairway is complete and is no longer marked off as GUR. A new trench for a drain was being started to the right of the tees on #17. Drainage on #16 is complete. Erosion control on #2 and #15 is complete. The old unused fairway trap behind a shrub on the range/lake is now being sodded for a teaching area by the golf pros. FGUA is 2 weeks behind on effluent water due to a broken pipe.
4. Bruce provided the following information but was not present:
 - a. Bruce Harris, Mike, Keith, and Levi continue to mark the course and penalty areas. They have replaced over 50 OB stakes with black caps recently. They are checking/marking for OB on holes 13, 5, and 17.
 - b. Golf ball replacement on the range is complete, 13,000 new balls were added to the inventory
 - c. November guest and public greens revenue is up 19% over budget
 - d. Club fitting schedule starts 12/17 with Callaway’s Master Fitter Michael Dach. He will develop a monthly schedule for 2025.
 - e. Cap Patrol – up to 350 members posting 65% of their scores. That is up from 300 members posting 60% of their scores in Oct. 450 members are posting over 50% of their scores. It is going to be close to our goal by Jan 2025 of 400 members posting upwards of 70%.
 - f. The cold towel program ended in October and was well received by members and guests, program will resume May 1.
5. Bruce Johnson’s new email is swedebj46@gmail.com.
6. Jon Edinger reported on the hold-ups on #17 as he has been asked to review the SFWMD and LOA documents. He reported there may be an issue with the engineering company’s certification and grounds for terminating the contract. Jon will continue to review and provide updates to the board and committee as necessary.
7. Bob Herbstritt reported that the rounds are down for every month so far in 2024.
8. Jeff Buxton, who manages the HGRD survey, was present to discuss the inclusion of golf course survey questions. He suggested a few general questions can be included and will meet with Bob Herbstritt; however, he recommends the committee do their own every 2 years.
9. Lori Vivian reported that all holes have captains for the Adopt a Hole program and will be providing a full report next month.
10. The next meeting is 1/13. The meeting was adjourned at 9:53 AM.