



Bella Vista POA  
 Joint Advisory Golf Committee  
 Minutes – September 9, 2015

Members Present: Bill Barr, Jake Grasmick, Gale Harder, Harris McKee, Terry Predl, Tom Stephens, Kirk Van De Walle, Members Absent: None

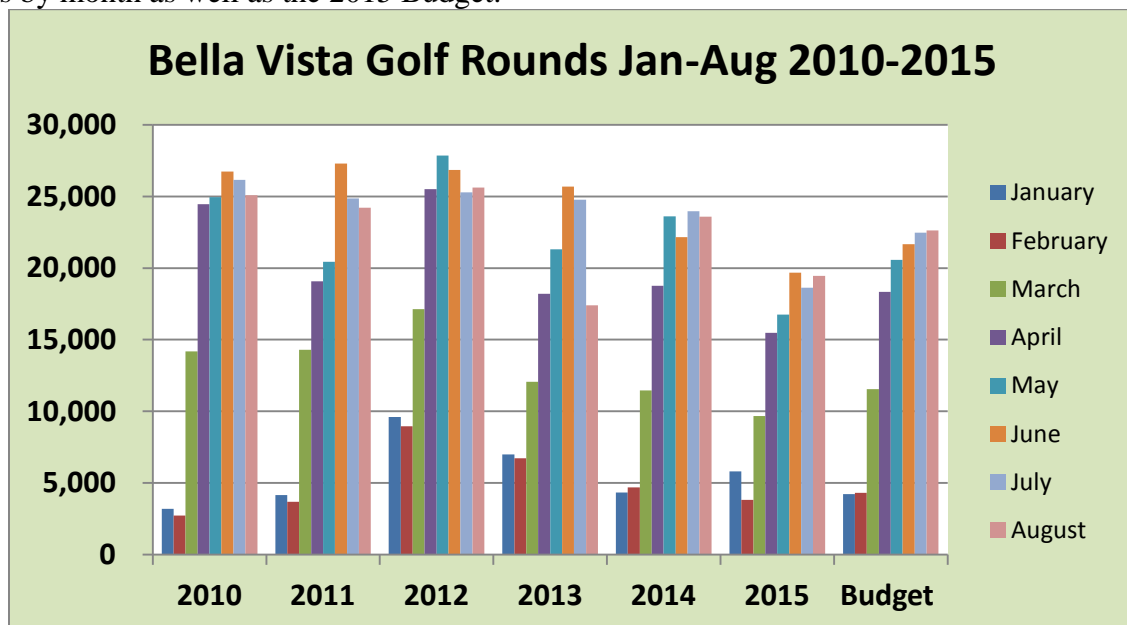
Others Present: POA Maintenance Manager: Keith Ihms; POA liaison: Ruth Hatcher. Ron Stratton; The Vista Reporter, Lynn Atkins; Visitors: Ann McClintock, Mike \_\_\_\_\_

1. Chair **Jake Grasmick** called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. **Approval of June Minutes: Approved without additions**

3. **Regular Business.**

a. **Golf Rounds**—**Andy Mar** reported August Rounds were 3,178 below budget (14 %) and about 16% below the average August from 2010 through 2014. The graph below shows six years of rounds by month as well as the 2015 Budget.



A discussion regarding the possibility of increasing rounds by using *Forward Modified* shotgun format instead of the *Backward Modified* format used recently. Andy, Keith, Jake, and Tom Stephens will review and make recommendation before winter play begins.

Another opportunity for increased play would be achieved through better compliance of group chairs in releasing unneeded tee-times in advance. Ron Stratton observed that there is no consequence for not releasing such times and suggested that every other course he's played asks for a credit card number before providing a tee time. Andy will review data to see if the same groups are abusing this issue repeatedly.

Andy noted that winter shotguns will begin at 11:00 a.m. except at Highlands where they will begin at noon.

#### b. **Maintenance Keith Ihms**

In response to complaints about rocks in bunkers, Keith presented a brief review of the *Better Billy Bunker* approach. The method uses a layer of polymer coated gravel rather than a fabric or plastic liner. He plans to equip two bunkers at BVCC to provide our own demonstration. (See the YouTube demo at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W3SaGy3A7S4>)

Play it Forward tee markers will be placed on Berksdale and Kingswood using a grant from GCSAA as noted at last month's meeting. Such markers have been suggested for consideration to the Friends of the Highlands and Lads and Lassies of Scotsdale. The positioning of a ball washer at the location of the marker would enhance the feeling that this is a valid tee.

Keith continues to be positively inclined toward additional Bermuda greens in following up on comments made last month by USGA representative Chris Hartwinger.

Damaged greens on BVCC were seeded three weeks ago and are looking good. Photos showing progress are available at: <http://www.bellavistapoa.com/golf/maintenance/index.asp> which also includes the aeration schedule which begins September 14th.

#### c. **Course Reviews**

- i. **Highlands--Gayle Harder--**The Friends of the Highlands have been working on mulching around fans.
- ii. **Berksdale--Bill Barr--**Course is in good condition.
- iii. **Dogwood--Tom Stephens--** Course in good condition
- iv. **Scotsdale--Kirk Van De Walle --**The Lads and Lassies plan a golf outing toward end of September and are considering funding a bulletin board at Scotsdale. It was suggested that their funding of "Play It Forward" markers might be more appropriate.  
Plans are proceeding to address the erosion on #13. Cost is estimated to be about \$120k.
- v. **Country Club--Jake--**See comments about greens seeding above. Spillway problems between #1 and #2 will be addressed with a temporary repair. Full solution would cost \$220k or more and required permits would prohibit solving before the course reopens.
- vi. **Kingswood--Terry Predl--**Course great except for some problems on #10 green. (Keith acknowledged similar problems on #10 Berksdale. This is recurring problem on both #10s associated with the shade configuration.)

#### 4. **Reports from Management**

**A. Andy Mar--**Winter Schedules are nearly ready for release. He is currently working on details of how to make the food & beverage service at Metfield work. The Camo Classic Tournament last week was very successful and raised \$3200 for scholarships. Andy hopes to use two courses next year for the event. Upcoming tournaments include the Bella Vista Two Person Open on Sep 25 and the Fall Mixer on Oct 8-10.

#### **B. Board Liaisons**

1) **Ruth Hatcher--**The Board is determined to find the appropriate person as POA General Manager.

Following up on her report on a request from the Boys and Girls Club, she noted that they have enough men's clubs. They plan to set up a mini course with driving, and putting. She asked them to share with us the help that they desire for us to evaluate how we might support the effort.

2) **Ron Stratton**-- Nothing to report.

6. **Guest Comments**--None

7. **Old Business**

**A. Subcommittee Reports**

1. **Course Enhancements**-- Jake, Andy, and Kirk are continuing to work. They still expect that effort can be completed this fall.

2. **Membership and Marketing - Bill Barr**--NFTR

8. **Other Issues**--None

8. **Volunteer Hours for August:** 43 hours

9. **Adjournment:** 6:14 p.m.

10. **Next Meeting:** October 14, 2015 - 5:00 p.m. Riordan Hall

**Submitted by:** Harris McKee, Advisory Committee Secretary

**Appendix I. 2015 Golf JAC Tasks**

1. Continue to develop marketing programs to increase play on Bella Vista Village golf courses with POA Marketing and Communications Manager.
2. Develop a program with golf group leaders to ensure earliest availability of unused tee times.
3. Continue to support course support groups like "Friends of the Highlands" and "Lads and Lassies of Scotsdale" with fundraising events.
4. Develop programs for increased play on Bella Vista Village golf courses during afternoons and evenings.
5. Continue monthly course inspections, documenting repairs and maintenance issues.
6. Assist with the 50th Anniversary Three Skill Challenge event to be held on May 30.
7. Participate in and promote activities for the POA's 50th Anniversary.  
Continue to participate in GRIP.