

Golf Joint Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

Wednesday, October 14th, 2020, 4:00 pm, Bella Vista Country Club Boardroom & Zoom

Attendees: Alex Sanford, Darryl Muldoon, David Brandenburg, David DeGraf, David Welchel, Jan Simms, Jason Loyd, Jeff Hendren, Keith Ihms, Mark Deihl, Phil Spencer, Sheila Heward, Susan Nuttall, Tammie Loyd, Tom Judson, Mary Sinkus

Absent: Gary Mertz, Mike Houston
Jason had Gary Mertz' proxy

Votes & Important

- The next meeting is **November 17th at 8:30 am in the BVCC Boardroom**. Note the time change.
- **Vote:** For a test in November - To reduce damage of fairways in dry condition, restrict parking of carts and forward motion on the fairways.
 - Drive carts forward only on the cart path or in the rough.
 - Park carts only on the cart path or in the rough.
 - Carts can be driven across the fairway to reach the other side. (90 degree rule)
- **Vote:** Add 50 yard marker to all Driving Ranges
- **Vote:** Change the time of Golf Committee Meetings to 8:30 am from November through February

Meeting Notes

Jason Loyd called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

Course Reports - see Meeting packet.

Staff Reports:

- **Maintenance – Keith Ihms**
 - General
 - The small cedar tree that is decorated for holidays was relocated due to the construction of the Metfield trail extension. This is a neighborhood icon that is enjoyed by many in the community.
 - The green on #2 BVCC was damaged last week. We will start plugging the green next week.
 - Next month will be our final Audubon Certification Visit for Berksdale Golf Course. Berksdale will be only the 2nd course in Arkansas to get this certification. Thanks Wendy Barnes for leading this work and completing it with minimal funding.
 - Budgets
 - In keeping with the Golf Committee recommendations, approximately \$75,000 has been included in the budget to expand 3-4 small tee boxes on Country Club, Scotsdale & Highlands. Work will be performed by an outside contractor. Any irrigation work will be done by POA staff. The budget must be approved by the POA Board.
 - Dry conditions impacting health of grass
 - The dry conditions are putting the fairway grass on all courses at risk. The grass has stopped growing, 30 days earlier than normal. This results in brittle leaves and weakens the root systems.
 - The grass is being watered, but it is not sufficient to solve the issue.

- The damage will be noticeable in November and is very likely to result in a slower than usual green up next spring.
- Due to Covid, we have double the number of carts driving on the courses, which will accelerate the deterioration of the grass.
- Kieth proposed 2 alternatives to help reduce the impact of the dry conditions.
 - 1) Start the “Carts of Path” rotation now, rather than in the winter.
 - 2) Restrict parking of carts and forward motion on the fairways.
 - Drive carts forward only on the cart path or in the rough.
 - Park carts only on the cart path or in the rough.
 - Carts can be driven across the fairway to reach the other side. (90 degree rule)
- **Committee Discussion**
 - Carts on Path may negatively impact the number of people who will play during October & November - important months for revenue
 - Could we restrict to the path on the side where the path is located? We could but would make the proposal more complex. Prefer to keep it simple.
 - Will it hurt the grass to have people driving around the back of the greens? Keith - we prefer that carts cross in front of the greens as there is more space.
 - Jason - As owners of the courses, we need to educate our golfers/members on why this change is needed and trust them to follow the policy.
- **Committee Vote**
 - Jeff Hendren made a motion to implement option 2: Change the 90 degree rule to include the concepts that carts are not to be parked on the fairway, nor driven forward on the fairway. This is a test in the month of November.
 - Mark Diehl seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.
 - Keith & Darryl will work out the final language of the policy.
- **Golf Operations - Darryl Muldoon**
 - Bruce Flemming at the Country Club is retiring after 11 years with the POA. We all wish him luck and will still see him on the course.
 - Darryl discussed the Frost Delay Policy. This is a change from last year due to the management of carts resulting from the Covid-19 procedures. See the meeting packet for details.
 - With easing of Covid-19 restrictions, merchandise can now be tried on in the Golf Shops.
 - Tee times vs. Shotguns - Darryl received 64 emails on the topic. Comments were split fairly evenly. We will continue with tee times through the winter and will consider the topic again as the Spring season approaches.
 - Tournaments - Alex
 - The Veteran’s Day Tournament is the only event remaining for 2020
 - We are starting to put together the 2021 schedule.
 - The Superintendent's Revenge Tournament was played with rave reviews. Players and staff all had a lot of fun!
 - The Parent/Child Tournament was held at Brittany and was very successful.
 - Rally in Pink had 42 teams - 72% more than last year.
 - The Alzheimer Tournament won an award for the top revenue generator in Arkansas for The Longest Day.
- **General Management - Tom Judson**
 - At the end of September, Activity Card sales are up 44% over last year

- The budgeting process is in progress
- **Board Liaisons** - none
- **Comments from the Public** none
- **Old Business** - none
- **New Business**
 - 50 yard markers at Driving Range
 - A member suggested to add a 50 yard marker at the driving range for those practicing approach shots.
 - Keith - this can easily be done as an off season project
 - Susan Nuttall made a motion to: Implement 50 yard markers at all driving ranges. Jeff Hendren seconded the motion. Pass unanimously.
 - Dress Code
 - Our Dress code needs to be reviewed due to the trends in golf apparel. We will discuss at the December meeting. The decision may impact the fashions purchased for the shops in Spring. Darryl will send a copy of the current dress code to Committee members prior to the meeting.
 - Change in time for the meeting for the winter season.
 - Jeff Hendren moved to change the meeting time for the Golf Committee to 8:30 am from November - February. Mark Diehl seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.
 - The reason for the change is that tee times are set later in the day in the Fall/Winter. The early time for the meeting makes it easier for Committee Members to play golf on meeting days.

The next meeting is November 17th at 8:30 am in the BVCC Boardroom.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:06 pm – Jason Loyd



From: Darryl Muldoon PGA, Director of Golf Operations
To: Golf Committee
Date: October 14th, 2020
Subject: Golf Rounds Report

The Rounds Report for September YTD is:

- Total rounds ended the month at 132,443.
 - Up by 18,515, over last year.
- The breakdown is as follows:
 - Members rounds 98,759. Up by 14,769 over last year.
 - Non-Member rounds 33,684. Up by 3,746 over last year.

Driving range bucket numbers for September YTD are: 47,682, up by 34,614.

Golf Operations is working on the winter schedule. We will be staying with tee times, due to the COVID guidelines.

- Frost delays.
 - Call the frost line to find out the delay.
 - Work with the pro shop staff, we can't do forward shotguns due to single rider carts so we have to move tee time back. This means that if there is an hour delay, your tee time will move back an hour.
 - Cancellations of tee times would be the only way you would get back or close to your original tee time. I'm saying it again that communication with the shop is extremely important during a frost delay.

September YTD

Round Totals		Year							
	MEMBER			Total	NON-MEMBER			Total	Grand Total
Round Type	Regular Play	Regular Play (AGGF)	Tournament		Regular Play	Tournament			
2018	45189	43419	1824	90432	24891	3559	28450	118882	
BERKSDALE	5087	3220		8307	2088		2088	10395	
BRITTANY	3130	378	61	3569	891	566	1457	5026	
COUNTRYCLUB	8646	9680	622	18948	5845	1194	7039	25987	
DOGWOOD	8003	8204		16207	4393		4393	20600	
HIGHLANDS	7708	8946	123	16777	4983	437	5420	22197	
KINGSWOOD	8695	9134	972	18801	4392	1327	5719	24520	
SCOTSDALE	3920	3857	46	7823	2299	35	2334	10157	
2019	42292	40718	980	83990	27322	2616	29938	113928	
BERKSDALE	2643	1317		3960	1361		1361	5321	
BRITTANY	3398	698		4096	1051	284	1335	5431	
COUNTRYCLUB	6965	7952	217	15134	5371	872	6243	21377	
DOGWOOD	7757	7652		15409	4392		4392	19801	
HIGHLANDS	6381	7421	175	13977	5064	251	5315	19292	
KINGSWOOD	7666	8467	554	16687	3998	1036	5034	21721	
SCOTSDALE	7482	7211	34	14727	6085	173	6258	20985	
2020	55479	42352	928	98759	32755	929	33684	132443	
BERKSDALE	2909	1059		3968	1067		1067	5035	
BRITTANY	9216	818	89	10123	2208	171	2379	12502	
COUNTRYCLUB	8202	7908	233	16343	5960	189	6149	22492	
DOGWOOD	9543	8918		18461	5995		5995	24456	
HIGHLANDS	8503	8351	215	17069	5937	31	5968	23037	
KINGSWOOD	9166	8371	391	17928	5802	538	6340	24268	
SCOTSDALE	7940	6927		14867	5786		5786	20653	

September 2020 Course Closure Info				September Totals		YTD Total	
Dogwood:	Weather					YTD Total	25
Brittany:	Weather					YTD Total	36
Highlands:	Weather					YTD Total	23
BVCC:	Weather	Aerification	1.5	1.5		YTD Total	11.5
Kingswood:	Weather	Aerification	1.5	1.5		YTD Total	26.5
Scotsdale:	Weather					YTD Total	54
Berkshire:	Weather	Open April 1st				YTD Total	91

