

Golf Joint Advisory Committee Meeting Notes **Wednesday, April 14, 4:00 pm BVCC and Zoom**

Attendees: Alex Sanford, Darryl Muldoon, David Brandenburg, David DeGraf, David Whelchel, Gary Mertz, Jason Loyd, Jan Simms, Jeff Hendren, Keith Ihms, Mike Houston, Phil Spencer, Sheila Heward, Susan Nuttall, Tammie Loyd, Tom Judson , Greg Sellers

Absent: Mark Diehl, Jason has Mark's proxy

Votes & Important Topics

- The next meeting is the Golf JAC Regular Meeting – Wednesday, May 12th at 4:00pm.

Call to Order – Jason Loyd called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm

Course reports - see meeting packet

Jason requested that as we move into the busy season, the reports focus on the perspective of the membership/golfers

Staff Reports:

- **Maintenance – Keith**

- Status of grass

- Due to the freeze in February and cool nights recently, the summer grasses (Bermuda and Zoysia) will be a little slow to come back. The damage has been assessed at all courses and the results are improving as the weather gets warmer. Patience will be needed.
- Greens at Scotsdale: There is less than 1,000 square feet of damage on the greens and it is likely to be less by May. Based on current information, we will be covering the greens next week. The temperature in the valley where #1, #8 and #9 are located run 5 degrees below the forecast.
- Tees and Collars: Some areas that have older varieties of turf may have suffered more damage than others. We are starting to see growth in the roots, even though it is not apparent in the leaves yet. We are tracking the # of sq. ft. of grass that will be needed.
- The sod farm in Tulsa is very busy because of the damage across the south (including farms). We are on the priority list and once we know what grass will be available, we will plan projects.
- A company has a new machine that can prepare the collars for an entire course in 3 days. The machine loosens the surface, grinds the dirt/grass, reapplies it and flattens the surface area in one pass. This would save time and money, especially on larger projects. In the past, much of this was hand work. It is likely we will plan a project with this company so we can test the machine to see if it may be a time/work saver in the future.
- **Projects**
 - BVCC #5 Creek bed remediation - Keith will meet with the engineer on Thursday to discuss the plans and approach. Work will be started at the end of summer.
 - Red Tee Box enhancements on BVCC and Highlands will be started in the fall. We want to start after the APT and want to be sure sod is available.
- Covid restrictions have been lifted
 - Noodles have been removed
 - New poles with reflectors are being installed
 - Ball washers have been installed on #1, #10 and all par 3's.
 - Ice Machines are being put out and hooked up.
 - Cups have been put back on the practice putting greens.

- **Golf Operations – Darryl:**

- Rounds - rounds recovered from the February freeze. YTD rounds ended March at 20,619 rounds, an increase of 1,988 rounds over 2020.
- Tanyard Creek - Range buckets were 9,419 this year. This is up 6,364 over last year. New mats have been installed at Tanyard.
- Merchandise sales - We doubled the budget for March.

- Covid update
 - We are encouraging the membership to start pairing up in carts if they feel safe. Sand buckets are now filled and golfers should fill divots.
 - At some point, we will go back to 2 players per cart. This will help the grass and also open more tee times.
 - In June we will go back to in-shop check in and cart tags.
 - With the schedule update in July, we will have a limited number of shotguns
- Tournaments: Alex
 - 3 Person Scramble had 42 teams.
 - The Shot in the Dark has been postponed to April 30th due to poor weather forecast and carts on path.
 - The Couples Spring Mixer will be held this week.
 - Men's Match Play starts May 1 with at least 2 flights.
- Jr. Golf
 - Gavin is managing the Jr. Golf Program. The PGA Jr. Golf League has started practicing. Our team is the Vipers and play other teams within about a 50 mile radius.
 - 2 Jr. Golf Camps are scheduled. The June camp is full and July is filling up
- **General Management – Tom Judson**
 - We are busy everywhere - golf, restaurants, recreation. We are hiring for a number of different positions
- **Board Liaisons - none**
- **Comments/Emails from the Public: none**
- **Old Business: none**
- **New Business:**
 - From Keith: #3 fairway - when it rains, the low spot about 100 yds in front of the red tee box tends to get a lot of gravel. Keith is suggesting we mow the area to the height of the rough and mark it as a penalty area. This will be a clearer designation for the golfers. Although some groups have a "Rock and Root Rule", in the current situation, a golfer would need to either hit off of the rocks or take an unplayable lie. By increasing the height of the grass, more players would have a reasonable shot.
 - Gary Mertz suggested that we should not treat this area as a penalty area but as *Ground Under Repair*. USGA Rule 16 should apply to this area.
 - Under Rule 16 (Relief from Abnormal Course Conditions, Dangerous Animal Condition, Embedded Ball), *free relief* from an "abnormal course condition" is allowed.
 - Darryl indicated that "Ground Under Repair" was a time-sensitive designation.
 - Gary commented there is no mention in the rules that "ground under repair" is time-sensitive and the area we are discussing can be considered an "abnormal course condition". The rules also state that the area can be defined by painted lines on the ground, rope, or stakes. Rope or stake options should be enough to minimize the need to spend time painting the area with a line. My recommendation is to mark this area as Ground Under Repair and allow a free drop, not a penalty area.
 - David Degraf had several comments from members regarding slow turnover of carts that result in a wait for afternoon players. Sometimes golfers take a long time to return their carts.
 - As we pair up, this situation will resolve itself
 - Encourage golfers to look to see if there are people waiting, and if so, try to speed up a little.
- **Announcements:**
 - The Golf Committee is seeking applications for new members. The applications are available on the POA website under Member Resources/Committees.
 - Golf JAC Regular Meeting – Wednesday, May 12th at 4:00pm, BVCC Boardroom

Adjourn – Jason Loyd adjourned the meeting at 4:56 pm