

Final

Golf Joint Advisory Committee Meeting Notes Wednesday, February 9th, 2022 4:00 pm, Boardroom

Attending: Jerre Barron, Jr., Jan Hagan, Jeff Hendren, Sheila Heward, Keith Ihms, Tom Judson, Jason Loyd, Corinne Morin, Gary Mertz, Darryl Muldoon, Susan Nuttall, Alex Sanford, Jan Simms

Absent: David Brandenburg, David DeGraf, Mark Deihl, Ruth Hatcher, Mike Houston

Meeting Notes

Call to Order – Jason Loyd called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm

Staff Reports:

Maintenance – Keith Ihms

- Course Status
 - Due to the snow event last week, several of the golf courses are still closed. BVCC opened today (Wednesday), Dogwood will be open tomorrow, others will reopen as the snow and ice recedes from areas that impact player safety.
- BVCC Collar Project Delay
 - The project is now planned to start February 21st. The course will not reopen until the start date.
 - The delay is due to the weather storm that pushed the workload of the contractor back. The contractor has additional people he can bring on later in the project if needed to stay on track for completion in early May.
 - Play should be able to resume 3 weeks after the sod is laid.
- Expansion of Red Tees
 - Due to the weather delays, most of the work to expand the Red Tees will be delayed until later in the year.
 - The exception is #2 at BVCC. This project includes releveling and extending the tee area to the back (as there is no room to go forward). This will also enable Hole-In-One contests on this hole for Tournaments, where there is a 150 yd. minimum distance.
- Gold Teeing Area
 - The project to implement the Gold Tee Areas is underway. Highlands is complete. Others will start soon. - the schedule is shifting a little to take advantage of planned course closings.
- Special Presentation to propose closing Scotsdale and Brittany in January and February- Kyle Soller, Scotsdale superintendent. See Appendix 1 for details. The committee will vote on the proposal at the March meeting.

Golf Operations - Darryl Muldoon

- Golf Rounds - see meeting packet. Golf Rounds down about 28% from 2021, but on par with 2020. We had a warm January in 2021 compared with very few golfable days in 2022.

- Gold Teeing area update - See Maintenance Report
- Summer Schedules - Summer schedules will be published soon. The schedules will be released 3 months at a time.
- GHIN update - there are some known inconsistencies in the integration between the mobile application and the primary system. GHIN is aware of the problem and has a fix expected by Friday, February 11th. At that time, the data will be refreshed. The GHIN system should reflect the 20 most recent rounds recorded, with an indicator as to which rounds are used to calculate your handicap. If you have played rounds from December 1st through the current date and not entered them, you can do so after February 11th.
- Operation 36
 - New golf skills improvement program
 - Initial set of classes has 8 spots of which 4 are currently filled.
 - Additional offerings will be available for different target groups later in the year (juniors, couples, experienced golfers, etc.)
- 2022 Tournaments - Alex
 - The 2022 Tournament Schedule has been published.
 - The Sweetheart Tournament will be cancelled due to cold weather. Entries will be refunded.
 - The next tournament is the 3-Person Scramble March 19th & 20th at Dogwood
- Committee Questions
 - Susan: What version of the Golf Genius Software do we have? It is the version that includes Live Scoring? Darryl - we have the Premium Package that does include live scoring.
 - Susan: What is the purpose of the new Northstar System? Tom: “It is a comprehensive system that will impact all business units. We are moving from 28 systems which are mostly standalone, to 20 integrated systems, 3 stand alone systems, plus use of some Excel spreadsheets. More information will be forthcoming when we start the implementation phase.”
 - Gary Mertz: “Will the system be able to do proactive texting to groups of members?” Example: course closures, today’s play. Tom- “yes, we have hired a new person in Marketing to help manage these communication channels.”
 - Jeff: “What is the schedule for getting new carts?” Darryl-“The carts should start arriving next week with scheduled deliveries for the next few weeks.”
- General Management – Tom - none
- Board Liaisons - none

- Comments/Emails from the Public:
 - Karen Owens asked if Cart Tags will continue to be used next year? Darryl – “Yes, these help the staff to know who is playing and as an audit tool.”
 -
- Old Business: N/A
- New Business:
 - We will vote on the proposal to close Scotsdale at next month’s meeting.
- Announcements: none
- Golf JAC Regular Meeting – Wednesday, March 9th at 4:00pm, Boardroom

Adjourn – Jason Loyd adjourned the meeting at 5:00 pm

APPENDIX 1: PROPOSAL - Closing of Scotsdale & Brittany in January & February

Kyle Soller, Superintendent Scotsdale Golf Course

Overview: We are proposing that the Scotsdale & Brittany Golf Courses be closed for the months of January & February, starting in January, 2023. The nighttime temperatures are such that we must cover the greens most of time during these months. If we close the courses, the following will occur:

- The winter schedules will be more predictable for Golfers & the Golf Operations Office
- The Maintenance Team will not be spending 4 days of effort every time we need to remove and replace the covers (10 people needed)
- The Maintenance Team can perform needed tasks to ready the greens for the Spring season on a planned, rather than ad hoc schedule
- The course can be reopened if there is going to be an extended period of nice weather, with no disruption to scheduled play

What does it take to cover and uncover?

- It takes at least 10 people to cover and takes from 5-8 hours depending on conditions and rather we install both covers or not.
 - This involves pulling workers from other courses to help due to our small crew size
- To uncover takes a bit longer and about the same amount of people
 - Usually about 4 hours to pull staples and then another 3-4 hours to pull them off, fold them up, and pull them out of the way. This could also take longer due to conditions and rather both covers were used.
- Covering events are usually determined to occur when forecast lows are around the range of 25 to 28 degrees depending on day time temperatures around the event. Weather conditions play a role in when we cover also due to rain and high wind. If these are forecasted ahead of the covering event we will try and put them on ahead of this.
- We currently have a plan that if we can get three full days of golf after uncovering we will, but that has proven to be far and few. Between this is only for 3 full days of golf, not including the days needed to cover and uncover due to each of those requiring significant time.

Why are we proposing this?

- In Jan. and Feb. of 2021 we were only open for 6 days between those two months.

- 2020 we were open for 10 days between those two months.
- 2022 – so far not opened yet due to how the weather has been.
 - The trend I've seen has been a couple of okay days here and there, but followed by cold weather. Really just enough time to take them off and put them on the next day.
 - While some of the days have been warm in the 40's the night time temps have been in the low to mid 20's.

How will closing during the months of Jan and Feb benefit us?

- It would allow more flexibility for us to make these calls to cover with less disruption to membership. Play is scheduled in advance by several days. Often when we are open, a change in forecast will happen that will occur in the next 2/3 days that will require us to cover to protect the greens. When this occurs, golf ops has to shift players and reschedule golf if possible. This could upset people that were scheduled to play but can not due to weather, which may be decent during the day but troublesome at night with the low temps. The valley area of Scottsdale also typically gets around 5 degrees colder than forecasted too, prompting us to feel the need to cover when lows of 28-30 are forecasted meaning 23-25 in our front 9 low area.
- It would allow us some flexibility with managing the greens during these times also. We would take advantage of the decent daytime temps and pull a few covers of greens off during the day using just my crew, perform practices needed such as moisture checking and management of sprays as needed and then be able to put them back on for night time cold temps. We could rotate through the greens this way instead of spending so much time and manpower to pull all of them and put all of them back on.
- Overall the most valuable aspect would be decreasing problems with membership due to closing. It is extremely difficult to predict temperatures and they are often prone to change within 2-3 days or less even. Play is often booked further out than this which leads to cancellations of play due to weather and the time needed for my staff to protect the greens with covering.