

Hunters Ridge Community Association Golf Committee Meeting
March 24, 2010

Present were: Chairman Floyd Hann; Members Gary Tinkel, Laurie Cascarano, Rich Berry, Jim Scott, Sabra Cicilline and Madolyn Mumma, Secretary. Also present were General Manager Don Huprich, Director of Golf Rob Harpster and Golf Course Superintendent Tony Duncan.

Mr. Hann called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. He announced that HRCA Board Representative Don Wirsbinski was unable to attend due to the death of his father.

Mrs. Cascarano and Mr. Scott presented their recommendations for possible additional tree placements on the course. Committee Chairman Hann had requested that they consider measures to help improve the course and possibly help speed up the pace of play. They said they did not advocate lining the course with trees, but were suggesting a minimal number and only for "definition of hole" purposes.

Hole #1: Place 3 trees or bushes to the right of the swale approximately parallel to the 150 yard marker which would give golfers an improved ability to spot their golf balls.

Hole #2: A reflector has already been put on the bank near the trees.

Hole #3: Perhaps 1 or 2 palms behind the green to give some feeling about the depth of the hole. Tony said this could be an issue because it would put increased weight on the island retaining wall which could create a problem. He said the island retaining wall would eventually have to be replaced, but this would hasten the problem.

Hole #4: 3 more trees 25 to 50 yards past the current grove of trees, again to improve depth perception and enable golfers to track their golf balls.

Hole #11: Possibly a tree or two between the cart path and out of bounds for depth definition.

Hole #13: A tree to the right inside 150 yard marker, again for depth definition. There used to be a tree there.

Mr. Hann thanked Mrs. Cascarano and Mr. Scott and said he would present their recommendations to the Board for consideration.

Rob reported that he had investigated the cost of a lightening detection system for the golf course. His best estimate would be in the \$25,000 range plus annual maintenance fees. The committee agreed to table this project unless directed otherwise by the Board.

The agenda item: A recommendation was made that that early tee times be moved from 7:00 a.m. to 7:30 a.m. so that early golfers do not risk interfering with the grounds crew. Mr. Hann said the Board had suggested the committee get back to them with a recommendation.

After some discussion, the committee voted unanimously to recommend that 7:00 a.m. tee times continue, but no golfers would be permitted on the back side of course until 8:30 a.m. or 1 ½ hours from the first tee time. However, on special 8:30 a.m. shotgun starts there would be no tee times prior to the 8:30 shotgun start. Mr. Hann will pass this recommendation to HRCA Board Representative, Don Wirsbinski, who will present this to the entire HRCA Board of Directors for a final decision.

Rob said he would instruct starters to remind early golfers of the 8:30 a.m. restriction and he would put up Course Closed signs on #10 until 8:30 a.m. Tony said the restriction of no play until after 8:30 a.m. on the back 9 would be very helpful to the grounds crew.

There had been a request that golfers be permitted to walk the course. Rob pointed out that currently golf members are permitted to walk the course at times designated by the Golf Shop. Golfers must carry their bag/clubs and also carry sand bottles provided by the Golf Shop. No pull carts are permitted.

A recommendation was made that on some holes the gold and white tees be combined, floating their location between the two spots. Rob said it would be possible to do that, but it would involve redoing the cement yardage marks on each hole, changing the score cards and having the course rerated. The committee agreed the changes would not make enough difference in the wear and tear on the tee boxes to justify the changes.

Golf course projects:

Mr. Hann said there had been several requests that the grass on the banks of the ponds be left longer because golf balls were rolling into the lakes if they landed anywhere near the banks. Tony said currently grass on the banks is mowed to 2" in the roughs and on the banks. He said cold weather has created the problem right now and once the weather begins to warm up this will not be an issue. He said he had not mowed the banks for almost two months and they were still very short due to the winter cold.

#4 Don Huprich said he has had many compliments regarding the #4 tee box improvement.

Don said there were four improvements scheduled for the Summer, 2010:

1. *The driving range will be planted with celebration grass and the drainage will be improved.*
2. *Celebration grass will be planted on the remaining tees*
3. *Hole #9—fill in the swale insuring the irrigation is correct. This is a safety issue because carts could tumble into the swale off the cart path.*

4. Hole #15—additional mounding to keep balls out of the preserve without creating drainage issues. They attempted to do this a few years ago but they did not have the correct materials and it was done in a hurry at the end of the summer. It will be completed correctly this time.

Don said Tony and his crew had done a remarkable job. He said the course is very beautiful, thanks to their good work. He said he also felt Rob and his staff were the best in the area. The committee agreed.

Someone commented that the fronts of Holes #6 and 12 were always wet, making it difficult to roll a golf ball onto the green. Tony said that was due to the type of soil in front of the green, as well as adjustments needing to be made to the irrigation system.

In response to the question why there was never a good stand of grass from 150 yards to the green on the 14th hole, Tony responded it was because of all the trees along the fairway. The long, cold winter made the problem even worse. He said he was fairly certain no one wanted to cut down all the trees whose roots reach all the way across the fairway. Also, it would kill the beauty of the hole.

Mr. Hann said he had received several questions and comments that he felt he should address at the meeting:

1. Longer grass on the bank—which had already been addressed
2. Putting a cart path on Hole #18. It has been on the left side and now is on the right side, which means everyone has to cross over. There is continuing discussion about putting in a cart path of some sort somewhere on #18. No decision is forthcoming now.
3. Benches placed around the golf course.
4. Entrance to Hole #7 tee box
5. Bushes around the cart path at the cart barn make the path very narrow
6. Pink tees on Holes #1, 4, 6, 7 & 18 should be changed.

Mr. Hann asked if there were any other new business. There was none.

He said he would call one more golf committee meeting prior to the end of the season. The meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.