

Hunters Ridge Community Association Golf Committee

4:00 p.m. March 5, 2008

Present were: Chairman, Rich Berry; Members Joe Engler, Laurie Cascarano, Pat Wirsbinski, Tom Malone and Madolyn Mumma, secretary. Also present were Association Board Member Frank Schmitt, Director of Golf Rob Harpster and Golf Course Superintendent Tony Duncan.

Mr. Berry called the meeting to order. He welcomed the residents who were in attendance and said the committee looked forward to their comments and suggestions. He asked that remarks be limited to two minutes and, if someone felt he or she needed additional time, the information should be submitted in writing.

Rob reported he had investigated the possibility of installing EZ Tee 56V, a synthetic turf product, on the south end of the driving range. He said the benefits and times of use would include:

- **Allow the grass to recover from high usage.**
- **Enable use when the range area is extremely wet.**
- **Permit over seeding periods**
- **Golfers will be able to use a tee and hit drivers.**
- **Realistic playability.**
- **Very durable and aesthetically pleasing all the time.**
- **Several local clubs are very satisfied with the product and usage.**

Mr. Berry reported that he, Rob and Tony had examined the product and found it the best synthetic surface available. Only one franchisee serves this area.

The synthetic turf would be 130' x 5'. Our maintenance would need to prepare the area by removing sod. They would also need to install a paver border to separate the synthetic turf and real grass.

The installed cost of EZ Tee 56V reviewed by the committee would be approximately \$9750 and include a 1 year warranty. Hunters Ridge would also have the cost of preparing the area and paver work.

The golf committee agreed this would be a great improvement at a reasonable cost. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to recommend to the Board to install EZ Tee 56V as described by Rob.

Mr. Berry then said that several members had suggested making the current back nine holes the front nine. He stated that it might be an appropriate question for the next member survey. Rob reported the maintenance crew must begin mowing one hour prior to the first tee time in order to remain ahead of golfers. The City of Bonita Springs has already issued a noise citation against the course for mowing before 7 a.m. in a residential area. Currently, the crews begin mowing on Holes 1 through 4 at 6 a.m. because there are no homes nearby. However, if the back 9 became the front 9, the mowers could not begin until 7 a.m. The only solution would be to delay starting tee times until 8 a.m. This was unacceptable to the golf committee, and no further action was taken.

The committee had been asked to review whether the golf professional staff should have the authority to make last minutes changes in golf events, using staff with a USGA Handicap who normally are not eligible to play. The question had been raised by a member who felt we were setting a bad precedent if this were permitted. Rob said the incident in question had been an emergency situation and he had made a judgment call at the last minute. He pointed out this had never occurred before, but the Step Aside event made it nearly impossible for a three-person team to participate. The chairman said he knew Rob

had done what he thought was right, and the odds were it would not happen again. It was moved and seconded that the committee endorse the views expressed by the chairman that the pro has the authority to do what he thinks is best in similar circumstances. The committee on motion unanimously agreed.

Mr. Schmitt reported the Board was reviewing committee structures. The golf committee will remain as it is with the addition of one member. He also said the Board has requested that the golf committee coordinate with the finance committee in identifying long range projects. The Board has asked for a list of specific projects, cost estimates for each project and time frame recommendations. The list needs to be in place with the long range committee in time for budget planning in October. Mr. Berry said he will prepare a draft for the committee's review by the April committee meeting.

Mr. Schmitt said the Board also asked the committee to begin maintaining statistics regarding course usage, cart usage, number of guests playing and other pertinent data.

Mr. Engler reported six golfers and he had measured the current golf course in an attempt to determine if it would be possible to lengthen the course the 160 yards necessary to take the course to the 6000 yard level. The most they could manage was 136 yards without making several of the tees impossible for most golfers. He said he felt there was no point in changing everything for 136 yards. The committee agreed.

New business: Resident Mr. Molin-Pradel said he was very pleased with the condition of the course but asked if the tee boxes could be improved. Rob said the tee boxes were on the agenda and would be improved as soon as possible.

There being no further business, the meeting was on motion made, seconded and unanimously adopted, approved adjourned at 5:00 p.m.