

# RECREATION CENTERS OF SUN CITY, INC.

## Golf Advisory Committee

September 16, 2021

Chair Rich Hoffer called the meeting to order at 8:30am in the Lakeview Social Hall #2.

**Present:** Chair Rich Hoffer; Committee Members Rich Lybolt; Bob Shirck (SCMGA President); Mary Ann Rispoli (Willowbrook); Lynn Lybolt (South); Jan Pogachar (SCWGA 9-hole President); Cristi Dorsch (Willowcreek); Karen Scheurman (South); Jim Fitzsimmons (Willowbrook); Dennis Meeter (Quail); Raymond Long (Lakes West); Ruth Melena (SCWGA 18-hole President); Donna Laufer (Lakes West)

**RCSC Staff:** Pro Shop Manager Chris Linam

**Absent:** Co-Chair Dan Schroeder; Director of Golf Brian Duthu

**Guests:** RCSC Board President Sue Wilson; John Nowakowski, Allan Lenefsky, Kat Fimmel, Candace Ruggiero, Lori Ellingson

**Prior Meeting Summary:** The Meeting Summary for May 20, 2021 was approved as presented.

**Brian Duthu, Director of Golf Report:** Pro Shop Manager Chris Linam presented Director of Golf report.

### Pro Shops

Golf rounds in August decreased by 727 from prior year, however this still represents the second most rounds played in August since 2006. For the year Riverview has played 38,605 rounds, followed by Willowcreek (37,337 rounds), South (36,934 rounds), Lakes West (33,415 rounds) and North (32,197 rounds). For the Executive Courses Lakes East has played the most rounds with 24,473, followed by Willowbrook and Quail Run.

On September 3rd, we hosted a fundraising event to support Patriot Golf Day and the Folds of Honor Foundation. We had 66 participants registered to play, behind last year's total of 80 players. The event raised a total of \$680 for the Patriot Golf Day. Thank you to those that played, and we hope to see those that did not next year.

### Snack Shops

Snack shop closing time is now 1:00pm, after the snack shops close snacks and beverages are available through the pro shop.

### Golf Courses

All major summer agronomic procedures have been completed and overseeding is less than a month away. Overseeding will begin on September 27th for North, Lakes West, Willowbrook and Quail Run. These courses will reopen on October 16th with cart path restrictions in place until November 5th. The remaining courses will close October 18th and reopen November 6th with cart path restrictions in place until November 26th. We are currently not planning an overlap period during which all courses will be

closed, however we will be monitoring long range forecasts as we near the September 27th start date. Should forecasted temperatures prove problematic for overseeding we will move the start date for the first wave of course closures to October 4th. Should this change prove necessary it will result in an overlap period of course closures, as we will not move the second wave of course closures back.

For the upcoming overseed season we will not be overseeding the fairways on South or Lakes East, as we explore solutions to upcoming reductions in water allocations. The fairways on South will be allowed to go dormant but will be kept green through a combination of pigments and dyes. Pigments have already begun to be applied and will be taken up by the plant. The pigments will provide color through the first stages of dormancy at which point we will begin the use of dyes. Lakes East will be allowed to go fully dormant and will take on the same color of the dormant rough. As these surfaces will not be actively growing, it will be important to closely follow the 90-degree rule when leaving the cart path for your ball.

With the recent departure of Mike Murphy as the Golf Course Superintendent for North, we opted to implement a supervision restructure trial. Chuck Hyppa now serves as an Area Superintendent for Lakes East/Lakes West, North and Quail. Serving as Assistant Superintendent II are Michael Wermers for North, Brandon Hodgkins for Quail and James Barnaby for Lakes East/Lakes West. We congratulate Chuck on his promotion as well as Michael, Brandon and James on theirs.

**Chris Linam, Pro Shop Manager Report:** No report just a comment that there has been difficulty getting new merchandise for the pro shops and that prices are going up primarily due to an increase in shipping costs.

**SCMGA Report:** President Bob Shirck stated that the 2022 Tournament Schedule is complete and added to the website. He also noted that the SCMGA is looking for volunteers for open Board positions.

#### **SCWGA Report:**

- **Ladies 9-hole:** No report
- **Ladies 18-hole:** Ruth Melena reported that the women who play during the summer are looking forward to the winter visitors returning to increase the number of players. The SCWGA umbrella Board will meet on October 20, 2021.

**Old Business:** Chair Hoffer gave an update on the amendment to the Board Policy allowing 5 carts for regulation courses and 4 carts for executive courses noting that this was on the Agenda for the Board to approve at the next meeting.

**New Business:** None

**General Discussion:** Discussion was held on upcoming water restrictions, turf reduction and negotiations with Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR). It is unknown whether the new grass will satisfy the upcoming water restrictions. Experts are involved in the negotiations with ADWR. These are statewide mandates not just for Sun City Golf courses. Golf superintendents are working together on solutions. The question regarding gray water from El Mirage is a possibility but buying water is expensive.

There was a question about the leak in Viewpoint Lake and who is responsible. The response was that the Viewpoint Lake Management has a Board and they work with the RCSC Board and Management. There is a leak in the lake and a resolution is being researched.

**Guest Comments/Questions:** The following questions were asked:

1. Are golf boards allowed on courses? The response was to check with the Director of Golf.
2. Are Rangers on the course to control pace and play? The response was yes, and more Rangers are needed.
3. Are non-cardholders given preference over card holders when making tee times? The response was no, cardholders can make reservations up to 5 days in advance and non-cardholders are restricted to 3 days in advance.
4. Are five-some's allowed on all courses? The response was no, only on the regulation courses.
5. Do rounds convert to revenue evenly? The response was no, there are several categories of payments for golf.

**Course Reports:**

North	Good shape
South	Great shape
Quail	Great shape
Lakes East	No report
Lakes West	Excellent condition
Riverview	No report
Willowcreek	Playing nicely
Willowbrook	Very good shape

**Adjournment:** The Meeting was adjourned at 9:39am.

**Next Meeting:** October 21, 2021 at 8:30am – Lakeview Center Social Hall #2

Respectfully submitted,

Rich Lybolt, Secretary