

# RECREATION CENTERS OF SUN CITY, INC.

## Golf Advisory Committee

February 16, 2023

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

**Present:** Chair Kat Fimmel; Co-Chair Steve Collins; Committee Members Rich Lybolt; Andre Casabonne (SCMGA President); Mary Ann Rispoli (Willowbrook); Cristi Dorsch (Willowcreek); Jody Ault (North); Harry Emerson (Willowcreek); Bonnie Harvey (Lakes West); Dennis Meeter (Quail); Mike Lust (South); Michael Wermers (North); Rosie Oblinger (Riverview); Debbie Stark (Quail); Karen Scheurman (South)

**RCSC Staff:** General Manager Bill Cook; Director of Golf Brian Duthu; Pro shop Manager Chris Linam

**Guests:** Cardholders Darla Akins, Jean Eiste

**Prior Meeting Summary:** The Meeting Summary for January 19, 2023 was approved after making 3 corrections as follows:

1. Page 2 correcting the first sentence to read: "As the South and Lakes West courses were not overseeded, the courses will not need to close for the verticutting event."
2. Page 5 adding to the first paragraph, "driving on the dormant grass breaks it down and prevents it from growing properly."
3. Under course reports: Lakes West and Lakes East were reversed.

The Meeting Summary for January 19, 2023 was approved as amended.

### **Brian Duthu, Director of Golf Report:**

#### **Pro Shops**

We played 35,899 rounds in January, of those 18,502 played were by Annual No Fee (Resident) and Annual Surcharge passholders. Remaining rounds were played by Cardholder Daily (6,608), Cardholder Guest (4,068), RCSC Staff (683), Non-Resident passholder (1,401) and Public (4,637). Total rounds were 5,586 fewer than the prior year. Rounds were primarily impacted due to weather. The average temperature for January 2023 was 62.84, down from 68.81 for January 2022. There were 7 days impacted by rain for January 2023, compared to 2 days for January 2022.

Free golf clinics will be offered March 4 at Riverview and March 11, 18 & 25, at Lakes East/Lakes West, classes begin at 9:30am. Topics covered are ball flight, golf swing fundamentals, chipping and putting. There is no need to pre-register, and the clinics are open to golfers of all skill levels. The clinics are a great introduction to the game of golf or a great way to brush up on your game. Clinics are conducted by PGA and LPGA professionals.

A request was made during the February Exchange to provide a summary of the effect the \$250 increase in August had on Non-Resident pass sales. From period of August 1, 2021 to January 31, 2022 we sold 98

passes. For the period of August 1, 2022 (price increase) to January 31, 2023 we sold 112 total passes. We are currently exploring options regarding Non-Resident Golf Passes.

### **Snack Shops**

Snack shops closing time is 5:00pm. and will remain so until rounds begin decreasing in April. Snack Shops have the discretion to remain open longer on particularly busy days.

### **Golf Courses**

The preliminary aerification/overseed schedule presented to the Golf Advisory Committee in January, was also presented to each course's Greens Committee. We did receive minor requests for adjustments, the adjustments are reflected on the schedule that is attached. The schedule can also be found on the RCSC website.

As we move into spring we can expect an increase in golf rounds, with increased rounds come increased wear and tear. As temperatures warm throughout the spring, these wear and tear areas will heal faster, however we still need golfer support. We ask everyone to please fill your divots and fix your ball marks. With increased play slow play instances become more likely. We ask everyone to please practice ready golf by playing your shot as soon as possible and when it doesn't interfere with your playing partners or the group ahead, move to your ball whenever it is safe to do so, avoid excessive practice swings, read your putt ahead of your turn and record scores on the following tee box.

## **2023 AERIFICATION/VERTICUTTING DATES Golf Course will be Closed**

### **Fairway Verticutting**

<b>Thu-Fri</b>	<b>April 20,21</b>	<b>North (Front Nine Closes through Overseeding)</b>
<b>Mon-Tue</b>	<b>April 24, 25</b>	<b>Quail</b>
<b>Thu-Fri</b>	<b>April 27, 28</b>	<b>South</b>
<b>Mon-Tue</b>	<b>May 1, 2</b>	<b>Lakes East</b>
<b>Thu-Fri</b>	<b>May 4, 5</b>	<b>Riverview</b>
<b>Mon-Tue</b>	<b>May 8, 9</b>	<b>Willowcreek</b>

### **Fairways Aerification**

<b>Mon</b>	<b>May 15</b>	<b>North (Back 9)</b>
<b>Thu</b>	<b>May 18</b>	<b>Quail</b>
<b>Mon-Tue</b>	<b>May 22, 23</b>	<b>South</b>
<b>Thu-Fri</b>	<b>May 25, 26</b>	<b>Lakes East</b>
<b>Thu-Fri</b>	<b>June 1, 2</b>	<b>Lakes West</b>
<b>Mon-Tue</b>	<b>June 5, 6</b>	<b>Riverview</b>
<b>Thu-Fri</b>	<b>June 8, 9</b>	<b>Willowcreek</b>
<b>Mon-Tue</b>	<b>June 12, 13</b>	<b>Willowbrook</b>

## Greens Aerification

Thu, Fri	June 15, 16	North (Back 9)
Mon, Tue	June 19, 20	Quail
Wed, Thu, Fri	June 21-23	South
Wed, Thu, Fri	June 28-30	Lakes East
Wed, Thu, Fri	July 5-7	Lakes West
Wed, Thu, Fri	July 12-14	Riverview
Mon, Tue	July 17-18	Willowbrook
Wed, Thu, Fri	July 19-21	Willowbrook

## **2023 OVERSEED SCHEDULE Golf Course will be Closed**

<u>Course</u>	<u>Overseed</u>	<u>Opens</u>	<u>Off Cart Path</u>
Lakes West	Sept 25	Oct 14	Nov 3
Quail Run	Sept 25	Oct 14	Nov 3
Willowbrook	Sept 25	Oct 14	Nov 3
North	Sept 25	Oct 14	Limited Restrictions
Lakes East	Oct 16	Nov 4	Limited Restrictions
Riverview	Oct 16	Nov 4	Nov 24
Willowcreek	Oct 16	Nov 4	Nov 24
South	Oct 16	Nov 4	Nov 24

As of 2-14-2023

- \* North and Lakes East non overseeded fairways, cart restrictions limited only to around tees and green complexes.
- \* If temperatures are too high for Sept 25 start first wave will be pushed back one week, resulting in one week overlap of course closures.

### **Chris Linam, Pro Shop Manager Report:**

#### **Pro Shops**

Pro Shop Merchandise Sales ended January ahead of budget so thanks to everyone for supporting RCSC. We have a New Head Starter at Quail Run, his name is Roger Neil and will be a Great Addition to our RCSC Staff so please welcome him the next time you are at Quail.

We are in full swing with the Get Golf Ready classes and they will run through April so if you or anyone you know would like to attend a class please contact Chris Linam at [clinam@suncityaz.org](mailto:clinam@suncityaz.org) or call 623-876-8419. The Get Golf Ready class is without a doubt the best value for your dollar.

We have some exciting events coming in March with our yearly Demo Day at Riverview on March 6<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am-2:00pm, we will have PING, TaylorMade, Callaway, Wilson & Cobra showing off the latest and greatest 2023 has to offer.

Free Golf Clinics are back at Riverview. The Dates are March 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and the 25<sup>th</sup>. All clinics start at 9:30am and are conducted by our local PGA & LPGA Professionals, no sign up necessary just show up and have fun.

### **General Discussion:**

**SCMGA Report:** President Andre Cassabonne reported that Tee times are still an issue, looking forward to seeing results from the March straight sheet trial. Preparations are being made for the various Men's Club Championships.

### **SCWGA Report:**

- **Ladies 9-hole:** Nothing to Report
- **Ladies 18-hole:** President Rosie Oblinger reported that the recent Sun City Open was held in February and was a success. On March 4, 2023 the March Better Ball tournament will be held at Lakes West

**Old Business:** After a lengthy discussion regarding the number of non-resident pass holders that play on any given day, or play with some of the small group bookings, in relation to residents feeling that they are unable to rely on the lottery to book their group tee times. General Manager Bill Cook asked the committee to review the various possibilities that were presented and to recommend some action.

Director of Golf Brian Duthu suggested two changes to policy to improve resident's chances of successful lottery bookings for tee times.

- The first is the following addition to Small Group Booking policies: *"A minimum of 90% of the Small Group must consist of RCSC Members, Privilege Card Holders and/or RCSC Staff. Guests (which can include Non-Resident Passholders) are permitted to make up the additional 10%."*

Christi Dorsch made a motion to accept this change, seconded by Bonney Harvey Seconded, the motion passes unanimously.

- The second change suggested was an addition to the policy regarding Tournaments sponsored by non-resident groups. It proposed the following statement be added: *"Non-RCSC cardholder tournaments will not be permitted to play Monday-Friday, from November 1 – April 30."*

Bonney Harvey suggested that depending on resident's working status, Saturdays and Sundays may be their only time to play. Would this prevent them from getting an acceptable tee-time?

Linda Sears made a motion to accept this change to policy, seconded by Harry Emerson, the motion did not pass with a tie vote.

Chris Linam said that he would talk to the groups in question to get an idea of whether they would continue to play if they were limited to the weekends.

Additional discussion on this subject is tabled until the March meeting.

Based on discussion Co-Chair Collins proposed the option to raise fees for all Non-Resident cardholders by \$500 per year. All committee members agreed. This action is now in the hands of the RCSC golf management team.

**New Business:** Linda Sears presented a proposal for updated Golf Ranger Compensation. The proposal and need for more rangers was discussed by the board and all agreed that 8 rangers for all of the Sun City courses is not adequate. Director of Golf Brian Duthu asked for a month to research what can be done.

Jody Ault brought up a recommendation that had been made by the Beautification Committee to discard the practice of having memorial trees and benches. The motion was seconded by Linda Sears and the motion failed because the beautification practices are not consistent at all courses.

**Comments:** None

Kat asked that we skip the course reports as our meeting had run long. All agreed.

**Course Reports:** None

**Adjournment:** The Meeting was adjourned at 10:15am.

**Next Meeting:** March 16, 2023 at 8:30am – at **Talisman Meeting Room.**

Respectfully submitted,

Rosie Oblinger, Acting Secretary