

RECREATION CENTERS OF SUN CITY, INC.

Golf Advisory Committee

December 7, 2023

Chair Steve Collins called the meeting to order at 8:30am in the Lakeview SH#2

Present: Chair Steve Collins Co-Chair Kat Fimmel and Committee Members Rich Lybolt; Johnny Pearson (SCMGA President); Harry Emerson (Willowcreek); Mike Lust (South); Karen Scheuerman (South); John Bressett (Willowbrook); Thomas Foster (Willowbrook); Christi Dorsch (Willowcreek); Bonnie Harvey (West); Andre Casabonne (SCMGA); Linda Sears (Riverview); Jody Ault (North); Johnny Portillo (North); Rosie Oblinger (SCWGA)

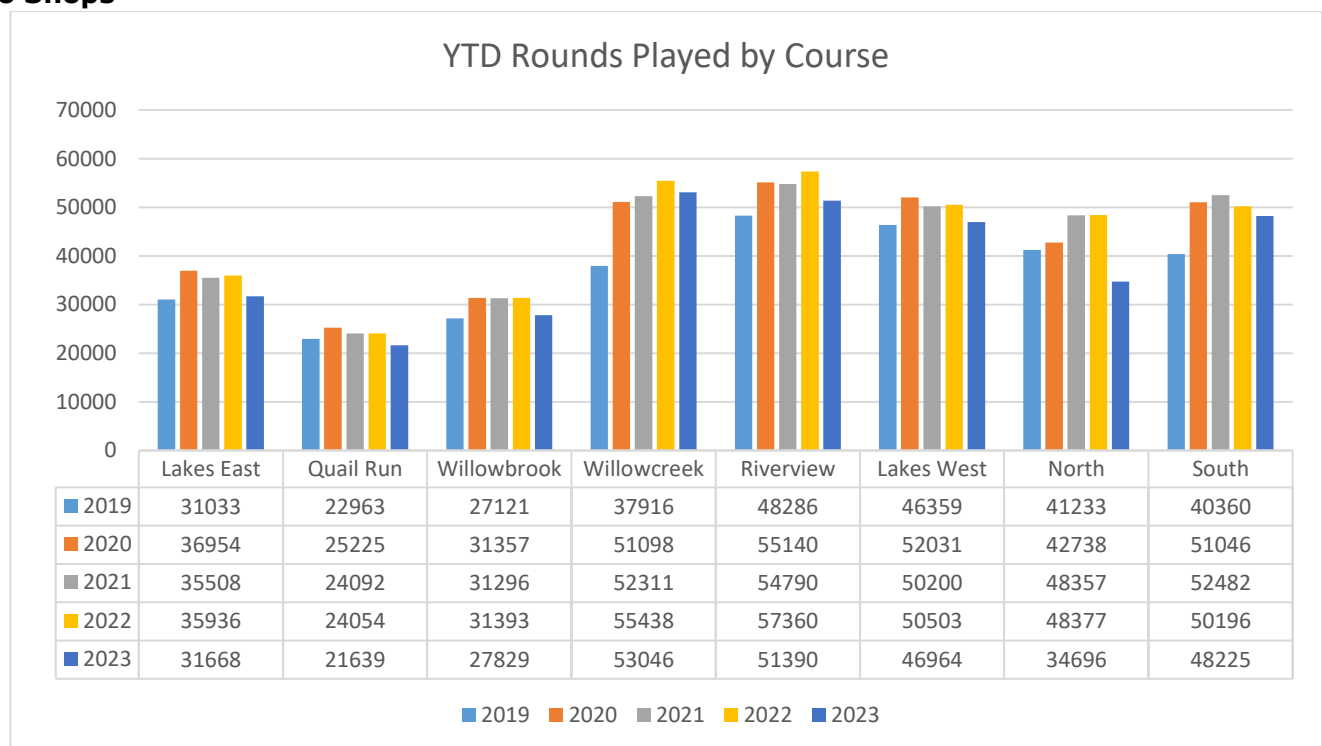
RCSC Staff: Director of Golf and Grounds Brian Duthu; Course Superintendent Chuck Hyppa

Guests: RCSC Board Secretary Jean Totten, RCSC Board Candidates Preston Kise, Connie Jo Richtmyre and Cardholders Lynn Lybolt, Mike Matusz, Karen Matusz, Jim Linam, Michael Wermers, Bob Long

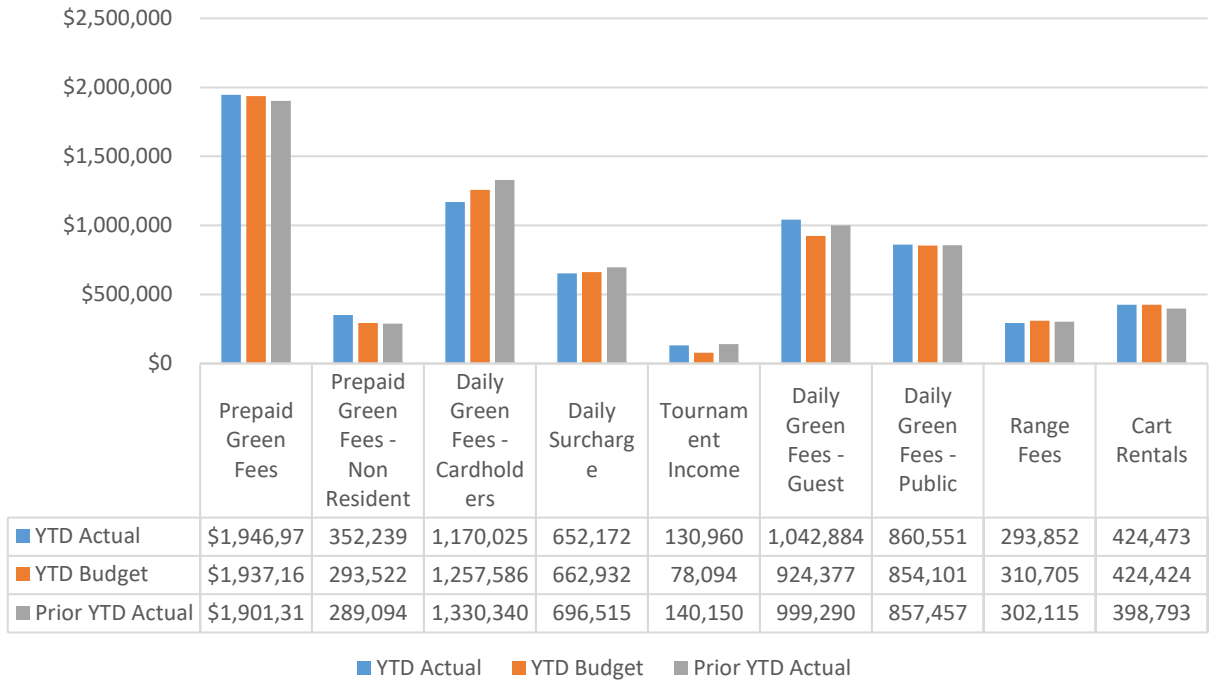
Prior Meeting Summary: The Meeting Summary for November 9, 2023 was approved as presented.

Brian Duthu, Director of Golf & Grounds Report & Chris Linam, Pro Shop Manager Report:

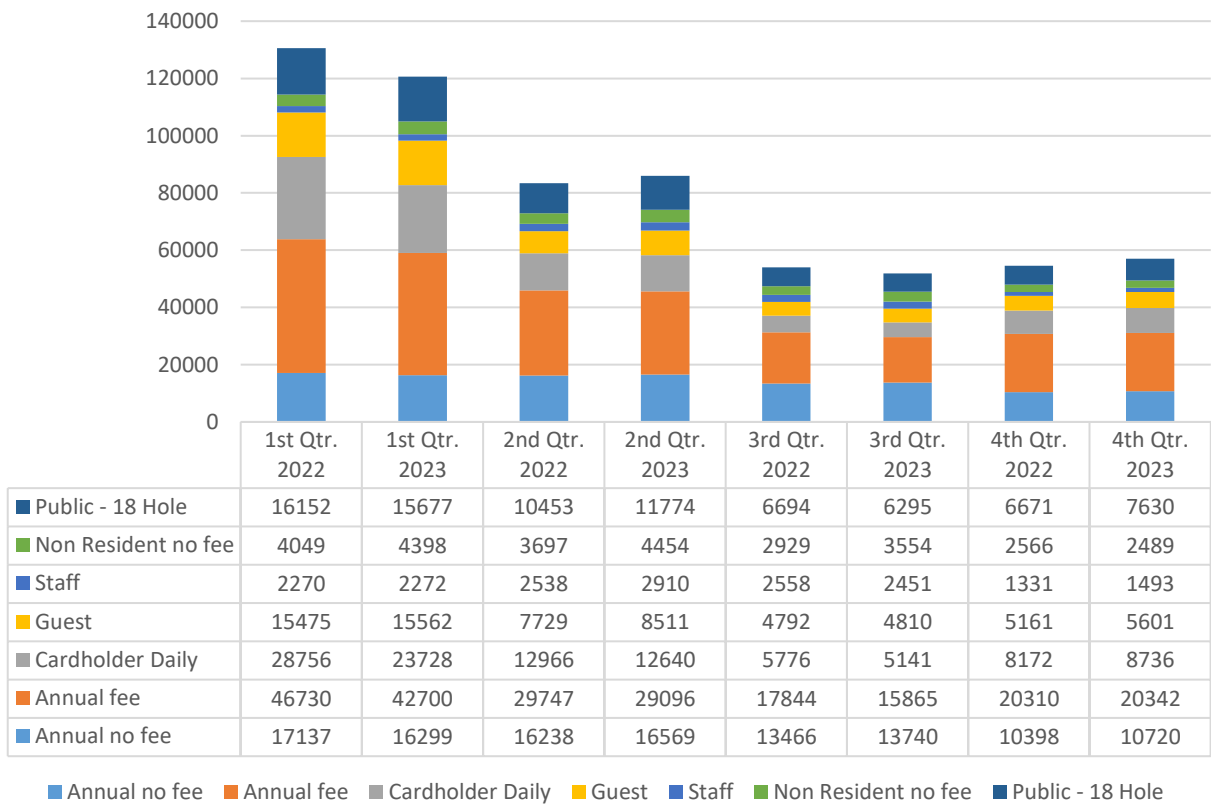
Pro Shops



YTD Golf Revenue Comparison



YTD Rounds Comparisons by Quarter

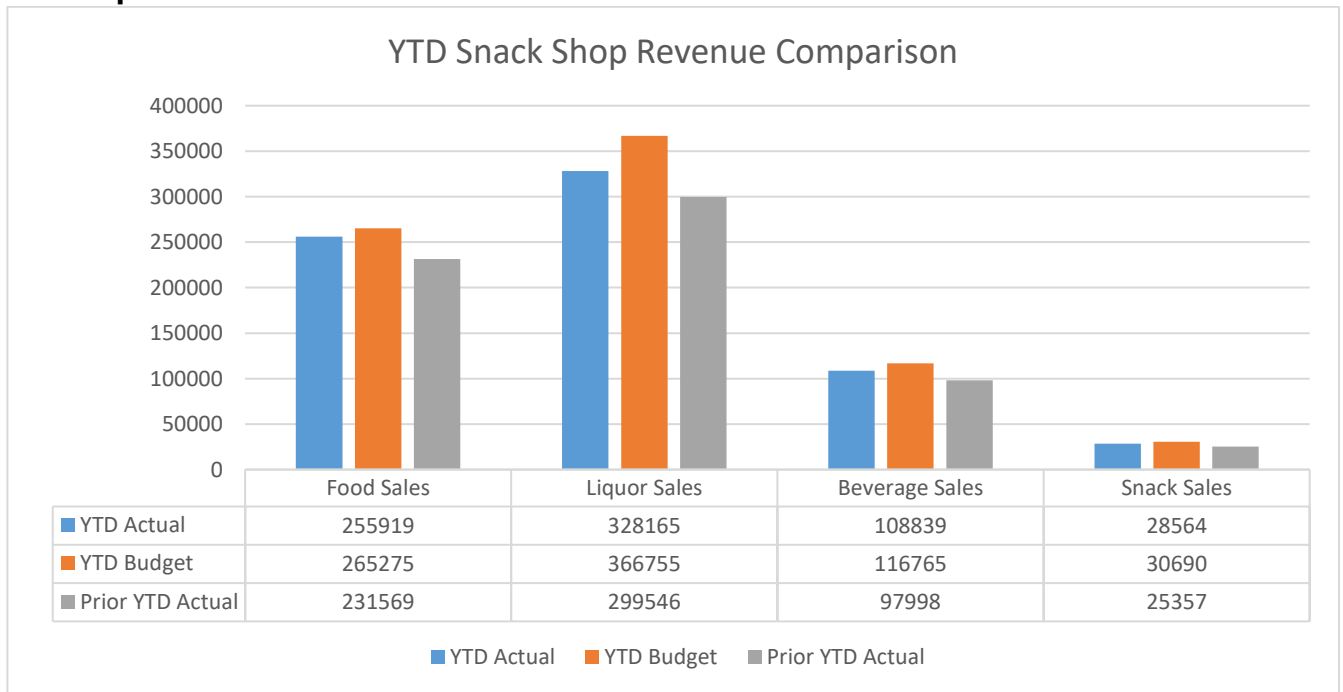


- 18.2% of total rounds played by Annual (Resident) No Fee Passholders YTD
- 34.2% of total rounds played by Annual Surcharge Passholders YTD
- 15.9% of total rounds played by Resident Cardholders YTD
- 4.7% of total rounds played by Annual (Non-Resident) Passholders YTD
- 13.1% of total rounds played by Public Golfers YTD
- 10.9% of total rounds played by Guests
- 2.9% of total rounds played by Staff

On December 1st we held our fundraising Beat the Pros Tournament to raise funds for the Sun City Foundation. Though the field was smaller than we had hoped those in attendance enjoyed a fun round of golf, food and prizes. The list of those that "Beat the Pros" is too large to list here, as the entire field benefitted from an off day from both Brian Duthu and Chris Linam, with each team managing to beat the lackluster 73 posted by the Pros. Each player received \$10 in sweeps money posted to their RCSC account. Once again the Pebble Beach Vacation for a hole in one on hole number 11 went unclaimed. Even though the field was small, those that played were generous allowing us to raise \$920 for the Sun City Foundation.

We have begun tracking our "bump rate", for those using the lottery system to secure tee times, to gauge the effectiveness of the changes made in golf operations to provide more opportunity for residents. At the time of this report only the first 10 days of December were available, but the early results are promising. For the first ten days we have seen an increase in the number of requests of 1.54%, from 5,521 in 2022 to 5,606 in 2023. During that same time period we have had decrease in the bump percentage of 7.57%, in 2022 we had 860 golfers bumped at a rate of 15.58%, this year we have had 449 golfers bumped for a rate of 8.01%. We will be tracking this data throughout the peak season and providing updates monthly.

Snack Shops



Superintendent Update

All 8 of RCSC's golf courses are doing and playing very well. We have been encouraged with the slightly warmer weather as of late, which has given the courses a chance to not only fill in and mature but has allowed us an opportunity to get to our desired mowing heights. Points of emphasis throughout the courses this time of year are details, details, details. We are continuing to check the sand depths in our bunkers, specifically green side bunkers. We will be making every attempt to keep our roughs weed free. We have all gotten on a bi-weekly fertilizer program that mainly consists of liquids which has been much more efficient and easier to work with.

I hope you all are enjoying the straight Perennial Ryegrass overseed as well as the expanded green banks. This stand of grass provides a much more consistent playing surface and is aesthetically pleasing to the eye. In regard to our putting surfaces across all of our courses we are trying to be consistent and achieve a daily stimp meter reading between 8.5 and 9. With many variables, mainly wind, the greens may roll a touch faster on any given day. But our goal remains to provide consistency from course to course. I have encouraged my staff to take readings of green speed twice weekly as this provides us great feedback instantly.

Lastly, please continue to do your part by raking bunkers after each use, fixing ball marks on the greens and filling your divots. On behalf of the RCSC golf course maintenance teams we wish you all a Merry Christmas and happy golfing!

Questions asked of Director of Golf Brian Duthu:

Why is the speed of greens different at each course? The response was that as we come out of overseed they will begin to come closer together.

Your report on bump rates is only for 10 days, do you think they will stay the same? The response was yes, we are working with the developer to see if we can get better.

SCMGA Report: No Report

SCWGA Report:

- **Ladies 9-hole:** No Report
- **Ladies 18-hole:** The Better Ball Tournament was a success. We have just had our first meeting and things are going well.

Discussion Items:

- Continued Use of 5 carts and their impact on the courses
- A Lengthy discussion was had between members and the Director of Golf Brian Duthu and Superintendent Chuck Hyppa. There is definite compaction on the course especially at entry and exit points to the fairways and around tee boxes and greens.
- Have Rangers enforce the 90-degree rule and have them ask for receipts and handicap cards. Have them start writing tickets to violators of all rules.
- What do I do when I am asked to have an outsider ride with me? Make sure cart paths are used as directed.

- Some courses use a 30-yard restriction from greens to make players return to cart path. This was done in the past and paths started showing at the 30-yard mark.
- The 90-degree rules when driving to the fairway and or the rough.
- What kind of course do we want to play on? In general, a nice playable course.
- We should leave the decision to the Director and his staff. One of our members stated we need to do what's best for the courses and not let them deteriorate due to excessive cart traffic.
- At this point a motion was made and seconded **“That Board Policy 17 be changed to restrict the number of carts to 3 per group”**. Motion passed 7 for 3 against and 1 abstained.
- A recommendation was made to clarify Board Policy 17 to indicate there would be 6 voting members 3 men 3 women and the term of greens committee members be 3 years. Elections will be held by the greens committee and ballots will be collected at the pro shop. Chair Steve Collins will add proper wording and take it to the RCSC Board for action.

Board Policy 17 will be addressed later.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Comments: Johnny Pearson reiterated much of our discussion and suggested other methods be used to restrict cart movement on the courses and that rangers be more assertive in enforcing rules.

Andre Cassabonne President of SCMGA had his last meeting and will be replaced by Johnny Pearson.

Course Reports:

North	Maintenance is doing a wonderful job. The course is very dry and a little shaggy because they haven't mowed yet. Please attend Greens Committee meetings to stay informed.
South	Very good shape. The divot party was a great success with over 40 helpers with a chili get together afterward.
Quail Run	No Report
Lakes West	Yardage markers needed. Please use cart paths. The course is in great shape.
Lakes East	No Report
Riverview	Need more Rangers. The course is in good shape.
Willow Creek	Harry Emerson reported that both WC and WB are reaping the benefits of coming out of a good overseed and the courses are in great shape. The surroundings in particular are well received by our players. We are seeing the effects of a high incidence of divots that are not being filled in and ball marks not being repaired. Mother Nature is on our side for another month maybe, but this will be further exacerbated as the temperatures drop. We are in our third year of the “adopt a hole program” and have 5 more volunteers this year,

but still the level of play is too much to keep up. Appreciate everyone's help on this.

Linda Sears' initiative last year increased the number of rangers greatly, but the ranger program needs to be advanced to offer more flexible perks so not as to 'disincentive' annual pass holders. Right now, the \$2 chit does an annual pass holder no good as his play is already paid for. Recommend that these chits are allowed to aggregate over the year based on the same criteria and be applied to the annual renewal.

Harry asked everyone to look forward to the next budget year so we can get our input to Budget and Finance early and not wait until the summer as we did this year. For example, a paid ranger program would go a long way to address many of the issues we discuss here on a monthly basis with no resolution in many cases. That would run in the neighborhood of \$500-600K and has to be paid for.

He offered to bring a list of talking points to start our discussion at January's meeting. For example, addressing the high percentage of wage grade turnover (40% this year) by closing the gap even more that we did this year; increasing the headcount to at an 85% USGA staffing level as right now we run 65-70% at most courses; while our courses are in ok to good shape, the additional headcount along with effective management and reduced turnover could allow us to get to an even higher standard of golf course. A paid ranger program will contribute as well. These are just a few points to discuss. All of these have to be paid for in the recommendation, and the only place to do that is rate increases in some reasonable annual fashion. Recommend items to be discussed starting in January so we can get ahead of the budget formulation cycle.

Willow Creek: Good shape. Cart path only resulting in divots not being filled.

Willow Brook: No report

Other Comments:

Golf Carts are damaging courses.

Rangers need to start writing tickets for violations.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 10:02am..

Next Meeting: January 18, 2024 at 8:30am – at Lakeview Center Social Hall #2

Respectfully submitted,

Rich Lybolt, Secretary