

RECREATION CENTERS OF SUN CITY, INC.

Golf Advisory Committee

January 18, 2024

Co-Chair Preston Kise called the meeting to order at 8:30am in the Lakeview Social Hall #2.

Present: Co-Chair Preston Kise; Committee Members Rich Lybolt; Johnny Pearson (SCMGA President); Cristi Dorsch (Willowcreek); Johnny Portillo (North); Jody Ault (North); Linda Sears (Riverview); Harry Emerson (Willowcreek); Sue Madden (SCWGA 9-hole); Diane Hull (Lakes West); Dennis Meeter (Quail); Mike Lust (South); Michael Wermers (North); Arlene Balazic (SCWGA 18); John Bressett (Willowbrook); Cal Frank (Riverview); Karen Larson (SCWGA 9); Shirley Fennell (South); Betty Lust (Lakes East); Bob Mousaw (North);

RCSC Staff: General Manager Matthew D’Luzansky; Director of Golf Brian Duthu; Pro shop Manager Chris Linam; RCSC Board Director Connie Jo Richtmyre

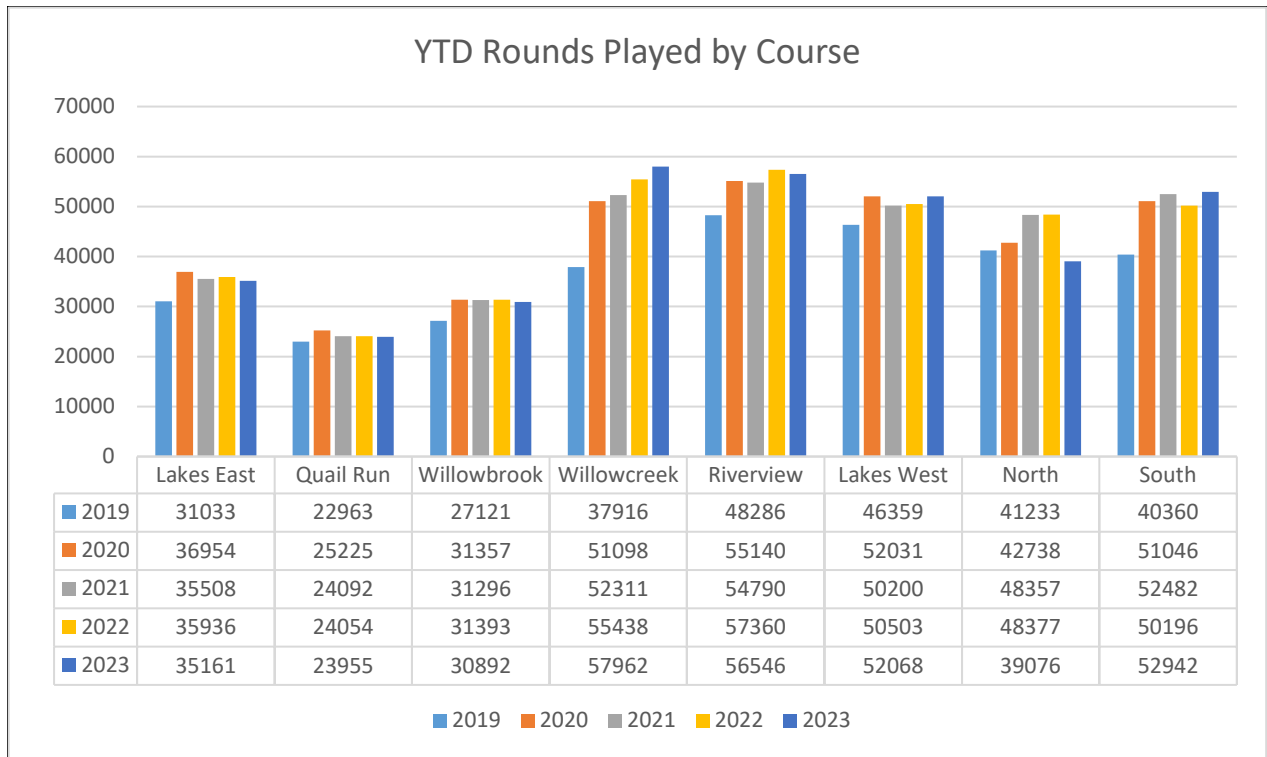
Guests: Cardholders Dan Anderson, Mike Matusz, Ed Miller, Karen Matusz, Loretta Kvarnberg, Roger Nelson, Fred Davis, Doug Barton, Jim Linam, Mark Rose, Jaye Sprague, Paul Ridgway, Janet Curry, Steve Pirro, Bill Talbert, Jack McCall, Ron Mysel

Review/Amend Meeting Summary: The Summary from the December 7, 2023 meeting was accepted as presented.

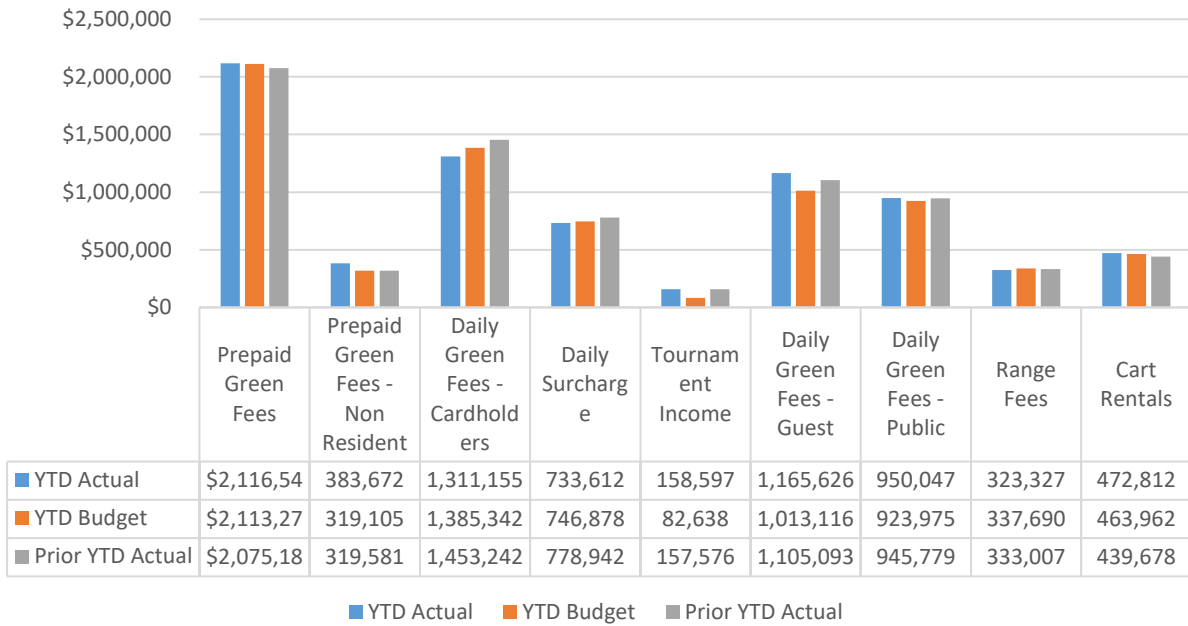
Election of 2024 Secretary: Rich Lybolt was elected Secretary for 2024.

Brian Duthu, Director of Golf Report:

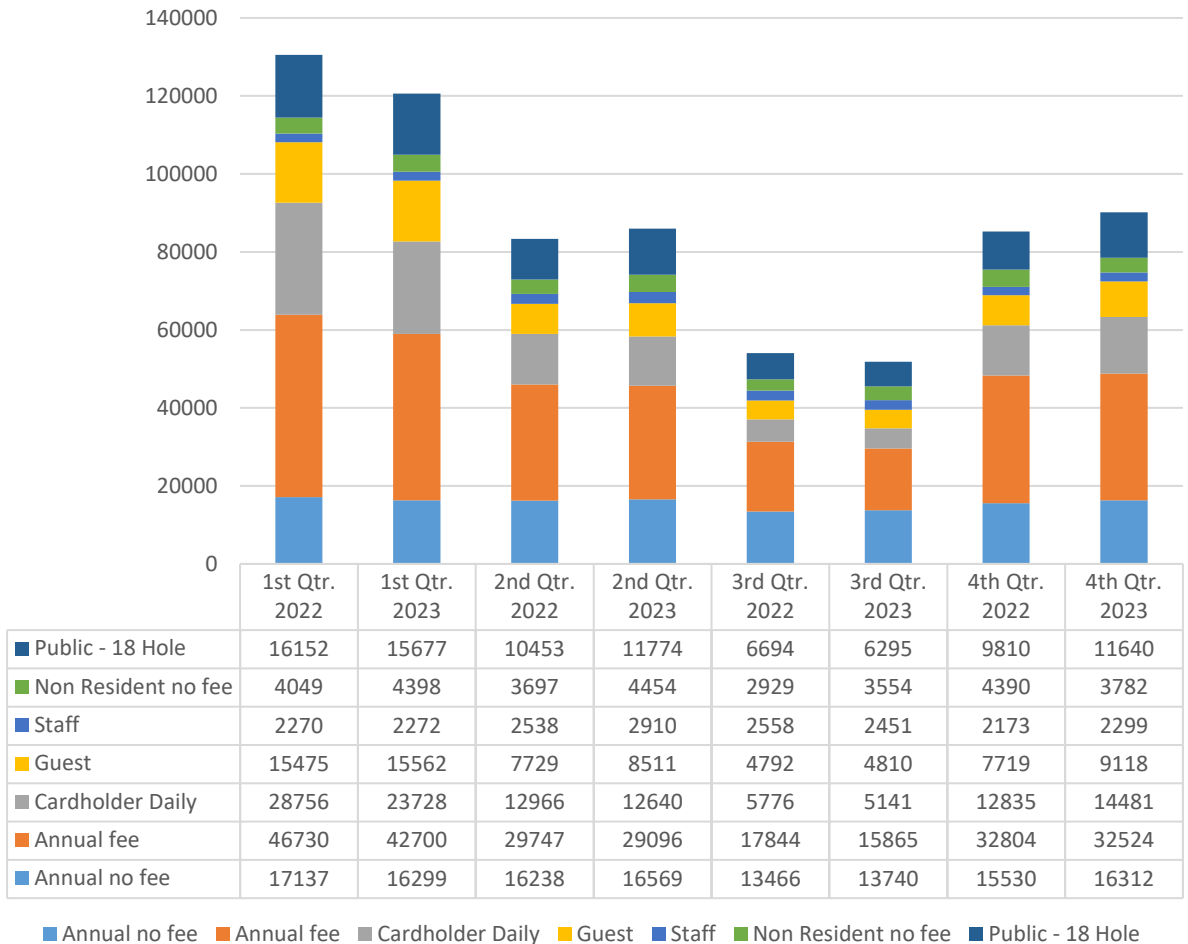
Pro Shops



YTD Golf Revenue Comparison



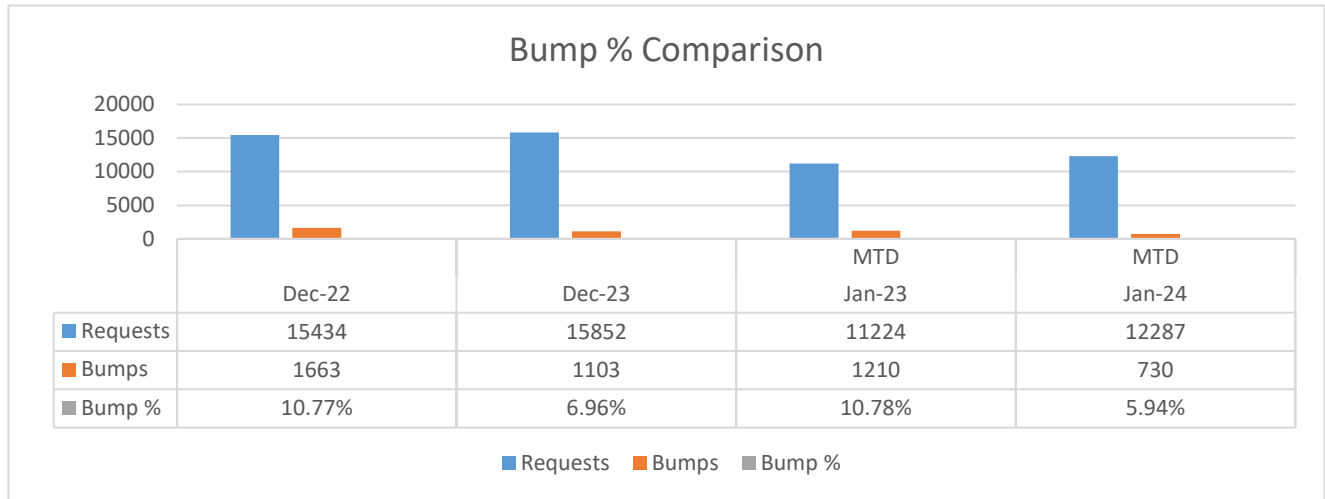
YTD Rounds Comparisons by Quarter



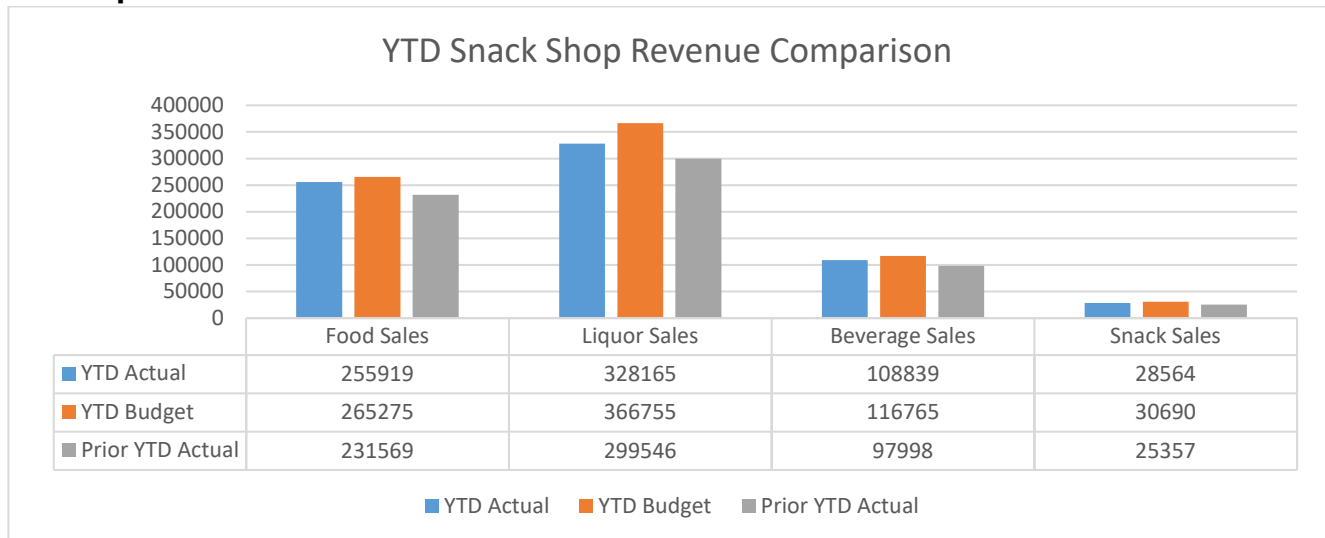
- 18.05% of total rounds played by Annual (Resident) No Fee Passholders YTD
- 34.48% of total rounds played by Annual Surcharge Passholders YTD
- 16.06% of total rounds played by Resident Cardholders YTD
- 4.64% of total rounds played by Annual (Non-Resident) Passholders YTD
- 13.02% of total rounds played by Public Golfers YTD
- 10.90% of total rounds played by Guests
- 2.85% of total rounds played by Staff

On March 7th Lakes East/Lakes West will be hosting the annual Teal Ribbon Tournament. The event is open to ladies and men and no handicap is required. It is a 9-hole event with a 9:30am shotgun start, and lunch follows play at Sundial. The proceeds benefit the University of Arizona Cancer Center for Ovarian Cancer research. The entry fee is \$35.00 per person, entry forms may be picked up and turned in to any pro shop.

In December we began formal tracking of our "bump rate" (those golfers requesting a tee time through the lottery that were unsuccessful), to gauge the effectiveness of our operational changes to free up tee times.



Snack Shops



Superintendent Update

All the golf courses seem to be handling the recent frosts nicely. Our liquid fertilizer program has seen many benefits this winter mainly the vigor of the plant. We have seen ball roll on the greens consistent throughout each course. The fairways on our properties are still producing a clipping yield which tells me that our nutrient intake is right on track. As we have seen some rather cold mornings please continue to repair ball marks on the greens. If ball marks are not repaired and we have frost on the turf it is a much longer healing process and can lead to stress of the plant tissue and bumpy surfaces. As we move into early February all 8 courses will be making the first of two pre-emergent herbicide applications in an attempt to suppress the encroachment of Goose and Crabgrass along with Nutsedge. This is a major point of emphasis for all RCSC courses. The teams are working hard daily to provide a wonderful playing experience for you all. We appreciate your continued support.

2024 AERIFICATION/VERTICUTTING DATES

Golf Course will be Closed

Fairway Verticutting

Thu-Fri	April 18, 19	Willowbrook
Mon-Tue	April 22, 23	Willowcreek
Thu-Fri	April 25, 26	Riverview
Mon-Tue	April 29, 30	Lakes West
Thu	May 2	Quail Run
Mon-Tue	May 6, 7	South

Fairway/Green Aerification

Start	End	
May 20	May 31	Willowbrook
June 3	June 14	Willowcreek
June 17	June 28	Riverview
July 1	July 12	North
July 15	July 26	Lakes West
July 29	Aug 9	Lakes East
Aug 12	Aug 23	South
Aug 26	Sept 6	Quail Run

2024 OVERSEED SCHEDULE

Golf Course will be Closed

<u>Course</u>	<u>Overseed</u>	<u>Opens</u>	<u>Off Cart Path</u>
South	Sept 23	Oct 11	Nov 1
Lakes West	Sept 23	Oct 11	Nov 1
Riverview	Sept 23	Oct 11	Nov 1
Willowbrook	Sept 23	Oct 11	Nov 1
North	Oct 14	Nov 1	Nov 22
Lakes East	Oct 14	Nov 1	Nov 22
Quail Run *	Oct 14	Nov 1	Nov 22
Willowcreek	Oct 14	Nov 1	Nov 22

As of 1-15-2024

- * If temperatures are too high for Sept 23 start first wave will be pushed back one week, resulting in one week overlap of course closures.
- * Quail Run overseed dependent irrigation project, if slated to begin late 2024 or early 2025 overseeding may be skipped.

Questions asked of Director of Golf:

- Did last year have an excess to budget? The answer was yes, however we did purchase chemicals with some of the excess.
- The number of rounds played per year at Riverside was down, do you know why? The response was Player's preference, and it was not down significantly.

Chris Linam, Pro Shop Manager Report:

Pro Shops

Pro shop & range sales beat budget for December so thanks to everyone for supporting RCSC.

Our SCMGA & SCWGA will be holding some great tournaments in February. The SCMGA 2 Man Extravaganza is scheduled for February 9, 10, 16 & 17th also some Great Ladies Team Play. More events this Spring and we are looking forward to the great 65–70-degree days. You can find all events on your RCSC Golf Calendar.

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 or call 623-876-8419. The Get Golf Ready class is without a doubt the best value for your dollar.

If you have your 2025 league/Tournament schedule set and we have not received them yet please be sure to send it to me Via Email at clinam@suncityaz.org or in person so we can get it on the calendar and don't forget to go to the Clubs Office to book your rooms for your awards banquets and lunches. Also, if you book a room at any of the centers and you are not going to use the room, please be sure to cancel it with the Clubs Office. Each room can bring an additional income of around \$500 and don't forget the manpower it takes to set up and tear down the room.

Questions asked of Pro Shop Manager:

- Who is responsible for the Golf Calendar? Chris responded that he was responsible.
- Chris introduced Jaye Sprague the new manager of the rangers. Jaye gave a brief description of things to come for the rangers and enforcement of the rules. She likes to address the problems straight on and resolve them on the spot.

SCMGA Report:

SCMGA President, Johnny Pearson discussed the upcoming tournaments for February (see golf Calendar). The SCMGA does not support the return to 3 carts over 5. They are working with HandiComp to correct the disparity of handicaps when players compete together but from different tees.

SCWGA Report:

- **Ladies 9-hole:** Just getting started and working on the Octogenarian tournament.
- **Ladies 18-hole:** A new group is just starting so nothing to report.

Old Business:

Committee Member, Harry Emerson introduced the idea of the Golf Advisory Committee (GAC) getting in front of the 2025 budget cycle rather than repeating the lack of process we had for 2024 budget formulation. He presented a handout offering ideas for “GAC input to the 2025 Budget Process” and ideas for “How to Pay for it” along with an iterative process to proceed. The goal would be to have GAC approved input to the Finance & Budget Committee by the April meeting.

PROPOSED INPUTS TO 2025 BUDGET PROCESS

- **Increase wage grade starting rate to align with area courses.** We are losing trained golf course workers at the rate of 40% annually. In 2024 we increased their rate by approximately 9.2%. SCW, SCG, and Westbrook Village are in the \$17-18 an hour range and we are just under \$16. If not we will continue to suffer turnover, which adversely impacts the maintenance of our courses.
- **Increase the headcount of the wage grade staffing to close the gap with USGA guidance.** USGA guidance is one worker per hole. Using Willowcreek/Willowbrook as an example, that would equate to $18+9=27$ staffing level (using 50% for a short course). We currently have 17 full time and 2 part time authorized hiring levels. That equates to a 67% staffing level. At a level of 85% that is 23 full-time hires. Clearly inadequate to accomplish all we ask of them.
- **Implement a paid ranger program.** Our current program, while a wonderful improvement from last year, still does not provide the coverage and effectiveness we need. The cost of this program is estimated to be in the \$500-600K range.

- **Bring back the built in scheduled sand trap refresh guidance.** We passed this two years ago and then under pressure, ‘unpassed’ it the next month. North is a good example of not having a plan like this built into the budget process. Willowcreek/Willowbrook is not far behind.
- **Other?**
- **Other?**

HOW DO WE PAY FOR ALL OF THIS?

- **Apply an inflation adjustment of 3.1% + 2% catch up to both categories of annual passes.** Leave the daily walk on rate for RCSC residents and their guest alone this time. They have had a bump every year and the annual categories have not.
- **Apply the same to non-resident w/o cart annual passes and the non-resident walk on rate.**
- **Increase the range ball fees.**
- **Implement a trail fee of \$150 annually.**

A number of committee members offered ideas for consideration and inclusion. Linda Sears (RV), Jody Ault (N), Johnny Portillo (N), Arlene Balazic (SCWGA) , Cristi Dorsch (WC) agreed with the concept and feel we need to move forward and be proactive. Sue Madden (Q) also agreed but wanted management to provide turnover data, employment longevity, and any other data elements that are needed along the way. She also felt we need to keep it at a strategic level as much as possible and out of the weeds. Diane Hull (LW) felt a wait and see was necessary to be able to evaluate the impacts of the recent rate increases.

After discussion, it was agreed that:

- Everyone to go back to their committees and discuss the handout/ideas and formulate their input from their committee;
- This input will be submitted to Harry Emerson not later than 2 days prior to the February meeting for consolidation;
- The revised talking points will be collated and merged for the February GAC.

New Business:

Member Roster was circulated for updating.

Co-Chair Kise suggested a change to Board Policy 17 to move items out of BP#17 and give them to the Director of Golf. The suggested change is to be reviewed by each Greens Committee and brought back to the GAC at February’s meeting.

Proposed changes are:

General Golf Rules & Regulations

All guests 18 years of age and younger must be accompanied by an adult (*19 years of age or older*). Children under 8 years of age are not permitted to play the courses or use the practice facilities. Children 8 years of

age and older are permitted on all driving ranges and practice facilities and may play the Executive Courses after 1:00pm seven days a week. Children 12 years of age and older are permitted to use all courses and practice facilities. During the period of April 1 through October 31, organized junior golf events may be booked for participants ages five and older. Such events must be organized by a recognized local, state or national organization, be highly supervised and follow established guidelines for booking events. A Cardholder is not required to play with an adult guest 19 years of age or older, but the Cardholder must be in good standing and send his/her valid and current RCSC card with the guest to sign in for play.

1. All RCSC Member and Privilege Cardholders (hereinafter referred to as “Cardholders”), in good standing, and their invited guests may use RCSC golf facilities for a reduced rate by presenting a Member or Privilege card. All players and their guests must check in with RCSC personnel at the pro shop prior to entering the course and at least 15 minutes prior to their scheduled tee time. After 5 pm when the pro shops are closed, All Course No Fee Golf Permits and After 5 Golf Cardholders are allowed to play without checking in with RCSC personnel.
2. ~~Men must wear shirts with sleeves; women cannot wear halters or bra type tops. Bare feet are not allowed and metal spikes and turf type athletic shoes are not permitted. Shorts must be hemmed; short shorts, cut-off shorts and bathing or swimming attire is not permitted.~~
3. ~~Cardholders and their invited guests shall follow golf etiquette rules common to the game of golf. The Director of Golf, or his/her designee, shall have the authority to enact and enforce any administrative rule or policy which contributes to good golf etiquette; speeds up play; and/or protects the safety of the golfers or spectators. Such rules may be posted in the pro shops and/or on the golf course and/or on the scorecard.~~
4. ~~For safety reasons, no more than two people and two golf bags are permitted on the cart. The driver must have a valid driver’s license. There should be no more than three carts for any group on all courses. During periods of normal operation, riders in rental carts will be required to ride two persons per cart when possible. At the discretion of the Director of Golf, fivesomes may be allowed on executive courses. Motorized carts must be kept at least 30 feet from the greens and parked on the path while putting. It is permissible to park off the path around tee boxes for the purpose of seeking shade. Carts should stay on the paths or in the “rough” as much as possible. Special attention should be given to avoid leaving the path in areas where the grass is wet or worn. When it is necessary to leave the path, the 90-degree rule should be followed. This means staying on the path until opposite your ball, driving straight to it, and straight back after hitting. All pull carts must remain in the highest cut of grass around greens and tee boxes. Handicap golf permits are available at the Golf Administrative Office at the Riverview Pro Shop. Rules may differ for golfers who have a handicap golf permit. Handicap golf rules will be disbursed at the same time the permit is issued.~~
5. ~~Non-golfers are not allowed on the course, including cart paths, during golfing hours, excluding a rider who must remain in the golf cart at all times. Golfing hours are defined as beginning at the first tee time until sunset. Organized events may allow spectators at the discretion of the Director of Golf.~~
6. ~~Except for bicycles specifically manufactured for golf course use and approved by the Director of Golf, bicycles are not allowed on the golf course, including cart paths, during golfing hours, defined as beginning at the first tee time until sunset.~~
7. ~~Practicing is not allowed on the course at any time; use practice facilities for this purpose. Range baskets are not permitted outside of practice facilities.~~
8. **2.** Renewal of annual golf permits/passes can be done prior to the expiration date, however, if the card is due to expire after such time that there is an increase in the fee for an annual golf permit/pass, the renewal will be done at the new increased rate or at an earlier date. If annual property assessments are not current, annual golf permits/passes will not be honored.

- 9.3. The Recreation Centers of Sun City has established the following guidelines for tires used on our eight (8) golf courses:
- a. Tires used on the vehicle must be referred to as a golf course tire by the manufacturer
 - b. Tires must have a rounded vertical tread with a depth not to exceed ¼ inch
 - c. Tire width must be minimum of eight (8) inches
 - d. The pressure of the tire must not exceed 28 PSI

Comments: The following comments were made:

- Why now, couldn't this have waited at least until summer?
- Why 3 carts and not 4?
- I will not ride with a stranger.
- Rangers need to enforce the rules.
- It is a player problem for not following the rules i.e. 90 degrees from fairway or rough to the cart path.
- 3 Carts will make the round play longer.
- How did this get passed? No consideration was given to the players' wants and needs.
- Remove 5some's.
- I agree with all that has been said.

Course Reports:

North: Course is coming along. Back 9 is dormant and dry. Next year will be better.

South: Very good shape.

Quail: Course is in great shape.

Lakes East: Good shape.

Lakes West: No report.

Riverview: The course is in good shape.

Willowcreek/Willowbrook: Both courses are reaping the benefits of coming out of a good overseed and the courses are in great shape. Surrounds in particular are well received by our players.

Additional Comments:

The GAC does not meet in June, July, and August.

The GAC represents the golf courses, and the players.

This is a coveted work environment, and most workers are happy here and enjoy their job.

Adjournment: The Meeting was adjourned at 10:09am.

Next Meeting: February 15, 2024 at 8:30am – Lakeview Center Social Hall #2

Respectfully submitted,

Rich Lybolt, Secretary