# RECREATION CENTERS OF SUN CITY, INC.

# Golf Advisory Committee April 10, 2025

Chair Preston Kise called the April 10, 2025 meeting to order at 8:30am in the Lakeview SH#2.

Present: Chair Preston Kise, Co-Chair John Bressett; Committee Members Barry Broomham (SCMGA President); Mike Lust (South); Cal Frank (Riverview); Betty Lust (Lakes East); Doug Carlton (VP SCMGA); Sue Madden (Quail); Rich Lybolt; Cindy Aguilar (SCWGA); Harry Emerson (Willowbrook/Willowcreek); Debi Gaines (SCWGA); Polly Thompson (Lakes West); Cristi Dorsch (Willowcreek); Vown Drohman (Willowbrook); Dennis Meeter (Quail); Bill Talbert (Lakes East); Mariann Peterson (North); Bob Brandolini (Lakes West); Linda Hardman (Willowbrook); Shirley Fennell (South)

**RCSC Staff:** Golf Sr. Leader Brian Duthu, Golf Shop Manager Chris Linam, Assistant Superintendent Michael Wermers

Guests: Board President Tom Foster, and 17 Cardholders

**Review/Amend Prior Meeting Summary**: The Summary from the March 13, 2025 meeting was accepted as presented.

It was announced that the Riverview maintenance building motion passed the second reading by the RCSC Board.

The Long-Range planning committee ask for 3 quotes on the South and North courses planned projects. We are waiting for those quotes.

The Director of Golf position has been posted.

#### Brian Duthu, Golf Sr. Leader Report:

#### **Pro Shops**

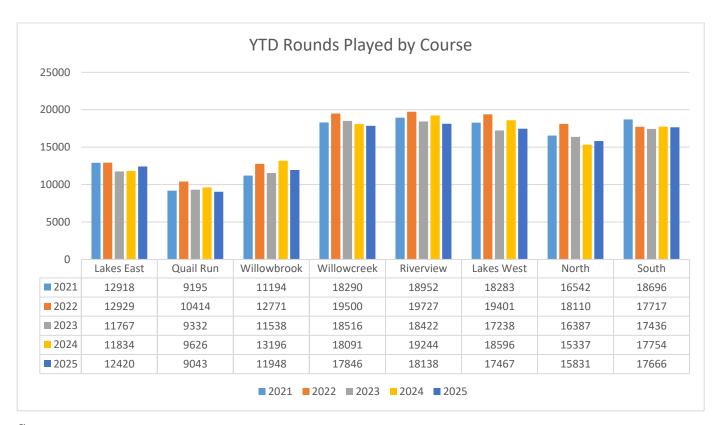
Overall, the financial performance for the month shows a mix of results. **Green Fee/Cart Fee** revenue of \$895,065 is 91.4% of the budget but 3.2% higher than last year. **Merchandise** sales are below both budget and prior year, while **Driving Range** revenue is slightly under budget but up 5.2% compared to last year. **Club Rentals** are significantly higher than last year, despite falling short of budget.

Total revenue (excluding prepaid) of \$964,490 is slightly ahead of last year. The **average Green Fee/Cart Fee revenue per round** has increased by 12.5% from last year.

### **Superintendent Update (Chuck Hyppa)**

As the weather begins to warm up we are seeing a great amount of Bermuda grass showing itself. The courses have made their first herbicide application to the overseeded turf to slowly help eradicate the rye. This process is slow moving but essentially paralyzes the rye and this allows Bermuda a chance to wake up and begin moving by taking up water and nutrients and having less competition. We have also begun light topdressing our putting surfaces. This not only helps dilute the thatch layer it will increase our quality of ball roll and encourage the Bermuda to fill in nicely. Our courses have also been aeravating our heavy compacted areas followed up with fertilizing these areas in hopes to gain some early momentum in our recovery. We look forward to a great summer! We appreciate your continued support.

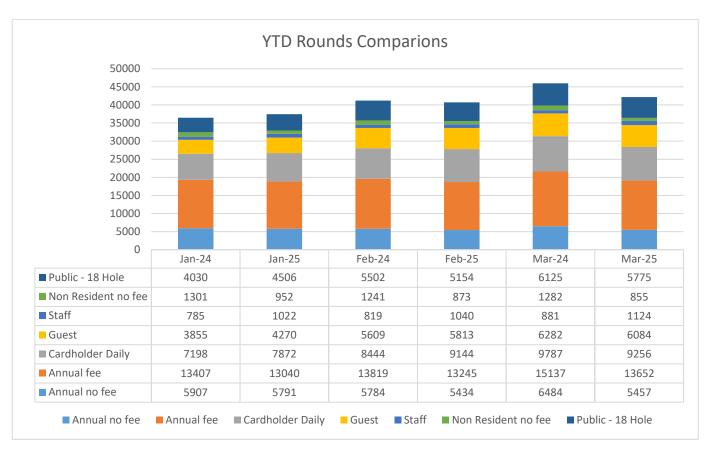
Landscapes Unlimited began formal work on the Quail Run renovation beginning April 7 and Pacific Aquascapes expects work to be completed on the lake by April 21, at which point it will begin refilling. Turf has been removed from the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> greens; existing irrigation heads and valve boxes have been removed on holes 1 through 4. Drain lines around the lake will be completed by Landscapes by April 10 and bury pits have been dug on holes 1 and 4. Turf removal through tilling has begun on hole 1.



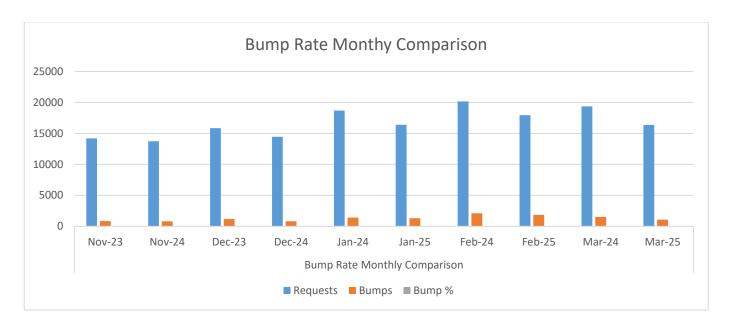
#### **Summary**

- Courses with Growth: Lakes East and North show an increase in 2025, with Lakes East leading the gains.
- **Declining Courses**: Willowbrook, Riverview, and Lakes West show significant declines, with Willowbrook experiencing the largest drop.

• **Stable Performers**: South remained a steady performer, indicating consistent popularity or satisfaction among players.



- 13.86% of total rounds played by Resident Yearly passholders, down from 14.70% last year
- 33.18% of total rounds played by Resident Surcharge passholders, down from 34.25% last year
- 21.83% of total rounds played by Resident Cardholders, up from 20.56% last year
- 2.23% of total rounds played by Non-Resident Yearly passholders, down from 3.09% last year
- 12.82% of total rounds played by Public Golfers, up from 12.66% last year
- 13.43% of total rounds played by Guests, up from 12.73% last year
- 2.65% of total rounds played by Staff, up from 2.01% last year



### **Summary**

In March 2025, the total number of requests decreased to 16,353, down from 19,367 in March 2024. Similarly, the number of bumps also dropped from 1,499 in February 2024 to 1,068 in February 2025. The overall bump rate dropped from 7.44% in March 2024 to 6.53% in March 2025.

Question for Director of Golf Duthu: Harry Emerson asked for a status of the yellow tee request for Willowbrook and Lakes East. The response was that all the American Golf Association (AGA) needs is the new yardages, and they will publish the necessary information. Willowbrook Greens committee is to come up with the timing and mechanics for the modification to Willowbrook.

Harry also asked if we could find the funds for the remainder of this year necessary to fertilize the roughs once before the Bermuda go to sleep and again as it is waking up. There would be two applications vice the current single application. Brian stated the funds will need to be available for the second application. This needs to be considered for the budget input for next year. The application of fertilizer per course is approximately \$40,000.

Question for Chair Kise: Harry Emerson asked for clarification regarding the revenue stream the Long Range Planning Committee (LRP) was asking for input. He understood that they were only interested in O&M while other members heard PIF. Preston stated this needs to be clarified and he is working on it.

Chair Kise asked Director of Golf Duthu what the revenue loss is for the budget. He responded that in the first two months we remain on budget in total because of less expenditures in operations.

### **Chris Linam, Pro Shop Managers report:**

Welcome to April, tax time & snowbirds heading back home for the summer! We want to wish everyone a safe and productive summer and will be looking forward to seeing you all back this fall. With our summer golf starting, a reminder that we will be utilizing our summer split tee sheets. Starting in June we will be having 2 of our 5 regulation courses utilizing split tees and the other 3 courses running straight sheets, split sheets will start at 6:30-8:30am and then run as a straight sheet from 10:45-5:00pm.

We are excited about the Quail Run Renovation that started this Monday and remember, it is a construction site now so please keep your viewing of the project from a far, and for the Quail Run Men's League they will be playing Lakes East golf course on Thursdays & Ladies Club will be at South golf course back 9 on Tuesdays.

With Fairway Verticutting starting this week, we would like to remind everyone that our Single courses (South, North, Riverview & Quail Run) pro shops/snack shops will be closing on the following days so be sure to plan your tee times & breakfast accordingly.

Pro Shop Manager Linam answered the following questions:

From South now that Quail Run is playing the back 9 in front of the South ladies there seems to be some backup and slow play. This could be due to men in front of them as well as Quail Run. What can be done to alleviate this problem? He will look into this issue.

**SCMGA Report:** Barry Broomhand said the Hot Ball Tournament was a success, the next tournament is the Two-man Stableford. There was some concern about the number of carts allowed for the Hot Ball Tournament, as this is a unique tournament and has been done in the past. An allowance was made for the extra carts for this event.

### **SCWGA Report:**

**Ladies 18-Hole:** Cindy Aguilar reported the Champion of Champions (COC) is Joan Hinkey, congratulations Joan. For future COC Tournaments the tees used will be red. Changes to the team play tournaments are coming.

**Ladies 9-Hole:** Debbie Gaines reported their last meeting of the year was held April 17, 2025. Our last Saturday mixer will be held April 12, 2025, at Willowbrook. Each league provided updates, and that Quail Run was officially closed. Our ladies league will start playing the back 9 at South. The 34<sup>th</sup> Teal Ribbon Tournament was very successful, and participants enjoyed great weather. It was also noted that the Pink Ribbon Tournament will be December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025, and is open to both women and men.

**Old Business:** None.

New Business: Co Chair Bressett gave us a handout of charges for golf from Sun City West and asked us to discuss and make recommendations on ways to do something like this for Sun City. The items discussed are:

- 1. 6 8 Month pass. How to monitor and costs
- 2. Changes to accommodate visitors and snowbirds. 66% or 75% of regular charges.
- 3. Limited number of rounds per pass. How to monitor, length of pass, no round per pass.

After much discussion it was agreed that this would be given to the Greens Committee for further discussion and brought back to the Golf Advisory Committee with their recommendations.

Sun City Golf is the only place that has fivesome's and as such must purchase modified software for Point-of-Sale use and the lottery forte times. There are many POS and lottery programs available for scheduling foursomes and we would be much better off financially to go to foursomes.

This topic generated a lot of discussion after which a motion was made by Cristi Dorsch, and seconded by Bob Mousaw "That from June 1, 2025, through the end of Overseed 2025, that we schedule only foursome's and not fivesomes." After discussion noting that the number of players during that time was insufficient to get a feeling of how this would impact golfing in Sun City. A vote was taken with 18 for and 1 against, the motion passed.

BP17 has a conflict in how rangers are compensated and need to be revised. Chair Kise will investigate.

Bikes used on golf courses need to have a standard on what is acceptable and what isn't. This will be addressed.

Sue Madden handed out a Greens Committee worksheet for review by each Greens Committee with comments due next meeting.

## **Course Reports:**

**North:** Course is getting better.

**South:** Course is in excellent shape. There are some dry and wet spots on the course, these are being addressed. Stimp meter is at 9.

**Quail Run:** Course is closed, no report.

**Lakes East:** Course is in good shape. Hole # 14 is being worked on.

**Lakes West:** Course is in good shape and getting better.

Riverview: Course is wonderful.

**Willow Creek:** The course is playing better now than when it came out of overseed with the exceptions of the roughs which were addressed earlier in the meeting. Watering more to wake up the Bermuda but may have overdone it a bit and are backing off. Some surrounds are still a bit thin. The roughs are being punched in the bare areas and fertilized.

**Willow Brook:** Linda Hardman again stated her concern that both executive courses will be closed for overseed at the same time, and at the beginning of the overseed rotation. Concern was noted but was approved in an earlier meeting. She reported the biggest issue with Willowbrook was the number of bare areas currently on the course. Otherwise, the course is in good condition.

#### **Guest Comments:**

Will the front nine at North be overseeded? The response was no.

The fee structure for golf needs to be changed to accommodate part-time residents and Snowbirds.

Every club should pay a fee for the use of facilities to help offset maintenance costs.

Will the excesses dirt from the renovation of Quail Run be used elsewhere? The response was yes, in the North course where possible.

An experience while playing golf and signing up as a twosome. We were added to a threesome who then asked us to go ahead of them as they were playing in a tournament, which we did. Thinking about this led me to believe revenue was being lost due to our taking and added tee time.

Why can't I add a guest on Wednesday during blocked tee times? The response was that you may but only three times. This is a restriction imposed by SCMGA and is not governed by the RCSC Board.

What will happen to the Overseed schedule if we have as hot a year as last? The response was that the schedule will shift and overseed will start when it is deemed possible.

**Adjournment:** The Meeting was adjourned at 10:05am.

Next Meeting: May 8, 2025, at 8:30am – Lakeview Social Hall #2

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Lybolt Secretary