

**Willowbrook/Willowcreek Greens Committee Minutes
7 March 2024 Riverview Meeting Room**

Harry Emerson called the meeting to order at 7:00 am.

Those present: Brian Duthu, Chuck Manning, Harry Emerson, Linda Hardman, Gale McKinney, Cristi Dorsch, Dawn Russo, John Bressett, Mark Smith, Tom Foster, Jean Emerson,

Harry Emerson called for any corrections/additions to the minutes. Tom Foster made a motion to accept the minutes of the March meeting with corrections. Cristi Dorsch seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Reports:

Chuck Manning, WB/WC Superintendent read his March report which I attached. The back side of the report contains a progress report tool which lists the status of completed and ongoing work. This is also attached. The members of the committee felt this tool is helpful in informing the golfers about what is going on at the courses.

There were comments from the group on the increased great shape of the course this year over last year. Although the weather and the rain has been helpful the members felt the increased attention to specific areas to increase playability is also showing.

Questions about the damage workers do the course is negligible and will sometimes occur with wet conditions but these are easily fixed.

The areas around the tees and greens which are composed of bare dirt will be sodded or seeded at the beginning of summer.

When questioned about the height of the grass we were told it is cut shorter to allow the Bermuda to grow while the weather warms up.

Brian Duthu, RCSC Director of Golf read his March report which is attached.

It was noted that in February, revenue exceeded the budget amount. This did not make up for the January revenue below budget but is a good sign, considering how cold January was.

Old Business:

Harry passed out a form "WCWB Golf Input to RCSC 5 Year Strategic Plan", which is attached, and asked members to give him feedback for Golf Advisory.

Gold tees have been requested and submitted for Willowbrook but may have to wait until the work is in progress for turf reduction on the course.

The beautification committee members from WB/WC met and decided to join funds and make decisions together that will benefit both courses. A plan is to install some metal plants around the bathrooms on the courses.

New Business:

There was a question about how scooters are handled with the three-cart rule. At this time the two-wheel scooters do not count against the three carts since only one person can be on the scooter. There may be exceptions, but this was not elaborated. There is not a ruling on the three-wheel scooters used on the courses.

Comments/ Suggestions

WB/WC need more help in the pro shop. This is a demanding job with two courses.

A suggestion to put signs on tee boxes 1 and 10 asking golfers to adhere to the 90-degree rule may remind people of this requirement.

Thursday May 16th is the date for the annual visit by USGA to visit the courses. We can have two representatives for each course

WB # 5 bathroom needs attention.

Dawn Russo, WC 9 Hole President mentioned we need more benches on WC. There are two benches on some holes but no benches at the yellow tee boxes. It's understood that placement is critical, so they do not interfere with the other tee boxes, but most holes have room.

There being no further business John Bressett moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mark Smith. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 a.m.

Jean Emerson

WILLOWBROOK/WILLOWCREEK GREENS COMMITTEE AGENDA
March 7, 2024@7:00 am, Riverview Meeting Room

CALL TO ORDER

CORRECTIONS/ADDITIONS/MOTION TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES from the February Meeting

REPORTS

- BRIAN DUTHU - RCSC DIRECTOR OF GOLF
- CHUCK MANNING - WB/WC SUPERINTENDENT
 - Report
 - Comment card trends
 - Progress Tool update

OLD BUSINESS

- 2025 Budget Formulation. Discussion and recommended additions/deletions/changes from members. (new handout): Proposed final draft before going to Brian
- Results of beautification meeting: Laura, Gale, Linda

NEW BUSINESS

- Update from December Golf Advisory Committee
 - GAC chair proposed change to BP 17-Harry/Brian
 - Changes to Ranger program – Brian
 - Guest complaints re lottery and 3 carts
 - Revised 2025 process now goes to Brian from individual courses
- Other topics?

COMMENTS/ISSUES

1. GLORIA STUMP - WB/WC HEAD STARTER
2. PAT PLANTS - WC MEN'S CLUB MONITOR
3. LAURA HORVATICH - WC 18 HOLE BEAUTIFICATION
4. GALE MCKINNEY - WC 9 LADIES /HOLE BEAUTIFICATION*
5. CRISTI DORSCH - WC 18 HOLE WOMEN'S GOLF ASSN*
6. DAWN RUSSO - WC 9 HOLE PRESIDENT*
7. LINDA HARDMAN - WB 18 HOLE LADIES*
8. LOUISE SARTORIO - WB *
9. Vacant. - WB LADIES*
10. JOHN BRESSETT - WB MEN*
11. NEAL FRY - WB MEN*
12. Vacant - WB MEN'S*
13. TOM FOSTER - WC MEN'S REP*
14. BOB LONG - WC MEN'S REP*
15. HARRY EMERSON - WC MEN'S / Chairman*

GUEST COMMENTS

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Director of Golf Report

March 2024

Pro Shops

Preliminary rounds for February were 41,219, the total was 1,338 greater than prior year. Preliminary revenue shows Green Fee/Cart Fee revenue exceeding budget by \$10,496 and exceeding prior year by \$85,436. Preliminary reports show merchandise missing budget by \$1,216 and Driving Range revenue missing budget by \$7,586.

The bump rate (those golfers requesting a tee time through the lottery that were unsuccessful), continues to show improvement over prior year. We had an increase in the number of requests of 8.15% (18,125 in 2023 versus 19,603 in 2024), however the number of golfers bumped dropped by 2.38% (2,324 in 2023 versus 2,046 in 2024). Overall our bump rate was 10.44% for the month, we did not include lead day in our comparisons to keep the comparison data consistent.

We have scheduled a night golf event for Saturday April 27th at Lakes East. Check-in will begin at 5:30 p.m., dinner will be 6:30 p.m. and play will start at 7:30 p.m. The format will be a two-person scramble, and the entry fee will be \$35.00. Entry forms are available at all pro shops, and we ask that the entries be turned in at Lakes East/Lakes West pro shop. Green fees will be paid on the day of play, entry fees will be due April 15th. The field will be limited to 56 players.

Snack Shops

Snack shops are now closing at 5:00 p.m. on a consistent basis, and will continue to do so until business begins slowing in April.

Golf Courses

The preliminary aerification/overseed schedule presented to Golf Advisory in January and presented to each Green Committee in February, received only one adjustment request. The updated schedule can 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.

As a reminder, we respectfully ask that golfers refrain from entering private property to retrieve errant golf balls. While there are some homeowners that are not bothered by golfers retrieving errant shots, there are many that feel violated when someone enters their property to retrieve a ball. Please remember that when retrieving an errant shot on a homeowners property, you are trespassing, unless you have been given permission to do so. We ask for your cooperation in respecting the property of others.

**GREEN COMMITTEE OF WILLOW BROOK/CREEK GOLF
COURSE
SUPERINTENDENT REPORT Mar 7, 2024
CHUCK MANNING**

COURSE CONDITION:

As the Bermuda grass is starting to green up, we are starting to water the roughs on a more consistent schedule. With that said, Bermuda is greening up, but it will be a while before it really starts growing.

Please fill your divots and repair your ball marks so that those golfers behind you can enjoy their game as well.

With the dormant roughs please be diligent in extinguishing your smoking material

BROOK

Greens: HOC .190" / Soil temperature 42⁰
Stimp Reading 7.9'
Fairways: HOC .600"
Tees, Collars, and approaches: HOC .600"
Green banks/ Street Fronts: HOC 1.5"
Rough: HOC 1.5"

CREEK

Greens: HOC .130" / Soil temperature 42⁰
Stimp Reading 10.3'
Fairways: HOC .600"
Tees, Collars, and approaches: HOC .600"
Green banks/ Street Fronts: HOC 1.5"
Rough: HOC 1.5"

PROJECTS IN PROGRESS:

1. Trimming desert
2. Divots
3. Trimming trees
4. Top dressing greens
5. Trim trees

PROJECTS COMPLETED

1. Complete fertilizer program
2. Completed pesticide/Herbicide applications
3. Divots
4. Top dress greens
5. Applied 1st app of pre-emergent herbicide
6. Put out new rakes
7. Vacuum leaves
8. Pushing and adding sand to bunkers
9. Trim pro shop
10. Top dressed and seed driving range tee

STAFF:

Willow Brook Creek is short one staff member.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call me. Cell: 623-332-6155 Office: (623) 248-4781 Email: cmanning@suncityaz.org

Tool

Post meeting

SHORT TERM ACTIONS REQUIRED	CURRENT STATUS	COMPLETE
Sand trap depth on 8 G L		2/2/2024
Replace twisted divot mix garbage cans	Tops replaced; all new cans put out during overseed	
Replace sand trap rakes with new 24" version	25 on hand; remainder on order	2/28/2024
Install Trash cans/ball washers on yellow tees	4 had pin holes and awaiting replacements	2/5/2024
Remove dead trees on #18WC	Tree expert would like to see how they come out of winter and grow into the summer before cutting down	Waiting for mid summer
Submit work order for inoperative light in the overhand area	Submitted-no status yet	1/9/2024
Submit work order for striping parking at pro shop	Submitted-programmed for summer	Funded not schd
Solutions for excessive wear on par 3s particularly #11WC	Trying soak cycle putting more water down with time to soak in	Testing
Once a week mass effort on Driving Range	Set as a goal. Attempting to double up on Tu and Wed	Testing
Status of additional tables at WC	No updated status	
Move DR to mats 5 Feb	Put out the 5 new mats-evaluate after 2 weeks	2/5/2024

WCWB Golf Input to RCSC 5 Year Strategic Plan

W.C. Wood

• Strategic priorities for WCWB golf for 2025 - 2030

• Improve our course conditions and playability comparable to other area courses by:

- Reducing staff turnover rate to 10% annually by closing the pay gap with our labor competition
 - Targeted pay increases to wage grade employees only that close the gap with SCW/Westbrook Village
- Increasing staffing gap by attaining a minimum 85% manning level per USGA guidelines
 - 2025 - Hire back the two slots in 2025 that were cut after desert conversion
 - 2030 - Program additional hires in the outyears to meet the 85% staffing level
- Implement USGA guidelines for sand trap refresh, surround density and areas, other annual USGA recommendations *710 7-5*
- Maintain/expand the current surround footprint
 - ~~Increase the HOG in the fairways and the Bermuda roughs prior to dormancy~~
 - Add yardage markers to driving range
 - Purchase 5 additional mats for driving range
 - Purchase new divot mix boxes as required
 - *Replace course benches as required - can replace broken bench*

2025-2030 time frame

- Contracting desert scape trimming on a bi annual basis
- Replace capital equipment in line with manufacturers recommendations
- Convert the 36 WCWB Teeing Areas like #6 RV
- Widen the tee box and green side parking areas
- *Gold fees for Wg (turn reduction)*
- *Parking BR #4 WC*

• Implement a paid ranger program

- Improve pace of play
- Protect valuable assets
- Enforce policies that enhance course conditions

• Methodology to fund these goals:

- Apply an annual CPI inflation escalator to resident and non resident fees
- Apply an additional annual factor to attain annual goals if necessary
- Implement a no show penalty process to increase revenue