

Willowbrook/Willowcreek Greens Committee Minutes

April 1, 2021 at Talisman Hall

Present: Judy Lawrence, Brian Duthu, Chuck Manning, Gloria Stump, George Wolf, Marcia Grenier, Sue Richmond, Polly Fischette, Mike Conrad, Jim Fitzsimmons, Tim Willhite, Mary Ann Rispoli, Jean Emerson (minutes).

Absent: Laura Horvatic, Barney Alanis,, Terry Chubb.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 a.m. by chairperson Judy Lawrence.

Minutes of the March meeting were emailed to each member. There was a correction on the second page. The 18 Hole WB Club Championship was held on March 2nd. Sue Richmond moved the corrected minutes be accepted, the motion was seconded by Marcia Grenier, and the motion passed.

Committee Reports:

Brian Duthu, Director of Golf, reviewed his April 2021 report. The report is attached. There were no questions.

Chuck Manning, WB/WC Course Superintendent, reviewed his written report, which is attached. Chuck said the pro shop will be sending players off the 10th hole when they are finishing maintenance on the front nine. There was a question about using machines to rake the bunkers. Chuck said they always hand rake the bunkers because the machines cause the lips to break down. There was also a question of safe bunker entrances for some of the bunkers at Willowcreek. Chuck will check the bunkers to ensure there is a level area to enter the bunkers. In reply to a question about the tee boxes Chuck said the placement is on a rotation. Sometimes there is a request for a specific placement and that could place the tee markers in an area that has recently been used. Chuck also reminded people to use the 90 degree rule because the rough is very matted down.

Gloria Stump, WB/WC Head Starter, reported all is going well. She asked about getting additional rangers. We now have three rangers and one is shared with Riverview. A ranger is now on after 4:00 to monitor later golfers.

George Wolf, WB/WC. Ranger reported on the number of rangers.

Marcia Grenier, WC Women's 18 Hole Club, reported that the Champion of Champions Tournament will be held at Willowcreek, North and Riverview.

Golf Advisory brought up a proposal for sprinkler head relief by the greens.

- Relief will be granted with no penalty incurred based on the following conditions:
- Sprinkler head must be within two club lengths of the putting surface.
- Ball must be within two club lengths behind the sprinkler head and the sprinkler head must be in the proposed line of play to the hole.
- Ball must be in closely mown area and not in the rough.
- Relief may be taken within two club lengths right, left or back of the original ball position. No closer to the hole marked with tees in the ground. The ball is dropped and played from the position it lands.

Marcia recommended the greens committee approve the local rule concerning sprinkler heads. The WWGA 18 Hole Board voted in agreement at their last board meeting. Marcia called for a vote on the sprinkler head relief to be used as a local rule and that it be printed on the scorecards. Mike Conrad seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Marcia asked Brian about the combination tees. Although combination tees are not on the course scorecards they were placed on the USGA app. Brian said the combo tees on the app have been removed and the process of adding or changing tees needs to be vetted through committees before a decision can be made.

Sue Richmond, WC Women's 9 Hole Club, reported that all is going well.

Polly Fischette, Men's Club Monitor, reported the men finished their two week championship. The winners were Ray Mack of Willowcreek and John Hutchinson of Willowbrook. Polly asked why the Greens committee is always chaired by the president of Willowcreek 18 Hole Ladies? Most alternate between the men and women's groups.

Mike Conrad, WC Men's Club, reported all is going well and Polly does a great job.

Jim Fitzsimmons, WB Men's Club, said he had nothing to report.

Tim Willhite, WB Men's Club, had nothing to report.

Mary Ann Rispoli, WB 18 Hole Beautification, reported that they had a great tournament and she wished to thank the clubhouse staff.

Laura Horvatich, WC 18 Hole Beautification, Laura was unable to attend so Judy reported for her on the memorial stones. Laura picked up an etched stone she planned to use but the price had changed to \$100.00 from the \$75.00 she was previously quoted. So, instead, she is considering a flat composite stone that would have a label epoxied onto it. A sample stone will be placed by the flagpole and forms for requesting a memorial stone will be by the donation box in the pro shop.

The next meeting of the Greens committee will be in October.

There being no further business Jim Fitzsimmons made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mary Ann Rispoli and the motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Jean Emerson

**GREEN COMMITTEE OF WILLOW BROOK/CREEK GOLF
COURSE
SUPERINTENDENT REPORT April 1, 2021
CHUCK MANNING**

COURSE CONDITION:

April is the month we apply our slow release summer fertilizer. We will be applying the fertilizer a head of play in fwys and roughs during play.

With the warmer temperatures, we have been increasing the water to the roughs and perimeters, but the nighttime temperatures are still a little low for good growth of the Bermuda grass.

Please fill your divots and fix your ball marks on the greens

BROOK

Greens: HOC .190 / Soil temperature 48⁰

Stimp Reading 9.1' @ 6:15am

Fairways: HOC .600"

Tees, Collars and approaches: HOC .600"

Green banks/ Street Fronts: HOC 1.25"

Rough: HOC 1.5"

CREEK

Greens: HOC .140 / Soil temperature 48⁰

Stimp Reading 10.1' @ 5:50am

Fairways: HOC .600"

Tees, Collars and approaches: HOC .600"

Green banks/ Street Fronts: HOC 1.25"

Rough: HOC 1.5"

PROJECTS IN PROGRESS:

1. Complete fertilizer program
2. Completed pesticide/Herbicide applications
3. Edged bunkers
4. Raked deserts
5. Top dress greens
6. Trimmed olive bushes
7. Divots
8. Dig up bunker bottoms
9. Solid tine greens
10. Trim and weed patio
11. Fix high and low plugs
12. Raked and cleaned street fronts

PROJECTS COMPLETED:

1. Vacuum Pro Shop Parking lot
2. Dug up bunker bottoms
3. Solid tine greens
4. Top dress greens

STAFF:

Willow B/C is short one Part Time position

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call me. Cell: 623-332-6155 Office:

(623) 233-5016 Email: cmanning@suncityaz.org

Director of Golf Report

April 2021

Pro Shops

Overall good weather and increased demand resulted in revenue exceeding budget by 17% and 20% over prior year. The only category to not exceed budgeted goals was merchandise, which was severely impacted by the lack of our annual demo day. Total rounds for the month increased by 6,631 over prior year.

Due to ongoing limitations to starting formats for golf, we have not scheduled a Moonlight event for this Spring. Restrictions permitting we will be looking at date in October or November, scheduled around overseeding.

Snack Shops

For the first time this year, Snack Shop revenue exceeded budget, by \$1,334. Beginning April 1st snack shops are scheduled to close at 3:00 p.m., however they will continue to close at 5:00 through April 12, until business no longer supports it.

Golf Courses

Fairway verticutting is scheduled to begin April 26 on the South Course and will continue through May 21 on Willowbrook. The full schedule can be found on the RCSC website at www.suncityaz.org under the Course Maintenance tab under Golf. Verticutting is one part of the process to remove the winter rye. The removal of winter rye opens the grass canopy allowing more sunlight to reach the Bermuda grass base. Having a healthy, actively growing Bermuda base helps to ease the transition period that begins in late May and early June.

Other steps we take to aid transition and promote quick recovery are; lowering of mowing heights, increased watering, fertility and chemical assistance as needed. We have already begun the process of lowering heights to provide additional sunlight to the bermuda. Courses will begin spring fertilization the week of April 5. Water will be increased as needed, with dry spots receiving extra attention. It is not uncommon during this time to see areas of standing water, though we do our best to minimize.