

MGC BoD Meeting Wednesday 12 August 2015

Members in Attendance

Michael Mulcahy - President
John Foottit - Secretary/VP/Acting Treasurer
Don Green - Club Captain
Ken Maheral - Membership
Daryl Craig - House
Kim Ridpath - Ladies Representative

Staff in Attendance

Dan Kolar - Manager
Bill Hudson - Greenskeeper

Decision Record

1. The meeting was convened at 18:00 hours (6 PM).
2. The Manager will assemble all the printed copies of previous Board of Directors' minutes/decision records in the conference room and then contact Rick Turner to arrange to have them scanned. Copies of the resultant disc will be saved offsite so that we are safely in compliance with provincial non-share capital corporation requirements to retain copies of these records. The cost will be 10 cents per page; the total is expected to be less than \$500.
3. The first draft of the new members checklist was reviewed and several small changes were suggested. The Manager will produce version 2 and use it for new members joining for the "Fall Special", which begins on the 15th of August (pay the full 2015 rate now with no initiation fee and play both the balance of this year and all of the next).
4. The number of "no shows" continues to be much lower than last year (averaging 1 per day versus 5). There was one repeat offender in July. Ken Maheral will speak with him.

MGC BoD Meeting Wednesday 12 August 2015

5. In response to a suggestion to reduce late day playing costs and to fill unused tee time slots, it was decided to move the evening reduced rate of \$22 (\$10 for juniors) back to 4 PM from 5, with immediate effect. All green fee rates are posted on the club's website (www.themississippi.ca).
6. Some members still do not understand that smoking is now banned by provincial legislation for any area where food is served. Stepping off the patio on to the grass area will not suffice. If you're anywhere near tables, you're in the wrong place. The Manager will send out an e-mail "blast" to explain this and the fact that we could be subject to a \$1000 fine if a provincial enforcement officer were to witness an infraction.
7. The Manager will ask the Centennial Committee to send the Board a complete update report on the success of its fund raising activities, with a view to subsequently distributing it to the membership.
8. Our thanks to the House Chair and Club Captain for cleaning the club's windows and to several lady members for giving the washrooms a thorough "spring cleaning". Kim Ridpath will develop a written cleaning standard that will cover daily, weekly, monthly, and seasonal activities for the cleaner and present this to the Board in September.
9. A notice will be posted on the main bulletin board advising that the President, Club Captain, House, and Treasurer positions will be up for election this Fall. This notice is not to be confused with the official nomination form. It is simply to create awareness. Members are reminded that our governance model and incorporation as a provincial non-share capital corporation are dependent upon members putting their name forward for election to the Board of Directors.

MGC BoD Meeting Wednesday 12 August 2015

10. The Board gratefully accepted the offer of Brian Stanton to serve as a Nomination Committee chair, with a view to encouraging members to run for election to the Board.
11. There will be a wedding held on Friday the 16th of October that will affect member access to the clubhouse. A notice will be posted in advance on the front door to remind everyone.
12. There have been a small number of incidents where certain members have chosen to express their views verbally or via e-mail in a tone that was not received positively. We have a code of conduct that all of must adhere to if our volunteer governance model is to succeed and we are to be known as a club with a welcoming atmosphere. Our code of conduct can be summarized as follows: *All members, visitors, green fee players, and staff shall treat this course and each other with care and respect. Violators may be subject to disciplinary action, including a loss of playing privileges, at the discretion of the Board of Directors.*
13. Highlights of the Greens Superintendent's report:

Heading into August the course is holding up well to the summer traffic and membership's busy calendar. The generally cooler night time temperatures have been perfect for the course.

For the greens our goal has been to maintain a relatively consistent green speed of about 10.5 feet without compromising turf conditions. The daily regimen on greens cutting and rolling combined with traffic and summer temperatures and humidity is very taxing on the turf. It is important to "rest" the greens occasionally to keep them healthy through these busy times. In extreme conditions we will raise mowing heights. This will mean slightly slower green speeds for a few days, but healthier turf. Our greens are scheduled to be aerified September 14 and 15, which is approximately three weeks later than usual because of our tournament schedule this year.

Tees have been aerified, verticut, fertilized, topdressed and seeded.

MGC BoD Meeting Wednesday 12 August 2015

Fairways are looking very good; the weather conditions have helped, but have also caused more dew in the mornings and dollar spot has been very active since June, causing us to make numerous fungicide applications.

We are cleaning up and adding mulch under the trees behind No. 18 green where member volunteers cut branches up. This cleans up the area and gives a finished look but more importantly cuts down the danger of balls going through and hitting people on the 10th tee. We will also be doing areas between 10 green and 14 tee and a few other areas around 14 and 15 tees.

Early morning of August 6th someone cut the locks on gas and diesel tanks and made off with approximately 270 litres of gas and some diesel, along with Jerry gas cans. It was done between 12:30 and 3:30 a.m. Since then we have installed a shut off switch in the building and put in motion detector lights. The police were contacted. The cost to install the shut off and motion detector were approximately \$500.00.

It is August so our machinery is starting to show signs of fatigue, a huge hydraulic leak on No. 9 tee and an axle broken on one of our Cushmans. Parts are not available so a new axle was machined.

There was a bad irrigation break on No. 6 fairway (black ABS pipe) so we had to MacGyver it to make it fit.

13. Highlights of the Manager's report:

- Complaints about the cleanliness of the club house have been coming in from the ladies. All items have been reviewed with the cleaner. It will likely require more hours to get it to an acceptable level of cleanliness, but once done, we should be able to maintain the club house within the scope of his duties. We may need to increase the daily hour allotment somewhat to assure ample time is committed to this.
- Green fee and cart revenue continue to be strong. For the first 3 months of operation, revenue is up \$45,455 from 2014. Power cart revenue is up \$15,108 and green fee revenue is up \$30,374. Of this, \$20,500 was from selling the spring Centennial 4 packs. We're still unsure how this will affect overall revenue for 2015

MGC BoD Meeting Wednesday 12 August 2015

- Bar revenue is up as well. Up to the end of July, we're up \$14,523 over 2014
- Our fall special is going out in the next issue of Flag stick this week and an email blast with Ottawa Golf is going out tomorrow. The paper ad will go out next week. Even though we have not yet advertised it, we have 3 new members on the special.
- Our sign at the end of the road will be in place by next week. The signs are in print now.
- Corporate Golf has purchased another block of 400 green fee passes. The representative from Reservation Masters also met briefly with the Manager and the Secretary/VP to review the functionality that we need if we are to proceed with his product. He said he will have a fully functional system for us to view in the fall.
- Staff name badges are on order and will be here within a week
- Most Centennial initiatives are now complete. All have broken even or made a profit. The only outstanding item is the flag pole (cost approx \$2500) which the Sunshine boys have committed to paying for at a rate of about \$500 per season. The book that Joe McLean is writing will be complete by late September. If there is enough interest to make it worthwhile, we will print the books for resale.
- I will forward a copy of the new member's introduction letter that each new member should get. We can tweak it as needed to ensure all important items are included.

14. The Club Captain, Don Green, offered the following report:

The 88th annual Men's St. Lawrence Golf Tournament

Hosted at the Mississippi Golf Course Friday 24 July and Saturday 25 July

Ten man teams, representing the Amherstview, Gananoque, Garrison, Cataraqui, Perth, Smiths Falls, Brockville, Prescott, Cornwall, Potsdam and Massena met at the Mississippi Golf Club for the 88th playing of the St. Lawrence Association Golf Tournament. The teams are comprised of 1 junior player, 1 senior player (55 and over), 2 players over the age of 40 and 6 other players.

The winning team was Cataraqui with 1231 points. Mississippi placed fourth with 1273.

MGC BoD Meeting Wednesday 12 August 2015

The St. Lawrence Golf Tournament dinner is held following play on Friday. As this is the 100th Anniversary year of the host club, Mississippi, the Club Captain invited past presidents and past professionals of our golf club to attend the dinner.

Ian Lamb – President 1973 – 1974

Des Houston – President 1979

Peter O'Connor – President 1986 – 1989

Ian Edwards – President 1991

Bob Brien – President 1992 – 1996

Sandy Iwaniw – President 1998 – 2002, 2004-2005, and 2010

Brian Stanton – President 2003, 2008 – 2009

Paul Virgin – President 2006 – 2007

Peter Bolton – President 2012-2013

Joe Kolar – Head Professional 1959 – 1991

Malcolm Trickey – Head Professional 1993 – 2004

Dan Kolar – Head Professional 2008 to current day

Bill Hudson – Head Greenskeeper (over 25 years of continuous service)

Hosting a tournament of this magnitude requires a lot of volunteer assistance.

On behalf of Gord Kelly, St. Lawrence representative from Mississippi and me, thank you to the following individuals for their help:

Registration - Sandy Iwaniw, Kim Ridpath, Rhonda Virgin and Cam McKinnon

Photographer – Wanda McKinnon

Starter – Paul Virgin

MGC BoD Meeting Wednesday 12 August 2015

Scoring – Ron Mathews, Jim Ward, Barb Campbell, Chuck Maguire, Ken Maheral, Bob Rose and Bruce Campbell

Electronic Scoring / Draws – Dave Hart and Bob Ridpath

Beverage/Water Cart – Sandy Iwaniw

Pro Shop – Dan Kolar and Terry Kolar

Gardening around scoring area – Barb Campbell

The entire back shop staff

The entire kitchen and bar staff

Thank you to the membership of the Mississippi Golf Club for their acceptance of knowing their golf course was unavailable to them until the afternoon of both days. Our golf course won high praise from the competitors for the shape it was in.

Thanks also to the members who came out and watched some of the event – the support was appreciated. Thanks to our Mississippi players for their fine play and being gracious hosts.

This year wraps up Gord Kelly's 10 year tenure as the St. Lawrence golf representative from Mississippi. He worked tirelessly to ensure this event was a top notch event – and from the feedback received, it certainly was.

Congratulations to all involved in the 88th edition of the St. Lawrence District Golf Association tournament.

15. The manager will approach a professional contact who is familiar with re-writing bylaws to shorten and clarify them, as well as bring them into compliance with provincial legislation that is expected to be enacted in the near term. If the cost of this re-write service is affordable, it is the Board's intention to proceed with it as soon as possible.

16. The club has been approached by TMSI Sports Management, who would like to pitch their expertise in golf club management. They already operate Perth, Dragonfly, Glen Mar, and Equinelle. Their business model will not easily

MGC BoD Meeting Wednesday 12 August 2015

apply to the Mississippi Golf Club because we are a provincial non-share capital (not for profit) corporation that is tax exempt. Nonetheless, a subsection of the Board will speak with them so that we can understand more about this alternative to our current volunteer governance model.

17. Board members will submit suggested amendments to position descriptions to the Secretary so that these can be ready for elections at the AGM in late October.
18. The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be on Monday 21 September at 18:00 hours (6 PM).
19. The meeting adjourned at 21:00 hours (9 PM).

John Foottit

Secretary/VP

If any member has a question or a concern, please contact me at:

john.foottit@gmail.com