

19 August 2020 BoD Meeting

Members in Attendance

John Stanton - President
John Foottit - Secretary/Vice President
Tom Reynolds - Membership (via Zoom)
Brian Bond - Treasurer
Don McLeay - Greens Director
Grant Reader - House Director
Gary Hobin - Club Captain
Judy Spencer - Ladies' Representative

Staff in Attendance

Bill Hudson - Superintendent
Kyle Hudson - Assistant Superintendent

Decision Record

1. The meeting convened at 6PM.
2. This year has seen unprecedented interest and playing activity for the sport of golf; to the tune of 20% as reported by Golf Canada. As most members have observed this is clearly happening at the Mississippi and after three years of difficult circumstances for the Club this has come as a welcome relief. It has been the stated goal of the Club to rebuild our finances and this season is giving us the opportunity to do just that. The Club is having a good year on all fronts and by the time of the fall general meeting, at which point the majority of the revenue generation for the Club will have passed, a detailed presentation of the year's performance and projected year end can be shown to the membership.
3. What would happen if we had to face a pandemic much worse than this one? It's happened before. Perhaps we'd be allowed

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to open much later in the season; perhaps not at all. Legitimate medical fears could keep people away in droves. Generous government subsidies wouldn't likely be affordable. Our only defence as a Club is to be financially wary. Akin to other area golf courses, it's likely to be a banner year for revenues. We will need them if we are to build the operating and capital reserves that we may need to continue through a pandemic that could be much more severe. That challenge will be a watchword for the Board for the foreseeable future. We will need your understanding and support.

4. We are delighted to report that, in the three weeks since the start of our 2020 Fall Membership Special, we have registered 80 new members for 2021. These are a mixture of fully-privileged and intermediate members, with a few limited play, corporate and junior members. This record bounty is attributable to a variety of factors:

- The major capital improvements made to our facilities in recent years.
- The drought conditions in June and July which accentuated the difference between our club and most others.
- The 2020 boom in golf owing to the pandemic.
- The large number of golfers who have experienced our club from green fee players, to the tee-time resellers (EG Golf and GolfXtra) and the members of our Monday Men's League and Wednesday Ladies League.
- The camaraderie and pride of the MGC members who own their club and collectively control its destiny, with no intervention from third parties.

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These people represent the future generation of our Club. Please warmly welcome these new friends and show them the enthusiastic support and respect that they deserve.

With these additional members, please be assured that your Board of Directors will be making any necessary adjustments to non-member booking privileges for 2021 to ensure that member needs will met.

5. The Board thanks everyone for adjusting to wearing masks in the clubhouse and the pro-shop. Please continue to respect our protocol for use of the terrace areas. Leave the tables and chairs where they are, no more than four at each table, and avoid clustering around individual tables in a way that 2-metre distancing is not possible. These steps are our best defence against this virus.
6. Please report shortages or dispensing problems with sanitary wipes and hand sanitizer bottles to the Pro Shop as soon as you encounter them.
7. The fall Annual General Meeting (AGM) will not be prudently possible as a Clubhouse gathering. The Board will therefore prepare an information paper that will be circulated to all members by e-mail. If you have any questions or concerns, please table them with the Secretary before the end of September so that they may be considered for a written response in the information paper.
8. The terms of some Board members will be coming up for election as part of the fall AGM. It is vital to the ongoing development of our Club that volunteers stand for the positions of Secretary/Vice President, Treasurer, Membership Director and Greens Director. To that end, a notice will shortly be posted in the Clubhouse near the rear exit, so that interested parties can

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put their name up for an election that will have to take place by e-mail.

9. Given the popularity of the outdoor terrace area, the Board voted to price an extension to it, to encompass the grass area that is now being used for outdoor relaxation. We are also looking at a heated tented area on the grass in the near term, so that outdoor relaxation can comfortably continue as the weather gets cooler. Opening the clubhouse could follow if the Board decides it can be done safely.
10. Signage to provide better guidance to holes 2 and 5, as well as clearer direction to 1 and 10 will be implemented by the Manager.
11. Our next "Zoom" teleconference will be held on Wed 9 Sep at 6:30, to prepare for the fall AGM. The next full meeting will be on 23 Sep 6:00 PM at Myers.
12. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM
13. The Greenskeepers report is attached, as well as a summary of irrigation water usage.
14. If any member has a question or concern, please contact me at john.foottit@gmail.com

John Foottit
Secretary/VP

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Board of Directors Meeting

Greens Report for Wednesday 19 August 2020

The greens have been cut at .115 for the past two weeks and rolled 3 to 5 times a week depending on the rainfall. If the greens are too wet they are not rolled. To firm the greens up watering has been kept to a minimum. We will be aerifying the front nine greens with solid tines Monday 24 August and the back nine will be done the following day.

The tees have been aerified this week as well as the surrounds of the greens. The tees have also been top-dressed, fertilized and seeded.

We will be starting to verticut and aerify the fairways in the coming weeks.

The rough is still being cut twice a week.

Drainage work has been completed on holes number 3, 4, 7 and 14. We still have to complete areas on holes 12, beside the first fairway bunker, and 15, right side approach.

We have rebuilt the steps on the gold tee box of hole 4, repaired the steps on the blue tee box of hole 4, straightened and leveled the retaining wall around the white tee box on hole 10 and relevelled the interlocking stone at the tee boxes of hole 12. The top retaining wall on the right-hand side of the lower clubhouse entrance has been re-sloped, and several blocks in the retaining wall on the white tee box of hole 17 have been leveled and secured in place.

We have been doing a lot of brush work this year and we have already burned our burn pile twice. In previous years we waited un-

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til the fall to burn it, but this year it was just too big to wait until then.

We have received 332 mm of rain this season (since April) and 114 mm of those came in the first 18 days of August. For the month of July there were only three days we did not water the course, and in August we have only watered on the 13th through the 16th inclusive.

Bill Hudson
Superintendent.

On August 5, a meeting of the Greens Committee was held via Zoom. One raised item needs to be discussed with the Playing Committee. Once it is finalized, the Committee's Issues Log will be circulated to all members.

Safety at the Mississippi (safety@themississippi.ca) was launched on August 13. To date we have received 5 safety concerns; three were regarding issues on the course, one was regarding an unsafe work practice on the course and the other was regarding an issue in the Club House. All concerns have been addressed and closed.

To enhance safety on the course, catch basins and drains around the greens have been painted white to make them more visible to players.

Don McLeay
Greens Director