

23 Sept 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 (via Zoom)
Judy Spencer - Ladies' Representative

Staff in Attendance

Dan Kolar - Manager
Bill Hudson - Superintendent
Kyle Hudson - Assistant Superintendent

Decision Record

1. The meeting convened at 6PM.
2. The Club is continuing to perform well financially from both the income and expense sides and the continued use of Government programs. By the end of October a reasonable estimate of our year end outlook should be possible.
3. A review of the Heating/Ventilation/Air Conditioning (HVAC) indicates that, while the HVAC system is not ideal, it would require the removal of a significant amount of the lower floor false ceiling to properly access the ductwork and assess improvement possibilities. This is not a cost effective undertaking and is not recommended at this time. We will be replacing one of the two main lounge air conditioning units over the winter and with the benefit of 20 plus years of industry improvements will

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still be able to obtain improved air conditioning performance and savings from the new unit.

4. To our surprise, a letter was received from Disaster Recovery Assistance for Ontario, informing the Club that the additional material and explanation received in support of our rejected submission had resulted in successful acceptance and included a cheque for \$7,766 after program deductibles. After 2 years of hard work, while not as much as the Club would have liked, it was nonetheless welcome.
5. We have gained 91 new members from this year's fall special: 20 full singles; 27 full couples; 8 afternoon only; 31 intermediates; 4 juniors; 1 corporate. Earlier this year we had 352 members who were eligible to book a morning tee-time. After an anticipated loss of 20 members next spring (we usually lose 30 to 35), we expect to have 419 members in 2021 who can book a morning tee time. This number seems manageable, given that we have had about 450 members who could do so in the past.
6. While the course has had more use from the members this year than any other, the Board is sensitive to the number of green fee players using the course and to the cost of membership. Even with a full membership roster, this source of revenue brings in about \$400K short of what we need. In short, notwithstanding cart rental fees and bar sales, green fee revenue is vital to our operation. Rather than increase the membership fees significantly, we need to welcome green fee players and the business they bring to our club.
7. While many jobs can be done remotely from home, the number of people doing so next year for 5 days per week is expected to decrease. This should result in some relief to the limited availability of tee times.

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8. That said, the Board will also take several measures for the 2021 season to increase the number of tee time slots available to the members:
 - The Men's Green Fee League will begin at 5 PM on Mondays rather than 3 PM and there will be no carry-over slots on Tuesday for any participating player who could not be slotted in on Monday;
 - The Women's Green Fee League will begin at 3PM on Wednesday;
 - We will be charging \$25 rather than \$20 for each of these late afternoon tee times;
 - EG Golf and GolfExtra purchase bulk green fee packages from our Club and resell them to their members. In 2021 they will be limited to afternoons only and will be able to book only 3 days in advance rather than 7.
 - We will limit outside tournaments and none of them will be allowed on Saturday and Sunday (many this year were booked a year in advance).
9. The Ottawa Valley Golf Association (OVGA) will be limited to one tournament per year beginning in 2021. The participants do pay for slightly discounted green fee passes but full price for cart rentals.
10. The Board does not consider it prudent to hold an in-person Annual General Meeting (AGM) in October this year because of the health risk. In lieu of an actual meeting, the following process will be followed:

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- After Board nominations close on the 27th of September, each shareholder will be sent a ballot indicating which person is running for which position;
 - It is vital to the governance of our Club that this form be filled out, signed and returned. Shareholders can do this in person at the Pro Shop; fax it to the Pro Shop; scan it and send it as an e-mail attachment to the Secretary; or photograph it and send it as an e-mail attachment (please use dark ink). Detailed submission instructions will be part of each ballot.
 - If a shareholder wishes to nominate someone “from the floor” they may do so, as long as another shareholder seconds such a nomination on the ballot being submitted;
 - If a shareholder wishes to have the Secretary vote for them as a proxy, they may do so by indicating this option on the ballot, but the ballot must be signed over a signature block;
 - All ballots will be turned over to an independent team of scrutineers (Diane Illingworth and Sandy Iwaniw), who will count them and determine who has won which position.
11. A second part of the AGM process will be the subsequent distribution by e-mail of an information package from the appropriate Directors. If anyone has a specific question concerning the operation of our Club that they would like addressed in the information package, please submit it to the Secretary by e-mail by Sunday 4 October.
12. Estimates for levelling and extending our terrace to cover some of the grassed area we are using now will be sought in

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the near term, with a view to putting in some of the infrastructure before the end of this season. This process will include looking at amendments to our liquor licence and the possible implications for our toilet facilities.

13. The club house roofing shingles are approximately 20 years old. They will also be replaced before the start of the 2021 season at an approximate cost of \$25K.
14. The rental tent we have now is intended as a temporary measure. Rather than consider buying one, it is the Board's view that a larger outdoor relaxation area will continue to be popular, so a landscape designer/architect will be asked to design a permanent gazebo (with retractable walls) and surrounding gardens.
15. The Board will also review a former project file to build 1 permanent male/female toilet facility on each nine and update the estimated cost.
16. In response to a member's question, we do not operate the fountain jets on the number 1 fairway on a continuous basis because they must draw water from the Mississippi River to operate properly. This results in the use of 6840 gallons per hour (25,892 litres). Nightly use of our irrigation system plus the operation of these jets during the day could result in the Club exceeding its municipal daily water allowance.
17. The Board voted to buy a refurbished greens mower (\$32K) and 4 used power carts (\$8K) for the Greens-keeping staff. The units currently in use are about 20 years old and are at a point where the availability of spare parts is problematic. Our existing carts will be sold on the used equipment market.
18. The Greens report is attached.

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19. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM. The next full meeting will be on Tuesday 13 October at 6:00 PM at Myers.
20. If any member has a question or concern, please contact me at john.foottit@gmail.com

John Foottit
Secretary/VP

Board of Directors Meeting **Greens Report – Wednesday 23 September 2020**

We would like to thank those members who took the time to use safety@themississippi.ca or email to report the safety hazards associated with steps. We will also be fixing the steps on the blue tee box on hole 6 when time and resources permit.

Don McLeay
Greens Director

Greens are now being cut at .125, up from .115. We only cut and roll the greens on Thursdays and Saturdays. On the other days of the weeks we are either rolling or cutting. We are taking moisture readings most days and watering only areas that are under 20% moisture content.

The tees are only being cut Mondays and Thursdays, as the cold nights have slowed down the growth.

The fairways are also being cut only twice a week. We completed verti-cutting all of the fairways on Monday the 21st and started aerifying them on Tuesday the 22nd.

The vegetation along the edge of the swamp on the 6th hole has been cut back and the area levelled.

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The steps on hole 6 white and gold tees have been rebuilt along with the steps on hole 9 white tee. We have also glued some loose caps on the retaining wall on hole 17 white tee.

We have cleaned out the creek in front of the 10th tee and are rebuilding the stone walls where they have fallen in or have been eroded due to flooding in the past few years. We have also cleaned out the creek on 18 of the stone dust caused by the flooding.

The brush on the right side of the 12th fairway at the corner has been trimmed up along with the brush along the river on the 18th fairway after the creek.

We would like to thank Gerry O'Keefe, Fred Hunter and Sandy Iwaniw for their volunteering throughout the season. Also a thank you to all the people who looked after the gardens.

Bill Hudson
Superintendent.