

Cottonwood/Palo Verde Golf Committee Minutes

November 1, 2012

Members attending were: Richard Hair, Nancy Howell, Pat Andersen, Lee Brechtel, Joe Ficek, Hal Davis, Jim Gillespie, and Gwen Curtis. Judy Onken and Dick Johnson were absent.

Board Liaison - Don Hicks
General Manager – Steve Nolan

Guest – Bill Greer

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 P.M. by Board Liaison, Don Hicks
The minutes of the October meeting were approved..

Don started the meeting by having everyone introduce themselves and give a brief description of what they have been involved in since becoming Sun Lakes residents.

Don Hicks gave a brief update of what's happening with the Board. Our golf courses are the crown jewels of the community. We have probably the best golf superintendent in the valley and Bill has made a big difference in our golf courses. So far this year 49% of our capital spending has been golf related. The Board is very sensitive to Bill's requests and look carefully at what he requests, for improvements to our golfing facilities. We have probably the best golf rates in the valley. IronOaks has just published their rates with an Oakwood/Ironwood combo is \$2,300.

The golf courses will be set up so the fairways and greens accommodate the majority of our players.

BILL TODD – Director of Golf Course Maintenance

History of the Golf Courses mostly Cottonwood.

Cottonwood was built in 1979 with only 9 holes. Mr. Robson had no money and the course had terrible irrigation. The front nine started at #12. In 1980 the back nine was started. The types of grass at that time were 328 on the greens and fairways were common Bermuda grass from seed. Since then the type of grass we have is common. We have 419 tiff way, 328 tiff green, mid iron and another grass was added in 2002 called Princess. Princess is only on 14, 17 and 18 Cottonwood fairways. Rye grass covers up all those grasses in the winter time.

New soil or dirt was added in 2002 and they got a late start. The transition in 2003 did not come up after heavy overseeding. In October 2003 the back nine was closed and there was no grass. The new soil was the best of the worst It is a very tight clay soil. Desert Reflections did the work on the course, but Bill doesn't know where they got the dirt.

Water quality is the issue Bill works with every day. In an acre foot of water they get 4,000 lbs of salt. The salt content in the water is the reason they are putting sand on the

fairways on the back nine at Cottonwood where the dirt was brought in. The places they have problems is where the dirt was brought in. We've had a rough transition.

Bill would like to keep Brian Whitlark, the USGA Agronomist for the Southwest Green Section, on board for another year, as he feels he needs another set of eyes.

The best thing that ever happened was when Cottonwood and Palo Verde were combined for equipment, employees, and budgets. He has a great team with the best employees he has ever had..

They want to flush the fairways on the back nine this winter. They are going to do slicing of all the fairways. They will start flushing immediately.

Palo Verde is in better condition than Cottonwood, one because it is newer and two because of the type of grass used on tees and greens.

DESMOND DAKIN – Head Pro at Cottonwood CMGA

The attendance for the men's events in October was normal for this time of year.

Upcoming Events

Two Ace of Aces and President Cup qualifiers will be played on November 3 and 24.

CLGA will have two events this month.

Upcoming Events

Giving in Golf will be on November 8 and the Handicap Tournament November 15 and 29.

CW9ers had 44 ladies on November 1, their first event of the season. The Turkey Shoot Tournament will be on November 15.

Sunday Couples are hoping for a busy season and will be trying a shotgun start on the fourth Sunday of each month.

Demo Days

Cleveland and Ping will be on November 7, from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Adams will be on November 14, from 9:00 AM – 2:00 P.M.

Tour Edge Exotics will be on November 21, from 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

The Cottonwood/Palo Verde Golf Rounds report for October shows Palo Verde about the same as last year and Cottonwood was up 285.

Golf Annuals are doing well for this early in the season.

Desmond mentioned several of the new revenue builders they have put in place for the coming season.

GREG TOKASH – Head Pro at Palo Verde

PVLGA Closed most of the month and just regular play when open.

Upcoming Events

November 6 will be East Valley Team Play with 36 ladies participating.
November 13 is the Turkey Shoot and dinner.

LADY 9'ERS will begin Wednesday, November 7, between 2:30 and 3:00 PM.

Friday Couples

There are 20-25 groups playing in the AM.

There are 5-10 groups playing in the PM.

The new Palo Verde Couples Club is accepting applications and will begin in January 2013.

PVMGA

October 6 was Beat the Pro & Super at Cottonwood

October 27 was Beat the Pro & Super at Palo Verde

Upcoming Events

November 3, the Welcome Back Picnic @ Sisk Park 1-4 PM

November 10, Men's & Ladies Challenge

November 17, Turkey Shoot

Other

On November 10, is the signup for the PVMGA Dinner Dance for those who have been members for a year or more.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- The right of way arrows between 16 green and 17 tee at CW are done.
- The electrical ditch near the 18th green at CW has been filled in.
- The contractor estimate for leveling the driving range is in hand and will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

A question was asked about the possibility of driving in the rough while waiting to be off the cart paths. We will remain on the cart paths until advised otherwise.

Bill said he will double cut and roll the greens when there is an event. Bill will try to keep the greens between 8-1/2 and 9.

New Business

Don Hicks conducted the election for Chairperson and Secretary of the Golf Committee. Richard Hair was nominated as Chairperson by Gwen Curtis, Nancy Howell seconded the nomination, and Richard was unanimously elected for the year 2012-2013. Nancy Howell nominated Judy Onken for secretary, and she was elected.

The committee needs to set goals and attainable action plans for 2013.

The Facilities and Grounds Committee would like items to be considered for the 5 year plan by March 2013.

Additional comments

Don Hicks advised the new members of the committee that his job as Board Liaison is to give support and general direction on policies and procedures.

Pat Andersen requested that the Golf Committee meeting time be 3:00 PM , so that the Cottonwood Niners representative can play golf with her group prior to the meeting.

Jim Gillespie advised that Friomio Frozen Yogurt was providing samples for the PVMGA picnic on November 3 and is also having a fund raiser for PVMGA on November 6 from 3:00 – 8:00 PM. If you purchase a yogurt on that day during those hours 25% of the purchase price will go to the men’s club.

Hal Davis suggested that each member of the committee come up with some ideas or goals for the group they represent as well as a possible action plan to meet those goals.

A question was asked about the status of a practice facility for Cottonwood. Don Hicks advised that it is on the 5 year plan.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:05 P.M.

The next meeting will be December 6, 2012 at 3:00 P.M. in the Ceramics Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Gwen Curtis
Secretary

THERE ARE NO RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MANAGEMENT

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