

**Cottonwood Palo Verde  
Golf Workshop  
Minutes  
February 11, 2009 2:00 p.m.  
San Tan Ballroom**

**Introduction**

Richard Hawkes chaired the workshop and introduced the Staff members General Manager, Steve Nolan, PV Golf Pro, Greg Tokash, CW Golf Pro Troy Ford, Arnold Morales, and Bill Todd. Golf Committee Members were introduced by Kathy Skrei, Chair of the Golf Committee, Marty Baker, Committee secretary, and the P.V. Ladies Golf Association representative, other Representatives present included, Rita Benifer from the Cottonwood Ladies Golf Association and Jeff Singer from the Cottonwood Men's Golf Association. Vernice Golden, from the HOA Office, served as the recording secretary.

Richard Hawkes reviewed the rules for the Workshop: No personal references; raise your hand to speak; give your name before speaking for the minutes.

**Review of previous workshop topics**

The first meeting large workshop was in 2006 with over 75 in attendance. Some of the topics discussed through the years have included: course improvements, Golf Play improvements, Gender Day, Shot Gun Starts, use of Chelsea, flyer articles, Golf Rules, the out come of that is the "Little Red Book of Golf Rules", Improving communications, use of the Flyer for articles.

**Presentation New Chipping Green / Renovation of the Putting Green**

Rendering of Chipping & Putting Green was viewed. The recommendation from the Management was to accept the design created by John Fought at a cost of \$117,000. The cost quoted included moving the main water line, adding the needed new irrigation, a new 12 ft. cart path that will allow for cart parking, and adding a sand bunker.

Bill Todd & Troy Ford were asked what their thoughts about the Fought design. Troy Ford explained how big the green is compared to what we have now. With the amount of people at the Shot Guns (120 to 140) the new green would allow for the Golf Clinics to take place and normal golf play at the same time. The new Chipping Green will be slightly elevated and fairly level. The Chipping Green will be laid out so the sand bunker faces the lake and not the street. The Putting Green will be approximately 10,000 sq. feet with gentle rolls and plenty of space for pins.

Richard Hawkes explained that the size of the Green is figured according to the number of people playing.

Bill Todd explained he does not have the crew to do the main line or irrigation. John Fought's bid includes main line & irrigation. Use of the new amenities will not be allowed until after over-seeding, approximately October of 2009. The old chipping green will be used for practice until the new greens open.

Larry Nelson asked about chipping direction. Bill Todd answered that it will be North & South with elevated green. Drainage work will be done “in house” and will be completed by the middle of May.

Janet Quade asked if work would start in April. Bill Todd said yes. Richard Hawkes pointed out that a work scheduled is attached to the rendering. The rendering will be placed in the Cottonwood Golf Shop for viewing.

Bob Schaedel asked why water feature was not added. Richard Hawkes explained that the funds for a water feature would probably come out of the Capital Improvement Fund and there is not enough money available from the fund this year.

Dick Johnson asked the price range for the water feature. The amount is anywhere from \$10,000.00 to \$250,000.00.

Bob Schaedel asked if the Riggs road tunnel could be fenced in to avoid cart traffic cutting through from Oakwood. It was explained that it becomes a legal issue due to the 9 easements between Phase 2 and 3.

Concern about the size of the proposed cart paths was expressed. USGA recommends 8ft cart paths. A USGA golf article on cart paths was handed out. It was figured that the cost of 8 foot paths is approximately \$3,000 more than keeping the paths at the currently smaller width. Due to the economy the price is the best it has been for a long time. Flower beds will be added around paths as accents.

Pat Schindele asked why not T off at 10 to save energy of older people that have problems walking around cart path only on 16, 17, 18.

Bob Schaedel suggested that workshops should be publicized more due to poor turnout. Richard Hawkes noted that the Golf Work Shop has been on the schedule for a number of months. It has been advertised in the Flyer and all members of the Golf Committee were asked to inform their clubs and to promote the workshop.

PV Tees will be redone with some work beginning this summer.

Greg Tokash announced that the P.V. course had been re-rated and the AGA recommended# 11 should be the 17<sup>th</sup>. Handicapped hole at PV. Troy Ford announced that Cottonwood was rated harder than expected. Troy Ford explained how handicap is figured. It is the difference between the higher and lower score achieved by both the A and B players. Score cards for Cottonwood will be allowed to run out and new Cards will be ordered with the new rating. The new index reflecting the new rating is available in the Cottonwood Golf Shop.

Jeff Singer commended Bill Todd and staff for their hard work.

### **CMGA Message**

CW/PV Board, Fellow Homeowners

On behalf of the CMGA, we would like to commend the staff on a few of the major improvements made recently.

A) Bill Todd, on the condition and improvements made to both courses.

Over seeding has produced a great playing surface, new cart path on CW hole 18 has decreased play time for a round by 5 - 10 min., Carts paths currently being replaced are being

done at a big cost savings for the homeowners.

B) Troy and Greg along with their staff have both pro shops not only looking great but have added new items that should increase sales. They have made the staff visible to the golfers outside the pro shop by their appearance on the courses during play.

C) To the board and General manager for their support and approval to get work underway on the new chipping and putting areas.

We would like to see these type improvements continue by offering a few items for the board and staff to consider as we move forward. We are not looking for acceptance or answers to these ideas today, just asking that they be discussed, assigned as an action item to the appropriate group, and looked at in the near future.

1) Set up a task force to work with the staff to document and prioritize a five year plan for golf course improvements. This is our only amenity that is not funded by Homeowner dues and should be protected to the highest degree.

Benefits:

Work as a team

Take the burden for these decisions off of the staff .

We now have it for the Association, for Food and Beverage, why not for the golf course.

Increased information and plans for the entire community

2) Marshall's on the course during the months of heavy play. Dec-May Possibly non SL individual with support from the staff to enforce the rules and speed of play.

Benefits:

Takes burden of this task off of the staff, some who work for tips.

Keep play at a steady pace and decrease time of play.

3) 7:00 AM shotgun starts from July - Sept.

Benefits:

Beat the heat

The 9:00 start in the winter at PV was a positive, lets expand it to the summer play

4) During the summer season. Close 9 holes two days a week for Maintenance. Have shotgun starts on these days, and play the open 9 twice.

Benefits:

Maintenance staff would get increased time without trying to vacate course during play. A Full 8 hours of time each week on each nine.

Additional shotguns during summer to beat the heat.

5) Experiment with different starting holes for tee time starts during the summer season. I.e.: start on 12 Use camera's from the pro shop.

Benefits:

Starting on 12 would start play on a fast playing par 5 hole.

Possibly eliminate major backup on Hole 13

Put the walking holes early in the round.

6) Set up an education program via the pro shops on ready Golf, local course rules and possibly USGA rules. Possibly this could be done by playing a DVD on the TV screens around the pro shop.

Benefits:

Speed up play

Get all players playing the course in the same manner, and following the same rules.

7) Review the Chelsea rules on assignment of points, and the use of these points to award Tee times. Rules were established 7-10 years ago and times have changed.

Benefits:

Possibly avoid the abuse of this system currently taking place today.

Adjust awarding of Tee times to today's environment.

Better use of the Tee times available on a daily basis.

Start to use the next golfer on the list to fill vacated Tee times as they become available after the initial draw.

Thank You for your time and consideration:

Joe Ficek, 2008-2009 CMGA president

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Meeting adjourned.