

Saddlebrooke Ranch Golf Club Greens Committee

February 6, 2019, 10:00 AM La Vista Room

1. Jack called the meeting to order. In attendance were Jack Gressingh-chair, Jean Cheszek-vice chair, Paul Lapotosky, Jim Cook, Gaye Ohanian, Sam Rossi and Rob Nemechek as observer. Absent were Kathy Brennan, Mike Mycka, and Jeanne Osterlund.
2. Made some minor changes to the January minutes and all approved.
3. Mike Jahaske said that the new artificial turf installed at the practice range is being well received. The tees tend to spring forward and back more so than on natural turf. There has been some settling in spots. The golf staff has notified the installer and the situation will be rectified when the weather gets warmer and drier. Mike said the new turf will be utilized approximately 1 to 2 weeks during the winter months in an effort to better manage the growth of the natural grass. A new scorecard is being designed and will include the new forward (Gold) tees.
4. Sam suggested that we add a "4-hour target playing time" on the scorecards. Mike explained that 4 hours is the target for the first group on the course. Each subsequent tee time has added time to their groups "pace of play". The rangers will be handing out "pace of play" directions to all groups and it will contain their starting, turn and ending target times to play a full round. It will also include instructions on caring for the course and for driving carts.
5. Mark Giannonatti said a new pump has been installed on the course irrigation system. Also, addressing the safety issue that exists just south of the new restroom at the intersection of the cart paths on number 13 and 15. Mike and Chris Blake have met with the "bunker" contractor to set up a schedule to continue to improve the remaining traps. All bunkers with concrete liners should have at least 2" of sand in them. They will also create 5 or 6 new Gold teeing areas to accommodate the play from gold tees.

Mark expects the "shack" to open sometime in June. Currently there is seating planned for 20. Mr. Robson may expand that capacity. There will be two restrooms attached to the new shack. Two more tennis courts are also planned.

Our course experienced 41K rounds in 2018. Mark stated that when (and if) we reach 50K rounds we may cap play for residents only. Resident play now exceeds public play for the first time.

The decision to require “cart path only” is made by the course superintendent.

6. Jean wanted to know why the flags seem to be in the same general areas on similar days of the week. Mike said that Chris is aware of the issue and is addressing it with his staff. Jean and Paul asked Mike to have Chris remove two 4’/5’ mesquite trees at the end of the fairway in front of the second arroyo on hole #10. Mike said he would take care of it. A sign was suggested to be placed on the practice range to identify and explain the proper method for taking divots. Mike will review with Chris.
7. Having space on the pro shop bulletin boards was discussed. Mike explained that chartered golf groups (associations) received space while “social play” groups do not.
8. Paul asked Mark if some of the well-used teeing areas could be enlarged. Not this year due to the other budget allocations for improvements. Mike and Chris will add some additional mesquite trees behind selected greens to enhance framing where possible.
9. Paul gave an update on the Adopt-A-Hole program. In a nutshell its working great and we now have 60 groups of volunteers which provide sufficient coverage on most holes. Jeff Pharr and Paul are scheduled to meet with Mark at the end of this month to discuss a volunteer appreciation party!
10. Chris Blake’s crew has put two applications of herbicide alongside many fairways in an effort to eliminate the POA and rye in the dormant Bermuda grass. The cold and rainy winter weather has made it tougher than expected. The greens were top dressed last week to maintain playing conditions.
11. Course maintenance tidbits: purchased a new improved “weed wacker”, using a new grade of sand for the bunkers, the salt content in the soil steadily improves and should enhance Bermuda growth come this spring, need to fill some positions (if anyone’s interested?).
12. Sam discussed large groups needing a shotgun on Saturdays. Mike and Mark explained that RCI potentially loses up to an hour of tee time (especially for reverse shotguns) and that shotguns tend to prevent other “resident” golfers from playing in the mornings on Saturdays. Mark said they will experiment with a shotgun in March open to all residents and review the results.
13. Next Greens Committee meeting scheduled for March 13th at 10AM in the LaVista room.

Approved April 3, 2019