

Riverbend Golf Club Inc.
Board of Directors Meeting - Meeting Minutes
Monday-April 17, 2023

The BOD meeting was called to order at **3:01** pm by President Kevin Kennelley.

Laurie Zabel, Secretary, Pro Tempore, confirmed the meeting was properly warned and we had a quorum present.

Present: Kevin Kennelley, Rosalie Deitz, John Melson, Ken Kotansky, Bill Barry, Chuck Howard (Board of Directors) and Laurie Zabel (Secretary Pro Tempore), absent Liz Haney.

Minutes Approval: The minutes of the March 20, 2023, meeting were approved as submitted.

President's Report:

- The annual meeting of the Riverbend Golf Club was held on March 30, 2023. The purpose was to fill expiring term board seats of Rosalie Deitz and Wally Willrick and hear reports from the standing committees. Wally was recognized by the board for his service. He was given a wonderful memento from the board, which was a Riverbend Greens Flag signed by many members. Again, the Board would like to thank Wally for his service.
- Rosalie Deitz and Chuck Howard were elected to the Board by our membership. Thank you to all that participated in the voting.
- The following day the Board members met to vote and determine the Officers and Committee Chairs. The following are those results:
 - President – Kevin Kennelley
 - Vice President – Rosalie Deitz
 - Treasurer – John Melson
 - Secretary – Elizabeth Haney
 - Finance Committee Chair – John Melson
 - Greens Committee Chair – Bill Barry
 - Pro Shop Committee Chair – Elizabeth Haney
 - Membership/Marketing/Summer Program Committee Chair – Rosalie Deitz
 - Rangers Committee Chair – Ken Kotansky
 - Nominations Chair – Rosalie Deitz
 - Documents Committee Chair – Chuck Howard
 - Historian Committee Chair – Ken Kotansky
- Still a growing concern for the Board is cart accidents. There was a serious incident last month where an adult member on the 10th fairway lost control of the cart, was ejected from the cart and the cart ended up in the pond between the 10th fairway and the 8th hole green. We have had several instances where carts have run into the shrubs. Due to these concerns, the Board contacted the cart manufacturers and have reduced the cart speed by 20%. There is nothing that can be done to reduce the acceleration of the carts. These carts are several hundred pounds lighter than our previous carts and accelerate quickly. They also have a very sharp turning radius. PLEASE avoid rapid acceleration!
- We are beginning our transition from the season to the summer months, and the improvement plans for our course will begin shortly.

- We are ramping up our Summer Membership program as well as looking to fill our remaining 15 Full Memberships as allowed in our By-laws.

Treasurer:

- March is the last month of our Fiscal Year. We were unable to get our March numbers due to an employee being on vacation. We expect to have those numbers by the end of next week. We will be preparing for the audit.

Greens Committee:

- The entire course (excluding the greens) was aerified on March 26-27. This included the tees, collars, approaches, fairways and rough.
- Recent rain is very welcoming and with warm weather and is good news for our turf. Green speeds remain consistent, and the turf is improving everywhere. We have a solid 15-month plan of maintenance activities outlined.
- A nursery green is being built behind the 13th tee/17th green. The St. Augustine grass has been removed and we will now build this green with plugs from our first green aeration. In the future, this grass will be used to repair weak spots on our course and give our chipping green a break, which is where we have been taking the plugs.
- We have cleaned up the area around the 9th hole;
 - A palm tree was removed and relocated near the 10th forward tee.
 - Old stumps were dug up and irrigation pipes were moved. This area has been backfilled and regraded.
 - Invasive and undesirable grasses were removed, and foliage will be pruned.
 - The area is now ready for new sod.
- Four Core greens aerifications will be done this Spring/Summer with the first one scheduled for May 10th.
- We will continue to work on the Halfway House Project this month with old foliage and mulch removed and coquina installed. That area will now be in play and the local rule will be amended on the scorecard for next season.
- Wear and tear from golf cart traffic does a great deal of damage to our turf (compaction). We have 9 – par 3 holes that are CART PATH ONLY. Keeping all 4 wheels on the cart path will really help the turf.
- As we rapidly approach our 50th Anniversary, working together we can restore Riverbend Golf Club as the Jewel of the Loxahatchee.

Pro-Shop:

- March of 2023, we did a total of 2,721 rounds, an increase of 41 rounds when compared to March of 2022.
- Revenue is up as well. We had \$64,000.00 in total revenue, for an increase of \$14,000.00 when compared to March of 2022.
- This past Saturday morning we had a record size field for the Men's Club as we hosted 19 groups and over 72 players!

- Jack Bennet and his super scramble committee put on an amazing final event of the season earlier this month. We had almost 100 players in the field and many more attending the dinner portion of the Caribbean Scramble. Congratulations to all the winners.
- To date we have solidified two 2023 Summer Reciprocals, they are with Miles Grant Country Club and Sandhill Crane Golf Club. Stay tuned while we put the final additions on our 2023 Reciprocal list. All tee times with these Reciprocal clubs need to be made by the Pro Shop staff directly. If you would like to schedule a tee time or have any questions, please contact Michael.
- Reminder – our new fleet of carts DO NOT have automatic e-brakes, you MUST engage the brake on the cart before getting out of the golf cart.
- Please remember that you can now book tee-times online through Jonas. Tee times can be booked 2 weeks in advance, and we encourage our members to do so.
- We will continue to STRESS golf cart safety throughout the season. Only operate the golf cart from the driver's side with two hands on the wheel. Do not text and drive. Keep your feet, legs, and hands inside the cart.

Landscaping:

- Nothing to report.

Membership/Marketing/Summer Membership

- Total Golf Memberships as of April 12, 2023
 - RB – 311
 - NP – 42
 - FM – 107 – a member resigned his full membership and became a Riverbend resident.
 - AS – 5
 - SM – 56 (24 Single, 32 Family with an additional 6 memberships being processed)
 - To date there are 15 full memberships available
- Total income received from initiation fees.
 - Single - \$19,200.00
 - Family - \$32,000.00
- This year's Summer Membership program is from May 12th through October 15th.

Rangers Report:

- We have a new Ranger, Buddy Gilmore. We continue to look for others that would be interested in being a Ranger.

Documentation Report:

- Nothing to report.

New Business:

- Over the last few months, we have been reviewing documentation related to children and their play on our golf course. The following are the proposed amendments to SECTION 3 – OPERATIONAL RULES:

SECTION 3 – OPERATIONAL RULES

RULE 3.10

Children under the age of 16 are not permitted to operate a golf cart, this includes personal carts on the Riverbend Golf Course and must always be accompanied by an adult member.

RULE 3.12

Children under 16 must receive a "Riverbend Junior Member" card from the pro shop to use the golf course and must have their own set of clubs. The "Riverbend Junior Member" card is issued by the Riverbend Pro Shop upon successfully passing a player ability golf test that demonstrates sufficient skills and knowledge of the rules of golf and etiquette.

Children under the age of 6 require Board approval prior to the issuance of the "Riverbend Junior Member" card and will require one adult per child under the age of 6 while playing on the course.

ADDED NEW RULES for CHILDREN

- All standard golf fees are applicable to children including cart and walking passes.
- Children under 16 require a walking pass to walk after hours and must have an adult member supervising their play.
- Children under 16 are not allowed on the golf course before 1:00 pm, unless expressly approved by the Pro Shop.
- Children under 10 are not allowed on the golf course during league play hours and scheduled tournaments.
- Children in arms or strollers are not allowed at any time on the golf course or driving range.
- Adults will be held responsible for any damage caused by a child in their care.
- Children creating a disruption, not behaving appropriately, or causing damage, will be asked to leave the course.

SECTION 5 – GOLF PRACTICE RANGE RULES

RULE 5.1

The range, which includes the chipping green, is open to members, lessees with golf privileges, and guests accompanied by members of Riverbend Golf Club. Children under 16 do not need the "Riverbend Junior Member" card when practicing but must always be accompanied by an adult member.

MOTION: Ken Kotansky made the motion to approve these changes. The Board voted unanimously to implement the changes.

Membership Comments and Questions: (Members have 3 minutes, per question, per person to discuss their topic.)

- Kathleen Britch – Regarding the new "green nursery" area behind the 17th green, there have been a lot of questions from residents about what this was. It would be beneficial if residents would be notified when projects like this are going to happen. It would also be helpful if the Golf Board would share this type of information with the Condo Board Landscaping Committee. Also, has there been some Coquina placed around some palm trees on the first hole, is this safe?
 - The Golf Board will work to ensure better communication in the future between the Golf Landscaping Committee and the Condo Board Landscaping Committee. Rick was aware of the project, but the Golf Board should have asked him to communicate the information with residents. With regards to the Coquina, yes, it is safe for the trees.
- Mary Ross – Since being on the Condo Board, she has received several calls from residents using the pool on Saturdays regarding the language used and political discussions that have gone on when the men's league comes in from play on Saturdays and congregate at the pool. We are asking that this gathering be taken inside or onto the porch.
 - The Board will address this with the Men's league president, as this is not acceptable.
- Mary Ross – I would like to request that the Board review the By-laws regarding all members family members (children, grandchildren etc.) are "members" of Riverbend because a parent or grandparent

is a resident of Riverbend. With our dues going up as well as other costs going up, I would like to request that the documents committee review this By-law and recommend a change to that By-law that stipulates an age limit.

- The Board will review this suggestion which would require a change to the Bylaws.
- Bernie – What are the incentives that the Rangers get for providing Ranger services to Riverbend? The member stated that after providing Ranger services for 2 sessions he receives free cart rental for 9 holes. How is this fair to the Ranger that only plays 9 holes?
 - Once you ranger for 3 sessions you receive a free cart rental for 18 holes. The Board is not aware of the any other rule regarding Ranger compensation. The Board will review this issue.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:48 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth M. Haney
Secretary