

LLCC GREENS COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, May 2, 2017 – 2 PM

Members Present: Jerry Nokes, Lance Levine, Tom Taylor, Gary Yando, Ron Gruszczynski, Gayle Wilcox, Mary Lou Trautmann, Ed Irvin, Vern Duggan (Board members: John Torkelson, Glen Zevenbergen)

Staff Present: Ron Stull, Jason Howerton, Deborah Wallace

Guests: Robbi Alberts, Howard Cornehl, Dave Dunnington, Dave Sims

Chair Jerry Nokes called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM.

Minutes: Minutes from April 4 were reviewed; one correction: Ron is working on a “golf course policy manual”. Ed Irvin moved to: **ACCEPT THE APRIL 4 MINUTES, AS CORRECTED.** Mary Lou Trautmann 2nd; motion passed.

Greens Report: Jason reported the poor weather has set his grooming schedule back about 1½ months. He hopes to be able to begin mowing the roughs, aerifying the tees, seeding weak areas and fertilizing starting tomorrow. “No parking” signs are being posted on the strip by the railroad tracks. “Ground under repair” signs will be placed where trees were removed near Hole #5; grass is starting to grow there. Concrete blocks are being refurbished to place along the logs in the parking lot; it should look nice when finished. Spaces about 4 feet wide will allow push carts to pass through the logs. Jason will also reinforce the “blocked off area” so walkers won’t try to pass over the railroad at the former dip crossing.

LLCC normally has a “short” season when it comes to dry fairways. But this has been an extra-bad weather year so our “season” is shortened even more. Applying sand to fairways could greatly increase the playing season. This would take a bit of money, but Jason offered to prepare a “cost/return-on-investment” proposal to present to the Board of Directors.

Pro Shop: Ron Stull said a coupon advertisement began in last Thursday’s *Journal* with some adjustments from previous coupons (includes a LLCC Burger & fountain drink; ½ cart; and 18-hole greens fee ... Mon thru Thur \$35; Fri/Sat/Sun & holidays \$45 ... tee-off after 1PM; reservations required). Coupons will expire every month, so we can now adjust future coupons if we choose, and we won’t have to honor coupons indefinitely. The coupon was posted on the LLCC website today.

Ron S. plans to advertise tournaments on the website. A Couples Tournament will be held this weekend, with a Mexican theme. Ron said LLCC staff is working on ways to avoid conflicting LLCC events and golf tournaments.

Ron S. has been given permission to give lessons at Alderbrook’s driving range. Contact him for details.

Ron S. said golf “Annual” sales are down from previous seasons. We need to find a way to extend our golf season. Jason’s proposed sanding project could help, down the road.

Financial Report: Ron S. introduced LLCC’s Community Association Manager Deborah Wallace who handed out a financial “profit & loss” report for the month of April (for the Café, Golf & Greens). Lance Levine moved to: **ACCEPT THE PROFIT & LOSS REPORT FOR MONTH OF APRIL.** Gayle Wilcox 2nd, and motion passed.

Deborah said COMCAST should be here next Monday to hook the sports channel back up in this building. The POS (point-of-sale) system will be installed on Friday. The “golf assessment” ends this month; most of the money has been collected. The Greens Committee (Jason?) needs to come up with a proposal for cart-paths. Jason also suggested we could use one of their maintenance vehicles as a “beverage cart” for tournaments & on weekends to increase café sales.

Golf Course Policies Manual: Ron Stull handed out the latest version of the manual (*see separate Attachment 1*). Tom Taylor moved: **THE GREENS COMMITTEE ACCEPT THE “GOLF COURSE POLICIES MANUAL”.** Ron Gruszczynski 2nd, and the motion passed. Tom Taylor then moved to: **PRESENT THE “GOLF COURSE POLICIES MANUAL” TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, AS APPROVED BY THE GREENS COMMITTEE.** Ed Irvin 2nd, and motion passed.

Golf Cart Plan: John Torkelson noted it’s important we maintain our LLCC golf carts as this can be a money-maker for the golf course. He handed out his “Golf Cart Plan” (*see Attachment 2*), suggesting that the Greens Committee consider recommending **Step 1** now and **Step 2** this winter, holding off for now on Steps 3 & 4. After some discussion, Mary Lou Trautmann moved that: **THE GREENS COMMITTEE ACCEPT THE GOLF CART PLAN AS PRESENTED BY JOHN TORKELSON; AND THAT WE RECOMMEND THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS IMPLEMENT STEPS 1 & 2 ... STEPS 3 & 4 WILL BE SUBJECT TO FUTURE REVIEW & PLANNING.** Gayle Wilcox 2nd, and motion passed.

Credit on the Books: Ron Stull said he’d like to resume applying golf winnings as “credit on the books” (at the Pro Shop). He handed out a report he put together on how USGA rules apply to this subject (*see Attachment 3*). Ron subsequently developed a Policy for “Credit Books”, approved by the Committee. Lance Levine moved to: **SUBMIT RON’S USGA EXPLANATION AND “CREDIT ON THE LLCC BOOKS” PROPOSAL TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR REVIEW...ALONG WITH THE “CREDIT ON THE BOOKS” POLICY #16** (*see Attachment 4*) **DEVELOPED BY RON FOR APPROVAL BY THE BOARD.** Gayle Wilcox 2nd; and the motion passed.

At 3:50 PM, Vern Duggan moved to ADJOURN. Mary Lou Trautmann 2nd, and motion passed.

NOTES BY ROBBIE

Golf Cart Plan

(Presented to LLCC Greens Committee by John Torkelson – May 2, 2017)

Lake Limerick needs to make some changes to help reduce our golf course losses that we endure every year. The Greens committee and the golf superintendent have over the years made significant changes to make the golf course better but with our current financial crisis, we might want to focus more on increasing public play. Since all the golf annuals we sell each year barely pay for the golf superintendent's salary it is important to make the golf course more attractive to the outside paying public.

There are numerous ways to make the course more attractive to the paying public but first on the list is to make our golf carts more attractive. The current seats on most of the carts are moldy to the point of being embarrassing and are a detraction on how good our golf course is.

We need to get the golf carts out of the rain, then upgrade the carts as the budget permits. Over the years several solutions to getting the carts out of the rain have been discussed but in the end there seems to be only one viable solution that our budget can afford as presented below.

Step 1 (Storage Behind the Pro Shop)

We need to extend the roof in the rear of the pro shop with two metal roofs to accommodate five carts totally out of the rain. One on the right of the HVAC to accommodate 2 carts and one on the left to accommodate 3 carts. With the eight parking spaces in front of the pro shop this will give the staff quick access to 13 dry carts. The other four carts will be stored in the maintenance shed in the space we currently have set up for carts. These four carts will have to be driven over to the maintenance shed each night on the few days that over 13 carts are needed. Cost for the two sheds should be about **\$2,500 (shipping and installation included)** **We need more detailed design to get a better estimate.**

All rubbish needs to be removed from behind the pro shop to allow construction. The chargers should be mounted on the pro shop wall in a professional manner. (no cost)

Step 2 (Recover the Seats on Some Carts)

The existing seats need to be cleaned up to determine how many need to be replaced but a good guess is that we need to spend less than \$1000 for new seat covers and a day or two of staff labor.

Step 3 (Expand the Golf Cart Storage in the Maintenance Shed)

When we implement phase two of the café remodel, we will need to move four carts in front of the pro shop to the existing cart storage area in the maintenance area. To do this we will need to expand the existing shed by 12 feet to accommodate storage for eight carts and buying the hardware to allow these carts to be transported to the storage area via "trains". The train design will require gates to be added to allow the train to go directly to the street over a new culvert. This cost should be under \$1000. The train connections will cost about \$1500 and expanding the shed about \$2000 (carports.com) for a total of **\$ 4,400** (good guess only) The cost of a door on the shed if required is not included in this estimate.

Step 4 (Acquire New Carts)

Carts need new batteries every five years or so, and the cost to do this is about \$700 per cart. Any decision on carts needs to keep this in mind. It doesn't matter if the carts are new or old, \$700 every five years is required for batteries for each cart. There are three options presented below on how we can upgrade our carts.

Buy used carts

Most successful golf courses buy or rent new carts and after five years (the life of the batteries) dump them at bargain prices. Recently on Craig's list there were "Club Car" carts for sale (club car is top of the line) that were only five years old, canvas covers, hunter green and we could have had them for \$1400 per cart plus the cost of the batteries and shipping. This total cost would be about \$37,000. When we buy used carts we can dump ours on Craig's list for about \$600 per cart reducing the total cost of the used carts to about **\$26,800** for good carts with new batteries that would last for years.

Buy new carts

The cost of new carts starts at about \$7000 per cart for a basic model which comes to \$119,000 for 17 carts. By the time you add up all the details taxes etc. new carts will probably run over **\$130,000** for base model carts.

Lease Carts

Leasing 17 new, low end EZ-GO carts will cost \$1640.5 per month or \$19,686 per year. After about **6.6 years** leasing the carts you would have spent about **\$130,000** and not own anything.

Conclusion

We should implement step 1 this summer and step 2 this winter.

When we are more financially stable we should buy used carts (step 4) when the next opportunity presents itself.

The café phase two remodel must include step 3 to have an appealing pro shop entrance.

John Torkelson

USGA Policy on Gambling

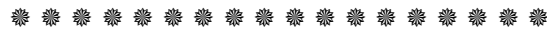
The Definition of an amateur golfer provides that an "amateur golfer," whether he plays competitively or recreationally, is one who plays golf for the challenges it presents, not as a profession and not for financial gain.

The distinction between playing for prize money, which violates the Rules of Amateur Status, and gambling, which does not, is essential to the Rules of Amateur Status. The USGA urges amateur golfers to seek USGA guidance whenever it is unclear whether the prize format constitutes playing for prize money or gambling and, in the absence of such guidance, not to play for cash prizes. Such a course of action would ensure that no one jeopardizes his amateur status.

The USGA does not object to informal gambling or wagering among individual golfers or teams of golfers when the players in general know each other, participation in the wagering is optional and is limited to the players, the sole source of all money won by the players is advanced by the players on themselves or their own teams and the amount of money involved is not generally considered excessive such that the primary purpose is the playing of the game for enjoyment.

On the other hand, organized events open to the general public and designed or promoted to create cash prizes are not approved by the USGA. Golfers participating in such events without first irrevocably waiving their right to prize money are deemed by the USGA to be playing for prize money, in breach of Rule 3-1.

The USGA is opposed to and urges its Member Clubs, all golf associations and all other sponsors of golf competitions to prohibit types of gambling such as: (1) Calcuttas, (2) other auction pools, (3) pari-mutuels and (4) any other forms of gambling organized for general participation or permitting participants to bet on someone other than themselves or their teams. The USGA may inform players they have forfeited their amateur status or deny entry in USGA Championships and membership on USGA teams for international competitions to players whose activities in connection with golf gambling, whether organized or individual, are considered by the USGA to be contrary to the best interests of golf.



Credit on LLCC's Books

(Presented to LLCC Greens Committee by Pro Ron Stull – May 2, 2017)

Above is a USGA document outlining their stance on playing for cash prizes in organized league play that is open to the public. As you can see in the document, the argument that we are accepting gambling money may not be accurate. Turning off the credit books will force golfers into jeopardizing their amateur status by having them accept cash prizes for their entry fees into club and league play competitions. I don't know anyone that would turn the club in for these violations! But why would we *not* want to do what is correct with the USGA?

I do not want to suggest that we *require* the leagues to pay out in credits. Certainly we should encourage the leagues to use this as an opportunity to abide by the USGA's stance on amateurism. An ancillary benefit to the club comes with members using their credits to enhance the sales in both the Pro Shop and the Café. This is a convenience to the participants and LLCC in that it allows accurate records of credits which are a liability to the club against future sales.

Last year I created a program to keep track of the money on the credit books. We will be installing the new POS system shortly. The credits from this program will be transferred onto the member's and guest's accounts. The new system will have the ability for the staff to use, or not use, the credits on sales as the credit-holder may request.

16. Credit Books

- 16.1** The credit book is established to conform to USGA Rule 3-1, *Rules of Amateur Status*.
- 16.2** The credit books are for members and guests to post prize fund winnings on account for future use. The Pro Shop will be responsible for crediting accounts. Additionally, the Business Office staff may make corrections to accounts with the Pro Shop staff's knowledge. The credit may only be used in the Pro Shop or Café.
- 16.3** Prize funds are derived from the total of all tournament entry fees in a given event.
- 16.4** All Lake Limerick sponsored events will either issue gift certificates to the winners of the event or issue a credit directly to their account. Gift certificates may be redeemed at the point of sale or placed on the books for future use.
- 16.5** The moneys received for all events will be rung up through the POS system as "Competition Credits". This will be a line item on our accounting General Ledger as a liability. A sale using the credit on their account will reduce the account's liability. The competition credits rung up must match the money credited to the customer accounts.
- 16.6** Sales tax will not be deducted from the competition credits. The sales taxes will be collected at the time of the future sale.
- 16.7** The payout for LLCC events by flight will be as follows:
Pay 6 places: 1st 33%; 2nd 23%; 3rd 17%; 4th 12%; 5th 9%; 6th 6%.
Pay 5 places: 1st 35%; 2nd 24%; 3rd 18%, 4th 13%; 5th 10%.
Pay 4 places: 1st 40%; 2nd 30%; 3rd 20%; 4th 10%.
Pay 3 places: 1st 50%; 2nd 30%; 3rd 20%.
Pay 2 places: 1st 60%; 2nd 40%
- 16.8** The Men's and Women's Leagues, at their option, may collect entry fees to their events and turn the money over to the Pro Shop with a list of winners for credits to be placed on the books. They may use a payout of their choosing.
- 16.9** If a holder of credit wished to have the credits transferred to another golf club, 25% will be withheld as the potential profit from a future sale. The balance will be sent to the club (by check) for credit to their account at that club.