

2012 Green Committee Archives

GREEN COMMITTEE MINUTES

Feb 2, 2012

Attendees

Members: Bill Burke, Ruth Bott, Jan Urban, Clay Pokorny, Fred Barre, Barry Golliday (Chair)

CCMA Liaison:

FCCC: Steve Schmidt, Dan Elliott, Bruce Szafran

1. Course Update (Steve Schmidt)

January update

- Marsh Hawk #11 tee replaced 130 foot of 15" drainage pipe
- Sprayed wall to wall pre/post emergence herbicide on Blue Heron and started Marsh Hawk
- Sprayed out club house grounds
- Replaced High Pressure tank in Marsh Hawk pump station
- Removed trees on Blue Heron and stump ground behind them
- Low limb and removal of trees on Blackheath
- Worked on some cart path drainage issue throughout the Blackheath
- Made some new tee markers
- Started Mulch work throughout the courses
- Worked on Cleaning up and pruning back plant material on Blue Heron #9 bathroom
- Sub-contractor fixed bridge between Blue Heron #4 and #5
- Attended Virginia Turf Grass conference and five people renewed their pesticide license for two more years

Goals for February

- Have bridge on Blue Heron #3 completed
- Replace floor boards on Marsh Hawk Bridge at #13 green
- Finish replacing pipe right side of Marsh Hawk #10 green
- Install 4" drain tile in driving range. **Range to be closed Feb 13-16.**
- Spray pre/post-emergence Marsh Hawk, Blackheath, and driving range
- Prune crepe myrtles around club house
- Paint all the parking lot signs
- Work on ball washers
- Install pipe for Blue Heron

2. Old Business

Marsh Hawk Bronze Tees (#2 & 10)

- Dan, Steve & Bruce to present plan at March meeting

Bunkers on Marsh Hawk

- Planned for mid-summer
- Tied into sale

3. New Business

Premier Golfing Experience in Wmbg - “Restoring FC as one of the nation’s premier clubs” - Doug M

- 2012 Focus - *Best Greens in Wmbg*
- Rationale
 - Courses are in much better condition now, in general
 - With courses in good condition, greens are arguably the most important determinant of course evaluation. Good greens; good course. Bad greens; bad course
 - Prior to May, FC greens were a source of major dissatisfaction from members and had poor reputation in Wmbg due to being soft, slow and bumpy
 - Improved greens should be a source of increased revenue
- Will build on new Affiniti maintenance schedule. Bruce to get Steve S up to speed.
- Do the best with what we’ve got
- “Adopt a hole”
- Sponsored divot repair tools. Dan to pursue.
- Need qualitative (e.g. smooth, true roll, firm) and quantitative (e.g. Stimpmeter) objectives for Greens

Need 2012 objectives for overall course conditions.

- Steve to develop for Bruce.

Pampas Grasses on Blackheath #1 and Marsh Hawk #11

- Balls roll into and slow play.
- Steve to check out and decide what, if anything to be done.

Cart Path Ruts

- Multiple causes (golf carts, maintenance carts, heavy machinery, security)
- Steve to check out and determine what needs to be done.

Blue Heron Black Tee Distances

- Dan to get yardages and put on scorecards
- What about Combo Tee distances?

4. Other Topics

Green Sand For Divots

- Steve to check out price upcharge

Course Closure Due To Wet Conditions

- Steve decision
- Winter different than summer due to number of players

Sand Piles (e.g. Blue Heron #2)

- To be removed soon

5. Next Meeting Date: Thursday, March 1, 2012 at 3PM

GREEN COMMITTEE MINUTES

Mar 1, 2012

Attendees

Members: Bill Burke, Jan Urban, Clay Pokorny, Fred Barre, Barry Golliday (Chair)

CCMA Liaison: John Tinker

FCCC: Steve Schmidt, Dan Elliott

1. Course Update (Steve Schmidt)

February Update

- Installed 4" drain tile two worst areas on Driving range
- Installed 4" drain tile second landing area #12 Marsh Hawk
- Installed 4" drain tile Blue Heron #17 tee
- Painted signs around clubhouse
- Sprayed pre and post emergence throughout courses
- Replaced floor boards on Marsh Hawk #13-14 bridge
- Finished installing pipe right side of Marsh Hawk #10 tee

Goals for March

- Touch up spray of pre and post emergence throughout the courses
- Bring up our irrigation, which can take 2-3 days per course
- Aerify, verti-cutt, fertilize, top-dress, and seed thin areas of greens
- Work on putting mulch out on the courses
- Work on ball washers (every other hole, vary tee placement, remove empty posts)
- Weather permits spread out old sand from bunker construction
- Weather permits install more 4" drain tile throughout the courses

2. Old Business

Marsh Hawk Bronze Tees (#2 & 10)

- Will mow back 25-50 feet. Wetness is limitation.

Cart Path Ruts

- Have fixed some.
- In conversation with FC Security on ruts they are causing

Green Sand For Divots

- Upcharge minimal. Will provide when grass turns green

Sand Piles On Blue Heron

- Will work them down over time. Weather dependant.

3. New Business

Premier Golfing Experience in Wmbg - 2012 Focus-Best Greens in Wmbg

- Received numerous compliments on Blue Heron greens (rolled & mowed)
- In winter, Steve will try to rolls 1x per week and mow 2x per week. Weather dependant.
- Newsletter article by Steve helpful. Greens Cmte is encouraging more communication with members on greens maintenance
- 2012 Objectives For Courses - Priorities:
 - 1st. Greens
 - 2nd. Fairways
 - 3rd. Bunkers
 - 4th. Tee Boxes
 - 5th. Rough
- 2012 Objectives For Greens
 - Balance playability (firmness, smoothness, speed) and health
- 2012 Maintenance Plan
 - Calendar determined by: 1st-Aerification schedule - 2nd -Outside Commitments - 3rd -Association & Club Events
 - First aerification in March. Will be based on Affiniti plan presented at Annual Meeting and importantly different than previous years. Greens Cmte encouraged Steve to provide key details (hole diameter, plug removal, top dressing, etc) to members in Newsletter.
 - Details of future aerifications (May and August/September) and needle tinings to be determined based on greens condition
 - This will be the first year of regular rolling of greens. Frequency of rolling and mowing need to be determined and are weather dependent.
 - Will not be able to have all greens at same playability due to variability in age of greens. Marsh Hawk, Blackheath and Blue Heron were constructed/reconstructed at different times. Blue Heron 1-4 and 14-18 are olderer than 5-13.
 - Purchase and use of Stimpmeter discussed. Will be reconsidered after we get into the 2012 program and its utility can be better determined.
 - 2nd roller will cost \$15k, new. Need will be assessed after we get into the 2012 program and cost/benefit can be better determined.,
- Monitoring Of Our Greens Vs Competition
 - Steve discusses conditions and actions with area superintendents regularly during the season. Does not do on-site “inspections”
 - Dan to play key competition periodically to monitor competitive conditions
 - Member feedback to be another source of input
- “Adopt a hole”. Greens Cmte needs to meet to work out final details. BG to arrange meeting.
- Divot repair tools. Dan is developing a program that involves the “ How to Repair Bermuda Divots on carts and starter insuring that all players have a Divot Repair Tool.
- Other Ideas Discussed
 - Make sand bottles more prominent. FCCC will consider.

- Provide more refill stations on course. FCCC will do.
- Provide/sell bags for walkers that hang on cart and hold large sand bottle. FCCC to consider.
- Replace missing yardage on sprinkler heads. Steve to provide course map of heads. Not all heads have yardage marked on map. CCMA will update map yardages as part of “Adopt a Hole” program. Steve will provide labels to stick on heads
- Repaint Combo C’s. FCCC will do.
- Blue Heron # 12. Stumps and logs. Area very wet currently. Will improve appearance when drier.

4. Other Topics

Green Cmte members to get back to BG on suggestions for CCMA website upgrade

5. Next Meeting Date: Thursday, April 5, 2012 at 3PM in Executive Conference Room

GREENS COMMITTEE MINUTES

April 5, 2012

Attendees

Members: Bill Burke, Ruth Bott, Jan Urban, Fred Barre, Gene Kessler

CCMA Liaison: John Tinker (Acting Chair)

FCCC: Steve Schmidt, Bruce Szafran

1.Course Update

March update

- Aerified, verti-cutt, top-dressed, and fertilized all 60 greens
- Installed 4" drain tile and back filled with stone at green area on Blue Heron #5
- Installed 4" drain tile and back filled with stone on #17 Blackheath
- Continued to apply mulch throughout the courses
- Replaced 450 feet of electric wire on Blackheath #18
- Replaced 320 feet of hydraulic tubing on Blackheath #4
- Got all the irrigation pressurized and running
- Installed ball washers throughout the courses
- Worked on pavers at Blackheath #18 green complex
- Removed dead tree Blackheath #1 tee
- Cart path repairs throughout the courses

Goals for April

- Continue with Mulching
- Finish putting out towels on Ball Washers
- Sod work on Blackheath #4, Marsh Hawk #9 and #11, Blue Heron #8,#9,#12,#16
- Seed the deeper rough on Blackheath #4
- Spread out old sand from bunker construction
- Weather permits install more 4" drain tile throughout the courses
- Stump grind and clean up Blackheath #1 tee area

2.Old Business

• Stimpmeter- The committee again expressed its believe that testing the greens using a stimpmeter is the most reliable method of testing the consistency of our greens. While not commenting directly on the need for a stimpmeter, Steve said that he believes that the 18 Marsh Hawk greens roll consistently, and the 18 Blackheath greens roll consistently. When it comes to the Blue Heron greens, he believes that the inner loop greens are consistent and the outer loop greens are consistent, but they probably are and always will be slightly different from each other because they were built at different times. No one disagreed with his assessment. Unless we get complaints from members that greens on the same course are rolling at different speeds, this appears to be a dead issue.

• Newsletter Article by Steve- Everyone at the table gave Steve positive feedback on his recent article. He will continue to keep members informed about course issues with timely articles for the Newsletter.

3.New Business

Premier Golfing Experience in Williamsburg - 2012 Focus- Best Greens in Wmbg

• Greens Maintenance

• We have Blackheath greens (8, 9, 10, 11 and 14) still showing stress from the excessive heat we experienced last August. We have been seeding these greens all spring, and some new growth has occurred, but there are still some thin areas. At this point, additional seeding is not going to help. Any new grass from seed from this point on will not grow a strong enough root structure to survive the

summer heat. We will have to take a good look at these greens again in the fall and decide where to go from there. Greens 8,9,10,and 11 are twenty years old. They have been through a lot; lost turf, nemotoades, removal of trees, and etc. It's possible that these greens are near the end of their expected life?

- Steve plans on following a three step plan to keep our greens consistently rolling fast, smooth and healthy. First, he will continually apply a growth regulator to the greens (which will allow them to continue to grow laterally but slow their growth vertically); second, he will roll the greens once a week, and third, he will lightly top-dress the greens every other week. Mowing frequency will be adjusted to meet the conditions.

- Member's Practice Area

After a good discussion on the substance of Fred's paper, Bruce made it clear that it was impractical for us to expect any major capital improvements to the practice area at this time. However, he promised to set up a meeting with the Pro Shop and Steve to review the general upkeep and presentation of the area and come up with a set of improvements which he will present at the next meeting.

- Debris Clean-up

There was a discussion about the growing number of debris piles visible from the courses and cart paths. The bottom line is the club has no good, out-of-the-way, place on the property to dispose of debris, and it is too expensive to haul it away. It was pointed out that the FCHOA is facing the same dilemma and now grinds all their debris into mulch. At present, this solution would require more manpower than currently budgeted for. Eventually, this problem is going to have to be addressed, but in the short run, expect to see these debris piles along the sides of our courses.

4.Other Topics

The annual problem with weeds on some areas of our courses at this time of year was discussed. Pre emergent weed control was sprayed on all the courses with various degrees of success. This work is done with our winter workforce, so it naturally took time to cover all three courses (300 plus acres), and the work was done under a variety of weather conditions. Once the work was completed, it can't be repeated again until our Bermuda has finished coming out of dormancy and is strong enough to withstand weed treatments.

5. Next Meeting Date - Thursday, May 3, 2012 at 3 PM in the Executive Conference Room

GREEN COMMITTEE MINUTES

May 3, 2012

Attendees

Members: Ruth Bott, Fred Barre, Barry Golliday (Chair)

CCMA Liaison: John Tinker

FCCC: Steve Schmidt, Dan Elliott, Bruce Szafran

1. Premier Golfing Experience in Williamsburg - 2012 Focus: Best Greens In Wmbg

We have moved this item to be first on the agenda since it is the primary goal of the Greens Committee.

Consensus among attendees was that currently:

Blackheath

- Condition of Blackheath is good. Greens continue to come back

Marsh Hawk

- Condition of Marsh Hawk is good, except for the bunkers that need to be replaced. Other than some minor repairs, e.g. Marsh Hawk #6, the Marsh Hawk bunker renovations are on hold pending resolution of FCCC ownership.

Blue Heron

- Blue Heron has an extensive weed problem. It includes some greens and collars, the fairways, tee boxes and rough. Problem is due to a combination of:
 - Rain washed out some of the early pre-emergent weed control applications
 - Cold nights which have inhibited bermudagrass coming out of dormancy and growth

Problem will be resolved when the night-time temperature is consistently higher than 50-60°.

We cannot do another round of weed control at this time because it would inhibit bermudagrass growth - it has not finished coming out of dormancy and is not strong enough to withstand weed treatments

- Some of the older greens on Blue Heron (inner loop) are getting smaller due to encroachment of surrounding grass. This is common as greens age. Inner loop greens were built in 1988 (24 years ago. Typical lifetime of a green is 25-30 years)

2. Course Update (Steve Schmidt)

April Update

- Needle tined, verti-cutt, top-dressed, and rolled greens
- Replaced clogged 4" drain tile on #5 Blue Heron
- Repaired Drain Inlet behind Marsh Hawk #4 green
- Put in 4" drain tile on Blue Heron #15 tee and #16 fwy/rgh
- Sprayed "C" on paths for combo tees on Blue Heron

- Painted yardage plaques on Marsh Hawk Tees
- Have had some irrigation issues with control boxes clogging causing heads to come on
- Sod Blackheath #1, #2, #4, #9, Marsh Hawk #2, #3, #5, #7, #11
- Spread out a lot of old bunker sand
- Put out new sand boxes on the courses
- Drilled holes into the driving range ball holder so debris will fall through
- Made dividers for member side will be placed out next week

Goals For May

- Fertilize the bermuda grass
- Work on some direct inlets around the courses (Marsh Hawk #8)
- Start mowing the driving range on a weekly bases
- Finish spreading out old bunker sand
- Have two 3 hp pumps replaced in our pump houses
- Replace high pressure tank in Blackheath pump house
- Start spraying for broadleaf weeds were the Bermuda grass is green

3. Old Business

Members Practice Area

- Sod has been added to the area in front of ball box/water station
- Dividers have been added in the grass area
- The rotted section on the water station will be replaced
- Beyond that, there is no money in the budget for additional improvements

Stimpmeter

- Greens Committee is considering the purchase of a Stimpmeter for Steve

4. New Business

5. Other Topics

Greens Committee will meet in May to develop Adopt A Hole Program

6. Next Meeting Date: Thursday, June 7, 2012, at 3PM in Executive Conference Room