



BWRC Golf Committee Meeting Minutes

Sunday, February 19, 2023 — 3:00 pm in-Person at BWRC and via Zoom

1. Welcome New Committee Members and Call to Order

New Members: Jennifer Beitler-Flinchum, Thomas Harjes, and Brian Murphy

Starting 2nd Year: Christina Hui and Eric Johnson

Starting 3rd Year: Henriette de Bruyn Kops, Christine Ebrahimzadeh, Diego Losada, and Ian Myers

BWRC staff in attendance: Ed Ronan (General Manager), Chris Convey (Assistant Golf Professional), and Joe Villegas (Superintendent)

2. Unanimous Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting (November 13, 2022)

3. Distribution of Committee Assignments for 2023

Chair: Henriette

Grounds: Eric, Henriette, Ian, Joe

Handicaps: Christina, Ian

Junior Program: Brian, Diego, Thomas

Recording Secretary: Christine

Tournaments: Chris, Jennifer

4. Grounds Report (pre-circulated by Joe)

- Greens
 - Aeration of greens will start on Tuesday
 - Same timing as past several years
 - Allows for most healing prior to seed head control and no disruption in March
- Tree work
 - Removals that have been discussed prior were successfully completed
 - Dead trees and Bermuda grass health removals
 - This is all of our scheduled removals for 2023
 - Discuss plans for next winter removals at later meeting
 - Tree planting
 - Meeting scheduled with tree contractor; we will discuss:
 - Finish planting plan started between 12/13 fairways
 - New trees between #1 tee and 18 approach
 - Additional trees between 1/10 fairways
 - New maples right of 17 fairway in preparation for large maple to be removed when dead
 - Two more trees have come down and will be removed – between holes 8 and 10 and by hole 15

Short cut around greens

- Initial test was successful
- Will implement course wide this season as next step
 - Possible the turf does not respond well through an entire season and adjustments may need to be made
- Winter project recap
 - Drainage
 - #1 app
 - #15 app
 - #17 fwy
 - Bunker renovations
 - #2
 - #5
 - #6
 - #7
- Other items (*in response to a member's suggestions*):
 - Posting the stimpmeter measurements
 - Useless number to nearly all golfers
 - Used as a tool for consistency across one course - not in comparison to other courses or as bragging rights
 - Measurement would be meaningless or at least unhelpful to nearly all golfers
 - Certainly would not encourage better play; could slow play down
 - Installing cobblestone around corners of cart paths
 - Based on experience, the cart drivers simply start cutting the cobblestone corner instead
 - *The Committee discussed the possibility of installing larger barriers (such as boulders or curbs), however, again, based on experience, this is more damaging to carts as drivers tend to crash into such barriers.*
 - Re-grading the driving range
 - Massive undertaking (*as is the idea of installing a separate driving range*); not realistic as a simple change
 - *On this note, the Committee revisited the question of the use of the lower driving range; it was agreed that, largely for safety reasons, the lower range will continue to be reserved for clinics/lessons. Members will be pleased to know that the mats on the upper range will be replaced in mid/late-March (to match those of the lower range).*
- Spring prep
 - Likely starting in March, accessories will be put back out
 - Water coolers
 - Ball washers
 - Regular tee markers

5. Pro Shop Report (pre-circulated by Jason)

Rounds:

- 2022 total rounds 31,543 (3rd highest total behind 2020 and 2021)
- Still 25% higher than pre-COVID average (2015–19)
- January 2023: 1,580 golf rounds – 2nd most all time (COVID 2021 Jan)
- Last year in January, 389 rounds
- In January, there were 15 days of 50 or more players, compared to 3 in 2018, 3 in 2019, 6 in 2020
- February starting off similarly busy (around 1,100 rounds already) with cooperating weather

Tournaments:

- Full schedule for 2023, including the 3 on rotation (Romance Golf, Team Stroke Play Championship, Hispanic Trophy)
- Opening Day, Jim Napier Ice-Breaker – April 1st
- Minami family pleased with the idea of providing a trophy for the Super Senior Championship and will be in attendance to award the trophy to the champion
- Currently in the process of scheduling Men's B-Team, Senior B-Team, Ladies A-Team, etc. M-PG will not be required to host an event at BWRC as there is an odd number of teams.
- *The Committee discussed the possibility of shortening the format of the Men's Stroke/Match play tournaments to 2 x 18 holes (as opposed to 36 holes on the second round) – as is the case with the Ladies' tournament. The Tournament Sub-Committee will survey the members and make a decision on this in the near future.*

Merchandise:

- Approx \$470,000 in gross sales in 2022 -- a record!
- Demo days (expanded from the past) will be offered this Spring featuring Callaway, Ping, Taylor Made, Titleist & XXIO
- Caroline Barbeau will continue to undertake the majority of the purchasing for shop soft goods

Tarah – Instruction:

- Spring Juniors:
 - o PGA Junior League: April 18 - June 4 (5 practices and 5 matches)
 - o Junior All Star Series for 5-7 year olds: April 16 - May 20 (6 weekly classes)
 - o Junior All Star Series for 8-10 year olds: April 16 - May 20 (6 weekly classes)
 - o Junior All Star Series for 11-15 year olds: April 16 - May 20 (6 weekly classes)
 - o LPGA USGA Girls Golf of Montgomery County: Drop-ins for girls every other Sunday from March 12 - June 11
- Summer Juniors:
 - o Half Day Golf Camp - 7 weeks
 - o Full Day Golf Camp - 7 weeks
 - o Full Day Golf and Day Camp - 7 weeks
 - o Full Day Golf and Tennis Camp - 2 weeks

- Spring Adults:
 - o BWWGA March Coaching Program (2 clinics, 1 group playing lesson, 1 private lesson)
 - o M-PG Team March Coaching Program (2 clinics, 1 group playing lesson, 1 private lesson)
 - o District Team March Coaching Program (2 clinics, 1 group playing lesson, 1 private lesson)
 - o Drop-in Putting Clinic (offering 1 in March for now, more if it goes well)
 - o Drop-in Chipping Clinic (offering 1 in March for now, more if it goes well)
 - o Drop-in Pitching Clinic (offering 1 in March for now, more if it goes well)
 - o Golf Fore All Level 1: 3 different sessions offered, April 12-June 4 (6 weekly classes and 3 rounds of golf)
 - o Golf Fore All Level 2: 2 different sessions offered, April 12-June 4 (6 weekly classes and 3 rounds of golf)
 - o LPGA 101: April 27 - June 1 (5 weekly classes and 1 on-course playing lesson for ladies)
- Driving Range Mat will be replaced this March with new hitting surface to include adjustable tee system
- Green towel supply will be resupplied for the Spring (*went through 600 between March-September 2022*) – *the Committee suggested that the Pro Shop – once again – send a reminder to members to return used towels.*
- Metal Divot tools will be made available (with an encouragement to use them) at the first tee
- Handicap Policy – once reviewed, announce to membership in early-March
- BTW, I played 9 holes Thursday afternoon, counted 6 rakes in the bunker short of #8 green. *Joe has added an additional rake to #8 – in compliance with USGA recommendations for the number of rakes per square-footage of bunker.*

6. Draft Handicap Policy (pre-circulated by Ian)

The Committee adopted the draft policy as outlined below; the Pro Shop will share it with members in early March.

Bretton Woods Golf Committee – Handicap Committee

Overview

The responsibility of the Handicap Committee is to ensure that each player's Handicap Index honestly and accurately reflects their demonstrated ability. This will be done through active monitoring of policy conformance. This will ensure fairness and equitable competitiveness between all players during any round of golf played, whether it be a tournament, an event (e.g., Scramble) or social game.

Handicap Committee Activities

- Defines and updates handicap policy
- Communicates policy to all members via the Pro Shop
- Together with the Pro Shop, reviews member conformance to policy periodically – ability to verify posting compliance by comparing the daily tee sheets with the actual posted scores
- Identifies violations to policy and raises concerns to Pro Shop for action

Policy and Consequences of Violation

Policy: All golf members in good standing are to accurately submit their total gross scores into the GHIN system after each round of golf played as per the defined timeframe. This timeframe must be within a maximum of 48 hours from round completion. The recommendation is to enter on the same day as round was played. A “round of golf” is typically the completion of 18 holes.

Note: The current USGA rule is a maximum score per hole of a NET DOUBLE BOGEY. There is provision to also enter 9-holes rounds played, or rounding up or down for any incomplete round. Under the current World Handicap System, any round of 7-13 holes must be posted as 9, and any round of 14-17 holes must be posted as 18. There is a difference between un-played holes and maximum score. Un-played holes are to be counted as par + any strokes received. If you fail to complete a hole due to excessive strokes then the net double bogey maximum would apply.

Consequences of Violation: Periodically, member scores will be audited and reviewed for compliance by the Handicap Committee from data received from the Pro Shop. If there is clear evidence that score posting has not followed the defined policy, the following consequences will occur:

- a. If the posting compliance upon review is under the agreed upon standard of 80% (of scores posted within 48 hours), the member will receive a letter of notification of non-compliance.
- b. If they fail to improve over the next 30 days, they will incur a penalty of having a PAR round posted. At BWRC this means a score of 71.
- c. If they again fail to improve after a period of 30 days, they will again have a penalty PAR round posted **AND** not be allowed to play in any future competitions/events until compliance is achieved. Once compliance is achieved the cycle is reset.

Responsibility of all Golf Members

- To be familiar with the USGA handicap rules.
- How to calculate home and away handicaps from whichever tee area is selected using the GHIN application.
- Accurately record their scores per hole and total strokes played per completed round.
- Correctly submit recorded scores within the GHIN application.

7. Other Issues Raised by Members

- Feedback from members indicates that some find that starters/rangers are too intrusive with respect to enforcing pace of play and other aspects of course management while others find the opposite. The Pros have been – and will continue to – manage this.
- Henriette will discuss with the Pros how best to apprise new players of course etiquette (options under consideration are videos and/or in-house/on-course sessions).
- On-course food service: Several options are now available and menus have been posted on a number of water coolers. Ed will look into lower-sugar options for beverages.
- Shading on the clubhouse veranda has been installed.

8. Next Meeting and Adjournment

The next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, March 26 at 3:00 pm.
With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:10 pm.