



Greens Committee Newsletter

July 12, 2010

Volunteers Needed

You may have noticed that Sparky has relocated a number of the old benches to the east side of the maintenance shed. It is hoped that one or more members will volunteer to reconstruct those benches with a composite material so that they are usable. In regards to the newer benches and picnic tables, we are also seeking volunteers to apply a preservative to those items. All required supplies will be provided by the Club. If either of these opportunities appeals to you, please call or e-mail Joe or any member of the Committee or Board.

Relocation of the Ladies Tee on Hole #8

It has been brought to the attention of the Committee that the spruce tree ahead of and slightly to the right of the ladies tee on hole #8 has become a huge impediment to anyone attempting to execute their tee shot. To address this problem, the Committee considered the following options:

1. Remove the spruce tree. While this would be relatively easy to implement, the Committee cannot endorse this solution since our objective is to preserve trees where possible, not remove them.
2. Relocate the ladies tee to the left side of #8 fairway. The Committee cannot endorse this solution because we believe a tee on that side of the fairway could expose members to potential harm from wayward shots originating from hole #7.
3. Simply move the ladies tee markers back to the current men's tee, re-designate hole #8 as a *ladies* par 5 and abandon the current ladies tee. The Committee was not terribly enthused about this solution but it would be the easiest and least costly to implement.
4. Relocate the current ladies tee to the center of the existing fairway. Discontinue treating the area between the current men's tee and the new ladies tee as fairway and, going forward, maintain that area as rough. This would, of course, require Sparky to build the new tee and would take the most time to implement.

As one might suspect, of the four solutions listed the Committee recommends implementing number 4. However, as mentioned earlier, we believe we should obtain member feedback before adopting any course of action.

By the way, if you have an opinion on this issue, don't wait for someone to ask you - let us know. Please call or e-mail Joe or any Committee or Board member.



Tree Management

Jeff Winn and Dale Jensen are going to develop a tree management and replacement plan which will be provided to the Committee and Board for approval. It is anticipated that this plan will provide a multi-year roadmap to which trees should be removed, which should be monitored for potential removal and where and when new trees should be planted. The initial skeleton of this plan has already been created by the Wachtel Tree arborist who visited the course in 2009, now some meat must be added to those bones.

In other tree-related news, several trees in the area around holes 6/7 have been or will be removed (including stumps). We are in the process of obtaining recommendations on which tree species would be suitable replacements and anticipate obtaining those replacements in the next few weeks. We are also in the process of identifying a cost to remove several of the stumps remaining around the course, e.g., the one to the right of #8 green. We fully expect that cost to be reasonable enough to allow us to remove those eyesores yet this season.

Course Improvement Projects

At the beginning of the year, the Committee, with Sparky's input and concurrence, identified a number of improvement projects including:

- rebuilding/restructuring of the sand traps at #2, #5, and #9 greens
- installation of drainage tiles to address chronic wet areas such as #2 fairway, the left hand trap at #3 green, #4 fairway, the path between #4 green and #5 tee and #5 fairway
- installation of irrigation for the new putting green
- rescue/revival of the old putting green

Now that the season is well underway and the day-to-day course maintenance is proceeding well, the Committee is going to meet with Sparky to prioritize that list, establish a budget and determine manpower requirements for each project and develop a timeline for implementation. Once we have that information (our expectation is by the August Board meeting) we will seek Board approval of any additional funding that may be needed, as well as approval to move forward with implementation of some or all of the projects.

Repeating the call for Volunteers

At the beginning of this newsletter we made an appeal for volunteers to reconstruct the old and/or refinish the new benches/tables. If you have any interest in participating in this volunteer project, please advise Joe or any member of the Committee or Board.