

**Golf Commission Meeting  
August 24, 2015  
Minutes**

**Members Present:** Ron Dray, Chairman; Owen Evans, Vice-Chairman; Teri Deal (arrived 8:30 PM); Richard DeLibro; Joe DeLuca; Tony Guzzi; Joyce Michaels; Jonathan Turk; Diane Wheeler

**Also Attending:** Bobby Brown, Director of Golf; Hidalgo Nagashima, Director of Golf Course Properties; Scott Lund, Golf Course Superintendent; John Ponzio, Town Treasurer; Stuart McCarthy, Director of Parks and Recreation; Dennis Kokenos, Town Attorney

**Members Absent:** None

Ron Dray, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

**Review and Approval of Prior Minutes:**

Review and approval of the Minutes of July 27, 2015 . . . A Motion was made by Mr. DeLuca seconded by Mrs. Michaels to approve the minutes as is. Motion carried unanimously.
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**Audience Participation:**

- Mr. Dray welcomed Mr. Scott Lund who recently joined Tashua Knolls as its Golf Course Superintendent.
- Mr. Dray thanked Mrs. Karen Daly of the Ladies 9-holers, for her hard work on the hand-made seat cushion for the bench outside of the pro shop. Mrs. Daly will also be working on a cushion for the back of the bench.
- Mr. Al DeWalt, Trumbull resident, asked the Commission how much the First Selectman's Tournament was charged for the tournament it recently held at Tashua. Mr. Dray responded that the organization paid for the golf cars but the greens fees were waived by vote of the Commission. Mr. DeWalt wanted to know how much it cost the golf course that day. Mr. Dray responded that it was a donation that the Commission chose to make to benefit the school children of the Town of Trumbull and it was a very worthy cause to support. Mr. Brown also responded that the course was able to have a shotgun start for players during the morning of the tournament and the Glen course was open to the public the entire day.

**Director of Golf Course Properties Report (Hidalgo Nagashima):**

**Labor:**

- Director of Golf Course Properties (Nagashima)
- Golf Course Superintendent (Lund)
- Mechanic (Plaveck)

- Full-time Greensmen (Cook, Romano, Markaj)
- Part-time Greensmen (Oleyar, Quinn, Rodriguez, Martins, Riley, Harrison, Hicks, Hoepfner, Ferguson, Somerville, Riley, Kelley, Walton)
- Summer Seasonal (Bova, Zacchilli, DeVitto)

**Maintenance Department:**

- Mr. Nagashima also welcomed Scott Lund as Golf Course Superintendent. Mr. Lund has over 10 years golf course experience working at Mill River Country Club, Ridgeway Country Club, Leewood Golf Club and, most recently, Scarsdale Golf Club. Mr. Lund also holds a Bachelor of Science in Agronomy from the University of Connecticut.
- The greens on the Knolls are holding up in this hot, dry summer. They will be vented (needle tine aeration) in early September.
- The Glen greens are showing some wear. The greens on #7 and #8 were aerated, topdressed, seeded, fertilized, dragged and watered today. The remaining Glen holes will be similarly treated this week
- The tees and fairways are holding up as well. Renovations will begin in early September. This will include aerifying and seeding the tees on #8 and #9 Knolls.
- The Green Committee has identified several projects to be worked on in the fall with the priority being repairing fairway depressions.
- Mr. Nagashima is in the process of putting together a quote for paving next to the cart barn and a few patches on the course.
- The maintenance department dismantled the beaver dam on pond #5. This resulted in the lowering of the water levels in ponds #4 and #5 by nearly a foot.
- Mrs. Michaels asked that some attention be given to the forward tee box on #17. Mr. Dray responded that as the forward tee boxes are proving to be a success, all of the forward tees will be undergoing some expansion and repair work.
- After discussing some issues on the Glen, it was agreed that the Glen greens will be aerated more frequently.
- One of the problems facing the Glen is the lack of sunshine and airflow. The problem is compounded by the fact that many of the trees have grown substantially since the course was installed. The Commission will be looking to undertake a project to remove many of the trees in the future.
- Over the winter, productive trimming of the trees and foliage on the Knolls will take place.
- The Commission will also be looking at the size and flatness of some of the tee boxes including those on #8 and #18 Knolls.

**Green Committee (Owen Evans):**

- Mr. Evans reported that the goal of dropping the level of the ponds is to dry up some of the wet areas – particularly on the left side of the 14<sup>th</sup> fairway.
- The drainage issue on #2 Knolls will be worked on in the fall.
- Mr. Lund will be taking the lead in working on activities to improve the conditions on the Glen.
- Mr. Evans has asked Mr. Guzzi to work on identifying and repairing depressed areas on the course and Mr. DeLuca to work on clogged drains on the course.
- Mr. Guzzi has inspected the course and met with Mr. Nagashima and Mr. Lund to develop a plan for a repair. The first six holes to be worked on have been identified. Once

complete, the next five and then the final five holes will follow. Two holes on the Knolls do not have any real issues.

- Mr. DeLuca found several drains that appear to be blocked. However, he has also discovered that some of the “drains” are actually air vents or catch basins and are working as intended.
- A “choke point” on #18 Knolls by the green was discussed. To alleviate the problem, a 10’ portion of the stone wall will be removed and a larger area will be paved.

- **Director of Golf Operations/Head Professional Report (Bobby Brown):**

**Tournaments:**

- Ladies 18-hole Member/Guest - 72 players
- Men’s Club Member/Guest - 82 players
- Men’s and Ladies Club Championships
- CT PGA 2-day Jr. Tour – 93 players
- Jim Kelly non-resident tournament, 11<sup>th</sup> year – 40 players
- Glen Prentice non-resident tournament, 5<sup>th</sup> year – 20 players
- Ladies 9-hole Member/Member – 51 players
- First Selectman’s Cup – 120 players
- Tashua Junior Golf Club – approx. 11 players per week
- EWGA end of season shotgun – 56 players

**Thank You’s:**

- Thank you to the Senior Men’s club for helping with the CT PGA Junior Tour.
- Thank you to Patrick Dizney, Jim Peloquin and Joe Tivadar for helping for with the Monday morning free junior golf program. Over 10 weeks there were 134 unique players for a total of 336 rounds.

**Programs:**

- Trumbull Continuing Education program starts Monday, September 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Fall Specials:**

- Mr. Brown asked for and received Commission consensus to expand the Glen \$18 Special to be effective all day beginning Monday, August 31<sup>st</sup> when the Glen is aerified.
- Mr. Brown will be emailing all Commissioners regarding additional fall specials.

**Points to Note:**

- All 2015 Pro Shop credits must be redeemed by December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015.
- All rain checks issued in 2015 will expire at the end of the 2015 season.

**House Committee (Dick DeLibro & Ron Dray):**

- Mr. DeLibro stated that Mr. Faustini has been asked to move an outdoor grill that was left outside and posed a safety hazard. Mr. Faustini responded that the grill had already been moved.
- Mr. Dray reported that as a result of the bid process V. Nanfito has been chosen as the vendor to replace the roof on the Miklus Center and repair the roof on the clubhouse. The PO has been approved. Work is scheduled to begin on Tuesday, September 29<sup>th</sup> and should take approximately four days to complete.
- The PO for the generator was also approved. The generator is on order and will be installed shortly by the successful bidder Kostantino Electric.
- The family of Mr. Vito Aloisio was thanked for recently donating a bench in his honor to the golf course.
- H. Hulse has fixed the air scoop.

**Concessionaire (Mr. Faustini):**

- Mr. Faustini presented the Commission with some literature from Armstrong on its Safety Zone Slip retardant commercial vinyl tile to be installed on the ladies room floor. Mr. Faustini will undertake the cost and installation of the tile. A license and insurance policy was also presented for Red Leaf Remodeling who is Mr. Faustini's chosen vendor. Mrs. Michaels, Mrs. Deal and Mr. Dray will be working to approve the color of the tile and agree on a mutually acceptable installation date.

**Finance (Jonathan Turk):**

**July Revenue from POS System**

<b>Total Income (including carts)</b>		
<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>Change</b>
\$339,405	\$355,027	+4.6%

**Knolls (including carts)**

<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>Change</b>
\$224,853	\$273,082	+7.2%%

**Glen (including carts)**

<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>Change</b>
\$68,248	\$73,793	+8.2%

**July Round Analysis:**

<b>Knolls</b>		
<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>Change</b>
6,738	7,175	+6.5%

<b>Glen</b>		
<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>Change</b>
3,179	3,358	+5.6%

**Items of Note:**

- Tashua Knolls Golf Course gross revenues increased over last July. The July revenue and rounds on the Knolls was the best in Tashua history. The great weather contributed to our positive results. However, the lack of rain may mean the water bill will be higher than normal.
- The fiscal year ended on July 30<sup>th</sup>, but the final retained earnings numbers have not yet been finalized.

**Correspondence:**

- Mr. Dray read a letter by the CT State Golf Association thanking Tashua Knolls for hosting the CT Open Qualifier tournament

**Old Business:**

- Mr. Brown presented the Commission with updated information regarding the upcoming golf car lease bids. Mr. Brown met with the Town's purchasing department to prepare a draft of the Request for Proposal for the cars. He also presented some preliminary literature from EZ-Go and Club Car. The Club Car demo has been on site for about a week and the EZ-Go demo is expected any day. All Commissioners are encouraged to test drive the demos. There was a great deal of questions regarding the GPS, cart control and pace-of play options from both companies. All questions and more exact pricing will be available in response to our formal bid.

**New Business**

- None

**Executive Session:**

Mrs. Wheeler made a motion at 8:30 PM, seconded by Mr. Evans, to move into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation. Also invited to attend was Mr. Brown, Mr. McCarthy and Mr. Ponzio and Attorney Kokenos. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion to exit Executive session was made by Mr. DeLibro at 9:10 PM and seconded by Mr. Turk. Motion carried unanimously.

**Adjournment:**

A motion was made by Mrs. Deal at 9:15 PM; seconded by Mrs. Michaels to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine A. Plumeau  
Golf Course Commission Clerk