



Greens Committee Minutes

April 22, 2010

Attendees: Michael J. Prittie, Committee Chair / WSGC VP; Patrick DiStefano, Committee Member/ WSGC Secretary; Colin Gants, WS Golf Course Head Professional; John Price, WS Golf Course Superintendent

Committee Business

Meeting commenced at 11:35 AM

Chairman Michael Prittie began the meeting with a statement towards his desire to have the Greens Committee, and the Club in general, help the course and its operations in positive way. The Bylaws were referenced as to what they require of the Committee. Mr. embers for 2010 were

Superintendent **General Course Conditions** - John Price noted that, if you look around, "everything's green and growing". Higher temperatures, more sunlight, conditions are good for strong growth. Nitrogen is being added to help stimulate that growth, ultimately directed at filling in some of those bare spots we've been seeing on and around the greens.

Greens, approaches, collars and tee boxes have all been aerated. Aerating of fairways will likely begin the Monday after the Club's Field Day.

The crew has top-dressed twice since aerating two weeks ago, and will continue with a very light top-dressing twice a month, then verti-cutting as we get in to the warmer months to help break up that root structure, allowing it to breathe and thrive. Mower blades were lowered this week and the greens should start to get faster and smoother. Together with the top-dressing regiment, the goal is to have the greens rolling smoothly at a 10-10.5 on the Stimpmeter this summer.

Pending Work and Improvements - Hedge rows have been added between 6 green and 7 tee as well as adjacent to the 1st tee. The crew plans to edge bunkers in the next few weeks. Poa seeding on the greens will also be occurring in an attempt to fill in bare spots on greens and collars, but sodding may need to be done in areas that seeding just doesn't take.



WEST SEATTLE'S PUBLIC GOLF CLUB

SINCE 1940

John says that Number 2's green and collars are where they are trying to get all the greens on the golf course.

Colin and John are working together to identify locations around greens to incorporate additional run-off/chipping areas (similar to what we now see right of 4 green).

The crew has staffed up from only 3 this winter, to now 7, ultimately 10 through the summer.

Higher nets are planned for protecting the North putting green from errant drives off 18 tee. The plan is currently being reviewed for permit. Replacement of walking paths on the bridges at 7 and 12 are in the works as well. Look for this to happen in the coming months.

Pithium Update - Overall, John is positive about the comeback. 9 green and the practice green are looking much better, and while 1 and 10 are still an issue, all this aerating, top-dressing, over-seeding and fungicide application is having a positive affect.

Trees - Due to the desire to avoid pesticide use on trees, any new trees will only be planted in a manner that avoids pests (distance from other trees, pest resistant plants, etc). Colin and John have been working together to place new trees in a manner that helps "shape" the course and provide some additional safety. As an example, redwoods will be planted after protective nets go in North of the North practice green. Hopefully, when the trees get mature enough, the protective netting can be removed.

Old Business

None

New Business

Recommendations - The Greens Committee recommended that a path be considered leading from the lower tee at 18 to the fairway. It was discussed that this could be a simple single track, possibly an active french drain w/ gravel and sand, and that the grass between 18's upper tee box and the new path might be left uncut for visual effect. This would both make getting from the lower tee to the fairway more direct and reasonable, and create a visual to help guide the golfers aim away from the right where the North practice green sits.

Sanding - The Greens Committee typically holds several "sanding days" in which members volunteer their time to help fill fairway and tee box divots with seeded sand. Last year the Greens Committed organized 3, this year we plan to do the same. The Committee also recommended loading the Marshall's carts with extra bottles of sand to help replenish players on the course, and even sand a few themselves. This year the Committee might also like to involved the volunteers in an educational program on the sanding day, which might



involve a volunteer starter informing everyone who tees off that it's "sanding day" handing them a bottle if they have a push or power cart, and instructing them on our Superintendent's recommended method of filling a divot with sand (only half way so the mower's don't bounce when they run over them, and to allow the surrounding grass roots and soil to have some space to fill in).

Pace of Play - The Greens Committee has resolved to make a concerted effort towards speeding up pace of play at West Seattle. Several possibilities were discussed amongst all in attendance, and the Greens Committee will work to formalize a game plan and a list of potential programs to review and discuss with Colin and Premier Golf.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30PM

These minutes are respectfully submitted by Patrick DiStefano, Secretary, WSGC.