

# Ocean Pines Golf Advisory Committee

## March Committee Meeting Minutes

**Date:** March 21, 2024

**Time:** 2:00pm

**Location:** OP Golf Clubhouse, Large Meeting Room

**Members Present:** Bill Bavis, Frank Brown, Bob Beckelman, John Ferinde, Rufus Johnson, Don McMullen, Bob Moulden, Susan Morris, Fritz Lahner, Ann Shockley and Steve Jacobs- OP Board liaison.

### Agenda:

- I. Call to Order, Frank Brown- the meeting was called to order at 2:00pm
- II. Public Comments-there were no public comments
- III. Approved Minutes-
  - a. The February 2024 minutes were emailed to the members. Motion to approve- Fritz Lahner, seconded by Don McMullen, the minutes were unanimously approved.
- IV. Course Conditions Update, Justin Hartshorne, Course Superintendent, was not present, but the following comments were made by those members present. Course is in great shape for March. #7, #15, and #18 have new sod for the new tee boxes. Greens have been sanded. Course aeration will be on April 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. Susan made the comment that the water on the course should be disappearing soon as Spring comes. Trouble with gumballs (the seed pods from Sweet Gum trees) being everywhere. Not much can be done now, but when mowing starts, that should help.
- V. Golf Management Report, Bob Beckelman, OP Golf Pro, reported that the new score cards cannot be ordered until after May 1 when the Ocean Pines new budget starts, so the old cards will continue to be used. Ranking was changed on four holes. #2 and #3 reversed their rankings and #14 and #15 also reversed their rankings. Maryland State Golf Association has assured Bob that the rankings will be changed. Slope and rating for the OP Golf Course will remain the same. Bob will make the new cards available for events. Bob mentioned that so much of the play used the old gold tees, so more space was made for those tee boxes, so that the tee markers could be switched. The golf course will hold a Members Only Appreciation evening again this year on April 26, 2pm-8pm, 2024. Members will be allowed to bring a significant other. The sign-up sheet will be at the Pro Shop counter. The staff is hoping for an attendance of 100 members.

Bob received an email from Geri Fasulo, OPLGA handicap chair, concerning local golf rules. Upon her return from Florida, she, Bob Long, Don McMullen, OPMGA handicap chair, and Bob Beckelman will get together to discuss extending lateral penalty areas and other local rules. Kathy Monaco, OPLGA, also sent emails concerning local rules. The suggestion was made to use Ocean Pines marketing to make the calendar on the OP Golf Website easier to access and to keep the calendar updated.
- VI. Golf Group Reports
  - a. Members Council, Bill Bavis – Reported that the council is working to expand community outreach so that funds would be available beyond annual golf scholarships. Steve House reported that preparations for the annual Taylor Bank tournament are way ahead of last year’s schedule. Posters were created for businesses who donated, to hang in their establishments to advertise their support. In 2025, the name of the tournament may be changed from Taylor Bank to reflect a wider variety of those supporting the tournament.

- b. OPMGA, John Ferinde – reported that their season was on schedule with Opening Day being April 11 and the Presidents Cup on May 2.
- c. OPLGA, Ann Shockley - Our season will begin on April 9 with a scramble, lunch and the annual Spring Meeting. Our membership is up to 55 members at this point. We have just gotten confirmation of a charity tournament we will host to benefit the Diakonia organization in August. Denise Stevens, OPLGA and Dave McGregor, OPMGA have teamed together to organize the OP Golf Club Opening Day Scramble on April 6<sup>th</sup>. 120 golfers have registered to play. Also, we are reaching out to other ladies organizations and will be hosting the River Run ladies on June 28<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Old Business-**

- I. OP Expo Day Workgroup: The workgroup is surging ahead with several sponsors lined up, amenities signing up to be included, as well as, many organizations and clubs. The OP Golf Club will host a table with membership information, information about the course and possible sales of clothing and equipment. The OP Golf Course will then hold a Resident's Day with more events located at the golf course on the following day, Sunday, April 21. Food and drink will be available as well.  
The ladies league, OPLGA, will also join the OP golf club at their table to offer information about their league. The men's league will host their own tables/location to offer information about their league as well.
- II. Possible activities the GAC could sponsor: Rufus Johnson, an OPMGA member, informed the committee that he is reaching out to the headquarters for local businesses such as Home Depot, Walmart, etc. to see if they are interested in supporting the Golf council's and OP golf events that benefit the community.

#### **New Business**

- I. Local Rules changed ditches that are present on the course to lateral penalty areas. The area between #10 and #18 is now considered casual water.
- II. The annual Sand Dawgs clean-up will be on April 1st & 2<sup>nd</sup>. (volunteers place sand in all of the divets on all the fairways) as a prep for Spring play. Bob Beckelman will also send an email out to golfers asking for help with dressing on the course, general clean-up on the course and around the grounds, etc.

**Adjourn** - Don McMullen made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Fritz Lahner seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 2:50.