

Lakes East/West Greens Committee

April 3, 2026

Committee Chair: Bear Hunt

Overview

The committee convened at 7:58 a.m. on Friday, April 3, 2026. Committee Chair Bear Hunt presided with eight committee members present. Going forward, the committee voted for Jim Underwood to assume chair duties in the fall and Bill Talbert will serve as vice chair. They will serve a one-year term. There was some discussion about electing men and women as chair in alternating fashion, but there was no consensus on that issue among committee members. Both Jim and Bill are parttime residents, but both pledged to make it work.

Superintendent's Report

Rick Doyan, who is retiring, introduced his replacement, Jay McClain, who previously worked at North.

Doyan reported that ground crews have been deep-tining greens. He said maintenance workers have been “starving rye grass” in an attempt to bring the Bermuda grass to life. “The work on both courses has been going very well and, generally, things are looking really good,” he said. Both courses have been fertilized but there is still some work to do on West.

Doyon reported they are using a new roller on greens and crews are attempting to do a top dress on greens every two weeks. He said crews are working on the No. 1 tee box on West where roots have become a tripping hazard.

Doyon was asked about the ongoing discussion about putting up a net behind No. 14 green for fear someone will get hit on the adjoining No. 15 tee. Doyon and Golf Director Eddie Renio said that issue is under review.

One committee member asked for a more detailed description of tining greens and noted that some greens appear to be burning out. Those spots, Doyon said, are rye grass burning out. That led to a discussion about coyote dens in bunkers, with one committee member asking what is being done to protect them. It was noted that one day the dens are visible and the next day it appears they are being covered. Some committee members insisted it is important to protect the coyotes this time of year. Doyon insisted crews are not doing anything to harm the coyotes or their dens during mating season.

Some discussion ensued about how to play bunkers under these circumstances with the presence of coyote dens.

Golf Director

Golf Director Eddie Renio said there is aggressive tining and punching taking place at all Sun City golf courses to enhance the appearance and playability of greens. He said a schedule has been established for aerification of all courses.

Renio also reported that Sun City courses are under allotment for watering, due in part to the lack of watering at Quail. He suspects water conservation will also be enhanced when North closes in May for renovation. He said the overarching goal is eventually to have consistent turf across all the courses. He said after the North renovation, South is next.

He noted the expanded menu at Lakes Grill and said efforts are under way to promote the grills as a dining option to golfers and non-golfers alike in the community. He said the effort on grill improvement next will focus on the Willow Grill. He announced there is a new communication manager coming on board and he hopes they will help enhance promotion of dining options at the courses. He said thought is being given to extending grill hours during the summer.

Renio also announced thought is being given to establishing starters on the first tee at Sun City courses to, among other things, better coordinate combining of twosomes and monitoring cart activities. Absent a starter, he said some carts are being returned damaged with pro shop personnel unable to monitor such issues. Without offering a specific timetable, Renio said starters will be coming in the near future.

Women's Golf

It was noted that aerification took place during championship weeks and league members were asking for better communication and coordination in the future. That led to a discussion about the golf calendar, which apparently is lacking under the new online changes and upgrading of the new website. Renio pledged to look into improvements to the calendar and hopes the new communication manager will help improve both the calendar and communication about the conflict between work on the course and key golf events.

Committee member also asked maintenance crews to pay more attention to the alignment of tee boxes and greens. Committee members also asked that crews pay more attention to cutting cups. They noted sometimes cups are uneven and sometimes misaligned.

Pro Shop

Pro Shop Manager Paul Kaltenbach emphasized the issue with the Golf Calendar. He noted the current format is lacking and he relies on the Golf Calendar to stay informed about various events, championships and activities. He said he is anxious for a fix so he can continue to utilize the calendar to coordinate activities.

Beautification

Chair Bear Hunt noted that work continues on upgrading and replacing benches on the two courses. He noted recent price increases of \$150 to the cost of benches.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Lakes East-West Greens Committee is later this fall at 8 a.m. on Friday, Oct. 2.

Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 9:14 a.m.