



Course Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting #1 8th May 2024

Chair: Nathan Bagnall (Vice Captain)

Attendance: Chad Vesper (Captain), Des George (President), Mal Newman (Vice President), Alison Wyatt (director), Greg Bateman (director), Ian Bendall (director), Mark Newman, Murray Considine, Shanelle Thomas, Alf Buckley, Anthony Fay,

Apologies : Rob Wade, Tony Rock, Colleen Rock, Greig Delaney, Steve Kelner (Greenkeeper)

Minutes:

1. *Nathan welcomed all and overview of intent of committee.*

- *Provide advice on current course arrangements and conditions*
- *Develop and prioritise project list*
- *Oversee the development of course master plan*

2. Short term matters

- *Trees targeted for removal – current.*

It was noted that several trees were currently targeted for removal as part of the course drainage project, more specifically behind the 9th green. In addition the large gum between the 4th green and 5th tee was on the list. The targeted trees are attached to the minutes.

- *Cart management and barriers / signage.*

It was agreed the removal of the temporary barriers was a significant improvement to overall course presentation. The committee agreed to remove the barrier across the creek on the 3rd hole. All current permanent barriers (2nd, 6th and 7th will be retained for now.

- *Temporary greens.*

It was noted that a plan was being considered to establish long term temporary greens to assist in the ability to renovate greens. It was also noted this would provide great value if a green ever suffered damage or vandalism. It was discussed that having the well-established temporary greens set to the side of the fairway may be more practical than in the middle.

- *Practice Green and first tee set down presentation.*

Steve has plans to remove the turf surrounding the practice green and increase the putting surface over the coming weeks.



A plan for the improvement of the starting area in front of the pro shop requires developing. NB and CV to present plan at next meeting.

➤ **Fairway mowing.**

Several discussion points were tabled as follows

- *A request to shorten the carry from tees to fairways on the 3rd, 7th, 10th and 14th was unanimously endorsed*
- *A request to widen the fairways by one mower cut was unanimously endorsed*
- *A request to mow the fairway through the creek crossing on the 3rd was unanimously endorsed*
- *A request to mow the fairway to the green on the 8th was considered and may require aligning to the drainage project*
- *A request to attempt to align fairway mowing to the new drainage plan so that players can get a feel for the reshaping of the drain. This would be reviewed with Steve in coming weeks.*
- *A request to remove the now unused ladies tee on the 5th (adjacent to the 7th green) and open the fairway to include this area as fairway was unanimously endorsed.*

➤ **Tee boxes.**

A request to have the tee boxes levelled and top dressed this spring was tabled. It was agreed CV to consult with Steve to develop a tee improvement plan so that a working bee could be set up to dress the tees.

Tee markers and pins were discussed. Additionally it was raised that maybe tee marker to pin location according to course rating is not considered at times. It was agreed that CV would develop a pin and tee placement program with Steve.

3. Master Plan Medium term matters

➤ **Cart paths**

- **Type / style (concrete, compacted fill, honeycomb)**
- **Location / layout**
- **Priority paths. It was agreed the following paths are unlikely to change and progressing the paths to final design and construction should proceed.**
 - i. *From 2nd tee to 3rd tee, extend concrete to green side of Fitz street ensuring load rating suitable for trucks to pass over at Fitz street, then trial honeycomb for remainder of path to 3rd tee*
 - ii. *from 3rd tee, branch out honeycomb from concrete to allow carts to exit at any angle yet retain soil stability*



iii. From 8th fairway around green and to front of 9th tee

- Project owner Alf has accepted project responsibility for the ongoing cart path construction

- Practice fairway green. This has been put in hold until the greens have fully recovered. NB to follow up with Steve opportunity to progress construction in June.
- Drainage plan. This was tabled and most attendees had seen the plan. Further discussion at next meeting

4. Future discussion points – these points were not discussed due to meeting closure

- Trees – development of park plan
 - i. Nuisance trees surrounding greens
 - ii. Silky Oaks lining fairways
- Fairway mounds
- Master Plan long term projects
 - i. Irrigation system upgrade
 - ii. Greens refurbishment program
 - Change from push up greens to USGA spec design
 - Professional greens designer

5. Other business

- A request was made to install a pipeline from the secondary 5th tee to the creek to remove the current hazard that runs down the left side of the 5th fairway. It was noted this pipeline would need to be 300mm ID to cater for both Cameron and Fitz St runoff. This was considered an improvement and would need further investigation. NB to consult with Steve.
- Discussion on removal of screen from behind 7th green. Agreed there is reasonable protection from trees however Alf to explore option to construct mound and put a shrub plan together for review at next meeting. It was also noted that returning the 14th to a par 4 would eliminate this risk altogether. It was agreed we would review this as part of the master plan discussions.
- A lengthy discussion on how we determine if carts to be suspended from the course. CV and NB to review and develop a decision matrix. Consideration should be given to 'if course maintenance equipment can access course, so can carts'.

6. Meeting Closed: 7.15pm

7. Next Meeting: Wednesday 3rd July