

HPGC 2023 Dec. Member Meeting Minutes

A Member meeting of the High Point Golf Club was held in the Café on Dec. 21, 2023.

Attendees:

President – Dale Mayes, VP – Bill Reese, Treasurer – Sally Giambrone, Secretary – Beth Rullman, Jim Kudalski, Joe Laricha, Linda Schroeder, Dave Nijak, Larry Vaughn

Approximately 30 members

Call to order at 2:00 p.m. (Dale Mayes)

Salute the Flag & Moment of Silence (All members)

Meeting Minutes (All members)

Any corrections to November's Special Meeting minutes? None presented.

Motion to accept by Dave H., 2nd by Randy F., all in favor, motion passed unanimously.

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Golf Course Update (Paul Illgen – Course Superintendent)

It's been a very busy year while Summer was extremely dry by 15-20 inches short of normal.

The irrigation system kept us busy as it's quite old.

We are in the process of replacing some of the older heads with newer heads.

This gives us better watering coverage; however, this takes a lot of work and time.

We're also raising some of the heads, so golf balls and other things don't get down in them.

We're going to purchase a stump grinder. At least 60 stumps need to be removed.

Some are pretty rotted; we don't want anyone accidentally driving over them.

It also better for the mowing crew, no extra trimming around them, saves time for other things.

We are looking at the drainage issues on Hole #3 & Hole #4.

You'll see the ground under repair flags so please treat it as such by the rules of golf.

We are looking at the white OB stakes throughout the property.

We've identified certain areas and will treat those with priority.

Once such incident occurred during the recent tournament.

Homeowners planted bushes, etc. right next to the property lines.

Some of that has become overgrown and now sticks out on the golf course to the point you can't see the next stake to determine if your ball is in or out of bounds.

Part of the reason we have some time available is all the new equipment you purchased.

The mowing times have been reduced so we can focus on other problem areas.

I'll open the floor to any questions you might have.

Beth R. asked about a rumor she'd heard about losing a couple of members of the team.

Paul responded not that he's aware of...it's just a rumor...all 3 are still here.

Dale M. asked about the sand bunkers/traps around the course, a topic in the New Business.

Dale noticed on Hole #8 today it had been recently groomed and was in great shape.

What's the status on the rest of them? Will these now be regularly maintained?

Paul – they are a good asset for the golf course. I've been fertilizing around them to kill the weeds and get grass to grow. We continue to pull the weeds from the bunkers to get

rid of them. Yesterday Jordan went out and hand ranked/groomed all of them. This works a lot better than trying the machine we have. This takes more time but gives a much better result. I think we have the process down now. Let's see how this goes moving forward.

Paul requested help from some volunteers:

Please get with Joe Laricha so he can capture your name and contact info.

We could really use a little more part-time help across the course.

Even just driving a cart so other can pick up trash is a big help.

Any time after a storm we need folks to help clean up the course.

Another example is Larry Vaughn cuts the greens on the weekends.

Paul also suggested we could look at some part-time workers:

People who work 3-4 hours in the morning 2, 3 or 4 days-a-week.

Dale added – We'll see if we can find some money in the budget for that type of thing.

Dale added – The membership will be approving the budget in the Feb. Annual Meeting.

Paul wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Unfinished Business (All Board members)

2024 Membership Raffle (Sally G.):

116 tickets sold as of this morning.

Drawing will be held before Belles & Beaux on Thursday, Dec. 28th.

Tickets available at the Bar, Pro Shop or catch Sally.

2024 Membership Fees (Linda S.):

All have been posted and communicated to the members.

Most went up only 2-3% year over year.

Gold Card membership has been changed:

20 Rounds purchased initially (was 30 last year).

2 more 10 Rounds can be purchased for a total of 40, same total as last year.

Lifetime Membership has also changed:

The month after turning 90 (and meet the requirements) you get the membership.

You pay a pro-rated fee for the months up to and including your birth month.

Previous By-Laws it was the calendar year after your turn 90.

Annual Open Membership Enrollment is Tues. & Weds. – Jan. 2nd & Jan 3rd.

We do love our full members as that's the best way to support the golf club.

Membership checking at events:

After discussion Board unanimously agreed this needs to be done.

Will be posting signs at entrance to events that proof of membership is required.

Will need to set-up in the Lobby, including ticket sales from now on.

Don't be offended if asked for your membership number or social membership card.

Not everyone knows who is and who isn't a member.

The bar staff might ask for proof of membership if they don't recognize someone.

Friday events time changes in January:

Dinner will be from 4:30pm until 6:30pm.

Queen of Hearts, Show Me the Money, 50/50 timings will not change at this point.

Will review results and discuss during Feb. Board & Members Meetings.

Question asked about other games instead of Show Me the Money (putting game). Beth R. – I

just found out the Events Team of Loretta P., Mary C. & Kathy A. reports to me. I'll be working with them to schedule the games events.

Water in Entryway & Par-Tee room:

Gutter cleaning by Joe Petrucci has really helped with the entry area.

Dave N. is investigating the Par-Tee room leak.

Might be as simple as better caulking around the stucco façade near the roof line.

Beth R. added we're replacing the white table in the entry area with vertical shelves.

Golf Course restrooms lighting:

Dave N. has been working on these issues, replaced some bulbs before vacation.

Some of those new bulbs have burned out. Need a switch for the ladies on Hole #15.

Looking for a better solution. Using LEDs can be on 24x7 with minimal cost impact.

The motion detectors would turn off too quickly in some cases.

Lawsuit depositions for club employees and others:

Concerns the incident during the Invitational a few years ago.

A guest got hurt during the event and filed a lawsuit against the club.

Our insurance company is handling this matter along with their attorneys.

Two of our employees will have to be deposed, now delayed until Jan. or Feb.

Others might be subpoenaed but they do not have to respond or agree to participate.

Food Certifications for Café / Kitchen are a work-in-progress.

LED Lighting replacement project:

Two member families purchased some replacement lighting for the clubhouse.

Please thank Kay & Walt Roush and Debbie & Nigel Stonehouse if you see them.

LEDs should save the club some money on our electricity bill.

Some prep work on the LED lighting already taking place.

Some planning & discussions also occurring about separate circuits for key areas.

Not ready to start at this point, will be January most likely, will share schedule.

Banking, Credit Card processing, & Liquor License: All updated with new Board members.

Tree removal request update – Hole #13:

Homeowner requested it be removed to prevent future issues with their property.

The tree has no value to the golf club, it will be easier for us if it's removed.

Homeowner will be paying for the removal and clean up of the tree near the cart path.

Letter to homeowner giving approval for them to remove tree has been delivered.

Crowd Manager Certification:

Required by the Fire Marshalls where the crowd is over 49 people.

Over 249 people requires a second crowd manager.

Paul Quintin, Charlie Craig & Bill Askins have this certification in the HP community.

We need others with this certification for events at the golf club.

Dave N. will be leading this effort and taking the online class first.

Board approved purchasing 5 tickets for the online class.

Par-3 Tees proposal:

Tabled during yesterday's Board meeting as we just haven't had the time.

USGS/FSGA will rate the course for handicaps starting in 2024.

Comedian Mark Klein event:

Larry Haag suggestion and he's the point-of-contact to the comedian.

Beth R. will lead as it falls under the Events group of Mary, Loretta & Kathy Askins.

Will probably be next season in order to reserve a day in the Community Center.

Men of HP Calendar:

Have sold over \$1,600 worth so excellent profit maker for the club.

Less than 10 remaining.

Broken Window Hole #8:

After discussion the Board decided not to reimburse the homeowner for any damage.
If the homeowner can identify who did it, we would discuss with that person.

Remove property damage statement from Rules & Regulations:

Board recommends we proceed with changing the Rules & Regulations.
Will either remove that point or reword to “encourage” member to pay for any damage.
Approval from the members in attendance, so the Board will proceed with the changes.

Suggestion to make Facebook Page & Group private:

Made during last member meeting.
Board does not think it is in the best interest of the club to make them private.
We want to present the club as welcoming to new members of the HP Community.
Lots of non-members follow us on Facebook.
The admins do monitor and control what can be posted.
Admins also try to review the comments posted, looking for inappropriate comments.
HP Ladies Golf League is private per their member’s request.
Members in attendance agreed these should be public since we administer the content.

Nominating Committee members:

Need at least 3 members to become part of Ad Hoc nominating committee.
Need to follow new process defined in the By-Laws.
Self-nomination or recommendation from another member to become candidate.
No longer do we have to try and call every voting member looking for candidates.
Emails will be sent to all voting members along with posts in the clubhouse & Facebook.

Café & Lounge rearrangement:

Dance floor area is now available for karaoke & dancing.
Thanks to all the folks who did the heavy lifting and rearranging of tables & chairs.

End of year Scramble event:

Dan Sanborn is leading this event.
2-day event on Wednesday & Friday December 27th & 29th. Course closed on Dec. 29th.
Similar timing of the regular men’s league closure on Wednesday, until 1:30pm-ish.
This year it will be a “Men’s” event, will consider next year open to all members.

Stump grinding/removal machine: already touched on this earlier.

Tested it on 4 stumps and satisfied with results.
Jim K. looked it over as he has experience with this equipment and gave his approval.
Board gave approval to acquire the equipment.

Free golf for any HP Resident Christmas day and New Year Day:

Long standing tradition is free to any HP resident on Christmas Day.
Board approved expanding this to include New Years.
Will share during tomorrow’s Dime Jingle.
Will look at other free or pay-to-play days during the year for any HP resident.

Need to remind members and inform new members about keeping the course clean:

Finding cigarette butts throughout the course, need ashtray in your cart.
As you play, pick up trash, dispose of broken tees, etc.
Joe L. will put reminder signs on Hole #1 & Hole #10 tee areas.
Another reminder we do need volunteers to help clean up, especially after storms.

Scores need to be entered hole-by-hole starting in 2024:

GHIN changes allow skipped holes while still posting a score for handicap.
GHIN will also calculate an 18-hole score with as few as 9-holes completed.
Using the free GHIN app on any smart phone makes this easy.

You only need 1 person in your group to track & post everyone's scores on their phone.
You can search and download the USGA GHIN application on your phone.
You use your already existing GHIN id & password on the phone app also.

HP Residents paying Guest Fee to play golf periodically (a few times a year):
This was tabled to a future Board meeting.

Voting Members Guest Fee package (discount on your visiting guests playing golf):
This was tabled to a future Board meeting.

Drainage project Hole #4 with HOA (near cart path over half-way down fairway):
County traced the drain lines, and they come out on #4 fairway, a bubbler pit.
Clean out has already started.
Has been marked as a "ground under repair" area with no traffic like Hole #3.
Might alleviate flooding on Stockholm and move it to #4's fairway.

Midnight golf event:
Beth R. Event Team will own the event planning.
Will try to get it scheduled for this season.

Replace sand bunkers with turf bunkers:
Has been tabled.
Will monitor the maintenance of the bunkers and wait for member feedback.

Volunteer celebration & New Member gathering:
Beth R. will ask Event Team to investigate and make a proposal for each.

Spare clubs in Pro Shop for guests:
Tabled until next Board meeting.

Reports of Officers

President (Dale M.) – nothing to add at this point.

Vice President (Bill R.):

Rangers are part of my responsibilities.
Will be working with Cid T. on list of ranger volunteers.
Looking at rangers sitting in spots & monitoring instead of constantly driving around.
Handicap Flags also part of my responsibilities.
Blue up to 30' or basically the yellow stakes.
Red up to but not on the green.
Member asked if Blue was moot since there aren't cart path direction signs anymore.
Joe L. responded they weren't being followed; ropes were being cut.
Joe L. suggested all other golfers stay 30 yards away from front of green.
Joe L. will talk to Paul about putting cart path signs back out there.

Treasurer (Sally G.):

Monthly reports continue to be posted on clubhouse bulletin board.
We're doing good enough to approve stump grinder, was a good deal.
Pro Shop looks like a big hit but was because of inventory adjustments.
Bar is still doing great while Café was break even which is also good.
Our bookkeeper, Sharon, is out until end-of-the-year.
Sharon already has most of the invoices ready for membership renewals.

Secretary (Dale M. temporary):

Nothing to add at this point & Beth R. will be taking this position over come January.

Reports of Committee Chairs

Beth R. – Lounge & Bar:

Losing one bartender in Jan. (Kathy M.) who has decided to give up her position.

Won't be replacing her at this point.

Added Labatt Blue on tap.

Still learning about the operations of the Bar, while finishing Ladies League events.

Been busy and really appreciate all the help & knowledge transfer from the bar staff.

With one of our distributors on a monthly delivery schedule, we did run short.

Will do better with inventory control & ordering as I learn all these things.

Appreciate everyone's patience while I get used to overseeing the bar.

Jim K. – Café & Kitchen:

Sales we down in late November & December below what we wanted.

Holidays & Events along with timeoff/vacations had an impact.

Been looking at month recurring costs and how to reduce them.

Sanitizing machine is a monthly rental at \$230 per month.

After 6 years we paid out over \$16,000.

A new machine is around \$3,000 and the monthly chemicals only 10's of dollars.

Talked to Health department and we can use the 3-sink method like the bar.

This should reduce our cost by \$200 or more per month.

Propane is another area we're reviewing.

We've been paying about \$500 per month or almost \$6,000 per year.

We don't use that much, so guessing it's the minimum amount.

Looking at changing to electric-based equipment like the HOA's kitchen.

Would also be safer for everyone involved.

Would probably start saving us money in less than 2 years.

Will hopefully be putting this proposal in 2024 budget.

We're looking for a part-time cook.

Will be posted in January Newsletter.

Please share with anyone you think is interested and qualified.

Men's League:

Has raised almost \$4,500 this year for the course improvement fund.

All stems from an additional \$2 each week, which was approved by the men.

Birthday party event for Dick Rummler:

Great event, thanks to the ladies for supporting this, especially Mary C.

Larry V. – Events & Handicaps:

Diane Quintin won the Ladies Presidents Cup while Iain McKenzie won for the men.

The ladies had 16 entries while the men had 32 entrants.

Plaques will be updated with names and dates.

Men's 2-day Scramble will be Dec. 27th & Dec. 29th.

Shootout Events on Jan. 12th & 13th for the men and Jan. 19th & 20th for the women.

Sign-up sheets will be on the bulletin board soon for these events.

Posting of Handicaps:

Still getting use to the process and the underlying spreadsheets.

Please forgive me for the issues, just let me know and I'll get it corrected.

You can also look up your handicap on the GHIN app or the kiosks in the lobby.

I'll be happy to show you how to use either one.

Will start working on ideas for training and info about the GHIN app and how to use it.
Will share with the membership as soon as I get it pulled together.

Dave N. – Facilities:

Need a better way for the members to inform us we are having an issue.
We want to get these things fixed quickly, but that only happens after we're aware of it.
You can call, text or email Dave N.
I'll also look at putting a small collection box with note cards/paper in the entryway.
You can also leave a note at the Pro Shop when it's open.

Linda S. – Membership & PR:

I don't have anything to add at this point about membership.
Do want to solicit lots of volunteer help for the ShootOut event for women & men.
Takes a lot of volunteers to run those events.
Please remember our club runs on the volunteer efforts or our members.
Social memberships:
Can be a guest one time in the club, then you need to buy a social membership.
This policy also applies to spouses, companions, etc.
Board agreed they could be invited to one social event.
Beyond that a Social Membership would need to be purchased.
Members agreed with the policy change.

Joe L. – Greens:

Everyone has pretty much said everything I planned on saying.
There are a lot of new faces in the club.
I support the idea of a get-together. Everyone can meet them, and they learn about us.
Don't forget to invite new members in and buy them a drink. We're a friendly club.
Last week we did start trimming the bushes, palms, etc. throughout the course.
Want to clear the cart path areas and also make it easier to find your ball under things.
There are more trees that need to be either trimmed or removed.
Will be asking for that in the 2024 budget.
Have been edging along the cart paths as it does make it look so much nicer.
It's already been mentioned we'll be working on the white out-of-bounds markers.
NEED VOLUNTEERS...I have the paper and Randy Fox's name looks lonely on it.
We do have pick-up stick for grabbing things like moss.
This way you don't have to leave the cart to do that.
THANK YOU for the Christmas bonus for the crew. They really appreciated it.

Tom A. made a motion to adjourn, 2nd by Randy F., all in favor, motion passed.

Meeting ended at 3:18 pm

Dale V Mayes

Dale V Mayes – Acting Secretary

December 21, 2023

Date Prepared

Pending next meeting

Member Review/Acceptance