

NORTHSTAR GOLF CLUB – GOLF ADVISORY COMMITTEE

# GOLF ADVISORY COMMITTEE 3/4/25

March 4th, 2025 / 5:30 PM / Main Dining Area

## ATTENDEES

X	<u>Mitch Greenwald</u> - Chair	X	<u>Jon Barleycorn</u> - Vice Chair		<u>Darrin Reeb</u>
X	<u>Lesley Kurtzahn</u> - Women's Chair	X	<i>Sara Colton</i>	X	<u>Jake Didion</u> - Junior Chair
X	<u>Ryan Horace</u>	X	<i>Karen Beaty</i>	X	<i>Steve Snyder - Vice Chair</i>
X	<i>Alex Bork - Secretary</i>		<i>Aron Rolsen</i>	X	Nate Curtis - Golf Pro
X	<i>Tyler Klava</i>		Josh Bryant- Superintendent		Anthony - Asst Pro

*Italics* - New Members    Underline - 1-2 Years Left

### 1. Call to Order

- o Approval of previous meeting minutes (if applicable)

### 2. Northstar Leadership Update

- o **Membership/Clubhouse – Nate**
- o Locker sign-ups – current participation numbers
  - 60 people signed up, 40 available.
  - 8 Women signed up for lockers.
- o Grand Opening update
  - Targeting early April opening.
  - Soft opening, reservations only.
- o Are we at full capacity for the year?
  - 380/400 Full Memberships (20 open)
  - Social Memberships are all filled

### 3. Topics

- o **By-Laws Update** – Adjustments to align with new committee chairs confirm update
- o **Member Requests for Discussion**
  - **Tee Box Discussion – Including direct member feedback:**
    - Play Black tees in mixed events
    - *"Rather than guys who normally play blacks move up to blue/greens, give up double the amount of strokes to opponents & end up playing half the holes the same way based off landing areas."*
    - *"If you can move up to any tee box because of age + handicap, you should be able to move back if you are below a certain handicap. I don't know that I would go back there personally, but Nate's argument in the past is that lower handicap players are looking for a competitive advantage in net events by moving to the blacks. If*

*that is the argument being used, then someone who can't hit the ball far is looking for a competitive advantage by moving up tee boxes. If he won't let good players play from the black tee boxes, he shouldn't let the people who can't hit it as far move up tee boxes. That would be unfair to people like Doc, Fred, and a slew of other people, but currently it's unfair to people like Reid, Klava, Brody, and other low-handicap players looking to enjoy playing net events without being popped to death."*

- **Committee Comments:** Agreed upon that a member must have a handicap of 2 or lower to be eligible to play from black tees. Also, those members must commit to black tees all year for all events just as all other members commit to their respective tees at the beginning of the year. Pro-shop discretion on if a member's handicap falls outside the required 2 or better index having declared black tees at the start of the season. This is an unlikely scenario but will review if it happens. Ladies must also declare at first of year their tees, they may not change for all major events, however league and pot game is permissible for ladies to change tees.
- **New Simulators**
  - Will the simulators be available as a "driving range" when the actual range is closed? If so, will they be strictly for practice rather than full 18-hole play? *3 sim bays with new space, will book like we have before.*
  - If yes, will members need to pay to hit a small number of balls (10-20) to warm up? Can the simulators be set up with a universal login for range mode only when the range is closed?
- **League Format**
  - The previous league format coming back received positive feedback from members. However, there were concerns (slow play and cheating)
  - How can we address slow play and potential cheating?
    - *Membership should expect avg 2.5 hours for 9 holes, staff will help with pace of play, having front and back 9 will help compared to last few years.*
  - Ensuring pace of play must be a priority from Northstar Staff. Consider increasing staff presence to monitor groups (cart warnings are ignored), prevent excessive gimmies, and enforce pace-of-play rules (e.g., penalty strokes for slow play).
  - The old format was abandoned due to slow play and cheating, so these issues must be addressed if reinstated.
- **Course & Player Amenities**
  - **Sand Bottles** – Need improvement in ensuring sand bottles are refilled after each use.
  - **Walkers:**
    - Will the club provide sand bottles for frequent walkers?
    - Should there be a sand bottle station with attachable bottles for push carts?
    - *The expectation is for all walkers to carry a sand bottle. Will need to review how to make sure this is complied with schools who play at NorthStar. Idea proposed to have starter confirm with walkers they have sand bottles. Need refill stations filled.*

- **Water Stations** – More stations are needed, especially during hot months.
    - 4 new 10 gallons tanks on the way.
  - **Frost Delays & Weather Updates** – Improve communication by making quicker decisions and possibly sending text alerts instead of emails or both.
    - Will not let groups jump ahead, keep order if possible. Make announcement at spring meeting for picture and how to turn on notifications to get delay alerts.
  - **Par 3 holes** – Can we put the yardages on the par 3's based on daily pin placements?
    - Will check into this, no action at this time, not seen as a high priority.
  - **Staff Name Tags & Uniforms** – Recommend all staff should consistently wear name tags and uniforms to enhance professionalism and recognition.
    - Nate agrees and will have staff do this.
  - **Blind spot on #10 green.** Can we bring back the tall pin on 10 to eliminate premature approach shots from behind groups. Are there other ideas if Josh denies the tall pin? Nate to review options w/Josh.
  - **Course Maintenance & Enhancements**
    - Update on planned maintenance projects.
    - Timeline for course and range openings, including details on mat usage.
    - Updates on putting green conditions and improvements.
      - Josh will put together updates.
      - Range will open 4/1.
  - **Communications**
    - Newsletter schedule and content updates (Mitch to provide details).
  - **Tournaments & Events**
    - 7:00 AM sign-ups—confirm process.
      - No changes to this process. Nate will get events on website
    - Any other event updates?
    - Staff-driven improvements to pace of play for the 2025 season?
      - Will have better presence to marshal time of play.
    - Senior club championship - Membership wants to know why the date moved to so late in October bringing weather into play.
      - Tried to spread events out and not front load events.
    - For events where you can earn ryder cup points – should staff members be allowed to play – was brought up that some staff members are on Sadie Hawkins teams.
      - Staff member on Sadie Hawkins team, is this allowed? Per Nate, no. Member events are for members.
4. **Open Discussion**
- Opportunity for committee members to raise additional topics or concerns
  - Member feedback on overall club operations and experience
  - Next meeting date and topics