

BBVCC
GOLF COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
March 10, 2026 at 1:00PM

Committee Members Present		
✓ Steve Franklin	✓ David Wilbrecht – Liaison	✓ Darrell Cowan
✓ Patricia Nitta	Don Shank	✓ Laura Bailey, Chair
Dave Schwab	✓ Craig McCallum	
Guest Members	Bill Duncan	Dori O'Dell
Staff Present	Krista Tempelton	Steve Brand
Justine Brooks	David Franklin	

I. CALL TO ORDER: at 1:05 pm by Laura Bailey

II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion to: Approve agenda.

Motioned by: Craig McCallum **Seconded by:** Darrell Cowan **Approved.**

III. RATIFY MINUTES:

Motion to: Accept January 13, 2026.

Motion by: Darrell Cowan **Seconded by:** Craig McCallum **Approved.**

IV. MEMBERS OPEN FORUM

No members wished to speak.

V. GREENS KEEPER REPORT

Steve Brand reported that there was not much to report. They have taken the edger out at the 4th hole cart path and it is going to take some work and possibly volunteers to help. There has been a lot of shop time but the course itself is firming up but we are expecting three inches of rain. The greens have been punched, we wanted to get this done early this year so we don't have to worry about it when more people are out golfing. There was a brief discussion regarding the blue flags and those will go up later when more people complain that they are not out.

When the weather gets a bit better Steve will need some volunteers to help with the edging along the cart paths. The cleaning up and edging of the cart paths will help the look of the course out. The volunteers would be shoveling up the cut sod and hand edging in certain areas that the edger can not get. Laura referred Steve to Dean Hubert as he has volunteered to be the volunteer lead.

VI. GOLF AND PROSHOP REVIEW

Krista stated that she was supposed to have a meeting with Dean and that has been moved to next week sometime. The request for different HOA's was not on the last board meeting but it is on the March 19 board agenda. There are a few tournaments that need approval:

- Blaine High School Girls JV tournament for April 21 starting at 3:30 pm with approximately 30 participants and shot gun start.
- Whatcom Seniors tournament for May 11 as an all-day event with tee times in the morning. We don't have a count for participants as they are still doing the sign up.
- North Bay (HOA across the way) tournament for July 11, a Saturday, afternoon 9 hole scramble with 40 to 45 people starting at 1:30pm.

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The North Bay group are people where we would like to have more annual memberships from and their tournament is for the weekend after July 4 and the weekend before the Golf Club Fundraiser Tournament.

Motion to: Approve the 3 tournaments; BHS JV Girls for April 21, Whatcom Seniors for May 11, and North Bay Scramble for July 11.

Motion by: Craig McCallum

Seconded by: Darrell Cowan **Approved**

Krista reported that golf course sales are performing well compared to last year, with daily greens fees, pass holders, and food and beverage services all showing improvement. The group also discussed the need to develop a marketing strategy for the golf course, though there were concerns about targeting specific audiences until receiving clearer guidance about membership eligibility from the board of directors.

Laura presented a proposal to the board seeking discretion to approve new golf memberships (non-sponsored memberships (HOA)), aiming to reduce barriers while maintaining reasonable safeguards. The safeguards for the non-sponsored guest membership would be having a credit card on file.

The Committee then discussed the non-sponsored membership holders wanting to bring in guests, and there currently is a rule that they can bring in 3 guests, and that is on the application that was put together last year. Sponsored members have to go through the homeowner that is sponsoring them to bring in any guests. The non-sponsored membership holders' guests can only come 4 times throughout the year and is something that we are going to have to track.

There was a question proposed to Krista about can first responders, including fire department, police and medical personnel able to play golf in the Village. Staff has not been able to find approval on this matter so Laura will be including it with the existing proposal to approve more nonmember new golf memberships. David Wilbrecht, board liaison, shared insights about how the golf course operated under a previous contractor, where access was more flexible, and suggested having a conversation about authorizing staff to be more flexible in current operations. It was emphasized that the need to make the golf course more dynamic to attract both homeowners and external customers, particularly in light of upcoming community planning efforts.

The committee discussed non-resident golfers and how access was in the past and our current registration has vetted non-resident golfers registered as "registered non-resident". The discussion was centered on balancing the need to welcome vetted golfers with maintaining security and following proper policies. The Committee agreed that developing a clear policy for allowing non-resident golfers, giving Krista more autonomy while ensuring proper guidelines are in place.

VII. FINAL REVIEW SURVEY

The Committee reviewed the feedback on the survey for the community about golf course usage. Key changes were discussed and noted. The survey will need Board approval before it goes out and it was suggested that submitting the final version and providing it to the Board with the proposal for new non-sponsored memberships (HOA). Once approved the survey will be put into Microsoft Forms and it will be distributed with the April bulletin and the GM weekly. Once the results are back the committee agreed to review and categorize the responses, with the results to be presented in a subsequent meeting.

VIII. CART PATH CONDITION

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Safety concerns of the golf cart path that member Leanne Keel asked the Golf Committee to look into what could be done. There is currently some buckling happening with specific areas around holes 8 and 9. The paths were installed over 10 years ago with limited funding and that is why the golf cart trail fee was implemented. It was noted that some of the buckling areas are caused by tree roots and staff has been advised to not cut the roots and we would need to find a different solution to going over that specific area. Steve stated that there could be temporary fix by adding some of the same materials as the parking lots and compacting it. This would be temporary until we can see what the budget is for replacing the paths and getting a clear path forward.

IX. GOLF CART REGISTRATION

Craig attended the Safety and Security Committee meeting on behalf of the golf committee and reported back that he had learned that in Birch Bay area the Whatcom County police had issued zero tickets for golf cart violations the previous year. With discussion at the meeting the registration system will be simplified to use just one decal covering all access types (trail pass, back gate pass, registration), with placement preferred on the rear of the cart. The system will maintain a single database for tracking all registrations and Krista confirmed that staff could verify trail fees by checking the database rather than relying on visual decals, making the visual decal requirement unnecessary.

X. Member Comments

Ernie Hutchins presented a way to make junior golf camp safer for all those involved. This would entail creating safer hitting stations with proper mats, canopies, and distance markers. These items would assist in preventing injuries and improve organization. The cost of the mats would be ~\$1,600 and for a canopy is ~\$200, with Ernie requesting volunteer help and golf club support. The area where the mats are being placed would be out behind the maintenance shop where no houses would be affected and this area would also be used for the free adult clinics that Ernie has been putting on. The Committee agreed to support the proposal, with Ernie committing to provide a complete proposal to the Committee and Golf Club. There was discussion about expanding the free adult clinic and possibly increasing the costs. An announcement on the free golf clinic will go out in the April bulletin.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 2:43 pm

Motion by: Darrell Cowan **Seconded by:** Craig McCallum **Approved**

The next meeting is scheduled for April 14th at 1 pm.