### **SQUAMISH VALLEY GOLF CLUB**

# SPECIAL MEETING: THE BACK NINE RENOVATION

# SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 25<sup>TH</sup>, 2022

### 3:00 PM

#### **CURLING LOUNGE**

### **BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

President: Adrian Lasalle-Lowe

Vice President: Mark McKenzie

Secretary: Barb Dales

Directors: Geoff Fahlman

**Scott Sellers** 

Club Captain: Keith Riel

General Manager: Scott Wengi

**ABSENT** 

Treasurer: Herb Chambers

Director: Donna Lindsay

**GUEST** 

Gary Browning, Browning Design Inc.

## OPENING REMARKS FROM PRESIDENT

Adrian L-L started the meeting at 3:00 PM and welcomed all in attendance. He made a note to the attendees that since this is a Special Meeting only matters can be discussed that pertain to the subject of the Special Meeting.

In addition, Adrian made a note to the membership that this possible renovation was recommended by the majority of replies in a club wide survey which the Club had in April 2021. The majority of the

<sup>\*</sup>note from Secretary: the quorum is met the meeting can proceed.

suggestions that the membership wanted to see as our next major expenditure and upgrade to SVGC was a renovation of the back nine holes.

## OPENING REMARKS FROM GENERAL MANAGER

Scott W provided a history to the origin of the SVGC, financial situation of the Club, Committee efforts and a brief background of Browning Design Inc.

## INTRODUCTION OF GARY BROWNING

Scott W then introduced Gary Browning of Browning Design Inc.

Gary B then took to the podium to outline his objectives and his plans for the Back Nine Renovation.

### OUTLINE OF THE AREAS OF INTEREST FOR THE RENO

### Areas of interest for the Reno

tee box

Hole #8

noie #o	tee box
Hole #10	tee box/fairway/bunker
Hole #11	tee box/re-routing cart path/green/remove front R side bunker
Hole # 12	tee boxes/fwy improvement and remove 1st bunker on RHS of green,
Hole #13	re-grade fairway/adding forward tee box/ rebuild green/remove tree right next to
	the green/adding R & L bunkers around green
Hole # 14	New white/red tee , enlarge black & blue tee box,re-grade fairway
	New green with a front centre bunker/add bunker on R before green
Hole # 15	add a forward tee/L side bunkermake two smaller bunkers (pathway to access green)
Hole # 17	tee boxes/green, moving it back, remove tree on R side of green/make a R side bunker/
	entire fairway re-graded/target bunkers on fairway.
Hole #18	tee box improvements/add L side fairway bunker/plus green side bunker on L
	Possibly remove R side bunker midway down fairway

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FROM MEMBERSHIP

Frank: #14 tee box, take tree out on the back tees? Answer: yes

Is it a good idea to make one long tee box on the R side? Make one long tee box for Black-blue-white-red tees? Answer: no not necessarily healthy for the grass to have too long a tee box.

Larry Houston: R side the fairway of hole #13....could this not be berm'd or mounded?

Answer: Gary says the re-shaping of the fairway would re-grade to eliminate the

slope.

Charlie: Is there a geology report for the terrain under this area of the golf course?

Gary: there is no report as such.

Charlie further explains there are 3 aquifers under the golf course. He suggests filling the low spots with gravel then sand to help fill out the various levels created by the aquifers, this might mitigate the sink holes in the future.

Jeff: Will the re-grading help the dry/dead zones on the fairways?

Answer: undoubtedly yes the drainage should improve the 'collection areas' we currently have.

Gary B discusses the timing of construction. He notes that contractors are busy, supply chains are a constant issue. He sees the job starting in late 2023, Gary's contractors are ready and booked for the fall of '23 from last week of August to November.

Dave: When will the course re-open in 2024?

Answer: depends on the weather and how quickly the growth happens. Jason V will be diligently watching for the progress of the growth depending on the spring weather. Target date would be 1 June.

Scott W answers: the cost is projected to be \$1.05 M.

We are budgeting \$1.50 M. This is set aside for the renovation.

Scott W expects we may lose 2/3 of our green fee revenue during the reno months.

Member comment: A caution.....we could be entering an economic recession, how do our finances

look? Answer: we have a surplus in the bank and feel our expectations for this

renovation are realistic, we expect that financially we are fine.

Frank: If the fairways are ready to play could we play on improvised tee boxes to get on the

course earlier?

Scott says we wouldn't want to compromise any completed work. We can look at it, that is a good question, it has not been asked before.

Larrye Henry: Hole #17....is this hole going to be longer from the white/red tee box?

Answer: From the tips yes, from the fwd tee, no.

Joe: Can the members provide feedback on specifics to the changes proposed?

Scott W.....answer, no not so much. Possibly too many individual opinions, hard to get consensus and agreement. It is why there is a member elected Board and a

renovations committee

Gary answers: we are acting on behalf of the opinions presented by the members

and the board members.

Darryl: At what point can the members give feedback? Answer: you have a month before

the vote is taken at the AGM.

Frank: Will Gary B be hands on during the build? Answer: YES absolutely.

Question: What is the situation we are in with our status 'not for profit' and our financial

situation? Scott W replies we have to have our finances ear-marked for intention

of expenditure. We cannot just stock pile assets, or just spend funds for the

betterment of the members, we cannot give reimbursement of funds back to the

membership. The Club has to invest into improvements that benefit all users.

Question: When we are in the reno, can we book for 18 holes? Book two 9 holes

consecutively? Answer: booking 9 holes at one time, after that is played, you can

re-book for another 9 holes.

Scott W discusses what will happen to league play. He says we will work around the closures. Probably have a shortened league to run the months that are available.

Dean: What is the expected amount of time it will take to make up the loss of revenue?

Scott answers that he doesn't have that information at hand. But he is not

worried there may be lack of funding to pay salaries, etc.

Will there be an adjustment in fees for the membership? Scott answers, with

our unique member fee system, we will see a decrease in fees if members play less of golf. Members pay based on play (up to 50 rounds) Thos that pay 50+ will pay as they do now.

Do you see an increase of daily green fees? Answer: that has increased regularly ongoingly, Scott sees no change to that. We raise public daily green fees each year.

Frank:

Frank thanks the Board and Scott W and Gary B for their efforts, they have shown good preparation for this project thus far.

## PRESIDENT COMMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT

Adrian thanks all for attending and for their keen interest. He notes the Board members, Scott and Gary are still here for any individual questions and comments.

The meeting is adjourned at 4:40 PM.

42 people were in attendance, plus Board members, GM, staff and guest.