

Golf Board Meeting Minutes May 14, 2026

Overview

- Course currently operating as 18 holes; rates held at \$50 (18) and \$35 (9) to reflect product limitations.
- Turf & greens work progressing: aeration completed, new greens progressing, plan to have product ready for players by Memorial Day weekend.
- Bunkers, tees and tree work active: liners surfacing in bunkers, white bunker sand pricing requested, selective tree removal and replanting planned to improve winter sunlight.
- Golf range project fully funded but engineering delays pushed bid/breakground timelines into Jul–Oct 2026 with completion targeted by spring 2027.

Financials

- April revenue totaled \$174,779 and expenses were \$171,760, producing a small profit of \$3,019.
- April was down versus last year (\$237,279), attributed to operating 18 holes instead of 27 and some weather effects.
- March typically shows a revenue spike because annual memberships are processed then.
- Current pricing kept lower because the course lacks the full 27-hole premium product; outlook: May should improve as pace and weather permit.

Tree Removal & Reforestation

- Selective tree removal in areas that reduce winter sunlight on greens (not wholesale clearing).
- Removal focused on trees that block low winter sun; aim is to improve 12+ hours of direct sunlight on greens where possible.
- Replant plan: replace removed trees with native, shorter-growing species (target heights ~20–30 ft) to preserve framing but avoid long-term shading.
- Scheduling: crews will coordinate to minimize interference with play; some tree work continuing while greens are established.

Staffing & Operations

- Grounds is still shorthanded; part-time college staff are trickling in and will help with maintenance backlog (edging bunkers, carpath edges, routine mowing).
- Staff plan: ramp up bunker edging, sand replacement and general catch-up work once part-time crew is available.

Irrigation & Ponds

- Pond water levels were low for the season but the well has been running and caught up after recent rain (~0.75 in locally overnight).
- Team monitoring for drought/heat-wave risk but currently confident in supply and well recovery.

Golf Range Project

- Project is fully funded but engineering/vendor coordination has been slow.
- Revised timeline: advertise for bid July–August 2026, break ground Sept–Oct 2026, construct through winter with a target to be complete by spring 2027.
- Use case: once functional, the range will serve year-round (winter usage with heaters/lighting is a key revenue driver).

Pavilion, AV & Capital Items

- FY26 capital items pulled forward for near-term delivery before June 30: 75 acoustic panels, ultra-short-throw projector and a 138-inch screen for the pavilion.
- These upgrades will improve event hosting (tournaments, photo montages, meetings, weddings, parties, showers, etc.).

- Approved early purchase of a Foley 673 bed-knife grinder to sharpen mower reels more frequently and improve turf cut quality; older grinder is aging and replacement will be safer/more efficient.

Events, Bookings & Revenue Opportunities

- Good traction for event bookings.
- Pavilion upgrades expected to increase event revenue and make the venue more marketable for FY27 (many inquiries already for 2027).

Golfer Feedback & Member Concerns

- Frequent golfer comments: stones/liner surfacing in bunkers (particularly hole 16), brown tee boxes, and footbridge condition.

Community & Personnel Notes

- One scholarship application received (Cohen Wilson from St. Michaels) — award being presented tonight.

- **Next meeting scheduled for Thursday, June 11 (second Thursday).**

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