

September 20, 2024

Hi everyone,

We haven't had an Ambassador's meeting for four months, and there was a lot of news at today's meeting. So sit back, relax, and get ready to be excited about some of the upcoming activities and improvements:

- New Pickleball courts. The second round of permitting requirements were filed on sept 13. Hopefully the courts will be completed soon, but the county hasn't given us a sense for how long this might changes coming.



- (This is not the exciting news) Dues will be increasing, but the Club has not yet determined the number. As in past years, the increase will be determined by mid-October with a letter coming out to all by early November.
- Several have taken the time to say thanks for all of the work of the landscaping team through the heat of the summer and all of this rain this year..
- The Island bar is open until 8 pm now. Please frequent it or we will have to cut back the hours again.
- The Club returns to being open on Mondays beginning October 7.
- Initiation fees are expected to increase. The sports membership will go from \$20,000-\$30,000 Single golf from \$40,000-\$55,000; and Full golf from \$55,000-\$80,000
- We are getting close to a wait list for golf (what followed was a clarification on some of the fees)
- Non-residents pay a \$5,000 initiation fee for social membership (no expected increase).
- Social membership is about \$3,800 annually; approximately \$7,000 for annual sports membership. In season sports memberships play 9 holes 12 times or 18 holes six times. Sports members have full golf membership privileges in the off season.
- We do have a Referral system: if you refer someone who provides your name and signs up for full golf membership, the referring member will receive \$100/ month credit for a year.
- A clarification about the football menu- it is only available for football on Sundays. Available in both the island bar and tavern.
- Soon we will be updating the tennis lights and updating the awnings between the courts to include built in fans. Updating will begin in 4-6 weeks.
- Fitness center walkway is nearly completed, equipment is in and almost completed assembly. The Grand opening is set for October 1 and will include a ribbon cutting: Plan to attend. Jobe will instruct on the equipment, but each piece of equipment has a QR code that, when scanned, tells you how to use the equipment.
- Jobe is going to start doing some exercise videos and videos on how to use the equipment.
- We're getting new playground equipment. We will keep what we have and add a nice play set for kids up to 12 years old. Elvis plans to take out some of those oak trees and replace with palm trees (oaks are tearing up the pavers). Please note: for children on the playground, play needs to be supervised by an adult.
- We changed pool cleaning companies and initial reviews are very positive. They're cleaning the pool every day now.

- There will be a flea market/spring cleaning/trash and treasure event in April, probably in the golf parking lot. Everyone can come up in their cars or golf carts, set up a table and sell those no longer wanted items. More information is coming.
- Updating the rest of the clubhouse is tentatively scheduled for summer 2025 (the fitness center took precedent this year).
- In the interim, work is underway on sprucing up the bride's room (first room on the right when you enter the club; it's where brides get dressed).
- Golf update from Nick: 50 inches of rain has been tough. Together with an Irrigation system on a 30 year old golf course has led to a challenging season. The golf team is trying to repair irrigation by creating trenches to the boxes to put down new pipes and sprinkler heads to better control watering. All of this work is being done in house. Look at sable 9, preserve five and Savannah two and three for examples of the work being done; these holes are currently being renovated. The grass will grow back after work is completed.
- Tee boxes have been expanded for some holes.
- Nick Patton is back.
- Men's invitational sign up went out: 24 teams on the wait list (huge participation). If you played before it was popular, you were given preference to play.
- Opening day is last week of October, guest days are first week of November.
- Lots of new merchandise and new features in the golf shop. Also, there is a new logo (alternate logo) for merchandise; we will still have the pelican as an alternative.
- Glyn with food and beverage: lots of Upcoming Events.
- We now have a designated pool server and bocce server on the play nights (Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday) so that players/swimmers will be able to order food and drinks.
- New dessert drink menu is coming.
- January will have a wine festival followed by a fine wine dinner (similar to the event at the Ritz Carlton but without the \$10,000 price tag). Good music and vineyard owners from Italy are coming for the event which will run 3-9 pm. The dates are January 9-10. The second day (January 10) will be the dinner which is a six-seven course dinner on Friday.
- New fine dining menu will be out in the next two weeks.
- (Here's my favorite part of the meeting) The chef has been working on the issue of keeping food warm and delivered in a timely manner. **WE ARE PLANNING TO PUT IN A NEW KITCHEN BY THE ISLAND BAR IN NOVEMBER!!** It sounds really cool. The Club is purchasing a food truck that will be permanently located (and landscaped) near the ice and water machine by the Island Bar. It will only serve the Island Bar and poolside (they plan to replace the grass there with turf and have some tables, so you can order and eat there.) You'll be able to order directly from the truck.
- Also, for the Tavern, we rely upon the upstairs kitchen. It takes awhile to get the food downstairs, so the Club is renovating to build a kitchen for the tavern downstairs. It will be an open kitchen so you can watch the cooking. The current upstairs kitchen will be the banquet kitchen. The remodel to accomplish all of this will also lead to remodeling of the Charleston room, and the lobby area. The speed of food delivery and temperature of the food when it arrives has long been an issue; this is a really creative attempt to address both issues.
- The food truck will also serve things such as milkshakes and sundaes.
- The kitchen is now doing half and full salads for those who found the full salad to be too much food.
- Vicki shared the event updates. There are a ton of them, and the brochure should be available in the Clubhouse in the next week or so, but here is a highlight list: The welcome back party will be November 14 6-9 pm; it's going to be a 50's sock hop

- Deb and the Dynamics are back January 23
- Dueling pianos will be February 27
- Beatlemanix on March 20
- And the Ben Allen Bank will wrap up season on April 14.
- There is so much more information in the events brochure, so stop by the club in a week or two and pick up a copy.
- We have monthly meetings from here on out, so let me know if you have any questions. Take care.