

## March 21, 2025 Ambassador Meeting

Hi everyone,

Thanks to Dianne for excellent notes; let us know if you have anything you would like brought up at the Ambassadors meeting.

- The Clubhouse remodel will begin in June and further details will be revealed at the next ambassadors meeting. We did see flooring tile samples which are beautiful and light and bright. Elvis will be meeting with the owners on Wednesday to discuss this project.
- The grand opening of the new pickle ball courts will be held on Tuesday the 25<sup>th</sup> at 2:45pm. This event is open to all members and free of charge. There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony, a pro exhibition, and then member play. The landscaping around the new courts is really beautiful and Elvis and Johanna complimented the golf maintenance staff for their tireless work on this project. It is interesting to note that the cost of the landscaping and drainage exceeded the cost of the new pickleball courts.
- The updating of the children's playground is still on the "To Do" list and will probably be completed in September. This will include sturdier playground apparatus and equipment as well as additional landscaping which will include a shaded area under an awning. The pickleball court project was this season's priority.
- Fifty new lounge chairs and 52 (4 inch) cushions have been purchased for the pool area, along with 20 new side tables. The cushions are water proof, fade resistant, stain resistant and of commercial quality. The chairs can be adjusted. We now will have 76 cushions in total as we have some that we purchased this year. As of next month, there will be 62 lounge chairs available for use on the pool deck. Next season there will be a designated pool attendant who will be in charge of the pool deck area and caring for this equipment. These new items should arrive by April 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Digital Membership Cards will soon be available via The Strand App. These digital cards will be used by members when dining at the club so that servers will have more accuracy in entering food and beverages charges. Our website will also be updated next month and will be more user friendly. The Club will have classes for members on how to use the Strand App and the new digital membership cards. Johanna is considering a policy of scheduling appointments one day a month to assist members in the use of the Strand App and other IT Club issues.
- Johanna stated that before Easter there will be a professional photographer available, by appointment, to take photos of members for use on the new digital membership cards as well as for a new and updated membership book. This book helps staff get to know the names and faces of the

membership. After the photo sitting, if desired, members can purchase photo packages.

- Nick reported that golf has been very busy. The Ladies Invitational had 96 players this week which was a great turnout. The event was a big success and included great food and entertainment, two days of golf (which included a practice round), wonderful gifts and favors, and a glow ball chipping contest which was enjoyed by everyone. The Golf Staff and the Food and Beverage staff did a tremendous job making this event very special for the SLGA and their guests.
- The season is wrapping up with closing days for the ladies and men coming up next month. Nick stated that the course is in good shape and is drier causing more roll in the fairways and faster greens. The maintenance staff has been thinning out areas of vegetation on Sabal holes 6-8 and on Sabal 9 they have cleared a 30-foot area of trees and brush.
- The course closure rotation will begin on May 1<sup>st</sup> starting with Preserve. Aeration of greens, tees, and fairways will begin at this time as well as a replacement of the irrigation system on all 27 holes and portions of Strand Blvd. The cost of this project is 1.5 million dollars and should take about 3 months, working on one hole at a time. Tree trimming was recently performed on the left side of Preserve 3. The first preserve area on Preserve 2 will eventually be filled in. Recently loam and fill has been brought into that area from excavation work that was performed for the new pickleball courts.
- As to the fitness center, Jobe stated that it has been busy with a lot of guests of members and he has been enforcing dress code rules. He reminded members to inform their guests of these rules. Jobe is still searching for an Aquatics Instructor. He reminded us that the area in front of the Fitness Center must remain free from any cars, golf carts, bikes, etc. as the purpose of this area is for emergency vehicles.
- Jobe mentioned that Pickleball Clinics will continue every Friday at noon, based on attendance, throughout the summer.
- Chef stated that Food and Beverage has been very busy. He stated that the Club is now in the permit process with the County for building a kitchen in Tavern 59. The architectural drawings and the equipment list have been approved by the owners. He stated that the Island Express has significantly helped to reduce the stress on the kitchen and having a kitchen in Tavern 59 will further help the staff serve members in a timely manner.
- There are several special dinners planned for next month starting with a Wine Dinner (with wines from Longevity Vineyards), a Caribbean night, an English themed buffet night, and a Lobster Bake. Easter reservations are also filling up. Chef stated that probably around the first week of July they will begin closing on Mondays, but this will depend on how busy the food venues continue to be in the summer months.
- The landscaping work around the Island Express is nearly complete and they have put out requests for bids for an awning which will extend from outside of the fitness room to the Island Express. They have received an initial bid for this awning of \$97,000.00 and Elvis is further reviewing the details of this project.

- An ambassador questioned whether a half sandwich option can be put on the menu at the Island Bar. Currently such an option is on the Tavern 59 Menu only and Chef will look into this suggestion.
- The snacks of gold fish and trail mix provided at Tavern 59 are not available during the dinner hour.
- Vicki stated that there are several events planned for April including a Blood Drive on April 1<sup>st</sup>, in the Club parking lot, from 1:30-4:00 pm. This is sponsored by Collier County and NCH. Also, on April 1<sup>st</sup> there will be a lecture, by Ann Monroe, at 10am, on the topic of Financial Planning for Women. Also, in April there is a craft class on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Vicky is organizing a type of flea market/yard sale in the Club parking lot (more details will follow) but members can reserve tables to sell various items. The next Thirsty Thursday event will feature a popular Rock Band.
- Three new AED devices have been purchased. One is located in the area where Peggy works, a second is in the Fitness Center, and the third is outside of the Tennis Pro-Shop. Over the summer, and again in the fall, the club will offer classes and instruction in the proper use of these devices. All members are welcome to attend these sessions free of charge.
- I think that is it. Our next meeting will be in April at a time and date to be determined.
- Any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me.