



# *Fore You...*

**From the Golf Committee**

**December 2025**

**Playable Rounds.** Play in October 2025 was down from October 2024 due to the decrease in playable days from 2024 caused by the rain we had this year. However, we had 5066 more rounds year-to-date through October 2025 than we had in the same period in 2024. Rounds in 2025 should continue to outpace 2024 as Balboa comes back into the rotation.

**Outside Play and Tournaments.** Bookings for outside play are slowing as we move into the winter months, with total revenue this year of \$2.02 million, an increase of \$558,000 over 2024. Come & Play package rounds totaled 21,108, an increase of 3,117 over 2024. Average revenue per round is \$95.71 in 2025, compared to \$81.33 in 2024. The golf and marketing departments are working hard to accommodate outside play while keeping member play a priority. A ratio of approximately 70% member play to 30% outside play is a consistent goal! The outside play revenue is critical to assist in reducing the Golf Department financial deficit without significantly increasing member fees.

*Something to remember regarding "package play"...* Many member golfers automatically use the term "packages" when discussing outside play and issues such as pace of play or tee times throughout the year. Actually, tee times booked other than for residents may include:

- 1.** Residents who bring guests to the Village for golf
- 2.** Non-residents from the surrounding areas, such as Benton, Little Rock or Hot Springs
- 3.** Guests booking golf packages through the Golf Department, including lodging.
- 4.** Guests booking golf packages from Realtors, Village Villas, etc. including lodging.
- 5.** Corporate Tournaments involving non-residents
- 6.** Tournaments from local churches or organizations

**Courses.** The greens at Isabella are still receiving significant attention and resources. USGA agronomists were out on the course in October to analyze course conditions. Multiple ground and water samples were taken and studied. It was recommended that all subsurface drains be located, flushed and repaired if necessary. This will also assist in improving air circulation in the green structures. Core samples will now be taken by POA maintenance staff and submitted for further evaluation. This information will provide essential information to the maintenance crew as they continue to work to bring these greens back to good condition.

Balboa course renovations are nearing completion, with anticipation of all 18 holes to be open for play starting the end of November. The course is still in rough condition in some areas due to the recent construction on the course and is likely to remain in that condition until the grass begins to grow next summer. Minor renovations will continue to be performed over the next few months as weather permits.

Going forward, significant projects at any of the courses will be scheduled in shorter intervals – possibly two weeks at a time- when other work is scheduled such as aerating greens. This will avoid long course shutdowns and keep available tee time slots at a maximum.

**Marshal Program.** The Marshal program is being strengthened not only in terms of numbers of marshals but also in terms of their ability to address pace of play and inappropriate behavior on the courses. Several members of the Golf committee spent time with the marshals at some courses in an attempt to understand the challenges they face. We have ridden with marshals at DeSoto, Magellan, Pinta, and Balboa. Some of the feedback the committee members received from the marshals included:

- While most golfers respect input from the marshals it tends to be more Village resident golfers rather than non-resident guests that act inappropriately when marshals attempt to address pace of play issues.
- Pace of play issues can be caused by golfers playing from tee boxes not consistent with their handicaps.
- Members tend to ignore direction to tee off at their designated tee time and instead, go to the tee box when the fairway is clear. “Assuming the fairway is clear” can cause back-ups on the course as too many groups start play in a short time period. These back-ups are then hard to clear. Starters will be placed at the first tee to assist with this issue.

***Please respect the marshals on all our courses. They are there to assist players and improve everyone’s experience.***

### Golf Financial Deficit.

The Statement of Operations for the Golf department reflected a profit of \$98,501 through October 2025 compared to a loss of \$820,611 in the same period in 2024. While reduced play in the remaining months of 2025 may result in an operating loss for 2025, the significant reduction in the loss from 2024 is outstanding.

These results do not include the capital expenditures necessary for equipment additions /replacements which would add approximately \$2 million to the annual deficits. The plan is to continue to grow outside play revenue by increasing their fees and play in 2026 while maintaining adequate tee times for member play.

### Updated Village Website.

Watch for a new Village website to be launched in early 2026. Photos and videos of all amenities will be included on the website. Each hole on every POA golf course will be highlighted in a flyover video to showcase the beauty that our courses feature. Each hole will have a description to challenge and excite the viewer to want to play that hole!

### Golf Cart Street Crossings.

The Public Services department is now developing a plan to address the signage, crossings and street markings of all cart crossings throughout the Village. Once the safety of crossings are prioritized, work will begin after the first of the year. As always, we ALL need to be conscious of each cart crossing and...



***STOP and LOOK both ways before crossing the street in your golf cart!***

**Vehicles driving on the streets have the right of way!**

Thanks for your interest in HSV golf. If we can answer any questions, or help address an issue, please let us know.

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