

**Amherst Golf Club**  
**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**  
**January 7, 2026**

**Present:** Greg Kwolek, George Oulundsen, Gordy Palley, Bonnie May, Shawn Durocher, Don Hodgkins, Emily Ziomek, Carl Teschke, Jack Stanne, Bob Nakosteen

**Absent:** Kathryn Mahony, Glenn Allan, Elizabeth Geene

The meeting was convened at 5:15.

The minutes of the December meeting were accepted unanimously.

**Financial Report Update:** Gordy reported that little has changed since the December report. Membership renewals are starting to come in, 27 to this point.

The use of credit cards vs cash was discussed, with the aim to save the Club money on credit card transactions. The legalities of having a credit card price vs cash price make it necessary to post a “credit card price”, and then offer a 3% cash discount. The administrative issues involved at the cash register were discussed, and Shawn indicated that she could work through the details. Before finalizing the policy there will be further investigation of the policy, which could be finalized at the next Board meeting.

**Superintendent Update:** Carl described the options for purchasing a support contract for the irrigation system. There are “quantity discounts” for purchasing more than 1 year of the service. A three-year contract costs \$7,800, which is twice the cost of a one-year contract. The Board approved the purchase of a 3-year contract, saving 1-year of cost.

Carl pointed out that the clubhouse walls are newly painted. Also that deep-tine aeration is scheduled for April 23, the day before the Isenberg women’s event. The timing should not be a problem.

Carl has purchased and mounted canvas tarps to enclose the outdoor storage space for the carts.

Planning for grounds staffing was discussed in depth. Hiring will depend on finding reliable candidates and ensuring the budget can support the positions. We reviewed how rising wage levels will affect long-term costs. The Board is also analyzing historical greens-staff work hours to determine the number of hours truly needed to maintain the course and to establish a standard hours staffing estimate.

Staffing and retention planning will continue through the winter and remain an active topic into the spring and summer.

**Pro Report:** Shawn joined the meeting remotely from Florida.

She reported that Amherst College will be paying the Club \$13,000 for student and faculty memberships. It was agreed that the money will be folded into the 2025 financial report.

Smith Voc School will be able to construct a new awards board for display in the clubhouse.

Details for the purchase of gift cards were discussed. An issue is the timing of accounting for the payment at a different time than play takes place.

**Women's Association report:** No report in Kathryn's absence.

**Member Liaison update:** Glenn reported to George before the meeting that there is an individual willing to provide a few stretching classes to members initially for no compensation. He is also interested in working part time in either the clubhouse or on the grounds for pay.

#### **New Business:**

Food at Club events: The safe-serve food safety recertification requirement was discussed. More needs to be learned on the details of what kinds of outings require this certification.

Clearly, if Carl is in charge of grilling, this becomes an issue. If pre-cooked food is brought in, what are the requirements. For example, if pizzas are purchased and served at an event, does this require certification?

George discussed the safe-serve certification with a member of the Amherst College food and catering service. The potential for using the College's service for Club events was discussed, and the corollary issue of whether their safe-serve certification extends to Club events.

Further research and discussion is necessary.

Cleaning: Hiring an individual or a service to clean the clubhouse and old clubhouse bathrooms periodically was discussed. The problem is that the job may be so small that there may be no interest in taking on the task. A number of Board members volunteered to check with professional cleaners they know of to determine interest.

Green's Committee: George is planning to reassemble this committee over the next few months.

Tournament Schedule: A full tournament schedule has been completed and is out for review.

Other details: Jack reported that the Club's food and drink sales licenses have been renewed.

The Town of Amherst needs an updated list of Board members, and a designated contact person.

We reviewed the first year of our new business model and agreed it was a strong success. The Club's finances remain healthy, and with BOD volunteers overseeing key operational areas, the transition went smoothly. Shawn also had an excellent first year, and George has begun discussing her next contract, which expires at the end of this season. The Board is enthusiastic as we enter year two, carrying forward the lessons and momentum from our inaugural year under this model.

Next Monthly BOD Meeting: February 18, 2026 at 5pm

Minutes prepared by Bob Nakosteen, Club Secretary