WHITEFISH LAKE GOLF CLUB MAINTENANCE STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this guide is to outline maintenance operations, define practices, and set standards for delivering high-quality golf course conditions. It assists current and future management in decision-making and long-range planning.

STAFF

- 4 year-round staff: Superintendent, Equipment Manager, 2 Assistants
- ~30 seasonal staff in peak season (June–Sept)
- Focus on course maintenance, equipment care, snow removal, training, and facility upkeep.

EQUIPMENT & TURF CENTER

- 135+ pieces of equipment (~\$2.5M value)
- Strict preventive maintenance schedule, \$100,000 annual replacement budget
- 14,000 sq. ft. Turf Center completed in 2012 for secure storage and staff efficiency

KEY MAINTENANCE AREAS

Greens

- Mow daily (.120"-.150"), roll 2-3x/week
- Aerate twice/year, light topdressing every 3 weeks
- Speed goal: 9.5–10.5 feet daily (up to 12 for tournaments)
- Consistent fertilization, fungicide, growth regulators

Tees

- Mow 2x/week (.450")
- Rotate markers daily, fill divots weekly, aerify yearly

Fairways

• Mow 2–3x/week (.500"), aerify annually, spot topdressing for wet areas

Bunkers

• Rake at least 2x/week, maintain edges, minimum 3" sand depth

Rough

- Mow 1–2x/week (1–2.5" height)
- Maintain intermediate cut at 1"

Aprons & Approaches

• Mow 2–3x/week (.325"), topdress 4–6 times/year

Irrigation

- ~80 million gallons/year from Whitefish Lake
- Computer-controlled pumps & 3,000+ sprinkler heads
- Double head system for greens and surrounds

TREES & LANDSCAPE

- Monitor tree health, trim canopies, replace as needed
- Maintain ornamental flowers & shrubs with dedicated staff

OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES

- Maintain 12+ miles of cart paths, target 9 ft width minimum
- Restroom cleaning & repairs
- Practice areas: mow, topdress, maintain chipping & putting greens
- Cemetery: mow and irrigate as part of lease
- Grouse Mountain soccer fields: supply irrigation, mow
- Wildlife management, signage upkeep, course markings

LONG RANGE PLANNING

- Projects prioritized with input from the Board, Green Committee, and architect John Stiedel since 1982
- USGA Turf Advisory Service visit annually to review operations & standards

PHILOSOPHY

- Deliver top conditions with minimal player disruption
- Sustain healthy turf with efficient, environmentally responsible practices
- Support staff morale and retention through a positive work culture.

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