

RHGC Special Meeting – 22nd September, 2020

Motion ONE

“Tee time ownership (e.g. X,X,X system) shall be abolished. A Member who is first to access a tee time shall continue to have the ability to fill that tee time with his/her playing partners at that time. “

Rationale: We recognize that members want to choose who they play with. ForeTees provides for the first member accessing a tee time to insert names of playing partners. This feature will continue to be available and should be sufficient for members to form playing groups of their choice. The X,X,X system has unfortunately been used together with board members' 10-day advance tee time booking incentive to the significant detriment of majority of members.

Motion TWO

“All incentives for elected Officers shall end at the end of their board service.”

Rationale: At the board meeting of 11 November, 2018, a proposal was made by a board member for elected Officers and appointed Directors to continue to have advance booking rights for up to two years after the end of their term. One board member commented: “don't like it, we already monopolize prime tee times with social groups”. Notwithstanding this objection, the motion was passed.

After this Initiative was launched in August 2020, the board has stated that it has abolished the advance booking incentive for appointed Directors beyond the end of their term. We believe that incentives beyond the end of board service should also be abolished for elected Officers.

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Motion THREE

“The 10-day advance tee time booking incentive for RHGC board members shall be abolished”

Rationale: This Initiative seeks fair and equitable opportunity for booking of tee times for all RHGC members. This incentive has been extensively misused, to the significant detriment of the wider club membership, and should therefore be abolished. **N.B. this motion relates to RHGC board members only.**

The effort and time that RHGC board members contribute towards running the club is recognized and very much appreciated. Current board incentives include: 50% discount to annual fees, 10% Pro-shop discount, priority consideration for special events & functions. This Initiative has no objection to incentives which do not interfere with members’ opportunity to play.

Unfortunately, this unlimited 10-day advance tee time booking incentive has been used to book out almost all early morning weekend tee times, for both days every weekend since the club reopened in June until a few weeks ago. The incentive has been used in a similar way on weekday early evenings.

The 10-day advance tee time booking incentive, intended to recognize contribution by individual board members, **is benefiting many who have made no contribution to running the club.**

The board continued to make extensive use of its 10-day advance tee time booking incentive since the club reopened in June, despite the reduced number of tee times available due to Covid-19 restrictions, and despite the increased demand due to many more members remaining in kingdom over the summer. Many members have raised the unfairness of this situation with the board without any resulting action, until this Initiative was launched.

Following this Initiative's request to the RHGC board for a Special Meeting (made on 9th August, 2020), we recognize that board members have partially moderated their use of the 10-day advance tee time booking incentive at weekends – although it is still highly opaque. The advance booking incentive has clearly shown its potential for misuse, however, and we continue to believe that it should be abolished.

Any advance tee time booking privilege would, for example, allow someone to log in to ForeTees at 6:57 a.m. (a couple of minutes before it opens to regular members at 7:00 a.m.), insert the names of playing partners, and submit the booking at 7:02 a.m. – and claim that advance access to the system had not been used. It would be very hard to prove otherwise. All members will appreciate what a critical difference a few seconds make to securing a tee time in ForeTees at times of peak demand.

Example: At 5:49 p.m. on Sunday evening, 14 June, 2020, the ForeTees booking sheets for the following weekend 19 & 20 June were as shown in screen shots below. For Friday, 19 June, **16 out of 18 early morning tee times were advance-booked**, before ForeTees became available to general membership at 7:00 a.m. on Monday morning. For Saturday, 20 June, 12 out of 18 early morning tee times were already advance-booked. There were additional advance bookings made subsequently, before 7:00 a.m. Tuesday morning.

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Thus, when ForeTees opens for general membership - almost all weekend morning tee times are already taken: “board member, X, X, X”. The situation during weekday evenings is comparable.



