

With the golf season underway there has been a lot of buzz about the upcoming golf course renovation project called PROJECT EMERALD. In case you have missed some of the articles published online and in the newsletter over the past few years, the information booth at the Holiday Boutique or the Town Hall Meetings held in 2009 here is some additional information about the upcoming project.

Q: How are big decisions at the Club made?

A: Well, no decision is taken lightly. Here's how it works. All decisions are based on member input. Many comments and concerns are brought to the attention of the Lochland Team, Board or one of the 13 Committees. Comments and concerns are then discussed at the appropriate committee's meeting. Members on the committee then vote on how they think the issue should be handled and develop a recommendation which is sent to the Board of Directors to review. The Board then discusses the issue further and makes a final decision.

Management Team members are not included in the Board vote. And although committees are made up of volunteers, the Board of Directors are voted in by the membership every spring.

This process was successfully used throughout the pool and tennis court renovation project.

Q: How is PROJECT EMERALD being funded?

A: NO assessment. Members will NOT be asked to pay any additional fees to fund this project. The Club will be retiring long term debt in 2015 and will then be able to take on new short term debt to fund this project.

The Board of Directors will be voting on the project pieces at the June meeting. Please contact your Board members with your comments.

Q: In regards to PROJECT EMERALD, why not do just 9 holes at a time instead of all 18?

A: Great question! This was one option that the Green Committee and Board has discussed over the lifetime project's planning stages beginning over 5 years ago. Through our research we found:

- 1.) It is cheaper to do all holes at one time instead of just half because each project set up cost is \$25,000.
- 2.) The shutdown period is shorter by completing all 18 holes at one time. Not only will the course be open sooner for members but, by stretching the project period over three years the window for possible weather delays increases.
- 3.) The consistency of the greens would suffer. Maturity rate and materials used for the project would differ causing the quality of our course to decline.

Q: What is the timeline for PROJECT EMERALD?

A: The course will be shut down August 1, 2015 to begin the renovations. This will allow enough time to reseed if there is a rain out. Although the Board has approved the greens project no vote has been taken on the other course project aspects.

The course will reopen in early April of 2016 but the exact date is weather dependent.

Q: Where can I go play when we are closed?

Other course options will be available for members during shutdown. For the past nine months we have been negotiating contracts with three area courses in order to allow our members a golfing experience.