

# Ladies Branch of the Dunany Country Club

## Minutes for the Closing Meeting

Sunday, September 17, 2023, 3:00 to 4:00

### 1. Opening Remarks and Welcome

Jean welcomed those present in person and on ZOOM.

Present in person: Barb Armstrong, Sonya Bracken, Judy Butler, Lois Finch, Joan Gale, Diane Glionna, Kathy Laidley, Sharon Leslie, Jean MacGibbon, Sue Nish, Lynn Palmer, Eileen Paragis, Chantal Robichaud, Gail Robinson, Caroline Roy, Becky Thompson, Estelle Willard

Present on Zoom: Barb Campbell, Careen Heggie Latt, Genevieve Roy, Mary Sutherland, Tracy Wightman, Annabelle Wood, Marilyn Wynn

### 2. Caroline Roy and Eileen Paragis approved minutes of the June 11, 2023 meeting. Note: This occurred at the end of this meeting.

### 3. Overview of 2023 Season Activities

#### o Garden Committee (Jean for Dorothy)

Once again we were blessed with a team of great workers. We would like to thank Lois Finch, Careen Heggie and Barb Armstrong for their hard work. We could not have done it without them.

We continued to concentrate our efforts on creating sustainable perennial beds: Two around the Clubhouse, one on the road (DCC), another beside the road up to the upper parking lot; and one along the driveway up to the Clubhouse. We also planted window boxes along the Clubhouse with three hanging baskets.

We confess we did not weed and clean-up as much as we should have. Hopefully, as the perennials fill in, less weeding will be required. We promise to do a better job next year.

Next year represents the final year of our three-year commitment. We plan to finalize the beds as mentioned above, which should then only require ongoing maintenance in subsequent years.

We also hope, budget permitting, to obtain and plant new window boxes at the starter shack to match the plantings at the Clubhouse. As well, we would like to obtain and plant containers along the railing of the porch on the east side of the Clubhouse.

Thank you, Peggy Carroll and Dorothy Rekman, Sept 16, 2023

○ Ladies Invitational 2023 (apologies as this was not read out at our meeting):

This year's Invitation was convened by the Boyd Lake Ladies. A crew of all the ladies was quickly put together. No one was in charge but Angie MacLeod soon became the "not the convenor" and all the Boyd Lake Ladies, golfers and non-golfers pitched in to help. With Zoom meetings and emails, the event was soon organized. Run for the Roses was the theme and the ladies were asked to wear fabulous hats for lunch only. We decided there would be no costumes for golf. Thanks to Eileen, Mary, Jean, Debbie, Barb, Kathy, Judy, Anne, Judy, Susan, Joan, Chantal, Suzanne, Bonnie, Joanne, Sharon and, of course, Angie for all their work. Also thanks to Cathy Riviere who wanted to be an honorary Boyd Lake Lady and made sure everyone had their horse names.

We were very lucky with the weather, which was a huge factor this summer. After a night of heavy rain, thunderstorms and early morning mist, the sun greeted the golfers. We were also lucky it wasn't on Thursday as there was another fierce thunderstorm with heavy rains.

The day started with muffins, breads, fruit and very good coffee prepared by the Breakfast Crew of non-golfers, while all the players were being registered. June then herded all the attendees to take the requisite group picture, copies of which were on the tables at lunch. She later took pictures in front of the decorated fireplace of the golf groups and lunch ladies in their fabulous hats. Thanks again June.

There were 69 golfers and 28 ladies just lunching. There were 72 slots for golfers and the on-line registration filled up quickly. Early cancellations were replaced but there were 4 cancellations the day of the event, mostly due to illness.

Angela Kowalyk from Angela's Cuisine supplied a delicious lunch, with a great variety of sandwiches, salads and little desserts plus a special gluten-free table. No one went home hungry.

A big thank you to Chantal who supplied a special derby drink, a new take on a mint julep: Pineapple Mint Julep Sangria. This little extra was served in Angie's small glasses to all the attendees. Delicious!

There were some golf prizes and hat prizes plus a table loaded down with door prizes contributed by many ladies. We thank everyone for their donations. Debbie Sutherland did an amazing job with a few helpers, selling 50/50 tickets for \$720! Judy and Barb sold mulligans for \$1 and all golfers bought one.

Special thanks to Peter Curtin who had to do "special septic duties", not the fault of any of the ladies. Eileen was in charge of the money. Member golf and or lunch was \$35, Guest golf and lunch was \$45. As this event is not a fundraiser but rather a showcase for the club the goal is not to lose money. This year there was an approximate profit of \$531 plus the bar made \$588.89.

The set up was done on Tuesday afternoon with all the ladies lending a hand with table set up, decorations and red rose flower arranging. The take down and clearing up was very quick with all the Boyd Lake Ladies helping plus a few other women who just like to put things away.

People seemed to approve of the "no costumes for golf" but fancy hats for lunch. It was a day enjoyed by all.

Respectfully submitted, Mary Sutherland and all the Boyd Lake Crew

- Ladies Cocktail Party (Jean for Maureen Dubiel)

What a privilege it was to be involved with this event once again. It was a pleasure to witness so many members enjoying the fine food and drinks.

Many thanks are owed to all those who contributed food, flowers, and door prizes . Kudos to our juniors , Alex , Evie, Elliot, Aidan and Ciaran for their time and effort in serving food and cleaning the kitchen. And of course thank you to those volunteering their time behind the bar.

A big thank you to John and Carol Wilson who displayed the quilts, and to those who graciously agreed to have their amazing treasures put on display. And a special and most sincere thank you goes out to Katie Armstrong and to each quilter this year, - it was truly a tremendous display of art and talent. Once again congratulations to this year's winners, Robyn and JD Salvatore. My final and biggest thanks go to **June Parker** for her support and coordination of the ticket sales. We are happy to report that we raised \$4173.57

Wishing you all the best and happy to pass on the responsibilities to the 6 conveners for 2024, Dorothy Rekman, Peggy Carroll, Barb Armstrong, Lois Finch , Careen Heggie .

- Mixed Bridge (Jean for Angela)

I am delighted to report that the Mixed Bridge Events at Dunany were a great success.

To all the players who took part I thank you all for being ever so helpful with the set up and take down of the tables and chairs each week.

Thank you to Diane Burk for installing the link on the Fixture Card to make it very easy to sign up each week. On Sunday night at 6:00 pm I would review the list and send an email out to those on the list sometimes including attachments from our Dunany Bridge Lessons from a few years ago.

The members were delighted to be able to invite guests from outside the club which offered an opportunity to highlight the Clubs welcoming ways.

Thought the summer months and well into September we played every Monday starting at 12:45 for meet and greet and play began at 1:00 pm through to 3:00 pm. We met and played 12 weeks in total. Most weeks we had three tables and once we had four tables.

Each player pays \$2.00 to play and a portion of the funds is donated to a local charity.

This year I am pleased to say that we are able to donate a cheque to Carrefour des Femmes, 310 de L'Eglise, Lachute Quebec. J8H 4A8, in the amount of \$103.00. This small charity is in need of many items, women's and children's clothing, snowsuits, and small household items, dishes, etc. So I would encourage the members to please support this charity when you clear out your cupboards.

A very nice gift was presented to me near the end of play along with a lovely card from the Dunany Artists expressing the group's appreciation for the bridge club.

It is my pleasure to continue this fine tradition at the Club.

Respectfully,  
Angie (Sept 12, 2023)

- Flower Pots
  - Next Year: Lynn Palmer: Starter Shack Pot , Hole 9, Lyne Chouinard: Hole 1 and 8, Sonya Bracken, Susan Steeves: Hole 4 Two Pots, Becky Thompson: Hole 7, Jean MacGibbon, Carol Wilson, Gail Robinson, Diane Glionna: Hole 6
  - #6 needs a new pot in a sunnier place.
  - There was a suggestion to have a common theme among the pots. For example, each could possess a pink geranium.
  
- DCC Ladies' Golf Captain's Report (Gail for Bonnie)

What a wet summer we have had, but it didn't stop Wednesday's Ladies' Day Golf. We only had one rain out day. Thank you to all the ladies who joined us this summer, and we hope to see more of you next year. I have appreciated your feedback and support as I have been learning the duties of this position. I asked Barb and Duncan Campbell to share their knowledge and give us a chip-and-putting lesson next summer. I hope you will be able to join us.

I want to thank Barb Campbell for being my number one teacher. She has patiently explained the duties of this job and was always available when I was a bit out of my depth. Thank you to Gail Robinson, who is such a great help. She's not interested in taking on the Captain's Duties, so if there is anyone out there who is willing to take over after next summer, please let me know.

The summer activities started with a Sold-Out affair for Ladies Invitational Day. Angie Macleod and Boyd Lake ladies did an amazing job setting us up for a horse of an affair, and I heard the hats were out of this world gorgeous. Great Job. Next year, I believe Black Lake takes on the honor of creating a fun event. We will wait with bated breath to find out the theme for next year.

A huge shout out to Marilyn Wynn and Betty Brydon for keeping the leaderboards updated. They own this job, and we are not willing to let them retire. Sorry ladies!!!!

There was great feedback regarding expectations for the course. While it was a challenge to keep the course in the condition we are used to, there are a few issues I will be bringing back to the Match & Handicap Committee. The biggest one is what do we do with the 4<sup>th</sup> hole tees. How do we make them easier and safer to access? There were also many comments about the tee boxes not being cut in the same manner as the men, and I have taken pictures to show the difference.

The big discussion of the summer is the format for the Club Championship. Unfortunately, the committee will not be meeting until after September 21st , but I feel a good sense of what members would like and will bring these forward to the committee. We will not be able to please all members, but it is important that we acknowledge that if we are to continue to grow as a golf community, all members' voices must be heard. Be patient with us as we look at all options available, and know we have heard your concerns, and will bring them forward for discussion.

Last of all, please remember it is very important to input your scores on a weekly basis to develop an accurate handicap that can be used for tournaments throughout the summer. When you play on a Wednesday, it is imperative you enter your score, good or bad.

Thank you ladies for a great summer, now it is time for me to go home and play some tennis!!!! Submitted by Bonnie Curtin Sept 6, 2023

## Further discussion

- On the 7<sup>th</sup> hole, there is a large apron of long grass where many women's drives end up. This "rough" area seems to have grown in size over the years. It slows down the play as we look for our balls that get stuck or lost there. Is this way of cutting due to limited staffing or is it a question of style? The issue will go to Bonnie (Match & Handicap)
  - The gold tees have not been maintained on the course.
- **Quilt and Raffle (Jean)**  
There were lengthy discussions with many participants.
- Is there a need to change the name to "Dunany Cocktail Party"? Or do we continue to ensure everyone knows ALL MEMBERS are invited? It was decided that the name "The Ladies Cocktail Party" would be maintained and a brief history of this event published to clarify that all members of the Club are welcome to volunteer their services and to attend.
  - To date, we lack a convener for next year's quilt. Do we consider doing something else? Is a rest needed? Do the cocktail party without a quilt? This "ladies" tradition started with a tea, then a cocktail party and then the quilt was added. Prizes are nice but the gathering is what is important. It is felt that if the quilt is dropped, it won't come back. Becky showed us her idea for the 2024 quilt. She cannot be the convener.

## 4. Next year's crew

President:	Jean MacGibbon
Vice President:	Estelle Willard
Secretary:	Sonya Vanderhoeden Bracken
Ladies Invitational:	Black Lake
<b>Quilt Designer and Quilt Convener(s):</b>	
Ladies Cocktail Party:	Dorothy Rekman, Peggy Carroll, Barb Armstrong, Lois Finch and Careen Heggie
Mixed Bridge:	Angela Macleod
Record Keeper:	Mary Sutherland (list of trophy winners)
Gardens:	Dorothy Hadley and Peggy Carroll
Pots:	Becky Thompson

## 5. Varia

- **News on the Ladies Club Championship Format Survey.**  
A revised survey is coming out. It will be run by Match & Handicap. Jean is the liaison between Ladies branch and M&H. Barb has provided a description of what the format of the championship used to be. Let's offer the expertise of Lois Finch in the making up of the survey. The goal is that the true desires of the membership shine through.

○ Any other business

A special message to members will go out concerning the need for a convener for the quilt. In addition, Gaye Parsons will be thanked for holding yoga sessions at the club.

Any other ideas of activities to offer?

- Canning
- Pickleball (make a league in Lachute or maybe Wentworth)
- Zumba
- Yoga
- Volleyball (There is a court at Dunany)
- Lawn bowling (equipment is at the Finch's)
- Christmas Craft sale (Fall 2024)
- Fundraiser to sponsor the purchase of Adirondack chairs
- Let's have coffee and goodies before the meeting in June 2024

Adjournment 1<sup>st</sup> Caroline Roy, 2<sup>nd</sup> Eileen Paragis.

Respectfully submitted by Sonya Vanderhoeden Bracken