



151 Martin Street
Birmingham, Mi 48009
248-530-1800
Parks and Recreation Board Agenda
Department of Public Services
851 South Eton-Conference Room
Tuesday, October 7, 2014
6:30 PM

- I. Call to order**
- II. Approval of the minutes of :** Tuesday, August 12, 2014 (*regular meeting*)
- III. Agenda Items-***Written and submitted by 5pm Monday at the Birmingham Ice Sports Arena, one week prior to the meeting.*
 1. 2015 Scheduled Parks and Recreation Board Meeting Dates
- IV. Communications/Discussion Items**
 1. Use of Permanent Soccer Goals
 2. Golf Course Updates
 - a) Golf Course Financials
 - b) Golf Course Report
 - c) Golf Course “Head For The Links Close To Home”-website article
- V. Unfinished Business**
- VI. New Business**
- VII. Open To The Public for Items Not On the Agenda**
- VIII. Next Regular Meeting – Tuesday, November 11, 2014 (DPS)**
- IX. Adjournment**

Individuals requiring accommodations, such as interpreter services, for effective participation in this meeting should contact the City Clerk’s Office at (248) 530-1880 at least on day in advance of the public meeting.

Las personas que requieren alojamiento, tales como servicios de interpretación, la participación efectiva en esta reunión deben ponerse en contacto con la Oficina del Secretario Municipal al (248) 530-1880 por lo menos el día antes de la reunión pública.
(Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964).

*If you cannot attend the meetings, please contact Connie Folk at the Birmingham Ice Arena (248) 530-1642.
Minutes are available for review at the Birmingham Ice Sports Arena, 2300 East Lincoln, Birmingham, MI 48009*

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MISSION STATEMENT

We the Parks & Recreation Board of Birmingham will help other organizations and agencies to plan and share family activities in helping to prevent the desires and need to use alcohol, drugs, and tobacco by providing recreational programs for all ages, and to encourage recreational life styles.

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES

September 9, 2014

Therese Longe, chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. at 851 S. Eton.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pat Bordman, Therese Longe, John Meehan, Ryan Ross, Art Stevens, Bill Wiebrecht and Scott Cusimano, Student Representative

MEMBERS/STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT: Ross Kaplan, Alex Cross, Student Representative

ADMINISTRATION: Lauren Wood, Director of DPS

GUESTS: Larry Bertollini, Bill Duffy, Nancy Duffy, Adam Green, Marshall Lasser and Cindy Rose

It was moved by Art Stevens, seconded by Ryan Ross that the minutes of the August 12, 2014 regular meeting be approved.

Yeas - 6 (Pat Bordman, Therese Longe, John Meehan, Ryan Ross, Art Stevens and Bill Wiebrecht)

Absent-1 (Ross Kaplan)

Nays – 0

COMMUNICATION/DISCUSSION ITEM #1 – Joint meeting with City Commission on Monday, September 15, 2014 at 7:30 pm in the DPS Conference Room (*verbal*)

No action was required by the Parks & Recreation Board.

Therese stated that this evening there will be a discussion on the priority items by the Parks and Recreation Board to present at the joint workshop session with the City Commission on Monday, September 15, 2014.

Therese opened the meeting up for Parks and Recreation Board discussion.

Bill stated that Manor Park is listed in the last few Parks and Recreation Master Plans as a neighborhood park but it should be classified as a community park. Manor Park is considered a Nature Preserve. Bill stated that at Manor Park, the park should be evaluated and consider alternate entrance location to relieve neighborhood impacts and increase usage.

Bill stated that Poppleton Park should be evaluated for additional parking options and alternate entrance to relieve neighborhood impacts and accommodate baseball/soccer users. Bill distributed photos of Poppleton Park showing an aerial of Poppleton Park and other additional photos of Poppleton Park. Bill stated that there are forty-five (45) parking spots.

Bill stated that it should be investigated in the possibility of creating an entrance off of Madison Avenue moving up and creating a counterclockwise cul-de-sac around the tennis courts, so that the traffic flow would be one-way to the eastside of the tennis courts through the existing parking lot and back on the west side. That would enable us to close off Rivenoak, the current entrance to the parking lot the current entrance of Poppleton which is Rivenoak. Bill stated that with the improved entrance and parking would provide up to seventy (75) parking spots.

Therese stated that at St. James Park the baseball fields need to be crowned.

Therese stated the fields that are used for soccer need to have more maintenance, more future sites for soccer uses and conditions of the open space that is used for soccer. Therese stated that Crestview, Adams Park and Barnum the grounds need to be graded, seeded and fertilized.

Therese stated that Adams Park is in need of site improvements with consultation with Roeper School and neighborhood groups.

Therese stated that Linn Smith/Linden Park the Parks and Recreation Board discussed during the site visit using the donor funds in investigating the possibility of a pedestrian bridge, as it has been called out in the Recreation Master Plan.

Therese stated in the Recreation Master Plan there was a discussion of a consideration of Phase 3 corner plaza development. Phase 3 corner plaza development could be discussed with the City of Birmingham Commission.

Therese stated that Kenning Park Master Plan will be discussed at the joint meeting with the City Commission and that should be discussion about the Kenning Park Master Plan.

John stated that improved enforcement of park rules and off leash dogs and dog waste.

Pat stated that there should be a discussion about incorporating a playground area that has equipment that is designed specifically for children that have disabilities and incorporate in that area a surface that elderly can access the park easily. Pat stated that individuals that use walkers, a cane and or a wheelchair are really limited in their ability to use our parks.

Therese stated she wanted to use mechanisms to enhance advertising and marketing efforts for all parks/properties increase awareness.

Scott stated about putting up fencing or screening along Linden Park/Linn Smith Park to create a barrier from the residential housing that backs up to Linden Park/Linn Smith Park.

Marshall Lasser stated that creating a green screening along Linden Park. Marshall stated that adding seating, gardens and a bridge would be a wonderful project. Marshall stated that Linden Park is a beautiful park.

Adam Green stated that he lives directly across from Adams Park. Adam asked the Parks and Recreation Board about any further plans for Adams Park.

Therese stated there is no definite Adams Park Master Plan or allotted funding for Adams Park at this time.

It was moved by John Meehan, seconded by Pat Boardman that it is a consensus that these priority items were discussed this evening and are supported by the Parks and Recreation Board is forward to the City Commission to be discussed at the joint City Commission meeting which will be held on September 15, 2014.

Yeas - 6 (Pat Bordman, Therese Longe, John Meehan, Ryan Ross, Art Stevens and Bill Wiebrecht)

Absent-1 (Ross Kaplan)

Nays – 0

COMMUNICATION/DISCUSSION ITEM #2 – Update on Outstanding Issues from the August 12, 2014 Parks and Recreation Board meeting.

No action was required by the Parks & Recreation Board.

COMMUNICATION/DISCUSSION ITEM #3a – Annual Employee Golf Tournament

The flyer was distributed.

No action was required by the Parks & Recreation Board.

COMMUNICATION/DISCUSSION ITEM #3b – Golf Course Financials

No action was required by the Parks & Recreation Board.

COMMUNICATION/DISCUSSION ITEM #3c – Golf Course Report and review of Resident Memberships

No action was required by the Parks & Recreation Board.

COMMUNICATION/DISCUSSION ITEM #4a – Email received from Ms. Pat Bordman: Definition of “Native Plants”

No action was required by the Parks & Recreation Board.

COMMUNICATION/DISCUSSION ITEM #4b – Email received from Pastor Steve Woodfin: Concerns regarding Kenning Park

No action was required by the Parks & Recreation Board.

COMMUNICATION/DISCUSSION ITEM #4c - Email received from Scott Cusimano: Park Publicity

No action was required by the Parks & Recreation Board.

COMMUNICATION/DISCUSSION ITEM #4d –Email received from Don & Alice Jendritz:

No action was required by the Parks & Recreation Board.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No items presented.

NEW BUSINESS

No items presented.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR ITEMS NO ON THE AGENDA COMMUNICATION/DISCUSSION ITEM:

Larry requested an explanation about permanent soccer nets at various City Parks.

Therese stated that the next meeting will be held on October 7, 2014 at 6:30 pm at DPS.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Connie J. Folk, Recreation Coordinator

***2015 Scheduled
Parks and Recreation Board Meeting Dates***

WILL BE HELD AT THE DPS CONFERENCE ROOM
AT 851 SOUTH ETON
AT 6:30PM

PROPOSED MEETING DATES:

January 6, 2015

February 3, 2015

March 3, 2015

April 14, 2015

Spring Break for Birmingham Schools 4/3/15-4/10/15

May 5, 2015

June 2, 2015

July 14, 2015

August 4, 2015

September 1, 2015

October 13, 2015

November 10, 2015

Election-11/3/15

December 1, 2015

January 5, 2016



MEMORANDUM

Department of Public Services

DATE: October 1, 2014
TO: Parks and Recreation Board
FROM: Connie J. Folk, Recreation Coordinator
SUBJECT: Use of Permanent Soccer Goals

As a follow-up from the question that was asked at the September Parks and Recreation Board meeting as it relates to the use of permanent soccer goals in our City Parks. It has been the City's policy not to allow permanent soccer goals left in our City of Birmingham Parks since the parks are used for multiple activities.

The City of Birmingham does not have a park that has been designated as a soccer field, unlike the parks that have baseball and softball fields which are used for baseball and softball.

Although in the fall Birmingham Unified Soccer has left their nets at Pembroke in the open space passed the outfield and Roeper (Adams) that has one permanent soccer net left in the park.

As field/open space requests are made to the department, the department has always worked with the organization (s) to make sure their requests will not interfere with other requests for a particular sport activity.

CITY OF BIRMINGHAM
GOLF COURSE OPERATING REPORT
FOR THE MONTH ENDED AUGUST 2014

	SPRINGDALE		LINCOLN HILLS		COMBINED		PRIOR YEAR COMBINED	
	CURRENT MONTH	CALENDAR-TO-DATE	CURRENT MONTH	CALENDAR-TO-DATE	CURRENT MONTH	CALENDAR-TO-DATE	CURRENT MONTH	CALENDAR-TO-DATE
<u>REVENUES</u>								
FOOD & BEVERAGE SALE	5,974	25,435	6,734	35,889	12,708	61,324	14,723	61,991
MERCHANDISE SALES	910	5,912	1,821	11,465	2,731	17,377	4,418	18,140
WEEK DAY GREENS FEES	28,821	123,456	34,400	154,779	63,222	278,236	75,842	307,279
WEEKEND & HOLIDAY GREENS	17,144	75,556	21,288	94,980	38,431	170,536	29,798	156,535
CART RENTALS	847	3,555	783	3,638	1,630	7,194	1,567	6,814
TOURNAMENT ENTRY FEES	800	2,598	457	2,577	1,257	5,175	1,997	5,528
CLASSES	-	-	1,235	90,207	1,235	90,207	3,410	91,583
GOLF CART RENTALS	13,768	55,874	16,447	64,067	30,215	119,942	31,413	123,504
BUSINESS MEMBERSHIP	-	4,440	100	5,700	100	10,140	100	9,875
NON-RESIDENT MEMBERSHIPS	500	38,380	615	77,715	1,115	116,095	950	108,166
UNLIMITED GOLF PASS	-	-	-	4,600	-	4,600	-	7,420
PACKAGE CLUB PASS	-	435	-	145	-	580	290	2,140
GOLF HANDICAP FEE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
INVESTMENT INCOME	-	-	797	11,878	797	11,878	759	(4,686)
LEASE PAYMENTS	800	6,400	1,044	8,241	1,844	14,641	1,814	14,298
SUNDRY & MISCELLANEOUS	-	74	27	308	27	382	6	368
CASH OVERAGE/(SHORTAGE)	(1)	8	(0)	2	(1)	11	-	4
TOTAL REVENUES	69,565	342,125	85,747	566,192	155,312	908,317	167,087	908,959
<u>EXPENSES</u>								
<u>FINANCE</u>								
ADMINISTRATION COST	1,655	11,905	1,655	11,905	3,310	23,810	2,865	22,290
AUDIT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SUB-TOTAL FINANCE	1,655	11,905	1,655	11,905	3,310	23,810	2,865	22,290
<u>MAINTENANCE</u>								
SALARIES & WAGES DIRECT	4,069	25,072	6,481	32,074	10,551	57,145	22,248	107,926
OVERTIME PAY	-	86	-	82	-	168	2,144	19,635
LONGEVITY	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	68
FICA	307	2,448	492	2,982	799	5,430	1,862	9,741
HOSPITALIZATION	103	3,032	103	2,946	205	5,979	1,808	13,337
LIFE	15	101	15	99	30	200	32	265
RETIRE CONTRIB HEALTH	227	4,211	227	4,109	454	8,320	3,473	21,701
DENTAL/OPTICAL	53	453	53	448	106	901	180	1,357
LT/ST DISABILITY	22	188	22	185	44	373	74	563
WORKER'S COMPENSATION	50	406	77	486	127	892	281	1,503
SICK LEAVE PAYOUT	-	(226)	-	(226)	-	(452)	-	-
RETIREMENT EMPLOYER CNTRB	158	126	158	58	315	184	2,343	15,402
HRA BENEFIT	-	510	-	510	-	1,020	-	1,020

CITY OF BIRMINGHAM
GOLF COURSE OPERATING REPORT
FOR THE MONTH ENDED AUGUST 2014

	SPRINGDALE		LINCOLN HILLS		COMBINED		PRIOR YEAR COMBINED	
	CURRENT MONTH	CALENDAR-TO-DATE	CURRENT MONTH	CALENDAR-TO-DATE	CURRENT MONTH	CALENDAR-TO-DATE	CURRENT MONTH	CALENDAR-TO-DATE
RETIREMNT-DEF CONTR EMPLR	100	363	100	366	200	729	6	77
RET HLTH SVGS CONTR EMPLR	60	295	60	288	121	583	36	256
OPERATING SUPPLIES	2,847	21,610	2,649	23,791	5,497	45,402	11,470	68,722
OTHER CONTRACTUAL SERVICE	188	1,294	170	3,872	358	5,166	-	1,512
TELEPHONE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ELECTRIC UTILITY	253	1,471	1,589	6,330	1,843	7,801	402	9,415
GAS UTILITY	20	1,064	16	817	36	1,881	32	1,999
WATER UTILITY	-	-	-	32	-	32	-	85
TRAINING	-	50	-	50	-	100	-	440
PRINTING & PUBLISHING	-	54	-	54	-	109	-	620
EQUIPMENT RENTAL OR LEASE	1,250	10,597	1,583	13,615	2,833	24,212	2,863	5,875
SUB-TOTAL MAINTENANCE	9,722	73,206	13,796	92,969	23,519	166,175	49,254	281,519
<u>CLUBHOUSE</u>								
SALARIES & WAGES DIRECT	18,644	76,285	15,221	90,529	33,865	166,814	27,458	150,155
OVERTIME PAY	-	939	229	707	229	1,646	2,221	8,252
LONGEVITY	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	68
FICA	1,426	5,901	1,181	6,972	2,607	12,873	2,268	12,098
HOSPITALIZATION	43	591	43	592	85	1,184	413	3,943
LIFE	2	33	2	33	4	67	8	79
RETIRE CONTRIB HEALTH	150	1,230	150	1,237	300	2,466	729	5,692
DENTAL/OPTICAL	7	114	7	114	14	228	38	413
LT/ST DISABILITY	3	46	3	46	5	92	15	166
WORKER'S COMPENSATION	216	905	179	1,068	395	1,973	335	1,855
SICK TIME PAYOUT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
RETIREMENT EMPLOYER CNTRB	140	(1,883)	140	(1,878)	280	(3,761)	504	4,157
HRA BENEFIT	-	20	-	20	-	40	-	40
RETIREMNT-DEF CONTR EMPLR	-	98	-	98	-	195	-	26
RET HLTH SVGS CONTR EMPLR	4	98	4	99	8	197	21	248
OPERATING SUPPLIES	468	4,852	2,872	11,370	3,340	16,222	4,738	13,747
FOOD & BEVERAGE	1,693	9,159	2,012	12,931	3,705	22,090	4,804	21,471
BEER AND WINE	1,155	4,284	684	4,615	1,840	8,899	1,834	7,583
MERCHANDISE	461	3,982	899	9,926	1,360	13,908	2,498	15,420
INSTRUCTORS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
OTHER CONTRACTUAL SERVICE	1,244	6,962	1,593	7,265	2,837	14,227	130	13,917
TELEPHONE	64	559	77	506	141	1,064	103	976
CONTRACTUAL ALARM	79	630	130	1,025	209	1,655	323	2,598
ELECTRIC UTILITY	560	2,869	-	-	560	2,869	697	3,795
GAS UTILITY	48	1,387	22	231	69	1,618	53	1,541
WATER UTILITY	-	632	-	237	-	869	-	1,857
PRINTING & PUBLISHING	-	1,068	-	1,242	-	2,309	-	1,158

CITY OF BIRMINGHAM
GOLF COURSE OPERATING REPORT
FOR THE MONTH ENDED AUGUST 2014

	SPRINGDALE		LINCOLN HILLS		COMBINED		PRIOR YEAR COMBINED	
	CURRENT MONTH	CALENDAR-TO-DATE	CURRENT MONTH	CALENDAR-TO-DATE	CURRENT MONTH	CALENDAR-TO-DATE	CURRENT MONTH	CALENDAR-TO-DATE
MARKETING AND ADVERTISING	-	908	-	908	-	1,815	-	3,830
DEPRECIATION	4,167	32,333	4,167	38,967	8,333	71,300	8,417	66,334
EQUIPMENT RENTAL OR LEASE	2,188	13,125	2,188	13,524	4,375	26,649	4,165	27,935
LIAB INSURANCE PREMIUMS	1,350	19,512	1,350	19,512	2,700	39,024	1,893	27,042
LIQUOR LICENSE	-	1,253	-	1,253	-	2,505	-	2,505
SUB-TOTAL CLUBHOUSE	34,112	187,891	33,152	223,147	67,264	411,038	63,665	398,901
TOTAL EXPENSES	45,489	273,002	48,604	328,021	94,093	601,022	115,784	702,710
NET PROFIT (LOSS)	24,075	69,123	37,143	238,171	61,219	307,294	51,303	206,249
NET OPERATING PROFIT (LOSS) (EXCLUDING DEPRECIATION AND TRANSFERS)						378,595		272,583

GOLF REPORT
As of September 30, 2014

September faired to be a pretty good month, but we were down 353 rounds compared to September 2013. We did aerify the greens at Springdale on Sept 24th and rounds were a little sluggish during this period. Overall, we are running a deficit of 2,963 rounds for this Calendar Year, or 6% decrease and we are “in the “black”, as you will note in our August Financial Report.

History of Rounds - Calendar Years 2011 - 2014

MONTH	2011			2012			2013			2014		
	Lincoln	Springdale	Total	Lincoln	Springdale	Total	Lincoln	Springdale	Total	Lincoln	Springdale	Total
January	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
February	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
March	181	0	181	405	1,572	1,977	0	292	292	0	0	0
April	1,527	720	2,247	2,420	2,591	5,011	1,573	2,260	3,833	3,705	652	4,357
May	2,725	2,512	5,237	4,433	4,129	8,562	4,314	3,797	8,111	4,256	3,493	7,749
June	4,148	3,994	8,142	5,206	4,522	9,728	5,774	4,406	10,180	4,495	4,216	8,711
July	4,177	4,258	8,435	4,707	4,651	9,358	5,098	4,286	9,384	5,173	4,630	9,803
August	4,289	4,491	8,780	4,128	4,449	8,577	5,195	4,695	9,890	4,376	4,084	8,460
September	1,925	2,366	4,291	3,145	3,071	6,216	3,019	3,154	6,173	3,074	2,746	5,820
October	1,932	1,327	3,259	796	2,495	3,291	2,795	1,779	4,574			0
November	1,021	0	1,021	0	1,104	1,104	576	0	576			0
December	0	0	0	0	412	412	53	0	53			0
TOTALS	21,925	19,668	41,593	25,240	28,996	54,236	28,397	24,669	53,066	25,079	19,821	44,900

2014 Membership Analysis through September 30, 2014

MEMBERSHIPS	YTD 2014		CY 2013		CY 2012		CY 2011	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Business	102	13.44%	99	13.20%	101	13.56%	84	14.81%
Non-Resident - Individual	406	53.49%	401	53.47%	398	53.42%	343	60.49%
Non-Resident - Dual	174	22.92%	185	24.67%	186	24.97%	111	19.58%
Non-Resident - Family	77	10.14%	65	8.67%	60	8.05%	29	5.11%
Total	759	100.00%	750	100.00%	745	100.00%	567	100.00%

RESIDENT MEMBERSHIPS	YTD 2014		CY 2013		CY 2012		CY 2011	
	#		#		#		#	
Resident	1,732		2,007		1,843		1,244	

2014 and 2013 Revenues Comparison through CY September 30, 2014

REVENUES	SALES CY - Sept 30, 2014	SALES CY -Sept 30, 2013	DIFFERENCE
Greens Fee	\$524,957	\$543,502	-\$18,545
Cart Fee	\$149,749	\$152,341	-\$2,592
Food & Beverage	\$41,007	\$43,298	-\$2,291
Beer	\$28,139	\$27,619	\$520
Wine	\$1,552	\$1,297	\$255



Communication/Discussion Item #2c



Uncategorized September 26, 2014 - No comments

0 (0 votes)

HEAD FOR THE LINKS CLOSE TO HOME

Sometimes it's hard to squeeze a quick nine holes of golf into today's busy schedules. But two Birmingham municipal golf courses — Springdale and Lincoln Hills — make it easy. Both nine-hole courses are close to home, fun and affordable for residents and their friends. For an annual \$150 membership fee, golfers from nearby communities such as the Bloomfields, Beverly Hills and Franklin may play the courses as well.

"I could pretty much get a tee-time whenever I wanted," says Michael Earl, a longtime Birmingham resident who played Springdale regularly for more than five years before retiring last month as CEO of Oakland Family Services and moving to Traverse City. "I could hop in the car and be there in five minutes. It's convenient, accessible and challenging for the average golfer."

Springdale's up north feel

Tucked into a quiet, wooded neighborhood with an adjoining park, playground and picnic pavilion, Springdale is narrow and tree-lined, a picturesque par-34 course that measures 2,732 yards from the back tees and 2,196 yards from the forward tees. It's at 316 Strathmore Road, north of W. Big Beaver and west of Kensington roads.

"You feel like you're up north when you play Springdale," says John Pierce, assistant manager of the course. "It's like a hidden secret — you wouldn't know 16 Mile and Woodward are on the other side."

Perhaps the most memorable hole is No. 3, a par-5 dogleg that goes over the water and up a hill to an elevated green. "That's a challenging hole," says Earl, who also enjoys Springdale's ninth hole, a long par-4 that tees off atop a hill and, depending on the wind, can play like a par-5.

Springdale tests a golfer's short game and demands accuracy, according to Pierce.

Lincoln Hills - a mini country club

Hillier Lincoln Hills is longer and more open, a rolling par-35 course that stretches 3,023 yards from the blue tees and 2,226 from the red. It's located in southwest Birmingham at 2666 W. 14 Mile, west of Cranbrook Road.

EVENTS CALENDAR

« OCTOBER 2014 »						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

FEATURED POSTS



Event Photos September 26, 2014

Woodward Dream Cruise 2014, Birmingham

POPULAR CATEGORIES

- Event Photos (13)
- Uncategorized (8)
- People Profiles (4)

STAY CONNECTED

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DCC Events

and 2,350 from the red. It is located in southwest Birmingham at 2000 W. 14 Mile, west of Cranbrook Road.

"It's like a mini Birmingham Country Club," says Mark Taggart, Lincoln Hills' assistant manager. "When that course is busy, golfers love to come here and play. We've got great greens and lush fairways."

Afterward, golfers may grab a beverage and burger, Greek salad or sandwich, including the "piled-high" club, at the Lincoln Hills Grill. "It's very relaxing after a round to sit out on the patio," says Jacky Brito, PGA, general manager of both Birmingham municipal golf courses. "We also have an excellent staff to take care of players' whims."

That makes Lincoln Hills a great place for small business group meetings and outings, according to Brito. Both courses also alternately host the popular "Nine & Dine Couples Night" on many Fridays, summer and fall.

With PGA Teaching Professional Matt Pesta on staff, Lincoln Hills offers youth and adult lessons, a well-regarded Junior Golf program, a golf education center, handicapping service and league play, plus electric golf car and pull-cart rentals and rental clubs. Springdale offers power carts, pull carts, league play and snacks.

Tee-times

Tee-times may be made seven days in advance online, www.golfbirmingham.org, or by calling 248-530-1660, Springdale; or 248-530-1670, Lincoln Hills.

Both courses are membership-based. To join, Birmingham residents (plus property owners) must buy the city's "Membership card" — \$15 for the first year, \$10 for a renewal, Brito says.

Weekday nine-hole greens fees (walking) are \$14.50 for adults and \$9.50 for juniors 17 and under and seniors 55 and up. Rates are an additional \$1 on weekends. Power carts are \$8 and pull-carts, \$2.50. Nonresidents who buy a \$150 annual Membership Pass also qualify for these rates. The courses are open to the public early and late in the golf season. Rounds generally take about two hours. NS

Other popular area public golf courses

Bay Pointe Golf Club, West Bloomfield Township: Golfers enjoy views of boaters, kayakers and water-skiers on Middle Straits Lake while teeing up on this par-71 course that measures 6,231 from the gold tees and 4,906 from silver. baypointegolfcourse.com; 248-360-0603.

Fieldstone Golf Club, Auburn Hills: One of Oakland County's top public courses, this par-72 Arthur Hills design served for 10 years as a qualifier for the Buick Open. It stretches 7,002 yards from the tips. fieldstonegolfclub.com; 248-370-9354.

Shenandoah Country Club, West Bloomfield: Known for rolling terrain, manicured fairways and large greens, this par-72 Jerry Matthews design stretches 6,493 yards from the back tees. shenandoahcc.net; 248-683-6363.

Sylvan Glen Golf Course,

Troy: This 18-hole course features 6,566 yards of golf from the longest tees for a par of 70. The course rating is 71.3 and it has a slope rating of 115. golftroy.com/sylvan-glen; 248-619-7600.



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