

IMPERIAL GOLF ESTATES E-MAIL NEWSLETTER

THE THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2020 BOARD MEETING AT SANDCASTLE HAS BEEN CANCELLED. YOUR BOARD IS TAKING THIS ACTION IN RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 CORONIA VIRUS.

February & March 2020

COVID-19 CORONA VIRUS CONCERNS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

Charlie Litow

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Vice President

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Treasurer

Pat McCabe

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Tom Harruff

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Jim Wilson

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Superintendent

Mark Thieme

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Your Board has cancelled the scheduled March 26, 2020 Board meeting due to the Covid-19 Corona Virus. Recommendations from many public health offices suggested that meetings of large groups of people be postponed or cancelled. Your Board prefers to take the more cautious approach and is cancelling our meeting. The Board will keep you notified of any significant issue via email and by using our website. The website will be updated daily with all new HOA news pertinent to our community.

ENTRADA (BACK GATE) VIOLATIONS

Your HOA owns the back gate, (Entrada Gate). The gate is now monitored with fully functional recording cameras. We now have recordings of several violations at the back gate. In reviewing the videos, we have observed young adults littering and climbing over the walkway door at the back entrance. Videos of these happenings are posted on our website. If you review the video and know the young adults involved, please let Sandcastle know. We want to assist the families involved to get the required devices to open the walkway door; eliminating the need for anyone to climb over the gate. We will continue to post any Entrada back gate violation videos on our website hoping to identify the offending vehicles and individuals. The videos will be removed once the people are identified.

We also have recent recordings of cars going side by side through the gates when only one car should be going through each time. These are violations for the person who was issued the gate pass for their vehicle, and for the owners of non-registered vehicles using the back gate without a sticker. We also have videos of cars following the car in front of them quickly through the gate arms before they close. These violations are all subject to Board review in accordance with our rules.

Please remember violations of the Entrada gate rules can result in the offender losing all back gate privileges, forcing them to use the front gate of Highway 41 at all times. The amount of time a vehicle will be forced to use the front gate increases with each violation.

Residents are also requested to remind their guests they cannot use the back gate. If your guest is recorded violating the back gate, that person or vehicle can be banned from the entire complex, and also refused access through the front gate. Fines can also be assessed.

MEET YOUR BOARD

We are starting a new segment in the Newsletter for the next few months. We will be introducing you to your Board of Directors, your superintendent, and your committee members. Each month will feature a different community member. Please remember your Board members and committee members are all volunteers. They donate their time and efforts for all of us.

Your current Board President is Charles “Charlie” Litow. This is his second year as the HOA President. He was unanimously elected to be our President by his peers on the Board.



Charlie and his puppy

Charlie grew up in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He is loyal to a fault to the Packers, Brewers, Bucks and Badgers. He moved to Imperial in 2013. He spends his summers in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Charlie has been married for 31 years to Kathy and they have one son; Curtis, who lives in Brooklyn, NY. Charlie graduated from Coe College with a B.A. degree and received his J.D. degree from Creighton University School of Law.

Charlie practiced law in Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska and California. He practiced exclusively in collections. He has two brothers. One lives in Naples and the other in Milwaukee. His sister is deceased. When Charlie is not being presidential or spending time with Kathy, he is either playing golf or entertaining his Labrador puppy.

WEBSITE ADDRESS CHANGE

Your HOA has acquired the Internet domain address of www.ImperialGolfEstates.info and ImperialGolfEstates.org. We will be transitioning our website information to one of these new web addresses. The old web address of IGENaples.info/Index.htm will continue to be available, and will automatically transfer you to the new Internet address after the changeover. We do not have an exact date for when this will be completed, but it will happen sooner than later. We will keep everyone informed.

We are making the change simply because we believe the new Internet address is easier to remember and is a better description of our community.

LANDSCAPING

All homeowners are reminded that major landscaping requires Architectural Review Board Approval. The process is easy and you can file the request through our website. Please do not undertake major landscaping without ARB approval. If you are not sure what is allowed, please go to our website and click on the link for “Documents” and then click on the link for “APC Guidelines.” This document outlines our rules and standards for landscaping.



HOA COMMITTEES

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW

Gale Schwartz - Chair

BEAUTIFICATION

Deb Frost - Chair

ENTRADA BACK GATE

Jim Wilson - Chair

GREATER IMPERIAL BOARD

REPRESENTATIVE

Tom Harruff

INFRASTRUCTURE

Tom Harruff – Co Chair
John Mickelson – Co Chair

LAKES

John Mickelson – Co-Chair
Gale Schwartz – Co-Chair

NEWSLETTER

John Mickelson - Chair

VIOLATIONS

Charlie Litow – Chair

WEB MASTER LIAISON

Charlie Litow & John Mickelson

HOA SUPERINTENDANT

Mark Thieme

HOA WEB PAGE

Web Master – Mike Shields
www.igenaples.info/index

UPCOMING EVENTS

HOA First Quarter Fees - Due January First Of Every Year

HOA Second Quarter Fees - Due April First Of Every Year

HOA Third Quarter Fees - Due July First Of Every Year

HOA Fourth Quarter Fees - Due October First Of Every Year

HOA Board Meetings (6:00 PM) **April 23, 2020**
at Sandcastle Office **May 21, 2020**
9150 Galleria Ct #201, **June 25, 2020**
Naples, FL 34109

IMPERIAL GOLF ESTATES
HOME SALES

As of February 29, 2020

23 Houses Active For sale
2 Pending With Contingency
3 Pending
8 Closed Sales 2020
\$539,101 Average selling price

Average selling price per square foot - \$212.05



February 2020 Superintendent's Report By Mark Thieme

Drainage:

There was a major underground pipe failure and leak near 1966 IGCB. We took bids and awarded the contract to a local vendor; work commenced February 5th and was completed on the 18th. (Fertilizing still to come).

Imperial Well rust: Application for modification to General Irrigation Water Use Permit:

Our vendor is currently working on permitting. We were told this could take months to go through. The next step after completion of this phase of the project we will be to convert over to the new well; then we can discuss restoration of the 4 way intersection and Regal Park.

Entrada Gate House:

There were numerous incidents of littering, gate hopping, and vehicles not following the Entrada gate rules. Parents are reminded they can get back gate key fobs for all the children in your house. It is also hoped we can all please refrain from throwing litter anywhere in our community.

Pine Bark Beetles:

The association has taken down over 60 pine trees since hurricane IRMA. According to University of Florida Doug Caldwell, *"The dying slash pines are not an insect caused problem. For this reason, we do not recommend pesticide applications. Even if you had the perfect remedy to eliminate the beetles, the trees are still going to die."* *These beetles colonize (not attack!) dying and dead pines. Many stands of pines have sharply declined since hurricane winds whipped them around. Externally, they may look okay, but internally there may be internal injuries called "shakes", a separation of vital plant tissues that eventually cause the tree to die."*

In research from other Florida websites stating that the insects only go to unhealthy or injured trees they suggest fertilizing approximately every 4 years with 10-10-10. According to one count we have just under 700 association pine trees. We hope to have 3 different proposals for the Board to consider in the near future.

Fence:

We are finally able to get back to fence repair. We have 3 proposals, but this still requires some action from the association to resolve issues fence companies do not cover. There were some homeowner actions that contributed to the problems with the existing fence before Irma. Downed Ficus tree stumps, houses with vines attached to the fencing or green privacy mesh, contributed to the damage. We had a fence repair project several years back, cutting back plantings and repairing fencing. Our fencing vendor had previously informed us that allowing anything to grow on a fence, or attaching anything to the fence, would not be covered in future repairs.

GIB Report IGEHOA Board Meeting 2-27-20 By Tom Harruff.

The GIB Property Manager has provided each member association and the Golf Club with two listings. The first listing is of all their members who do not have a telephone number in the Gate Access Data base. Therefore, the Access control Officer cannot call the member to verify access to a visitor at the gate.

The second listing includes all members who have not submitted a Gate Access Information Sheet to provide the gate device serial numbers to rebuild the data base. Each association was to send notifications to those members on each listing to submit the missing information. (Note: Beverly was to send letters to all of IGEHOA residents on both lists.) After April 1st the GIB plans to strictly enforce access through the resident's gate to only those residents and renters that have gate passes in the data base.

The GIB wants to get proposals for studies of the design and costs to widen the south side of the access road to include a bike lane. The engineering study could cost about \$45,000 and one estimate for widening the road to include a bike path is estimated at approximately \$250,000 or about \$130 to \$135 per residence.

New flowers will be planted in the window boxes before Easter.

The GIB was to change their gate house phone system from Century Link to Comcast to improve reliability and reduce down time.

The GIB Treasurer did not present a report due to invalid financials received from Sandcastle. The GIB will be proposing a new slate of officer with some carry overs.

COMCAST UPDATE – ONGOING NOTICE

The Board recently received information from Comcast that indicates that almost 200 homeowners in IGEHOA have not contacted Comcast to be hooked up to the new fiber optic cable to their home, known as Fiber to the Home or FTTH. The free hook up period continues until August 1, 2020. After that homeowners will be charged by Comcast for FTTH hook ups.

Currently Comcast is running the old coaxial cable hook up to these homes but sometime after August 1st they will take down the coaxial cable network and if your residence has not been hooked up to the new fiber network you will lose both cable TV and Internet services. See the information below on how to contact Comcast to hook up your home to the new fiber optic cable network for free until August 1, 2020.

The notice below was in last month's Newsletter and will remain in all future Newsletters until August 1, 2020. After this date, Comcast will no longer connect a home to the fiber optic system free of charge. We will continue to include this information in our Newsletter until the free

installation time frame has expired. Comcast will eventually stop supporting the existing older system. If you do not switch over before August 1, 2020, you will incur fees when you transfer to the new service, and you will lose all cable and internet if you do not switch as Comcast will eventually stop supporting the old service.

We are including this notice because we want to ensure everyone gets the chance to connect to the new fiber optic system in a timely fashion while it is still free of charge. If you wait until after August 1, 2020 to get your home connected to the fiber optic system, Comcast will charge a fee for the connection. Please take advantage of getting the system connected to your home while the connection service is free.

The current coaxial cable line to your home (legacy system) will continue to be operated for now, but it will eventually be discontinued. The Comcast phone number to call to get the fiber optic connected is 800-934-6489. **TO VIEW THE LIST OF PROPERTIES HOOKED UP TO FIBER, PLEASE GO TO OUR SECURE WEBSITE. THIS LIST WILL ONLY BE UPDATED IF COMCAST GIVES US A MORE CURRENT LIST.**



SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

The school district is building a new school to our West. It will be adjacent to portions of our complex. The project will include the continuation of Veteran's Memorial Parkway along our North border. These projects will result in changes to the water management systems for what is currently open space. This will impact our community with water drainage issues, increased traffic to our North, and possible noise problems. The current site plan has the athletic stadium for the new school to the South side of the project and near our community. It is unknown if this will cause some noise issues for us during sporting events, but we just do not know the exact noise impact we will experience at this time. Noise issues are a concern and your Board will work with the new committee to ensure, to the best of our ability, that Imperial Golf Estates is not negatively impacted by this development project. If you have any desire to join the new committee, please contact Sandcastle and give them your name.

SEALCOATING

The issue of sealcoating our roads has come up several times recently. Some believe sealcoating is absolutely worthless, while others see it as necessary road maintenance to prevent the major expenses associated with replacing roads. The Board has made NO DECISION about sealcoating; but continues to study options. We will have a presentation at a future Board meeting about sealcoating alternatives. We will ensure residents are notified when this presentation takes place.

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE UPDATE

The committee is looking at all aspects of the common areas and how they can be made better. Any homeowner with suggestions can email the committee chair Deb Frost, and she will present those suggestions to the committee.

We are looking at ways to improve the look of the 4 way stop and the fenced lift station on the southwest corner of the intersection. Also, the committee discussed the landscaping in the various parks, the iron staining currently at several parks, and the possibility of modernizing the wingwall. One consensus was if homeowners would add a canopy tree in their front yards, (if none currently), the overall aesthetics of the neighborhood would improve. Buyers love mature landscaping and the shade added to the sidewalk areas would be an added plus.

ANIMAL IN SEWER DRAIN INCIDENT

A dog fell in a sewer drain within our community in early March. The neighborhood rallied and got the metal cover off. They were then able to lower the owner of the dog, head first, into the pipe until he got the dog. This could have been much worse had it been a small child.

We can be diligent in watching pets and children, but it only takes a second for an accident to happen. This particular dog is older and blind, and got away from the owner and he slid right into the drain. The story has a happy ending but it could have been ended poorly. Your Board will be discussing this issue to see what can be done to prevent this from ever happening again.



COMMITTEES

Your homeowners association has a number of residents who have volunteered to help the Board by serving on committees. These committees are essential for the Board to get input from our membership, and to add our resident's expertise to this community. We want to thank those people who have stepped forward to serve others. We have the present following committees and membership:

Lakes Committee:

Board Chairs – John Mickelson and Gale Schwartz
 Caitlin Fortier – Representing Empress Lake residents
 Jerry Lowe – Representing Zach's Lake residents
 Ryan Wehrdt – Representing Bismark Lake residents
 Mark Thieme – IGE Superintendent

Infrastructure Committee:

Board Chairs – Tom Harruff & John Mickelson
 Jim Wilson – Member
 Dan Castaldini - Member
 Mark Thieme – IGE Superintendent

Maintenance/Beautification Committee:

Board Chair – Deb Frost
 Judith Perkins – Member
 Stephanie Hardy – Member
 Georgia McDowell – Member

Violations Committee:

Board Chair – Charlie Litow

If anyone has an interest in serving on a committee, please contact Sandcastle and let us know what committee you are interested in serving on.

Other Board Assignments are as follows:

GIB Board Representative	Tom Harruff
Entrada Gate Chair	Jim Wilson
Architectural Review Board Chair	Gale Schwartz
Comcast Representative	Tom Harruff
Newsletter Production	John Mickelson
Website Maintenance	Charlie Litow & John Mickelson

Your Board will be starting a new committee to review the aspects of a new high school being built to our North, and to the extension of the Veterans Memorial Boulevard going to the West. We need a group of our membership to review how these events will impact our community with noise, traffic, and other unknown consequences. If you have any desire to serve on this committee, please contact Sandcastle to volunteer.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS TO KEEP HANDY

Sheriff's Office Non-Emergency Number	239-252-9300
Domestic Animal Control	239-252-7387
Humane Society Animal Shelter	239-643-1555
Garbage/Waste Pick Up	239-252-2508
Solid Waste Management	239-252-2508
Code Enforcement	239-252-2440
Comcast	800-934-6489
Naples Daily News Circulation Dept.	239-263-4839
Sandcastle Community Management	239-596-7200

