"PROPOSED ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY PLAN FOR GOLF COURSES IN THE PROVINCE OF CAVITE"

De La Salle University - Dasmariñas

Dasmariñas City, Cavite

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ABSTRACT

Title: "PROPOSED ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

FOR GOLF COURSE IN THE PROVINCE OF CAVITE"

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Purpose of the study

This study focused specially on Cavite, by assessing the environmental sustainability of selected golf courses in Cavite. As an output, the researchers developed an environmental sustainability plan for golf courses in the province of Cavite. In addition, the researchers are aimed improve the present status of golf courses in Cavite in order to boost the tourism and economy of Cavite.

Methodology

The researchers used quantitative research method. Anderson (2006) simply described quantitative research method as a tool in getting information which is generated by numbers, objective hard data. For this study, quantitative approach was used where questionnaires were chosen as the tool for collecting data, and the result was presented numerically. This is a descriptive research since it described the environmental sustainability of selected golf courses, the relationship between the demographic profile of the respondents and their assessment on the sustainability of golf courses in Cavite and the difference between on the assessment among golf courses in Cavite in terms of their environmental practices.

Summary of Findings

1. Profile of the respondents in terms of:

a. Age

As the age distribution, 30 percent of the respondents were aged 21 years old and below, 24 percent were 22-27 years old, 23 percent were 28-33 years old, 16 percent were 34- 39 years old and only 7 percent were 40 years old and above, showing that there are only few 40 year old and above respondents assessed the golf courses. The data from the result of the survey implies that majority of respondents 'maturity of assessment of the sustainability of golf course.

b. Gender

As the gender distribution, it revealed that there were 63 percent of male and 37 percent of female took the assessment of golf courses in Cavite. Based on the figure, the dominated gender among the respondents were male. This shows that there were mostly male employees in golf courses who took the assessment. The figure implies that the majority of the overall assessment of golf courses was of male perception.

c. Educational attainment

As the educational attainment, there were 2 percent of the employees, whom educational attainment was primary level, 18 percent were of secondary level, 27 percent were of 2-year College, 48 percent finished until 4 year college and last but not least 5 percent were had master's/Doctoral degree. The data from the result of the survey implies level of knowledge of the respondents on the assessment of the sustainability of golf courses based on the educational attainment.

d. Position

As the position distribution, it revealed that 6 percent were line managers, 27 percent were line employees, 7 percent staff managers and 60 percent were staff employees who took the assessment of golf courses in Cavite. The figure shows the expertise of the respondents on the assessment the sustainability of golf courses based on their position.

e. Length of service

As the length of service, it revealed that there were 10 percent of the respondents were working for 1 year and below, 13 percent were in service for 2 to 4 years, 21 percent were in service of 5 to 7 years, 26 percent were in service for 8 to 9 years and 10 percent were on service for 10 years and above. The figure shows the reliability of their assessment on the sustainability of golf courses based on how long they had been working and experience in the golf courses to witness the practices.

2. Assessment of the respondents on the sustainability of golf courses in Cavite based on:

a. Planning and Compliance

One of the environmental compatibility categories, planning and compliance has 9 indicators. All of the indicators for planning and compliance of golf courses were assessed to have been very frequently happening at the golf courses. The overall assessment of the frequency of the indicators was rated high with 4.61 composite mean with a verbal interpretation of very frequently.

b. Operations and Maintenance

The operations and maintenance of golf courses has 9 indicators. 5 indicators were assessed to have been very frequently happening at the golf courses, while 4 of the indicators were assessed only frequently. However, the frequency of the indicators for operations and maintenance was rated high with 4.51 composite mean with a verbal interpretation of very frequently.

c. Water resource management

The water resource management of golf courses has 13 indicators. All of the indicators were assessed to have been frequently happening at the golf courses. The overall assessment of the frequency of the indicators was rated 3.91 composite mean with a verbal interpretation of frequently.

d. Conservation

The conservation of golf courses has 8 indicators. All of the indicators were assessed to have been very frequently happening at the golf courses. The overall assessment of the frequency of the indicators was rated high with 4.70 composite mean with a verbal interpretation of very frequently.

e. Pesticide and Pollution Prevention

The pesticide and pollution prevention has 15 indicators. All of the indicators were assessed to have been very frequently happening at the golf courses. The overall assessment of the frequency of the indicators was rated high with 4.72 composite mean with a verbal interpretation of very frequently.

2.1 Ranking

Pesticide and pollution prevention got the highest compliance from golf courses which ranked the highest that corresponds to 4.84 weighted mean, followed by conservation 4.84, planning and compliance 4.61, operations and maintenance 4.51, and water resource management, which despite getting the lowest rank, still got a

reasonable 3.91 weighted mean. According to Norman (2012) problems with water will be around for a lot more years, and these problems will only get worse year by year. This shows how water resource management problem, being the most crucial part of a golf course, is very difficult mend completely.

3. Significant relationship between the demographic profile of respondents and their assessment on the sustainability of golf courses in Cavite.

The researchers observed that there was consistency in gender of respondents that had significant relationship on the assessment of golf course. This proved the theory of Harris (2006) with regards to gender differences in observations and assessment. There was as well a significant relationship of all of the demographic profile with their assessment on the operations and maintenance of golf courses. Overall, the majority of the demographic profile did not affect their assessment on the sustainability of golf courses. In conclusion, H_{01} was rejected.

4. Significant difference among the golf courses in Cavite in terms of their environmental compliance.

The result showed that all the p-values of the results of the assessment of the environmental compatibility categories of golf courses are lower than .05 level of significance. Therefore, computed values are found to be significant. This could also mean that the selected golf courses in Cavite differ on their assessment on the sustainability of golf courses in terms of planning and compliance, operations and

maintenance, water resource management, conservation and pesticides and pollution prevention.

Conclusion

Based from the result of the study, the researchers conclude that the majority of the respondents from the selected golf courses in Cavite namely: Eagle Ridge Golf and Country Club and Orchard Golf and Country Club were female and aged 21 years old and below. With regards to their educational attainment, most respondents finished a 2-year course in college while the least number of percentages goes to those who finished primary level. For the classification of the respondents, 88 percent were employees and 12 percent were golfers. It also shows that most employees/golfers had been a member or worked in the organization for 5 to 7 years.

Recommendation

In line with the conclusion, the researchers would like to recommend the following:

- Proper maintenance of planning and compliance of the selected golf courses in Cavite and improve their water resource management which was rated the lowest on the assessment.
- 2. Improve water resource management by installing new technologies or using safe alternatives.
- 3. Promote water conservation, preserve or improve water quality and protect water resources.



- 4. Perform a feasibility study that analyzes the courses' water supply sources.
- 5. Evaluate all potential sources or water in the course with respect to supply capability, economic viability, engineering considerations, and environmental impacts.
- 6. Explore potential water sources like streams, rainfall, rivers, ponds etc.



Table of Contents

Title Page	i
Approval Sheet	ii
Certification	iii
Acknowledgement	iv
Dedication	vi
Thesis Abstract	vii
List of Tables	xvii
CHAPTER I	
Introduction	1
Background of the Study	6
Statement of the Problem	8
Significance of the Study	10
Scope and Limitation of the Study	12
Definition of Terms	13
CHAPTER II	
Literature Review	16
Synthesis	25
Conceptual Framework	29
CHAPTER II	
Research Design	30
Participants of the Study	30
Instrumentation	33
Data-Gathering Procedures	34
Data Treatment	35

CHAPTER IV	
Presentation, Analysis and Interpretation of Data	38
CHAPTER V	
Summary	57
Conclusion	63
Recommendation	63
Recommendation	
OUTPUT	
Rationale	65
Vision	65
Mission	65
Output Proper	66
Roadmap of Activities	70
BIBLIOGRAPHY	71
APPENDICES	78
CURRICULUM VITAE	83
CORRICOLOM VIITAL	0.5

List of Tables

Table 1 - Computation using the Slovin's method	31
Table 2 - Distribution of Participants	32
Table 3 - Interpretation Scale for the weighted mean	36
Table 4 - Distribution of the Respondents in terms of their Age	38
Table 5 - Distribution of the Respondents in terms of their Gender	39
Table 6 - Distribution of the Respondents in terms of their	40
Educational attainment	
Table 7 - Distribution of the Respondents in terms of their	41
Classification in the organization	
Table 8 - Distribution of the Respondents in terms of their	42
Years of membership/service	
Table 9 - Sustainability of golf courses in Cavite based on Planning	43
and compliance	
Table 10 – Sustainability of golf course in Cavite based on	45
Operations and maintenance	
Table 11 - Sustainability of golf courses in Cavite based on	47
Conservation	
Table 12 -Sustainability of golf courses in Cavite based on	48
Pesticides and pollution prevention	

Table 13 - Ranking of environmental compatibility categories Table 14 - Significant Relationship (planning and compliance) Table 15 - Significant Relationship (operations and maintenance) Table 16 - Significant Relationship (water resource management) Table 17 - Significant Relationship (conservation) Table 18 - Significant Relationship (pesticides and pollution prevention) Table 19 - Significant difference between employees and players' assessment on the sustainability of golf courses in Cavite
Table 14 - Significant Relationship (planning and compliance) Table 15 - Significant Relationship (operations and maintenance) 52 Table 16 - Significant Relationship (water resource management) 53 Table 17 - Significant Relationship (conservation) 54 Table 18 - Significant Relationship (pesticides and pollution prevention) 55 Table 19 - Significant difference between employees and players' 56 assessment on the sustainability of golf courses in Cavite
Table 15 - Significant Relationship (operations and maintenance) Table 16 - Significant Relationship (water resource management) Table 17 - Significant Relationship (conservation) Table 18 - Significant Relationship (pesticides and pollution prevention) Table 19 - Significant difference between employees and players' assessment on the sustainability of golf courses in Cavite
Table 16 - Significant Relationship (water resource management) Table 17 - Significant Relationship (conservation) 54 Table 18 - Significant Relationship (pesticides and pollution prevention) 55 Table 19 - Significant difference between employees and players' 56 assessment on the sustainability of golf courses in Cavite
Table 17 - Significant Relationship (conservation) 54 Table 18 - Significant Relationship (pesticides and pollution prevention) 55 Table 19 - Significant difference between employees and players' 56 assessment on the sustainability of golf courses in Cavite
Table 18 - Significant Relationship (pesticides and pollution prevention) Table 19 - Significant difference between employees and players' assessment on the sustainability of golf courses in Cavite
Table 19 - Significant difference between employees and players' assessment on the sustainability of golf courses in Cavite 56
assessment on the sustainability of golf courses in Cavite
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