

September 29, 2025

Mr. Sean O'Keefe Town Manager Town of Howey-in-the-Hills 101 N. Palm Avenue Howey-in-the-Hills, FL 34737

Dear Mr. O'Keefe:

On behalf of the Greater Orlando Sports Commission, I am writing to express our concern regarding the proposed Ordinance No. 2025-007, which would restrict golf course maintenance hours to between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. on weekdays and Saturdays, and between 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. on Sundays.

While we understand and respect the Town's intent to address noise and lighting concerns, we believe the ordinance as currently written could unintentionally result in significant and lasting harm to Mission Resort + Club, its dedicated team members, and the broader Howey-in-the-Hills community.

Mission Resort + Club, under the stewardship of MMI Hospitality Group, has been a valued partner in our region's sports tourism ecosystem. The resort has recently invested nearly \$10 million in property enhancements, reinforcing its commitment to excellence and its role as a premier destination for athletes, visitors, and residents alike.

Impact on Sports Tourism and Community Visibility

The proposed ordinance would jeopardize the resort's ability to host major golf tournaments, including:

- Collegiate events such as the NCAA Division II and III Men's and Women's Championships and the Horizon League Conference Championships;
- Amateur competitions like the Florida High School State Championships;
- Professional tournaments including stops on the EPSON Tour.

These events not only bring national visibility to Howey-in-the-Hills but also generate substantial economic impact through tourism, hospitality, and local business engagement.

We respectfully urge the Town to reconsider the ordinance or explore alternative solutions that balance community concerns with the operational needs of a vital regional sports venue.

We would welcome the opportunity to visit Mission Resort + Club and see the recent improvements firsthand, and we remain committed to supporting initiatives that enhance the quality of life and economic vitality of our region.

Sincerely,

Jason Siegel President & CEO

Greater Orlando Sports Commission