

March Forecast



March Golf Shop Hours/Days of Operation

Due to an upcoming knee surgery, I'm not sure how soon I'll be able to work normal hours in the Golf Shop. You're welcome to email me person@pga.com or call/text my cell phone 515-290-2226.

When the snow melts and the temperature is right for play, we'll be open.

Spring Golf, what you should expect from the course, your game and score.



March has arrived in Nebraska, which is our unofficial start to the golf season. Every year you can count on golf courses to open around March 1st. The temperature will jump up into the 60's for a couple days and then it'll fall back to the 20's. We'll have sun, rain, wind and probably one more good snow storm.

As you come out to the course and shake off the winter rust, I want to share with you what to expect from spring time golf.

The Course: The golf course in the spring will be mixed. Some areas will be soggy, some areas will be dry. Grass will be mostly brown and a bit taller than what you'll see in the summer. No one has done a full count, but it's fair to say we have a lot of trees across our 160 acres. Every time the wind blows sticks fall from these trees. So expect to have sticks, twigs, etc. in your way. (Pro tip: if you hate tall grass and sticks, hit more fairways!)

Your Game/Swing: Most of you haven't touched a golf club in 3-4 months. Taking that much time away from any activity will show. Just focus on getting the ball airborne and somewhat in the direction you intended. In time your yardages and shot shapes will come back to you.

Your Score: It's March, don't keep score! The course is brown and inconsistent and you're swing isn't yet your actual swing. How many strokes it took you to put the ball in the hole doesn't matter right now. Enjoy being outside, enjoy the company of your friends. There's plenty of time left in the season to get angry at yourself for duffing a chip, slicing one OB or three putting!

High School Golfers

March is the start of High School Boys golf. At Indian Trails we have three schools that use our course as their “home” course; Wisner-Pilger, West Point-Beemer and GACC. Every weekday around 4pm these high school students come to the course to play, hit range balls and learn the game of golf. Some of these kids come from golfing families and understand golf rules and etiquette, many do not.

Please show understanding if you encounter a high school golfer not showing proper etiquette. If there is a minor issue, let it go. If you see a real problem, alert the golf shop staff or one of the coaches. If you see something very egregious you can approach them and address it.

We want to keep our course in great condition, but we don't want to discourage kids from playing golf. Keep in mind we were all new to this game once, you can't learn etiquette from a book, you have to learn as you go.

ITCC 2019 Annual Benefit Dinner

When: Saturday March 23rd

Where: Indian Trails Country Club

Time: 6:00 – 7:00 Social Hour

7:00 Prime Rib Dinner

8:30 Silent Auction Table Closes

Cost: \$100 per ticket

(one ticket covers two people)

Tickets available at the ITCC clubhouse and all ITCC Board Members:

- **Travis Kaup**
- **Nate Phillips**
- **Jackie Harder**
- **Terry Walker**
- **Rusty Smith**
- **Jim Diekemper**
- **Jed Johnson**

All proceeds will go towards capital improvements of our beloved Indian Trails Country Club. It's your generosity that keeps Indian Trails as Northeast Nebraska's Premier Golf Facility.

League Sign-up

Men's League

Don't miss out on the most popular competitive golf program at ITCC!

Tuesdays; 5:00 pm shotgun start.

Team drawing night: Tuesday April 9th @ 7:00 pm.

Regular season play begins April 16th.

For 2019 we've decided to do away with Stag nights. This means we'll have 17 weeks of regular season play, position night and then playoffs for those that qualify.

The Men's Evening League sign-up sheet is posted on the golf shop bulletin board. You can sign up by checking the Men's League box on your dues payment form, in person, by phone or by e-mail. (Men's League is limited to 96 players, so if you know you want to play sign-up ASAP.)

Ladies Evening League

For 2019 we again will have 2 ladies leagues to choose from;

9 Hole Team League- This is a golf format that will provide a good mix of fun and competition. Members will sign up as 2-person teams. Teams will be playing a **"1 Net Best Ball."**

9 Hole Individual League- The Individual league will be 1 on 1 matches. 12 Points are up for grabs each match, 1 point is earned for each hole won and 3 points are earned for best total 9 hole score.

Cost:

The cost to play in the Ladies Wednesday Evening League is \$50.00 per player, which includes the cost of your GHIN handicap for the season, end of year payouts and weekly flag prizes. All entry fee money is paid back out to the ladies league players.

Time:

Both leagues will shotgun start at 5:45 p.m.

Season Dates/Event:

There will be 13 total weeks of league play, and 1 Women's Fun Night.

- First night: May 15th
- Fun Night: July 17th
- Last Night: August 14th

The New Callaway E.R.C. Soft



In Callaway's words: *"ERC Soft has completely reinvented how a distance ball performs with our new innovative Hybrid Cover. This multi-material cover creates an exceptional combination of faster ball speeds for longer distance, incredibly soft feel, and noticeably higher spin for excellent control around the green.*

We've prominently featured Triple Track lines on the ball for improved putting accuracy. Triple Track uses Vernier Visual Acuity to improve alignment compared to a regular side stamp alignment aid."

In my words: It's a distance ball that doesn't feel like a rock. It won't spin quite as much as a Chrome Soft or Pro V1, but it'll spin a lot better than a typical distance ball. And the alignment aid on the side looks cool. Give them a try, I know I will.

Rules changes for 2019

“Putting with the flag stick in.”

There will no longer be a penalty if a ball played from the putting green hits a flagstick left in the hole. Players will not be required to putt with the flagstick in the hole; they will have the choice to have it in or out.

Reasons for Change:

Allowing a player to putt with the flagstick in the hole without fear of penalty should generally help speed up play.

The “Double hit.”

If the player’s club accidentally hits the ball more than once during a single stroke:

There will be no penalty and the ball will be played as it lies.

Reasons for Change:

Where a double hit occurs as part of a single stroke and was not the intention of the player, it was felt unfair and unnecessary for the player to be penalized.

The outcome in such cases is random and unpredictable, and it results in a disadvantage for the player as often as it results in an advantage.

How to “Take a drop.”

Players will continue to drop a ball when taking relief, but the dropping procedure will be changed in several ways as detailed in Rule 14.3:

How a ball may be dropped is simplified; the only requirement will be that the ball be let go from knee height.

Reasons for Change:

The new procedure lowers the height from which the ball is dropped to increase the chance that it stays within the relief area.