



Dan Megard, President

The Hillcrest Board of Directors at the October board meeting voted unanimously to replace our fairways over the next three years. This is a decision that we have been discussing for about two years at the board level. I will expound below as to our rationale for this change.

The USGA says that if your fairways are over 20 years old, they are old. Our fairways are all of that in age. I don't know if they have ever been replaced in the history of Hillcrest.

Newer grasses like newer golf clubs offer advantages that were not available as little as 10-20 years ago. They require less water, have better weed tolerance, more upright growth for better lies, more fungal resistance and tolerate environmental stress better than older grasses. They also may require less fungicide reducing cost.

We looked at several varieties of grass and settled on bent grass. This is the surface at Dakota Dunes. Other varieties were considered but we as a group did not feel they had the advantages of bent grass. Bent grass is disease resistant, cold tolerant and an excellent surface to play on.

In late summer 2019, we will kill the three par three fairways after the Pro-am and seed bent grass shortly after. The par threes will remain open during this process. In late summer 2020, we will close either the front or back nine from after Pro-am until the following late Spring and repeat the process with 7-8 fairways. In late summer 2021, we will repeat the process with the opposite side of the course. Many of our tees need renovation too. Warren and staff will level many and expand other tees on the respective nine holes being worked on.

We elected not to close the entire course as the Country Club of Sioux Falls recently did to redo their fairways. A 2.5 year plan makes more financial sense for Hillcrest. We will not be taking out a loan for this project. We plan to do this entire project through our budget. We understand that this is not the only project that Hillcrest needs to complete in the coming years. Our main loan will be paid off in 3.5 years and paying this off gives us flexibility for future projects.

I think we can all see what has happened to the playing surface at Hillcrest in the past year. The grass is old and does not stand up to the stress of heat, humidity and cold. Warren and staff do a great job with what they have to work with. It is time for us to give them a fighting chance against Mother Nature with modern turf.

*If you would like to book an event,
please contact Adessa at 665-4522*

or

hillcrestoffice@hillcrestyankton.co

*With the Fine Dining season upon us,
Family Dining is encouraged in the
Dining Room on Friday and
Saturday nights.*



Waren Muller, CGCS
hillcrestturf@hillcrestyankton.com

November can be a really productive month outside and sometimes it has to be a productive month inside. Regardless of the weather the irrigation system

will be winterized the first full week of November.

We also got the sodding done around 8 green that I have been talking about for 2 months and many of the stump holes got capped with sod. Then we ground some more.

And we got two new bunkers installed that you were all wanting on 13 fairway and 4 green. I expect we will be looking at adding a few more over the course of the winter, even though installation won't happen during the winter, and I think we will be removing some meaningful trees this winter to make the course easier.

Check out the website; it's brand new! Hillcrest's Instagram is linked on there and I update it daily with pictures of food and the club!

Feature Menus are now changing every week on Fridays. I hope everyone is enjoying the new menu and features!

Please contact us if you are hosting a private event and would like to order appetizers to-go or would like us to deliver. We will also be offering homemade pies for Thanksgiving again. More details to come...



Kasey Koliner, Executive Chef
chef@hillcrestyankton.com

***Dining & Lounge Hours
Tuesday – Friday 11am-Close
Saturday 5pm-Close***

FALL SALE
ALL CLOTHING 40% OFF
BAGS 20% OFF
SHOES 20% OFF
TITLEIST PRO V'S \$40/DOZEN
TITLEIST 917 DRIVER'S \$299
TITLEIST F2 AND F3 FAIRWAY'S \$199
TITLEIST 816 HBRYID'S \$149
IN STOCK ITEMS ONLY!



Scott Larson, Golf Pro
golfpro@hillcrestyankton.com

Starting November 1st, Hillcrest will be implementing to 2019 Rules of Golf since you will no longer be able to post scores to GHIN for 2018.

Some of the major changes are below. The Local Rule for a lost ball and a ball out of bounds will be in effect during play. This Local Rule

will not be in play for the Pro-Am at Hillcrest. See the illustration on the Local Rule for a lost ball and a ball out of bounds.

“When a player’s ball cannot be found or is *known or virtually certain* to be *out of bounds*, the player may proceed as follows rather than proceeding under *stroke and distance*.

For **two penalty strokes**, the player may take relief by *dropping* the original ball or a *substituted ball* in this *relief area* (see Rule 14.3):

Two Estimated Reference Points:

a. Ball Reference Point: The point where the original ball:

- Is estimated to have come to rest on the *course*, or
- Last crossed the edge of the *course* boundary to go *out of bounds*.

b. Fairway Reference Point: The point of fairway of the *hole* being played that is nearest to the ball reference point, **but** is not nearer the *hole* than the ball reference point.

For purposes of this Local Rule, “fairway” means any area of grass in the *general area* that is cut to fairway height or less.

Size of Relief Area Based on Reference Points:

Anywhere between:

- A line from the *hole* through the ball reference point (or within two *club-lengths* to the outside of that line), and
- A line from the *hole* through the fairway reference point (or within two *club-lengths* to the outside of that line).

But with these limits:

Limits on Location of Relief Area:

- Must be in the *general area*, and
- Must not be nearer the *hole* than the ball reference point.

But, the player may not use this option when:

- The ball is *known or virtually certain* to have come to rest in a *penalty area*, or
- The player has played another ball provisionally under penalty of *stroke and distance* (see Rule 18.3).”



Just a reminder if you are going on vacation ship your clubs to your golf course that you are playing the first day. Contact Scott for more information on shipping your clubs this winter.

GOLF'S NEW RULES: STROKE AND DISTANCE

A new Local Rule will provide an alternative to stroke-and-distance relief for a ball that is lost outside a penalty area or out of bounds. This new Local Rule will be available beginning January 1, 2019.

BALL OUT OF BOUNDS



LOST BALL



If the Local Rule is in effect, you can still take stroke-and-distance relief, but you will now have the following additional option that comes with a penalty of two strokes:

A DETERMINE SPOT where your ball went out of bounds (left diagram) or is likely to be lost (right diagram).

B FIND NEAREST FAIRWAY EDGE no closer to the hole.

C DROP YOUR BALL IN SHADED AREA as defined on one side by a line from the hole through point A and on the other side by a line from the hole through point B, and not nearer the hole. The relief area is extended on both sides by two club-lengths.

This Local Rule is not intended for higher levels of play, such as professional or elite amateur level competitions.



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THE 20 MOST IMPORTANT CHANGES TO THE RULES OF GOLF 2019

1. SEARCH TIME - REDUCED FROM 5 MINUTES TO 3 MINUTES
2. BALL MOVED DURING SEARCH - REPLACE NO PENALTY
3. EMBEDDED BALL - FREE RELIEF ANYWHERE THROUGH THE COURSE
4. MEASURING A DROP - USE LONGEST CLUB (EXCEPT PUTTER)
5. DROPPING - DROP FROM KNEE HEIGHT RATHER THAN SHOULDER
6. TAKING STANCE ON WRONG GREEN IS NOT PERMITTED
7. BALL UNINTENTIONALLY HITS PLAYER OR EQUIPMENT - NO PENALTY
8. DOUBLE HIT - NO PENALTY. NOW ONLY COUNTS AS THE 1 STROKE
9. TOUCHING SAND IN BUNKER INCIDENTALLY IS PERMITTED
10. LOOSE IMPEDIMENTS CAN BE REMOVED ANYWHERE INCLUDING HAZARDS
11. DROPPING A BALL OUT OF BUNKER - 2 PENALTY STROKES
12. WATER HAZARDS - NOW CALLED "PENALTY AREAS"
13. TOUCHING GROUND IN PENALTY AREA - NO PENALTY
14. BALL MOVES ON GREEN AFTER BEING MARKED - REPLACE WITHOUT PENALTY
15. BALL ACCIDENTALLY MOVED ON PUTTING GREEN - REPLACE NO PENALTY
16. ALL DAMAGE TO GREEN CAN NOW BE REPAIRED
17. POSITIONING A CLUB FOR ALIGNMENT IS NOT PERMITTED
18. CADDIE ASSISTING WITH ALIGNMENT IS NOW NOT PERMITTED
19. PUTTING WITH FLAG STICK IN HOLE IS NOW PERMITTED
20. BALL WEDGED AGAINST FLAG STICK AND SIDE OF HOLE IS DEEMED AS HOLED