

Eagle Crest Golf News

Ron Buerger, Golf General Manager



Happy New Year everyone, the final two months of 2023 saw extremely mild weather and a record number of rounds played. Then winter arrived as we settled into the new year and golf came to a screeching halt. Nevertheless, golf will be returning soon enough and maybe even by the time you read this? The lead up to the start of the 2024 golf season is exciting and just around the corner. Soon the grass will be growing again, and we are eager to pick up where we left off in the fall with our programs and course conditioning.

In this edition of our newsletter, you will find valuable if not interesting information. The annual pass information for 2024 comes into full view in this edition with a detailed story on page 3. Also, there is news about the golf courses and some new technology for our Eagle Crest School of Golf. Be sure to frequent our website www.eaglecrestgolforegon.com as it is also a great source of information pertaining to all things Eagle Crest golf. We hope you have your best year ever in golf and we look forward to seeing you soon!



On The Green

Golf Superintendent, Shan Hartford

Winter is always an interesting season here on the High Desert.

Everything can change quickly as we went from beautiful December golfing weather to below zero temperatures and freezing rain. December allowed a large number of rounds to be played on the courses and the wear and tear was starting to really show up on the greens and from repeated cart traffic. Just because it is the off season and any golf weather is good golf weather doesn't mean cart traffic should go everywhere to make the round easier, quicker, and warmer. While it would seem to be a minor deal to drive on dormant turf it does have a long-term affect and slows the recovery process in the spring. The repeated use of shortcuts for the shotgun starts and following the well-worn path of fellow golfers is visually apparent for the short term and agronomically apparent well into the growing season. Your help would be appreciated in observing standard golf cart etiquette around green and tee complexes by using and parking on cart paths.

Golf maintenance has learned over the years to minimize damage to the course with ropes where needed, rotating pin positions and committing to having small areas of the tee boxes be severely damaged versus the whole tee box suffering significant damage, and using walking days only when justified. The mats are no one's favorite on the par three holes but if they are used then damage is restricted and spring recovery is 4-6 weeks quicker. Moving tee markers as you play only expands the damage and recovery time and once again MATS.

On The Green...cont.

Golf Superintendent, Shan Hartford

Pin positions are rotated every 10-14 playing days amongst the previously established positions and the ability to cut new pin placements is not an option with the frozen turf. Please keep in mind that it is the middle of winter in Central Oregon and course conditions will reflect the season. As we progress through the winter season and into early spring the need to protect the courses becomes more of a priority as we try and balance accessibility to the courses without a long-term detriment to conditions and delaying recovery. It takes very little moisture to create damaging conditions when the soil is frozen or just thawing the top half inch so cart use will be monitored and restricted as needed. The days are getting longer and spring will arrive bringing whatever it feels like on a given day but more sunshine always makes it a better day.



2024 Annual Pass Info

2024 Annual Pass updates

Annual Pass information will be released shortly to our website at www.eaglecrestgolforegon.com. Everyone is encouraged to view the information on the “golf passes” tab. There you can print the registration form that you’ll sign and return to the golf shop. This update pertains to the 2024 Annual Pass that begins March 1 and runs through February 28th of 2025. Below we’ve highlighted a few of the changes being incorporated for 2024:

- When you submit your registration the golf shop staff will be taking your picture to place in our system. This will help accelerate the learning curve for our new staff members and assist us in keeping imposters off the courses.
- All annual pass levels now come with complimentary range balls (one bucket per day).
- Silver pass holders may play in the winter shotguns that begin before Noon, every day.
- Stone Creek in Portland has been added to our course list for reciprocals (Platinum & Gold).
- Tee times by phone will be limited to just 7 days in advance.
- Tee times made online will be available 21 days out for Platinum and 14 days for all other passes.

Winter Golf Schedules

WINTER HOURS AND SCHEDULES FEB 1 2024 THROUGH MARCH 10, 2024

Ridge Course: 11:00a Shotgun daily.
Golf Shop open 9:00a to 4:00p daily.

Challenge Course: Tee times daily from 10:30a-1:30p
Golf Shop open 9:00a to 4:00p daily.

Resort Course: Closed through February, March
opening date TBD.

Ridge Driving Range will be on MATS only!
Hours 10:00a- and closes promptly at 2:30p

Resort Driving Range Closed through February.
Hours TBD after course opening.

Please note driving range and shotgun times are weather dependent.

Tee times will begin March 11th on the Ridge
and Challenge Courses

Spring Is Near

Kevin Story Head Golf Professional

Happy New year to All!

Looking back at 2023 we have been again blessed with a thriving golf community at Eagle Crest. We have such a unique setting with 3 great golf courses and plenty of opportunities to play the great game of GOLF! Going into 2024 We look forward to a fantastic season ahead.

In 2024 I will be adding more lesson time again for your instructional needs. Speed classes, short game classes and of course 1 on 1 individual lessons. Look for these classes posted at the golf shops. My first installment will be a short game clinic starting March 8th for 4 weeks each Friday at 1pm at the Ridge practice area. Sign-ups will start Feb 15th and you can register at the Ridge golf shop.

I look forward to seeing you all back on the course and around the facilities so stop in say hello and if there is anything we can do to assist let us know!

**Kevin Story
Head Golf Professional**

GHIN info

Clint O'Neil- 1st Assistant Golf Professional

Happy New Year! As we usher in the new season and approach the posting period starting March 1st, it's essential to ensure that your GHIN handicap is up to date or establish a new one through Eagle Crest. Your GHIN handicap not only enables participation in a variety of open competitions but also grants you exclusive access to the USGA GHIN app. This app boasts features like GPS tracking, stat analysis, and the convenience of posting your scores directly from your phone.

Exciting updates await you in 2024:

9-Hole Scores Inclusion: Beginning this year, your 9-hole scores will now count towards your handicap the very next day. No more waiting for the combination of nine-hole scores!

10-17 Hole Scores Flexibility: For those instances when you play between 10 and 17 holes, a new feature allows the use of the expected Score Differential. This enhancement provides greater flexibility in score posting, with a focus on hole-by-hole scoring.

Shorter Course Eligibility: Embracing diversity in course lengths, the new regulations include courses as short as 750 yards for 9 holes and 1,500 yards for 18 holes for course rating and slope rating eligibility.

Prepare for an enhanced golfing experience with these updates to the GHIN system. Stay ahead of the game, renew or establish your GHIN handicap, and make the most of the upcoming golf season!

Clint O'Neil- 1st Assistant Golf Professional

Lessons Corner

Parker Shaddix, Assistant Golf Professional/Lead Golf Instructor



The Nest

Escape the cold weather and tee off at our brand-new golf simulator! Offering a warm haven for golf enthusiasts, our cutting-edge simulator provides an immersive experience for players of all levels. From professional lessons to simulator rentals, we've got your swing covered. You can now book Eagle Crest simulator rentals and lessons at [nestedgolf.com](https://www.nestedgolf.com). Please contact Parker if you have any questions.

New Merchandise Arrivals

Be sure to keep an eye on the Ridge golf shop for the latest new merchandise and equipment arrivals.

Making the first splash will be items from Under Armour, Antigua and Greg Norman. These collections will be followed by Footjoy, Travis Mathews, GG Blue, Joseph Elliott, EP Pro and San Solie

Our new product deliveries will be consistently spaced out through spring, summer and fall.

Make sure you get in the golf shop early and often, so you don't get left out. The new lines are great for this year!

On the equipment side, Titleist will roll out their new Vokey SM10 wedges, Scotty Cameron putters and a new line up golf balls.

Callaway has its new AI Smoke lineup of woods and a revamped Odyssey putter line.

We will also have a new shipment of L.A.B putters and the latest from Ping. We can also Special order most items please check with Kevin to see if we are able.





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