



# Eagle Crest Golf News

*A season that will be hard to beat!*

What a fantastic golf season it has been so far. From the mild temperatures to the welcomed precipitation, to the reduced number of smoke days, it's been an incredible season for playing golf at Eagle Crest. With this we've seen a significant increase in play as well as positive feedback. The year has not been without challenges as we battled a water delivery problem in June/July and then through a series of events wound up with an overly challenging primary rough that was not our intended outcome. Shan, our superintendent will touch on this in more detail in the "Course Agronomy" section of this newsletter.

Now autumn is just around the corner and soon we will face the occasional frost delay (see the golf information page on our website [www.eaglecrestgolforegon.com](http://www.eaglecrestgolforegon.com) for updates as situations arise). Then the Resort Course will close for the off season on October 27<sup>th</sup>. So, make sure you get in a few extra rounds on the Resort Course before it's unavailable until March of 2026.

I know you will enjoy the golf opportunities provided at Eagle Crest over the next few months; it's usually the best time of the year. Be sure to note our section outlining the schedules for the Ridge and Resort Courses moving to shotguns.

Thank you to everyone for choosing to play golf at Eagle Crest Resort. On behalf of our entire team, we thank you. If you have any issues or questions, please feel free to send a note or stop by the shop and engage any of our wonderful staff members. Have a wonderful fall season and we look forward to seeing you out playing our courses.

Fairways and Greens,  
Ron Buerger, PGA, Golf GM



# Golf Blog

*with Kevin Story, Head Golf Professional.*



## The Mental Side of Golf

One of the most powerful tools we bring to the course isn't a driver or a putter—it's our mindset. Golf is as much a mental game as it is physical, and how we approach each shot often makes the difference between frustration and success.

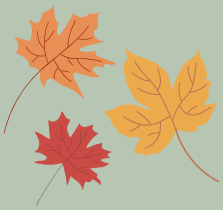
A positive mentality starts with staying present. Instead of replaying the last bad shot in your mind or worrying about the one ahead, focus on this swing. Trust your routine, breathe, and commit.

Equally important is how we handle setbacks. Every golfer, from beginners to tour pros, faces tough breaks and missed putts. The key is to respond with patience and resilience—using those moments as opportunities to reset rather than reasons to unravel.

Finally, celebrate the small wins. A crisp iron shot, a good lag putt, or even a well-executed chip can boost confidence and keep momentum moving forward.

Next time you tee it up, remember: your mental approach is just as valuable as your swing mechanics. Bring a calm, confident mindset, and you'll find more enjoyment—and often better scores—along the way.





# New Ratings & Scorecards



**Our courses have been re-rated and new scorecards are out!**

**After a two and a half month process the re-rating and re-measuring of our golf courses is complete and we have the new scorecards for the Ridge and Challenge Courses in circulation. The Resort Course will be out very soon. The rating was conducted by the Oregon Golf Association rating team, and we've carried over all of their recommendations 100%. So far, the feedback has been tremendous regarding the new card, but we have had a few questions on the Ridge and Challenge card.**

## **Why the combo card?**

**The concept was suggested and after finding many examples of this being done, we saw the merits and elected to go in this direction. A major benefit is that it allows us to place a single scorecard on the steering wheels of the carts, because it will now serve both courses.**

## **What's with the renaming of the tees?**

**This has been a concept that has become very common around the world. With the PGA inspired "play it forward" movement, the idea is to move away from associating course length with a specific gender and promote play from appropriate yardages for everyone.**

**In addition, we will go completely away from the color red being associated with the forward tees, this will help encourage anyone that would benefit from playing the shortest yardage available by removing the stigma. It may even help speed up play. The red tee markers will be repainted on all three courses this off season.**

## **How are the men's and ladies' hole by hole handicaps derived?**

**What most golfers do not understand is that the hole-by-hole handicap ratings for men's and ladies is not a ranking of the most difficult to the least difficult holes. The answer is complicated but here's our crack at a simple explanation. Basically, it is an estimate from an average yardage played indicating where a bogey golfer needs a stroke from a scratch golfer. However, there are other factors in the form of appendices that direct the ranking you see on the card. One is obviously the odd/ even component with odd always being the front 9 and even always being on the back 9. Two is that it's recommended to have the #1 and #2 holes in the middle 3 holes of the 9's respectively. But sometimes there are factors that will slide the #1 hcp hole to holes 3 or 7 on the front or #2 hcp hole to holes 12 and 16 on the back in certain cases. This happened on the Ridge primarily due to the difference in rating influenced by the length of the holes. Incidentally if rankings were based on rating alone hole #1 would end up #1 hcp. But since hole #1 can't be hcp #1 it moved to hole 7 over hole #5 due to rating difficulty/ hole length. Clear as mud right? Yep. If this topic has you lying awake at night swing by the golf shop and let one of our golf professionals take a stab explaining how we got here. 😊**

# Course Agronomy

Shan Hartford, GCSAA, Golf Superintendent

## Fall 2025 Newsletter - Course Update

This summer offered excellent growing conditions, with only a few days above 95°F. Then some late summer rain was a welcomed sight after early-season water delivery issues in late June and early July. The courses looked outstanding, with greater definition, denser turf, and firmer playing conditions compared to the past several summers of record-breaking heat.

While turf growth exceeded projections, particularly in the rough—staffing shortages and equipment challenges made it difficult to meet our maintenance goals primarily in the rough. Some adjustments are underway to preserve the improved turf quality while ensuring better playability for all guests. In particular, we will make adjustments to improve the rough situation.

Fall maintenance to be ready for:

### **Aeration & Overseeding:**

- Fairways will undergo spot aeration, especially at cart path entry and exit points, to strengthen turf quality.
- Slice overseeding will focus on the Resort Course to improve weaker areas and build upon this season's gains.

### **Greens Maintenance:**

- Ridge and Challenge course greens will receive solid-tine aeration followed by heavy topdressing.
- After the Resort Course closes, greens will undergo core aeration and heavy (sand) topdressing. This extra sand layer protects plant crowns through winter and helps manage traffic stress during mild winters.

### **Did you know?**

Our staff completed more than 175 irrigation repairs this season pertaining to breaks and leaks alone. This is due to the system's age and original construction methods. Unfortunately, a full replacement is not feasible at this time, but repairs will continue to be a priority.

Looking Ahead: Overall, 2025 has been a productive year for course conditioning and playability. With the adjustments outlined above, we are confident that golfers will see continued improvement in both the aesthetics and performance of our facilities in the seasons ahead.

# Summer Golf Recap

## The Sub-Regional Drive Chip and Putt Qualifier was held on August 25th

What a treat watching these young golfers! 3 Drive 3 Putts and 3 Chips got some kids closer to competing at Augusta National in April of 26'. Next Stop Pebble Beach!! Thank you to all the volunteers that helped, you all made a difference that resulted in a special day for the Kids!



## Men's & Women's Stroke Play Championship July 30th & 31st

The 4th Annual Stroke Play Championship was contested at the Resort and Ridge Courses. This year's event we had 2 flights of men and 1 flight of ladies. Winning the overall gross title was Rick Borg with rounds of 80-78= 158 to be crowned the 25' champ. Winning the overall net was **Kevin Gesme** with a 2-day net total of 138. On the ladies side **Penny Gienger** was crowned the ladies champ with a 89-82= 171. Net champ for the ladies was **Pam Mattassarini** carding rounds of 74-76= 150. Congrats to all the winners, we look forward to building this event bigger and better in 2026.

## 2025 PGA Jr. League Section Championship August 15th & 16th

Once again teams from the Pacific Northwest Section PGA were in town for the 2024 PGA Junior league Championships. Congrats to the teams of Meadow Park 17u and First Tee of Seattle 13u for being crowned Champs! 4 Teams will advanced to Regionals hosted by the Utah section at Glenmore GC in South Jordan, Utah Sept 5<sup>th</sup> -7<sup>th</sup> . Good Luck to all teams!





More than 400 golfers teed it up for Charity while playing Eagle Crest Resort this year. More than \$175,000 will be raised from events held at the Resort and these funds will go directly to the causes these organizations support. Below is a list of some of our key partners holding large events at Eagle Crest this year.

**Ronald McDonald House Charities Central Oregon Open** - June 6th

144 golfers from all over the Pacific Northwest came together for a great day of golf, camaraderie, and food to support the Ronald McDonald House Charities. Together they raise funds to accommodate out-of-town families with housing and other needs when their child is receiving medical care at a hospital like St. Charles in Bend.

To learn more about Ronald McDonald House Charities click here - <https://rmhc.org/>

**Jericho Road** - August 9th

Providing over 13,000 meals to over 10,000 individuals over the last year, Jericho Road assists those in need of meals here in the Redmond and Bend areas. They also provide meals for school kids over the weekend, and housing assistance for the houseless. Mike Bessonette coordinated the event, and 130 golfers participated for the cause.

To learn more about Jericho Road click here - <https://jerichoroadofredmond.org/>

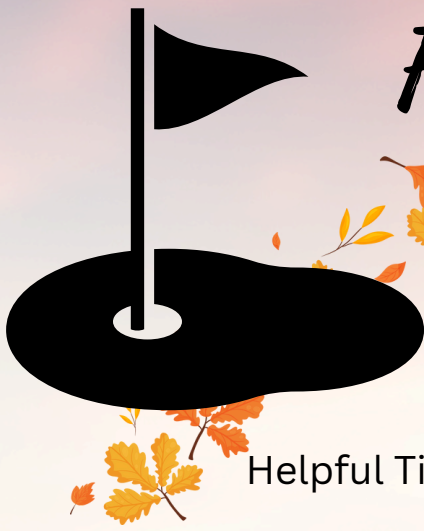
**Supporting Afghan Families** - June 29th

The vision is supporting Afghan families. Our mission is helping through financial support, networking with other rescue organizations and providing assistance and resources for those who desire to be afforded America's freedoms...Find them on the web at

<https://www.supportingafghanfamilies.org/>



# From the Lesson Tee



## Helpful Tips for Getting the Most Out of Your Golf Lesson

### 1. Come with a Goal

Think about what part of your game you'd like to improve — driving, short game, putting, or course management. Sharing that with your instructor helps make the lesson more focused.

### 2. Warm Up Beforehand

Arrive a little early to stretch and hit a few shots. This way, your first swings with the instructor aren't "cold swings."

### 3. Bring the Right Tools

Have your clubs, a glove, and plenty of balls. If you're working on putting, bring your putter and maybe even a notebook for feedback.

### 4. Focus on One or Two Keys

A lesson isn't about fixing everything at once. Take away one or two key points to practice so you don't feel overwhelmed.

### 5. Ask Questions

Lessons are a two-way street. If something isn't clear, ask — chances are, a quick explanation or drill will make it click.

### 6. Practice with Purpose

After your lesson, set aside time to work on the drills or adjustments suggested. Improvement comes from repetition with the right focus.

### 7. Be Patient with Yourself

Progress takes time. Trust the process, and celebrate small improvements along the way.

# Credit Book Information

As the season comes to a close, now is the time to utilize your credit book winnings for the year. Any credits earned by the end of September must be redeemed by December 31, 2025. We invite you to visit our golf shop and explore our wide range of apparel, golf clubs, and accessories! If you can't find what you're looking for in stock, don't worry—we have an excellent list of vendors and can place an order for you.

## Reminders

Ridge driving range update of tee schedule  
Monday to Thursday: Grass until 1 PM, then mats.  
Friday to Sunday: Grass all day.

These changes promote turf recovery and optimal growth.

### ~Upcoming Changes~

Beginning November 1<sup>st</sup>, the range will switch to MATS ONLY.

Water coolers on course will be discontinued on September 28th; fill your water bottles at the café and on the turn.

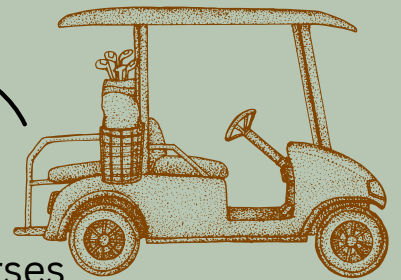
Course Property: Range baskets and cart keys are to remain at the golf courses. Taking range baskets off property is prohibited. If you have cart keys please return to the golf shop.

## Pace Of Play

### Expected Pace of Play at Our Golf Courses

At Eagle Crest, we offer a variety of play styles, including groups and tournaments, annual passholders, and general public play. As a resort facility, our target is to complete nine holes in 2 hours and 15 minutes on both championship courses, and 3 hours and 15 minutes on the Challenge Course.

That said, unencumbered play from our regulars, such as Men's and Ladies Clubs, as well as annual passholders, should lead to rounds under 4 hours on the Ridge and Resort courses and under 3 hours on the Challenge Course. Our marshals will consider these factors and engage with groups accordingly.







# Merchandise Corner

As we approach the end of the season, we've just received our final shipment of summer apparel. Whether you're searching for holiday gifts or simply looking to treat yourself, come by and explore our full range of merchandise. We offer a wide selection of apparel from various brands and club companies.

### Don't miss out:

25% off all shorts and skorts in both golf shops

20% off golf bags 20% off Shoes

This sale runs from September 22nd to September 30th!

**25% OFF**



**25% OFF**



*Sale*

**20% OFF**



*Sale*

**20% OFF**



**25% OFF**



# Social Media

FIND US ONLINE



 @GolfECOregon

 @GolfEagleCrestOregon

## Fall Schedule Changes

Beginning September 22nd, the first tee time will move to a 9am start on the Ridge & Resort 7 days a week. The Challenge Course will then be 10am Mon-Fri, and 9am Sat-Sun.

On October 13th the first tee time will be moved to 10am Ridge/Challenge and 11AM Shotguns on the Resort Course.

On November 10<sup>th</sup> shotguns will return to the Ridge Course at 11am and the Challenge Course will begin tee times at 10:30am daily.

The Resort Course close on Oct 27th for the winter season and reopen in March of 26'.

## Additional Operating info:

### Driving Range Schedules

Ridge clean pick

Closed every Mon-3PM

Resort Course clean pick

Closed every Tue- 3PM



### Hours

8am-5pm daily

### Resort Snack Bar

8AM-5PM

7 days a week

Hours subject to change