



Purple Hawk News

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PURPLE HAWK
COUNTRY CLUB

Current Board Members: President; Chuck Osterud, Vice President; Jason Schulz, Treasurer; Pat Brogan, Secretary; Jeff Reichel, Pete Carlson, Jeremie Reinhart, Jeanne Bradshaw, Todd Schoenecker and Lynn Wedlund.

PRO SHOP

We got off to an early start this year, opening on Friday, April 12, followed by a very wet May and June. Finishing with a fabulous July, August, September and October. We thank **Jim Carlson**, our Head PGA Golf Professional in his 3rd season here at the Purple Hawk. Jim continues to make improvements in operations while working to increase rounds and revenue. Under Jim's guidance, we were able to keep Membership, Cart Pass, Range Pass rates the same as last year. Even with these low rates and a very wet May and June, we were able exceed our budget numbers!



WELCOME to our new members! Over the last two years, we have seen 63 new members at The Hawk (43 singles and 11 couples) WELCOME! The increase in Memberships has swelled the participation in our leagues and increased participation in our member events – Great to see all of the new faces!

This year, Jim introduced a Fall Clearance Sale that helped to reduce the inventory in the Golf Shop and give us real value for our chits!

Jim was again successful in attracting new high level (outside) tournaments to The Purple Hawk. He is happy to announce that in 2025 we will add a MGA Senior Tour event, as well as a MGA Players, Mid-Players and Senior Players Qualifying event. These events are great exposure for our course, especially as the condition of the course improves.

Everybody should give a huge shout out to **Gavin Lillemoen** for going above and beyond again this season. Gavin's management of our leagues keeps us informed and up to date. His efforts have greatly improved the flow of information and made our leagues more fun for everybody!

We would like to Thank Jim, Gavin and the rest of the inside and outside staff – your efforts are noticed and appreciated!

MAINTENANCE - GROUNDS CREW

Last March **Scott Melby**, our Golf Course Superintendent was informed by the DNR that our permit to draw water from Long Lake was issued incorrectly. The (long existing) permit was based on a well, not a pump drawing water from the lake. This discovery led to the DNR significantly reducing the amount of water that we can draw from the lake, this water essentially irrigates half of the course. After working through several scenarios, a plan was made and endorsed by the Board of Directors that used water from the existing well behind #15 green to fill a (new) holding pond that we would

excavate between the #1 green and the driving range. We would then be able to draw water from that pond as needed to help irrigate the course. Lo and Behold – As this summer wore on, Scott was able to reprogram the watering schedule and, due in part to the work he has done over the past several years repairing leaks, malfunctioning sprinkler heads etc. and also because (fortuitously), over the winter, the Board had decided to repair and rebuild the well behind #15. (Scott had it pulled out of the ground and completely re-built including a new pump installed), by the time the course needed irrigation this year, we were able to irrigate the entire course using just the one well. At this time, the holding pond has been tabled pending future discussion.

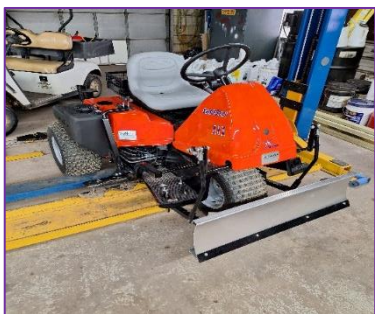


Last year, we bought a brand - new Hustler 10' zero turn mower that does a great job and is amazing to watch in action as Myron puts it to work around the course!

GRUBS – As we are all aware, grubs have been an issue on the course over the last couple of years due to Sand Hill Cranes and other critters digging up the turf to get at them. Last year, Scott spot treated the affected areas, and this year, he treated the whole course (Tee boxes and Fairways). Very little damage this year. Hopefully that's the end of it, but he will keep an eye out for them!

This summer, we completed a project that included repairing/rebuilding and landscaping the drain that feeds into the back of the pond on #2, rebuilding that cart path as well as completing the cart path complex between #2 and #3 tee boxes and then building a new section of fence to help keep carts on the path. There is also now a "ramp" on both sides of the bridge and plans are in place to refurbish the bridge itself with repairs being made this winter (once the pond freezes) and painting next spring!

SAND TRAPS - Our sand traps are improving - 3 years ago, the Board decided to embark on a 3 - year plan to replenish the sand in all of our traps (1/3 of the traps every year). This year, we completed that cycle and are now going to be adding sand on an "as needed" basis to the traps. (We already have a truck load of new Bunker Sand on hand for next year.) This year, we purchased an "edger" and Otto Reinhart started the process of edging our traps. Hopefully, he will return and finish them next year. (Handicaps might be going up for the "putters" amongst us 😊). Last year, Scott made a commitment to increase the frequency with which the sand traps were worked up or dressed and it certainly showed. This fall we purchased a brand - new Sand Rake! (\$34,240) Thank you to all of the Flock to the Hawk participants, donors, sponsors and volunteers!



This machine will be put into service next spring and so along with all of these other improvements – Our Sand Traps will be greatly improved. We still have some drainage issues, but Scott is working to fix these as well!

Other areas that Scott and our Grounds Crew have been working on include:

- Increased maintenance around the ponds
- Installed the "Goose Lights" - Waiting to see how effective they will be as they are supposed to take 2-3 years...
- The Sand Trap at the practice Green has been cleaned out and expanded – Will be ready for use next year.
- Improving the overall condition of the turf
- The "ditch" has been filled in on #9 – will be seeded next spring

Emerald Ash Borer

As you know, the Emerald Ash Borer has made its appearance on the course. Unfortunately, our predecessors planted LOTS of Ash trees – there were approximately 390 mature Ash trees on the course. Last fall a group of volunteers began the process of removing trees – 27 were cut down and then burned over the winter. The plan is to remove another 30 these trees yet this fall. If you are able to help, please reach out to Jason Schulz jschulz5301@hotmail.com and let him know (Jason coordinates the group's activities.) Pat Brogan is leading a committee including Scott Melby, Jon Dunbar & Larry Zurn that will be leading the reforestation plan as the removal process moves along.

Building Project

Artist Renditions – Actual building will be white with black trim



View from Hwy.65



View from 18th fairway



Exciting times!

After several years of planning...

Slepica Construction broke ground and put in the foundation for the new Clubhouse in October.

The Trusses and lumber have been delivered and the walls will go up starting the week of 11-25.

The septic system (holding tanks) will also be installed this fall and then, we have to wait for the plumbing permit to be issued. Once we have that, the plumbing will be roughed in, and the floor (cement pad) will be poured. There is a long way to go, but we hope to be open by May or June of next year. Some of us have expressed surprise/Concern at the size of the footprint of the new Clubhouse – Here are a few numbers:

The existing space that we currently occupy in the lower level of the restaurant measures approximately 27' x 27' (729 sq. ft.) including the storage area and the office.

Our new Clubhouse will be 50' x 70' or 3,500 sq. ft (Plus a 12' x50' covered patio).

Of which approximately:

1,300 sq. ft. will be the Pro Shop and Office

1,260 sq. ft. will be the Bar and Restaurant

220 sq. ft. will be the Kitchen

360 sq. ft. will be the NEW RESTROOMS!

350 sq. ft. will be for general storage

2024 FLOCK TO THE HAWK



2024 was our 7th anniversary for the **Flock to the Hawk!** Several changes were made again this year to streamline events. As always, there were a few challenges, but everyone showed up, donated where possible, volunteered when needed and had fun, as required!

Chuck a Ball, pictured to the left, was added in 2023 and was again a fun way to start the event this year.

Below are some numbers for you to see – it's incredible to see how generous everyone is, trying to keep our course beautiful and our equipment running smoothly.

Thank you all!

Teams: \$13,125 / Silent Auction: \$3,270 / Event Sponsors/Donations: \$2,600 / General Raffle: \$2,500 / Power Drive: \$480 / First Pass: \$360 / Risk/Reward: \$500 / Skins Game: \$600 / Party Cart \$760

Overall Profit (after expenses) = \$17,675

2024 Flock to the Hawk Winners!



Low Gross winners were as follows: Paul Larson, Dain Schultz, Korey Shimer. Not pictured Grant Exsted.



Low Net winners were as follows: Pete Carlson and TJ Weiland. Not pictured Brad Timmons and Justin Wagner.

The Board of Directors thanks Bev Paron for being committee lead one last time. (She's retiring 🥺). Also, to Flock to the Hawk "Rock Star" Barb Guetschoff. Bev & Barb have overseen this event for several years and along with a team of - volunteers have made it the success that it is – THANK YOU ALL! In 2025 we will need to recruit some new volunteers. Plus, there has been some talk of moving the Flock to the Hawk to a Weekday along with some other changes... More on that later.

IMPROVEMENTS MADE WITH MONEY RAISED FROM FLOCK TO THE HAWK PARTICIPATION & DONATIONS AND PLATINUM CLUB MEMBERSHIPS: MOST NOTABLY THE NEW FENCE PROJECT, OUR NEW ZERO TURN MOWER AND OUR NEW SAND RAKE - BUT ALSO THE NEW ROCK ADDED TO BEAUTIFY THE PARKING LOT, THE NEW WALK BRIDGE RAMP & THE FILL TO LEVEL HOLE 9 FAIRWAY - THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH!



2024 Men's Senior, Super Senior and Legends Club Championship Winners!



Pat Brogan & Kurt Koester



Clayton Bengtson & Larry Zurn



Gary Tolfson & Ron Grundyson

2024 Men's, Women's and Senior Women's Club Championship Winners!



Ty Liljander & Troy Erickson



Rosanna Pesicka & Trish Olsen



Rosanna Pesicka & Trish Olsen

2024 Men's Gross & Net and 2nd time ever Women's Net Individual Shootouts!



Logan Westman, Easton Parnell, Tristan Johnston, Seth Kirkeide, Pat Brogan, Scott Westman, Jeff Chromy & Dain Schulz



Ben Stoffel, Don Pyykola, Paul Larson, Lance Oelrich Jr, Todd Urness, Kelly Johnson, Chris Elbert, Troy Erickson & Fizz Larson



Net Final 3 – Troy Erickson, Winner Fizz Larson & Paul Larson



Gross Final 3 – Easton Parnell, Winner Dain Schultz & Scott Westman



Jean Laase, Janet Buchholz, Bev Paron, Kathy Johnson, Nona Schoenecker, Deanna Waataja & Rosanna Pesicka



The Spectators gone wild!



Final 3 – Deanna Waataja, Janet Buchholz and Nona Schoenecker



Women's Winner – Janet Buchholz

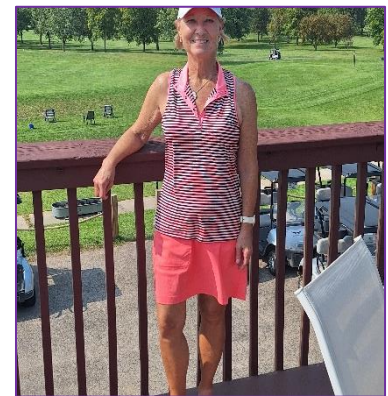
2024 Senior League, Ladies 9 Hole League and Ladies 18 Hole League Winners!



Mark Solberg, James Poppen, Mike McDonald & Jim Lutterman. Not in the picture – Doug Schmitz



Julie Grell & Janet Buchholz



Janet Buchholz

2024 Men's Early 18 Hole League, Late 18 Hole League and Late 9 Hole League Winners!



Tom & Lee Hesselroth



Kelby Jennissen & Kyle Grabowska



Kurt Lindquist & Mark Leaf

2024 Men's and Women's 2-Person Net Team Event & Shootouts!



Bryan Stoffel, Ben Stoffel, Chris Elbert, Lance Oelrich, Sr, Lance Lane Oelrich, Jr, Jason Schulz, Pete Carlson, Kurt Koester, Pat Brogan, Ty Lijander, Kevin Dahl, Jon Pesicka, Jeff Pulcher, Todd Schoenecker, Fizz Larson & Scott Westman

Ty Lijander, Pat Brogan, Bryan Stoffel, Ben Stoffel, Fizz Larson & Scott Westman

2-Man Team Winners and 2-Man Shootout Winners Ben Stoffel & Bryan Stoffel



Shelley Perra, Rosanna Pesicka, Shari Anlauf, Diane Anlauf, Katie Larson, Kathy Johnson, Dorothy Johnson, Trish Olsen, Deb Larson, Jackie Osterud, Leah Schoenecker & Jean Laase

The final 6 – Jackie Osterud, Deb Larson, Jean Laase, Leah Schoenecker Rosanna Pesicka & Shelley Perra

Team Shootout Winners Jean Laase & Leah Schoenecker



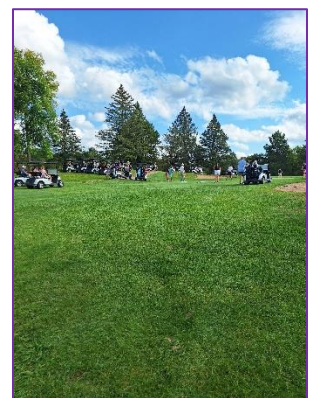
2-Women Team Winners Katie Larson & Kathy Johnson



Let the Shootout Fun Begin!



The Suspense is Growing!



And the Winners are??

Congratulations go out to the only 2024 Purple Hawk Member to score a "Hole in One" this year!



Mark Sobania – 1st ever
Hole in One
Purple Hawk CC
Hole #6 with 5 hybrid

Purple Hawk Ladies continue 5-Star Tradition!



This fabulous group of women golfers has DONE IT AGAIN!
Congratulations to the 60th Annual 2024 5-Star Champions!

This is a scratch, rotating location, tournament. Purple Hawk, North Branch, Princeton, Milaca, and Mora all participate with their "Best of the Best" golfers!

Pictured from left to right are as follows: Trish Olsen, Janet Buchholz, Leah Schoenecker, Danielle Menk, Savanna Serna, Judy Lieser, Kathy Johnson, and Tammy Calaman.

Well done, Ladies! Congratulations for giving Purple Hawk Country Club its 5th consecutive 5-Star win!

PURPLE HAWK JUNIOR GOLF FOUNDATION JUNIOR CAMPS & LEAGUE



Our Youth Summer Golf Camps & Junior League continues to evolve and improve. 160 kids participated in the Camps & Junior League in 2024. Purple Hawk Junior Golf Foundation's Summer Golf Camps are focused on educating our youth on the basic fundamentals of the golf swing, important etiquette to follow while on the golf course, etc. This program is the perfect opportunity for your child to learn and love the game of golf - a game of a lifetime. These kids are the future of this great game of golf.

Our Junior Golf Foundation is a 501(c)(3) which means your donations are tax deductible. PHJGF has received sizable grant money from the MN Golf License Plate program. We encourage you all to purchase a Play Golf MN License plate.

A huge thank you goes out to the great instructors we have: Jim Carlson, PGA Pro; Gavin Lillemoen, Asst Pro; Joel Lund, C-I Boys Head Coach; Steve Hanson, former C-I Girls Head Coach; Jim Poppen, C-I current Girls Head Coach & Jeff Kurowski, C-I Boys Assistant Coach. Plus, local youth instructors: Damian Natzel; Allie Nystrom and Hannah Westman, and local adult instructors Nona Schoenecker; Kathy Johnson & Scott Westman. A special thank you for going over and above this season goes out to Joel Lund; Steve Hanson; Jim Poppen; Gavin Lillemoen; Nona Schoenecker; Kathy Johnson; Damian Natzel and Jim Carlson.

We conclude with a 3-page picture collage from this year's PHJGF Summer Camps & Junior League!



Learning how to putt on Day 1

2024 Purple Hawk Junior Golf Foundation's June Summer Camp pictures. Building the Future of Golf!



Posing for a Picture



Snag Golf Chipping #MN PGA



Building a Golf Swing



Practicing our skills



Posing for a Picture



Out on the Course



Out on the Course



Teeing it Up



Out on the Golf Course



Dilly Bars & Golf bring happiness



Posing for a Picture

**2024 Purple Hawk
Junior Golf
Foundation's July
Summer Camp
pictures.**

**Building the
Future of Golf!**



Wow, this is really a Big Group



Posing for a Picture



Driving on Day 1



Snag Golf Chipping #MN PGA



Out on the Course



Out on the Course



Treats for the Last Day



What a Great Group this year

**2024 Purple Hawk
Junior Golf
Foundation's Junior
League pictures.**

**This is the
Future of Golf!**



Sweet swing on the Course



Hitting it Close to the Pin



Taking it a Big Swing



Boys Masters Division Winners



Girls Masters Division Winners



Boys Junior Masters Division 1



Boys Junior Masters Division 2