

## From the President...



**Tracey Grotenhuis, President**

The most magical time is upon us at Hillcrest CC, and just like every year, it's hard to believe that the Pro-Am is already here. For many of us, it's a time where we hope our golf game peaks and we enjoy a celebratory weekend before the hustle and bustle of the fall begins. Forty-eight years ago, a group of Hillcrest members (Laddie Cimpl, Earl Felber, Ron Clem, Jim Cihak, and Lyle McLeod) formed a committee to begin planning the first ever Pro-Am event. Over the years, the Pro-Am committee, staff, volunteers, sponsors, and our membership have built this tournament into the premier event on the Dakotas Tour.

When asking around to members and past players who have had an important role in the history of the Pro-Am why it is so special, I think Brian Kortan said it best: "The Hillcrest Pro-Am was like the US

Open to me as a kid – I loved it. I would show up before the sun was up, work bag room, range, carts, caddy and then work again til dark". Brian has many great memories but one he remembers fondly was caddying for Wayne Player the year he won in 1987 – he paid Brian \$400! Compared to the \$3/hour job picking the range, Brian thought he hit the jackpot. Brian went on to win the Pro-Am as an amateur twice and a professional in 2001 and is currently the Head Golf Coach at Texas A&M.

Jason Tramp, who has been a lifelong member of Hillcrest and supported the event, shares a similar story growing up and says he will always remember caddying for Tom Byrum the year he won it. Most important to Jason is the opportunity to play with his dad, his son Jace and nephews the last few years.

For Yankton native Jim Ahern, who played on the PGA Tour, his favorite memory from the Pro-Am was the year he won in in a playoff. Jim said, "I wanted to win it so badly in front of my hometown friends" – a memory he will never forget. Jim won the Pro-Am in 1977 and 1982.

Jim Binder Jr. from Yankton said a highlight for him as a Pro was the first year he got to come back and play in 1977. He won the team event with two Hillcrest members that he really enjoyed playing with – Jim Cimpl and Don Peterson, and they set the record for team score at the time at 51 under. Jim said the event drew so many amateurs that the teams were made up of 5-somes.

Hillcrest members who played in every Pro-Am since it started are Jim Tramp, Don Munson and Tom Cihak. A special memory for Jim from the very first Pro-Am in 1974 is that after teeing off on Hole #5, he ended up finding his ball at the top of a small evergreen tree on the berm off the left side of the green. At the time, the tree was about 5-feet tall and now it's over 50-feet tall! Pro-Am is always a special time for Jim as he enjoys playing with his family.

What I gathered from what makes the Hillcrest Pro-Am so special for so many is family, friends, staff putting in countless hours to make the event a success, our volunteers coming together every year to help make the tournament run so smoothly and the opportunity for all of us to celebrate and showcase what a special place Hillcrest is.

Lastly, a brief update on the clubhouse project. The committee has continued to meet and recently signed a contract with RML Architects out of Sioux City to begin the schematic design and programming phase of a potential clubhouse project.

**Dining & Lounge Hours**  
**Tues-Sat 11 am – Close**  
**Sunday 11:30 am -6 pm**  
**Lounge Only**

From this service, we will be provided with a general site plan, an opinion of probable cost, and renderings of the project in order to present to the membership. This is the preliminary step in the process of determining if the membership would like to move forward with this project.

There is one last Friday Night Couple's golf in August and still plenty of time to take advantage of all the amenities the club has to offer. Hope to see you out on the course, at the pool, on the patio, or enjoying a delicious meal at the club!





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## From the Course...

Our goals following Pro-Am are pretty simple this year. We are going to reseed 12 of the new tees built last summer and about half of 15 fairway. Once those two items are done we will begin

regular aerification of old and new tees, approaches, and fairways.

Sometime in September I am going to start overseeding some rough that either is burned out because of drought and heat, or about to be burned out.

I am going to expand the back of 4 green similar to 17 because it has so much bentgrass. I also want to expand 3 green and 13 green to remove some other bentgrass rough not as severe as #4.

So mostly we are just going to be concentrating on some playability issues this fall. These issues will always be around but they are normally inexpensive to fix. We just can't fix them all in one year.



## Steve Weiland to be inducted into the SDGA Golf Hall of Fame

Hillcrest's Steve Weiland will be inducted into the South Dakota Golf Associations Hall of Fame on Monday, September 20<sup>th</sup>. As part of the day, the SDGA is having a Three Person Challenge prior to the induction ceremony and banquet at Elmwood Golf Course in Sioux Falls. The cost of the team is \$375 for early registration and includes the evening banquet and induction ceremony. I would like to encourage you to think about putting a team together for the golf outing and come to the induction ceremony at the Holiday Inn and Suites.

For registration and additional information please go to <https://www.golfgenius.com/pages/3094124>.

Thanks for your support and congratulations to Steve!

JOIN US TO CELEBRATE  
THE LIFE OF  
*Shirley Ahrendt*  
JAN 1, 1948 - DEC 14, 2020

OPEN HOUSE  
August 15th | 2-5 pm  
Hillcrest Golf & Country Club



# Hillcrest Newsletter

August pro shop hours are Monday 12-close Tuesday-Sunday 8-close. If the weather is inclement, the pro shop will close early.



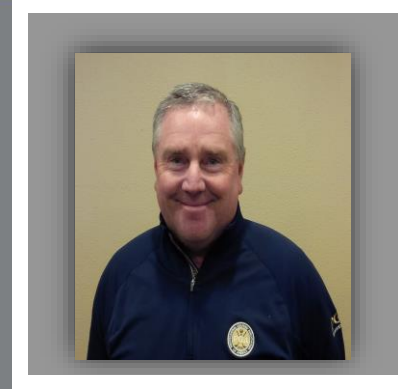
The Adults vs Parents Jr. Scramble was held on July 17<sup>th</sup> and the Jr's beat the Adults!

All of the tee sheets, results, and player statistics will be listed on [golfgenius.com](http://golfgenius.com). Go to the schedule of events page and click on the golf genius link and it will take you to the tee sheets and results.

Thank you to Dan Semmler and the pro/am committee for all of their hard work. Thank you to all the volunteers for helping during the event. Thank you to all the sponsors of the pro/am and a thank you for everyone that had played in the 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Hillcrest Invitational. Here are the results of the 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Hillcrest Invitational:  
[www.golfgenius.com/pages/7578733360164415982](http://www.golfgenius.com/pages/7578733360164415982)

## Upcoming events:

Yankton City Classic entry form is out. August 28<sup>th</sup> will be held at Fox Run and August 29<sup>th</sup> will be held at Hillcrest  
August 30<sup>th</sup> will be the Mount Mary Men's Invitational 10:00 shotgun start  
September 3<sup>rd</sup> will be the Mount Marty Women's Invitational  
September 10<sup>th</sup> the YHS Boy's Invitational 10:00 shotgun start  
September 11<sup>th</sup> KPI employee outing with a 9:00 shotgun start  
September 13<sup>th</sup> the golf course and clubhouse will be closed due to aerification of the greens.  
September 18<sup>th</sup> will be the Yankton vs. Vermillion challenge at Hillcrest. Get signed up on the bulletin board.



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## *From the Golf Shop*

Remember when you play at Hillcrest:

1. Come relaxed and leave Happy
2. You will remember your friends more than your scores
3. Play often and laugh more
4. Play the tees that make you the happiest
5. It's more fun when you're not the only one having it



James Henderson aced the 18<sup>th</sup> hole on Thursday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>. He was playing with Jim Chesley and Jim Schlingman. This was the 3<sup>rd</sup> time the 18<sup>th</sup> hole has been aced at Hillcrest. The other 2 were Scott Shindler and Ryan Elwood.