

October, 2012

Volume 1, Issue 4

INDIAN HILLS NEWSLETTER

NEWS

As we head into the fall and colder weather, we would like to remind everyone that Indian Hills is open all year, even throughout the winter. After Thanksgiving our pro shop hours will be down to four or five days a week, but we will still be here to help with any equipment needs or club-fitting. Please call ahead to make appointments for club-fitting, as our smaller staff in fall and winter requires us to plan our time more carefully. The golf course will remain open as weather permits. The weather conditions that prevent opening the course for play are snow, ice, frost, and excessive standing water (we continue to make progress in our never-ending battle against water standing in critical areas). Playing in cold temperatures doesn't necessarily damage the course, but please take special care to avoid walking on any grass that has frost on it. Walking on frost kills the grass, and it has very little chance to recover at this time of year. Shady areas are most likely to still have frost late into the morning, so please step carefully. Often we are open for play fairly late into the season even if most other golf courses have closed for the season. Last year, of course, we experienced a very warm winter and we had a number of golfers playing in January and February. March was unbelievably warm, and the course set a record for rounds played in that month. In regards to play during the winter, season passes or memberships (including pro-rated memberships) are valid through the last day of February. We are generally very lenient with returning members. If you are planning to remain a member you won't necessarily be required to pay the full annual fee to play a round in March. As always, gift certificates and golf discount cards do not expire; they will still be accepted next year.



Inside this issue:

COLD WEATHER	2
GOLF COURSE, PRO SHOP	3
CONTACT INFO	3
COURSE NOTES	4
COUPON	4

We hope everyone is enjoying our newsletter. If so, tell your friends. It is easy to sign up on our website <http://IHCcustomgolf.com>. We would like to expand our contacts as much as possible. This month we have a coupon for a discount on regripping of clubs (the coupon is on the last page). It does expire at the end of February, so try to think about those grips before next season starts. Look for more specials in the future, and possibly some new and entertaining ideas as well.

Indian Hills Newsletter

HELPFUL TIPS

Golf in colder temperatures is different than it is in the hot summertime, but it is still enjoyable. Obviously, it is important to wear warmer clothing in colder weather. Warmer clothing, however, often means more restrictive clothing. Be sure that you still have full range of motion with your cold weather gear, or be prepared to adjust if you cannot make your normal swing (i.e. wearing six sweatshirts and a coat in 30° temperatures). It is usually best to dress in layers. This allows you to remove a layer or two if you get too warm. Try not to wear too many long-sleeved garments, as this will restrict the range of motion in the arms; a vest is an excellent option. Since far more heat is lost through the head than anywhere else, a warm hat should be a priority as well. Winter golf gloves or cart mitts can keep your hands warmer (we also sell hand-warmers, they definitely keep the hands nice and toasty for a full round of golf), and don't forget about rain gloves for wet conditions.

Once you've gotten yourself dressed in warm and non-binding clothes, don't imagine that the cold won't affect your game. The temperature may still cause you to lose flexibility (compared to those 80°-90° days), this will cost you club-head speed and therefore distance. If you do manage to maintain your normal swing and speed, there are two distance-robbing effects that remain. Colder air is much heavier than warmer air. This causes more resistance to the flight of the golf ball and results in less distance, possibly as much as three to five yards per 10° of temperature. A player who drives the ball 200 yards on an 80° day in July will only hit it 180 yards when it is 40°. In addition, the colder air provides less buoyancy, making it difficult to keep the ball airborne. If the ball doesn't stay in the air long enough, it will not travel the required distance unless the ground is really firm and bouncy. But guess what! In the fall, it will almost always rain more than in July and August, so the ground is not as firm as it was back when you were generating those career longest shots in the summertime. Golf is still going to be fun in the fall and even in the winter, but it is worthwhile to remember that there are some differences from the spring and summer. Try to allow for shots that fly shorter distances and bounce less, and be realistic about your scores. If it seems like you were playing better or hitting it farther earlier in the year, you were. Understanding why can help alleviate a little bit of frustration.

Colder air results in less distance, as much as 3-5 yards per 10° of temperature.



Indian Hills is a 9 hole golf course that is one of Lansing area's hidden treasures. Wonderfully maintained, the golf course features lush fairways and consistently rolling greens. Mature trees frame the fairways and strategically placed bunkers and water hazards challenge your game. Indian Hills caters to golfers of all levels. The course is short enough for beginners to feel comfortable... while still providing a challenge for the expert player. The golf course is highlighted by abundant wildlife and numerous eye catching gardens.

At Indian Hills Custom Golf, we've been building custom golf clubs since 1979. Our professionally certified club makers Sam Anderson and J.C. Petersen can customize clubs for golfers of all abilities, from beginners to top players. Our full service pro shop offers a full range of club repairs, including re-gripping, extending or shortening clubs, re-shafting, loft and lie adjustments and much more. Most repairs can be done promptly and expertly within 48 hours. Custom club fitting by appointment Monday-Saturday.



www.facebook.com/IndianHillsGolfCourse



@IndianHillsMI

Check us out on the web:
www.ihcustomgolf.com

Indian Hills
4887 Nakoma
Okemos, MI 48864
517-349-1010
indianhillscustomgolf@yahoo.com



“Get Your Thrills at Indian Hills”

J.C.'s COURSE NOTES

HOLEY MONTH

Since Labor Day the crew has been aerating, top dressing, and seeding areas all over the course. We greatly appreciate your tolerance of this very necessary evil. The aeration holes allow oxygen and water to penetrate the soil more efficiently. They also make it easier for roots to grow deeper and spread. This is the key; longer, healthier grass roots will withstand the stresses that attack next summer. This past year we were looking pretty good “on top”, but our roots were not healthy enough in a lot of places to make it when things got really tough. We also introduced a new type of grass seed to the tees and fairways—a creeping form of rye grass that over time will become an aggressive spreader.

LET THERE BE LIGHT

If you've been on the course lately you've seen the tree work we're doing. The removal and thinning of trees on #8 has gotten the most notice. Not only does this allow golfers clearer shots off the tee, it also lets us use more of the tee area, spreading out the wear. The sycamores on the left of #4 fairway have been trimmed for similar reasons. I am eager to see the effects of the thinning on the right side of #6 fairway. This has always been a difficult area to grow healthy turf due to lack of sunlight and an abundance of tree roots. I want to thank all the golfers who were so generous with their suggestions for the next tree to get the axe.

PHOTO OP

One of my regrets over the years is that I've never taken many pictures of the golf course. Repeatedly, I've moaned about not having “before and after” pictures of projects or shots of huge snapping turtles. Fortunately, I've got some great pictures from Janet Emery, Gaylan Rasmussen, and Zoe Slagle. This got me to thinking: Why don't I get more people to do my work for me? So if you're a golfer with a camera, bring it along. We'll create a gallery of the best and most interesting shots.



WINTER REGRIPPING SPECIAL!

\$1.00 OFF

PER GRIP. INSTALLED GRIPS ONLY

COUPON IS REQUIRED

COUPON EXPIRES 2/28/2013

517-349-1010

