

# prairieview golf club



## Turf Notes from the Turf Care Center

Matt Henkel  
Golf Course Supt.

A very busy 2016 golf season necessitated pushing the bunker reduction project on hole #2 back towards the end of the season. As you may recall from our summer 2016 update, we discussed the removal of the first two fairway sand bunkers on hole #2. These two hazards served an important role in PrairieView's early years. With a few small trees present shortly after opening, the bunkers presented a challenge for golfers taking the ball down the left side of the fairway and they helped to catch wayward balls from interfering with play coming up hole #3. Fast forward 25 years and PrairieView now has large oaks and evergreens protecting that left side. In essence, a shot coming to rest in either bunker leaves the golfer faced with a double hazard. One being the bunker itself and the other being the large trees now between them and the fairway. In a day and age where golf courses should be doing more things to become more player friendly, this project fits perfectly. Not only will it possibly help shave a stroke or two off of the average golfer's score, there will also be valuable cost savings realized in the maintenance department. These two bunkers are two of the hardest to maintain on the entire course. Any substantial amount of rain will end up washing out the bunkers and leaving them unplayable. Reconstruction of the bunkers and the surrounding terrain could help alleviate the problem, but when taking into account the benefits of their removal for the overall customer experience, the decision became quite easy to make.

The scale of the project required bringing in approximately 450 cubic yards of soil to properly contour and shape the project area to allow for surface drainage to occur successfully. This meant a significant amount of traffic coming onto and off of the golf course as we hauled in the soil excavated from the district's river bottom dig site located just north and east of the golf course. Special thanks go to the City of Byron and Director of Public Works, Jeff Ludwig, for the use of an additional dump truck that expedited the project and limited interference to golfers playing the course. The strong intergovernmental ties that exist in the Byron community have been of great benefit to everyone and this project is another great example of how the sharing of resources between

entities can lead to successful results. Golf Maintenance staff members Terry Minard and Frank Noffsinger were able to move all the soil in a little over a day's worth of work. At this time, the initial grading of the area has been completed. If conditions remain favorable, we hope to finish grade the project area and have sod laid prior to winter.

If you would like more information about the projects taking place at PrairieView Golf Club, please give Golf Course Superintendent Matt Henkel a call at 815-234-8535 ext. 211.

## Golf Lessons

At PrairieView GC, our professional staff is available to help you take your golf game to the next level, or, for beginners, get you started on the right foot. We offer a variety of lesson rates and packages to help you tweak your game throughout the season. From full swing to short game, our professional staff can help you in every aspect of your game. At PrairieView GC, we have access to V1 video software so that each student can see their swing on video, frame by frame, to assist in your game improvement. If you are interested in booking a lesson or purchasing a lesson package, please contact the PrairieView Pro Shop today at 815-234-4653 and PGA Head Professional, Andy Gramer or Assistant Golf Professional, Tyler Weik, will be happy to assist you.

Lesson Rates: Adult (1 Hour) - \$50  
Adult (1/2 Hour) - \$25  
Junior - 18 & under (1 Hour) - \$40  
Junior - 18 & under (1/2 Hour) - \$20

**What a deal! Buy any 4 lessons (1 hour or 1/2 hour) and get the 5th lesson FREE!**