



# Hillcrest News

February 13, 2019

- Our Clubhouse Paint Party went wonderfully! A big Shout Out to our awesome volunteers whose efforts resulted in a fresh look for our entryway, counter area and back offices. We also installed a club re-gripping station upstairs. Thanks goes to Bill Postler, Mike Goen, Bill Warren, Michael Anziano, Marikay Shellman, Andy Asmuth, Jack Cavanaugh, Molly Mabie, Russell Dean, Steve Medill, and Bob Therrell .
- The Board of Directors has once again entered into a reciprocal agreement with Pinon Hills Golf Course in Farmington, NM. Hillcrest members can play there for \$35 all year, which includes green fee and cart. Just identify yourself as a Hillcrest member when a tee time reservation is made.
- This season, golfers with mobility issues will have new assistive technology to help them enjoy the game! The Adaptive Golf Program purchased a SoloRider golf cart that carries the clubs in front for easy access and allows the rider to get to the ball while seated. Delivered last week, the cart has hand controls and a motorized seat for easy transfer to/from wheel chairs. The cart will be housed in Hillcrest's cart barn and available to golfers by contacting Adaptive Golf directly for scheduling at 303-929-4410. Photo at right shows Adaptive Golf Program directors Molly Mabie and Andy Asmuth unloading the new SoloRider cart.
- X-Country skiing at the course has exploded in popularity this winter due to great snow and the hard work of our grounds crew in grooming the ski track. Often, both the clubhouse and practice parking areas are full, with hundreds of skiers enjoying the course each day. The skiers are very appreciative, contributing over \$3,000 in donations to help the club fund the labor and



equipment needed to maintain the track. Kudos to Bud Andersen, Will Herz, and Ken Kirby for making in-town x-country skiing possible!

- Our new Club Car “Tempo” electric golf carts have arrived and have been snugly nestled in our cart barn, ready to start the 2019 season. These carts are equipped with sand bottles on both sides and placard holders below the line of vision on the windshield. Their chargers are state-of-the-art and will use significantly less power than our previous fleet. Cart fees are unchanged from last year.

### **Answers to February’s Frequently Asked Questions:**

#### **Why Do We Need a Range Ball Machine?**

The machine will better serve both players and employees in a number of ways. It will be located next to the cart barn - a short distance to the practice tees which will eliminate juggling a full basket of balls down the stairs from the upper level. Although somewhat entertaining for those watching, that journey is often awkward and a bit dangerous. Reducing the labor needed to dispense range balls also allows the Club to reduce their cost: the small and large bucket sizes are both \$1 lower this year. For employees, the machine will eliminate the risk of injury due to lifting trash cans of balls to carts, efforts to drive them upstairs to unload, wheel inside, and finally dump into the counter bin. Counter workers will gain space for their work and have fewer interruptions as they serve you. Lastly, it will also free up cart barn workers to devote more time to serve the needs of players.

#### **Why Did We Discontinue Unlimited Range Passes?**

We have had two continuing problems that have proved impossible to solve and very expensive to continue. The first is hoarding practice balls. In spite of our repeated requests to players to stop that practice, we continue to lose balls. A larger issue is that of range pass holders who routinely share their balls with others. It seems like a generous gesture, but balls shared with players who should be buying their own represents a subsidy that is, ultimately, funded by our members. This loss

of revenue will be eliminated by the pricing structure we have instituted this year in which everyone pays for their balls while retaining a generous discount for those who hit a lot of practice balls.