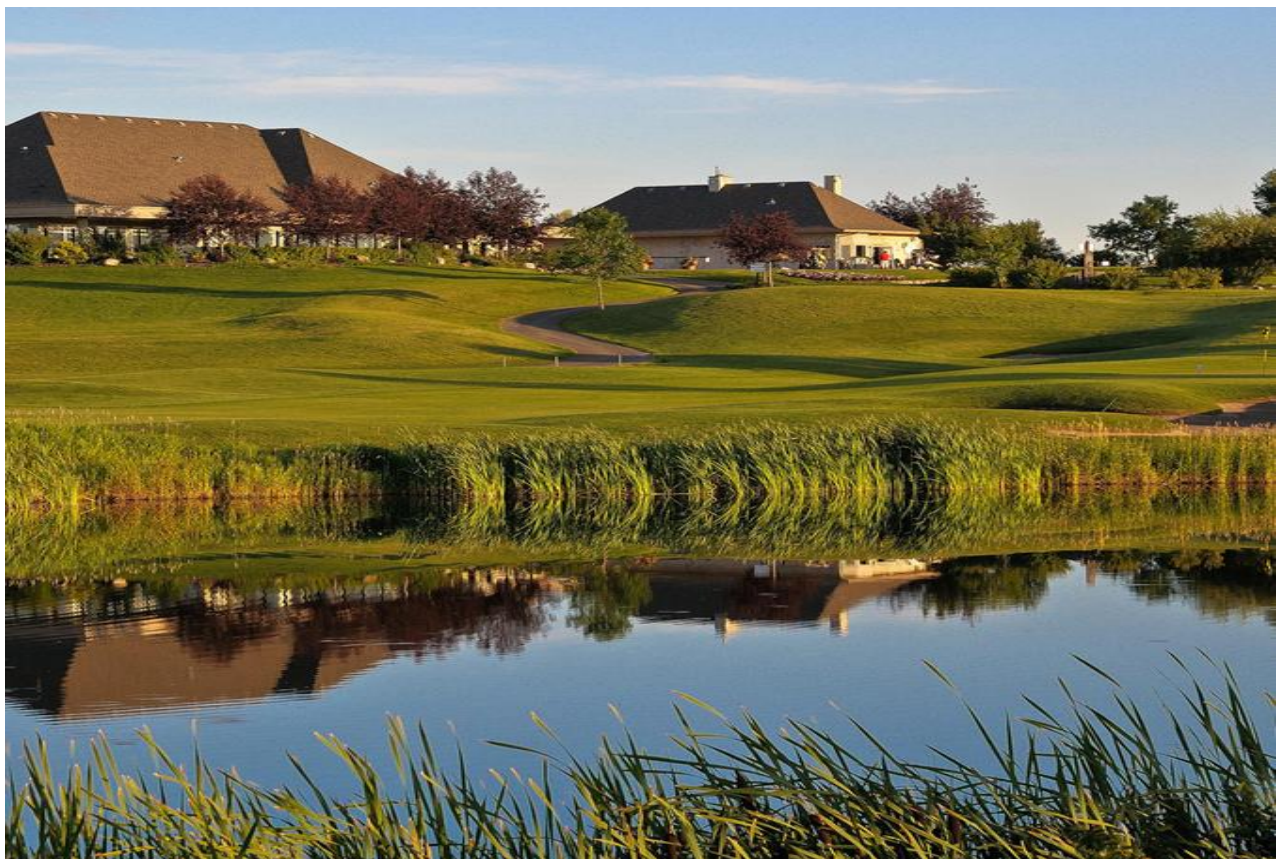


Northern Alberta Senior Amateur Golf Tour



“History”



The idea for a senior Golf Tour had its origin during the early 90's when a group of friends occasionally got together at various courses as a wishful continuation of the Inter-Club competition.

Jud Town enjoyed playing competitive golf and participated in amateur events throughout Alberta, Nevada and on the California Golden State Tour.

Using his experience, he conceived the idea of an amateur tour where senior golfers in Edmonton and area could compete for tournament prizes at various courses on a regular basis.

Jud Town created the name of the Northern Alberta Senior Amateur Tour or “NASA Golf Tour” for short. He established rules on how the Tour would operate:

- Men must be 55+ years old
- Fees would be \$20
- Only gross scores would be used
- Scores ranked in groups of 10 from lowest to highest
- \$10 allotted to green fees and \$10 prize money
- No one should profit from tour other than prize Money.
- Tour motto would be “**Good Golf and Fellowship**”

Jud contacted several golfers to gauge any interest. Alex Kozmak conducted a survey of the players at an inter-club wind-up. In late 1993 with positive feedback, Jud arranged 3 events, the first at J.R Golf Course with 16 players and the 2nd and 3rd at Eagle Rock Golf Course and Ironhead Golf Course.

Participation grew to 30-35 golfers, Jud and Alex presided over the three events.

In 1994 Jud assumed the role of Tour promoter and negotiator with host courses. Alex filled the position as the Tours first "Tour Coordinator "working with Jud to organize the details and administration of the Tournaments.

Based on this success and 18 event tournament schedules with a 60-player cap was launched in 1994. During the 1995 season the 60-player cap was often wait listed, so the cap was increased to 120 for 1996.

Concern was raised that some players could jeopardize their amateur status by accepting cash, so flight prizes were changed to Safeway coupons.

Mr. Jack Swan assumed the role of Tour Coordinator 1995- 1998 and Mr. Carmen Merrill took over from 1999 to 2004.

Art Switner became NASA's fourth Tour Coordinator from 2005 -2016.

In 2011 Ruth Benbow wife of a NASA member, approached and received approval from the NASA Golf Tour Executive to create a "Ladies Tour" Their first events were held in 2012 with around 35 members.

In 2017 Don Sandercock assumed the role of Tour Coordinator for the NASA Golf Tour.

In order to accommodate the huge player increase, and have more meaningful commitment from them while maintaining the pace of play, some changes were introduced during the late 90's early 2000's: i.e., the increase in the season registration fees, the three-minute rule for lost ball, the modified Out of Bounds rule, the 220-member cap and the cross-over tee time format.

To accommodate the overflow from the morning cross-over, afternoon tee times were introduced.

Following are some of the people who deserve credit for the concept and format of the Tour during the initial seasons and /or who were on the Executive: Jack Swan, Jud Town, Carmen Merrill, Lome Bates, Art Usher, Al Kozmac, Jim Murdoch, John Valens, Bill Schultz, Bruce Brodie.

Credit is also due to the Tour Coordinators who have kept the NASA Golf Tour a success that it is today.

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