After a forgettable 2018, 2019 will be an exciting year with the installation of the new golf simulators from HD Golf. The simulators are scheduled to be installed the week of January 14.

The plan is to schedule tee times through the online tee package located on the website. The fee will be $20.00 dollars per hour for any number of players. In 2020 we will probably have an unlimited fee. A twosome takes about an hour to play 18 holes and a foursome will take around 2 hours.

HD GOLF™ includes a fabulous selection of World-Famous Championship Courses

High Definition Golf™ combines high-resolution imagery with geophysical and satellite data, which results in a high-definition, 3D photo-realistic reproduction that is so crystal clear and faithfully reproduced, you’ll swear that you’re standing on the actual golf course. We also incorporate the industry’s most advanced tracking technology which measures all critical club and ball data precisely, creating a true reproduction of your ball’s flight. Mendakota will have 36 courses to choose from, most courses are very recognizable such as Pebble Beach, Bay Hill and Torrey Pines.

The simulators are excellent for club fitting!

For that reason, High Definition Golf™ introduces a revolutionary system that is so easy-to-use that professional club fitters and casual players alike can use it to achieve a perfect fit. Integrated seamlessly into every HD Golf simulator, the HDG™ club fitting software uses advanced computer vision technology to make a comprehensive series of highly-accurate measurements in real-time. These measurements are then displayed on the system touch screen and large display screen for instant feedback.

Using this advanced tool, club fitters can study the data they receive and then make recommendations based on key performance indicators that can now be captured and displayed by the simulator.

These include Shot Distance (Carry & Roll), Ball Speed, Club Speed, Launch Angle, Swing-Path (outside/in, inside/out), Club Head angle at impact (within +/- 10th of a degree), Ball Spin and Trajectory (fade, draw, hook, slice). The system will also measure Shaft Flex Profile, Club Head Acceleration, position of Maximum Club Head Speed, Angle of Attack, Load Factor and Swing Tempo.

Using the intuitive user interface, the Club Fitter can track every club, shaft or golf ball being tested and allows the Club Fitter to gap every club in their customer’s bag. As a result, the customer will be rewarded with a bag full of clubs that fit well and are fine-tuned for their level of play.

HD GOLF™ offers an extensive selection of Practice Facilities including Driving Ranges, Closest to the Pin, Chipping, and Putting Greens

These will be great for lessons; they will give you feedback on club face and path, launch angle, club head speed, ball spin and much more.

On behalf of the staff at Mendakota, we cannot express enough gratitude for the membership’s patience and generosity over the past year. We are rolling into the new year with fantastic new off-season offering in the golf simulators, but I would like to remind the members of a few other activities over the winter. Trails are groomed on the course when there is enough snow for skate skiing, cross country skiing, snow shoeing or just a brisk walk on the course. Maps will be available at the club for the groomed trails around the course, so please feel free to pick one up at the front desk or in the Grill. Golfo and Trivia nights have been very successful, and the club will try hosting two Golfo nights in January which may lead to a new off-season schedule.

As you may know, the golf membership filled this past summer, and 10 additional memberships were allowed in this fall. There are projected to be anywhere between 5 and 10 memberships open this spring. If you know of anyone interested in one of the best Clubs in the Twin Cities, please feel free to reach out to me or share my contact information. The sooner the better for applicants interested in an April 1 start date. Social memberships are always available for enjoying our dining facilities, social events and fantastic holiday events for just a low annual rate and no other obligations. It is a great place to have available for family gatherings, office happy hours or a quiet dinner.

The new year will also bring some incredible changes to our banquet facilities. In late February/early March, some technology upgrades will be installed to create a cutting-edge atmosphere for events. Mendakota will be the place to host speakers, give presentations, or to play that perfect video for your event. The more powerful Wi-Fi will also be a welcomed improvement weather you’re booking your next tee time or planning to get a little work done at the Club. Contact Perry or Lisa in the catering Office to inquire about your next event.

A quick reminder that golf membership resignations are due in writing by January 31 and only become effective March 31 of each fiscal year. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any membership related questions. A very Happy New Year to you and yours. We look forward to an amazing 2019 at Mendakota!

A Warm Welcome to Our Newest Social Members

Susan and Daniel Levey of Eagan, Dean and Barbara Verdoes of Mendota Heights, and Steve and Robyn Huspek of Mendota Heights.

From Tee to Green

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,
Merry Christmas, I hope everyone had an excellent holiday season. We are very busy at this time of year getting our Christmas decorations in order for the clubhouse, Trimming trees, and planned maintenance for our equipment. We have about 80 pieces of equipment that need oil changes, brake jobs, reel sharpening and hydraulic maintenance.

Winter is a perfect time to trim your trees. We will spend a good month this winter trimming trees. Trimming lower branches of a tree is called raising of the tree, also used to increase the amount of light for turf grass and ground cover beneath the crown of the tree. On mature trees pruning is required to remove dead or dying branches to maintain plant health and safety, this type of pruning is referred to as cleaning. Have a great winter and thanks for a great year.

Jeff Klosner
Membership Director

Thomas Schmidt
Golf Course Superintendent

ANNUAL SHUTDOWN
Mendakota Country Club will be
-CLOSED-
Monday, February 18 through Tuesday, March 5
The Clubhouse will reopen on Wednesday, March 6
Thank you for your understanding
Happy 2019!

This is the year your handicap will come down by 5 strokes. This is the year you will only have three bozo shots per round. Three putts (or worse!) will be a thing of the past. It can happen!

Women's Golf Statistics

How many female golfers are there in the U.S.?
Based on a report from the National Golf Foundation (data from 2017) there are 4.9 million women 18 years and older who play at least one round per year; this represents 24% of all U.S. golfers. Females comprise 39% of golfers in Germany and the Netherlands; in Sweden, a third of the golfers are female.

What's the average women's golf handicap?
The average female golfer has an official handicap of 26 on the GHIN system. The median handicap is about the same. However, the number can be misleading, since many women do not report their handicaps on the GHIN system.

What's the maximum Handicap Index a golfer can have?
For men it's 36.4 and for women it's 40.4. Obviously, the course handicap may be higher than the maximum Handicap Index.

How many rounds does the average female golfer play each year?
According to the National Golf Foundation, women 18-34 play about 11 rounds per year; women 65 and older play an average of 45 rounds per year.

What's the average driving distance for female golfers?
Female club amateurs drive an average of 146 yards. Female golfers with a handicap of 6 or less average 195 yards on their drives.

How much do golfers spend per year?
The average golfer spends nearly $2800 yearly on clubs, shoes and greens fees.

How many balls do golfers lose per round?
An average of 1.3 balls per round

Quote of the Month
"It's the most humbling sport ever. It's like a lousy lover. It's like some guy who's never there when you need him. Every once in a while he comes and makes you feel like heaven on earth. And then the moment you say 'I really need this,' he's gone."

Dinah Shore, singer, actress, television personality and golfer

Happy New Year! Although the golf season is now a memory, the snow shoes are waiting in the back of my car ready to embrace the beauty of winter with a walk around Mendakota's course.

Maybe you're not a lover of winter and are planning your warm weather vacation. If so, enjoy the sun and your rounds of golf wherever you may go. Those who stay north may be dreaming of that new putter or driver and how it will revolutionize their game. (Right?!) It won't be long until our 9 Hole Committee will begin planning the 2019 Season. If you'd like to join us, we would love to have one or two more share in the fun. Please contact one of the committee members below. Also, for an encouraging note that should be sent to a league member, please contact our Sunshine Chair, Alison Trost.

Joy and peace wished for you in the New Year!

9 Hole Committee:
Laurie Smith, Linda Dosser, Colleen Hegstrom and Sherri Fenelon
Happy New Year from the Senior League!

The holiday season has passed, and another winter has set in. Many Seniors are in Arizona, Florida, or some other warm climate working on their golf game. For the rest of us, we will have to be content using the two new golf simulators, taking lessons, or hitting range balls.

We would like to extend an invitation to our Senior golfers (age 55 and older) to join the Senior League in 2019. We had a terrific 2018 season and expect more of the same this year. We will have more information in the March/April Divot.

We wish you a safe and healthy winter and look forward to seeing everyone back at Mendakota in April.

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**MENDAKOTA’S NEW ADDITION**

Mendakota Country Club

Join Mendakota Country Club for Trivia Night!

**Free to Play!**

Come in early for dinner or eat while you play!

**Wednesday, January 16th & February 13th**

Starting at 6:30 pm

Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place!
I hope everyone had a joyous holiday with family and friends! As always, this is a planning stage for the culinary department getting ready for a new golf season that will be rapidly approaching.

I would like to quickly address some concerns I have heard about pre-made, canned and processed foods coming out of Mendakota’s kitchen. I can assure you, Mendakota is a 90% plus scratch kitchen. We do use some convenience products, but only when an item needs specialty equipment or time management that is not cost-effective for the Club. For example, demi-glace is a product that can take up to three days. We purchase the best demi-glace we can find to compliment some of our meat dishes. All other sauces are made in our kitchen.

Although Mendakota does not have a pastry chef, we still make most desserts in house, including mini pastries, breakfast pastries, trifles and cookies. We do source out to great bakeries for doughnuts and cakes. Soups are an item that the Mendakota kitchen takes pride in. Every soup you’ve had at the Club is made from scratch and we typically make two soups every day.

Mendakota has many other scratch items that you usually will not find at other restaurants. We smoke our own meats including brisket and ribs, and also smoke our barbecue sauce. We make our own corned beef. Seafood is cut and portioned at the Club. I make my dry rub from a recipe I created. We make preserves like our strawberry and blackberry jams, an we even make our own granola here.

Your culinary team takes pride in everything that comes out of the kitchen, and the effort from the team is outstanding. Every employee has their responsibilities to ensure consistency and standards with our recipes and plates.

Have a wonderful winter season wherever it may take you. I appreciate all comments, both positive and negative, so that I may address these things in the kitchen whether it’s compliments or corrections. Please reach out to me by email or phone.
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Board of Directors
Joanne Jirik Mullen, President
Chris Perrault, Vice President
Don Dunn, Secretary
Bruce Downey, Treasurer
Adam Rutzick, Past President
Kurt Larson
Mark Steege
Joe Leuman
Adam Johnston
Joan Nordling
Pam Ryan
Michelle Bressler

Club Directory
Dale Jones 651-905-6179
   Head Golf Pro, OM
Tom Schmidt 651-454-1441
   Golf Course Superintendent
Perry Johnson 651-905-6165
   Director of Catering
Michael Harper 651-905-6184
   Executive Chef
Jeff Klosner 651-905-6189
   Membership Director
Nicole Fox 651-905-6191
   Food & Beverage Director
Wade Gorsett 651-905-6164
   Controller
Dining Reservations 651-454-2822
Mendakota Grill 651-905-6162
Pro Shop 651-454-4200
Billing Questions 651-454-2822
Men's Locker Room 651-905-6177
Women's Locker Room 651-905-6178

Clubhouse Hours
Grill Hours:
Mon-Tue.... Closed
Wed-Sat.... 11am-8pm
Sun .......... 9am-1pm

Annual Shutdown is
February 18 through March 5

Main Office & Reservations
651-454-2822

Golf & Social Memberships
Available
Jeff Klosner 651-905-6189