

Change.

Since my family and I moved to Hastings fifteen years ago, many things have changed. I no longer have any kids in grade school, only one in high school, and two college graduates. My kids don't play roller hockey any more, and my barber tells me that my hair has turned more grey.

Lochland Country Club has also gone through some change in the past fifteen years. Lochland was part of the reason we came to Hastings. It was known as one of the better courses in the state, and definitely in western Nebraska. When we arrived, the clubhouse was smaller, and unable to support some of the needs of the membership. After the unfortunate fire that we had in 2000, the membership made the commitment to improve on what we had, to make the club bigger and better. During construction, the clubhouse was a trailer in the parking lot. For two years, everyone was inconvenienced with not having a formal dining area or a place to enjoy the company of friends. However, ten years later, everyone realizes that the changes the membership approved have improved services available, and

have allowed us to host many new events for our members, and others, that we were not able to host before.

After the construction of the new clubhouse, the construction of a new, modern, pool was approved. This, again, was an inconvenience for our members, but look at the result. Not only is the pool a wonderful venue to spend those warm summer afternoons with the family, but it makes Lochland more attractive to new members.

We are presently on the verge of more change. We have focused on the clubhouse for the past fifteen years since Lochland was seeded. Now it is time to focus on the golf course. Our golf course was built in 1962 and at the time, used the best grasses available. Research on grass hybrids for golf courses has improved in the past 50 years. Nebraska has very harsh winters, which are hard on the golf course, and could easily destroy not only the greens, but also the fairways. For two years, Lochland has had consultants from both the

USGA and the University of Nebraska Turf Program on the golf course, placing test plots to determine the best grass for the middle of Nebraska.



Roger Glen
2014 Board President

In August 2015, we will begin our latest change, The Emerald Project. The golf course will close on August 15, 2015, and will remain closed for golf until April 2016. This is a project that members, through committee work and membership input, have been working on for two years. This will allow the grounds crew to have sole possession of the golf course and make it better for the next fifty years.

Lochland has always been known as one of the premier golf courses in Nebraska. While this period will be an inconvenience for us, although the Huskers will be playing, it won't be the first inconvenience the membership has braved for the sake of improvement, but definitely one that our kids, and theirs will be able to enjoy for the next fifty years.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your president.

