18th Hole Fairway Improvement Project

Location: The 18th hole features the Thief River as an obstacle separating the fairway and the green. An elevated blue tee box also crosses the river to reach the fairway. The floodplain of the Thief River covers all the 18th fairway, which has been frequently flooded in the past. On average the fairway must be re-seeded every other year costing the course and it is members at least \$1,000 in materials and labor each time. Plus, this makes the hole unplayable the way it is intended to be for some or all the summer on the years that it



floods and needs to be re-seeded. This not only costs the course money on a constant and consistent basis. It also makes it nearly impossible for the course to maintain quality fairway grass for the players.

Project Description: The golf course has begun working on a solution to greatly reduce the damage induced from the floods on the 18th fairway. The work will involve re-shaping the fairway and raising it up to four feet from its lowest points. This will significantly increase the chances that the playing surface will remain above high river levels, keep the desirable fairway grass intact, improve the golfing experience by allowing golfers to use the hole more often, and save the course



money by decreasing the frequency of the staff having to re-seed the hole. Plus, this will improve the courses financial stability by attracting more out-of-town visitors and keeping more local golfers in town to play our course.

Progress Update as of 6/3/22:

Permitting – wetland and floodplain permit applications have received preliminary approval but await proper funding to move forward.

- Delineation cost= \$1,000.
- Mitigation cost= \$18,400.
- Floodplain No Rise Certification cost= \$10,926.

Construction – Have not started due to lack of funding.

- Tree removal and earthwork cost= \$15,000-\$30,000.
- Turf establishment cost= \$3,000.

Funding – have raised \$14,677 through donations thus far.

- Total cost= \$48,326- \$63,326
- Current gap in funding= \$33,649 \$48,649.
- Ideally, we will fund the entire project through donations to avoid adding stress to the course budget and its members.
- →\$0 spent, waiting for funding.

 \rightarrow \$0 spent, awaiting funding.

 \rightarrow \$3,000 spent, waiting for funding.

 \rightarrow \$1,000 spent.

 \rightarrow \$0 spent, last step of project.





Hole 18 on 4/23/22 ^

Hole 18 on 5/22/22→

Notice the brim of land separating hole 18 and the river?

The intention of this project is to raise the fairway about 3 feet above that brim of land, so it's crowned. That way at this water level we would be able to see the fairway and water would run off it naturally post project. Greatly increasing the chances of maintaining the quality of grass and golfer's ability to play the hole even on the worst flooding years. Not only would this decrease the amount of time that the fairway is underwater, but it would also



decrease the amount of garbage, sediment, mud, and etc. that ends up resting on the fairway and killing the grass. Therefore, saving the course money in the long run by not having to re-seed the fairway every other year. This would also seriously impact the courses financial stability on flooding years because when the course cannot open all 18 holes or when all 18 holes aren't available to play at a quality level. Non-member and even member golfers are more likely to play at surrounding courses like Red Lake Falls, Crookston, Warren, Erskine, and etc. Consequently, the higher the quality of our course and the more often all 18 holes are playable, the more local and non-local patrons we can attract to play the course. These pictures are from June 7th, 2022. Notice the river levels have dropped but there is still water and sediment sitting on top of the mud that should be the 18th fairway? Also, notice that the grass around the fairway on the far side of the picture is green and healthy?



Due to the bowl nature of the 18th fairway the grounds crew must pump the water off the fairway before they can clean it of debris. Once, that's complete they can then get to work with re-seeding it with an unknown timeline of when the hole will be playable again the way it is meant to be.

To whom does the course provide value?

- Total membership= 265 Junior members= 30 _
- Golf events that help raise money for local organizations= 16 -
- 19th hole events like weddings= 7 - 4 Middle and High school golf events
- Junior PGA events= 4
 - Working on adding a parent/ kid night 2-4 Middle and High school cross country events
 - Wednesday Men's league - Tuesday Women's league
- Monday Digi-Key league - Friday morning Junior league _
- Plus thousands of local and non-local non-member golfers

Note, these numbers can fluctuate from year to year, but these are our current estimates.

All donations are encouraged and appreciated. We intend to recognize our biggest supporters with a permanent plaque being installed on hole 18 as a sign of gratitude after the project is complete with the below tiers of support being encouraged.

- Red= \$500-\$1,500 -
- White= \$1,501-\$4,999 -
- Blue= \$5,001+

Thank you for your time and thank you to our current Blue Sponsors!

Sayler Dental

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From the Thief River Golf Club Board and it's Members

Derek Lee (Secretary) Edie Brandli (President) Drew Erickson (Vice President) Edie Brandli 127 a Shane Dondelinger Jan Nordin Cory Anderson In file up a derso Scott Stueber Ben Sayler

Questions?

