

## Nebraska state park course ready for play after four-year journey

PONCA, Neb. — It took four-plus years, tens of thousands of hours of volunteer labor, and individual contributions totaling \$461,000, but the nine-hole Highland Oaks Golf Course in Ponca State Park in northeast Nebraska is finally complete.

The course, built at no cost to taxpayers, is located on a leased 70-acre site in Ponca State Park two miles north of town and has a three-story, cathedral-like, 25,000-square-foot clubhouse. The course opened for play two years ago, but the clubhouse was just finished earlier this summer and the facility was recognized with a visit from Nebraska Governor Ben Nelson. It is the second course in Nebraska to be built on state park land. The other is Legend Buttes, located between Crawford and Fort Robinson State Historical Park.

Highland Oaks was a community project from the beginning. Volunteers helped install 17 miles of a double-row, underground irrigation system and built a 1.5-acre dam and lake for a rural water system to serve the course and the homes springing up between it and town. Volunteers also seeded the course, tilled the greens, built a 30-by-150-foot storage and utility building, built a septic tank system and even designed the clubhouse.

Golf course builder Marty

Johnson of South Sioux City, Neb., helped design and construct fairways, greens and tees. The course is set amidst the rolling hills and old stands of oak and ash trees at Ponca State Park and offers panoramic views of the Missouri River.

## Evergreen takes over management of Missouri muni

BLUE SPRINGS, Mo. — Evergreen Alliance Golf Limited of Irving, Texas, is the new management company for the under-construction Adams Pointe Golf Club — at least until October.

According to an agreement with the city, Evergreen Alliance will have oversight of the final construction phase of the course, including the final seeding and maintenance of the

course, up until Oct. 1. A permanent management firm will be announced at that time and the city has expressed that it hopes Evergreen, which manages courses such as the Iron Horse in Overland Park, would stay on for three years.

The course is expected to be open for play sometime this month, with the clubhouse opening in September.



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