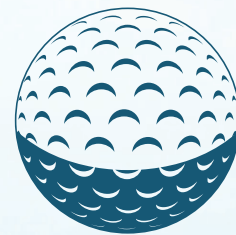




Swing
into fun!



GOLF GUIDE

The Rochelle News-Leader
Sunday, April 6, 2025 •
Section 3

The Ogle County Life
Monday, April 7, 2025 •
Section C

**Local
Courses
& Clubs**

**Golf
Communities**

**SPECIAL
RATES &
OFFERS**



SCAN THE QR CODE TO BOOK
YOUR TEE TIMES ONLINE AT
WWW.EMERALDHILLGOLF.COM



COME TRY THE NEW
CLUBHOUSE GRILL!



SPRING SHOULDER SEASON

Opening day through May 22

FALL SHOULDER SEASON

September 2 through Closing Day

18 holes w/ half-cart: \$28
9 holes w/half-cart: \$23
18 holes walking: \$23
9 holes walking: \$20
Junior 9/18 holes walking: \$20

SUMMER RATES

18 holes w/ half-cart:

9 holes w/half-cart:

18 holes walking:

9 holes walking:

Junior 9/18 holes walking:

WEEKDAYS

\$31

\$26

\$26

\$21

\$20

WEEKENDS

\$33

\$28

\$30

\$25

\$20

HOLIDAYS

\$38

\$33

\$35

\$31

\$23

2025 SEASON PASS FEES

Adult Single \$1350
Adult Couple \$1850
Adult Single Military \$1150
Adult Couple Military \$1575

College (18-25 w half cart) \$700
Intermediate (13-17) \$290
Junior (6-12) \$215

16802 PRAIRIEVILLE ROAD, STERLING, IL 61081 815-622-6204

GOLF GUIDE

Shady Oaks Country Club carved out of the countryside

SUBLETTE — Originally opened in 1961 as a 9-hole course and eventually converted to 18 holes in 1996, Shady Oaks lies nestled into the Lee County, Illinois countryside. What was once kept as a cow pasture is now a quiet, peaceful course without a home in sight.

It's easy to become lost in its beauty as you find yourself amongst the trees, native prairie grasses and wildlife while enjoying your round. We are open to the public but private events and outings are also welcomed. After your round, be sure to

stick around the clubhouse where we feature a large selection of apparel and merchandise as well as a full bar offering up pizza, burgers, hot dogs, brats, Polish sausages, snacks and beverages.

We also invite you to enjoy your food and drink on our outdoor patio while taking in the spectacular views overlooking our course and surrounding property. If you have children that would like to play, we offer free Junior Clubs for their use while on property.

Children 13 and under play free with paying adults or members.



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Shady Oaks Country Club is one of Lee County's true hidden gems.

Shady Oaks may not appear difficult on paper, and at 6,200 yards from the tips it doesn't quite measure up to the mon-

sters being built today. What Shady Oaks lacks in length, it makes up for in character. Its tree lined fairways and small

sloped greens can take a toll on even the most experienced golfers and make scoring very difficult. A driver off the tee

is certainly not a given and accurate short irons along with a hot putter are a must to conquer this beautiful layout.

Recently ranked #14 on the GolfPass list of top 25 public courses in Illinois

Membership Rates

BASE RATES

(All memberships include cart unless otherwise stated)

COUPLE - \$1,360

(Family add \$25 per child under 18)

SINGLE > 35 - \$990

SINGLE < 35 - \$740

JR WITH CART - \$425

(Age 18 - College grad)

JR NO CART - \$189

(Age 18 - College grad)

First Time

Member

Discounts

30% year 1

20% year 2

10% year 3

Kids under 13 play free

with a member or paying adult

Summer Rates

May 17-Sept. 7

Weekday:

9 holes w/cart \$21

18 holes w/cart \$34

Weekend:

9 holes w/cart \$27

18 holes w/cart \$45

Spring Rates

April 1-May 16

9 holes w/cart \$21

18 holes w/cart \$34

*Rates apply to weekdays and weekends

Corporate Memberships also available!

Entertain clients or reward employees!



577 US RT 52, Sublette, IL 61367
P.O. Box 137, Amboy, IL 61310 | 815-849-5424 | www.shadyoaksccl.com

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GOLF GUIDE

Sycamore Golf Club presents blend of challenge, playability

SYCAMORE — Set against the serene backdrop of the Kishwaukee River, Sycamore Golf Club stretches just under 6,000 yards, offering a unique blend of challenge and playability.

Tree-lined bentgrass fairways and expansive bentgrass greens create an inviting yet competitive environment—perfect for seasoned golfers seeking a true test of skill, while still welcoming novices with the chance to score and enjoy the game. Where tradition meets nature on every fairway. A facility of the Sycamore Park District.

Play is fair for novice

and intermediate players alike while remaining a true test of golf for the advanced golfer. The friendly and attentive staff go above and beyond to ensure you have a good round and great day on the course.

Among the many amenities are: 18 Holes | Walking or Riding | 3 Sets of Tee Boxes | Solo-Rider Accessible Golf Cart | Fully stocked Pro Shop | Rental Clubs | Cad-dyshack Grill on site.

For more information about Sycamore Golf Club or to book a tee time, visit online at <http://www.playgolfsycamore.com> or call 815-895-3884.



(COURTESY PHOTO)

The Sycamore Golf Club, a facility of the Sycamore Park District, is known as one of the finest manicured courses in Northern Illinois.



Sycamore
GOLF CLUB
Est. 1923

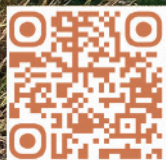
*Where tradition meets
nature on every fairway.*

*Workshops • Youth Programs
Outings • Leagues • Private Lessons*

PlayGolfSycamore.com • 815-895-3884
940 E. State Street • Sycamore, IL

A facility of the Sycamore Park District

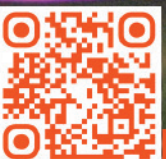
Sculpted On an Ancient Prairie



6734 N German Church Road
Byron, IL
(815) 234-4653
prairieviewgolf.com



RESERVE YOUR BAY TODAY!



6734 N German Church Road, Byron, IL
prairiefiregolf.com | (815)234-FIRE (3473)

GOLF GUIDE

Silver Ridge presents one-of-a-kind course layout

OREGON — Located just off of Illinois Route 2 between Byron and Oregon, Silver Ridge Golf Course is a one-of-a-kind layout designed to test all abilities.

The course is a unique mixture of hills and trees that makes you feel completely disconnected from reality. Come play Silver Ridge today so you can relax and block the world out for at least a few hours.

There are 18 holes, a practice facility including range to sharpen your skills, a professional ready to teach any skill level from beginner to expert, multiple banquet rooms for parties and get-togethers



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Located just off of Illinois Route 2 between Byron and Oregon, Silver Ridge Golf Course is a one-of-a-kind layout designed to test all abilities.

for all different sizes and occasions, a fully stocked pro shop, and a family friend staff that is experi-

enced and ready to make sure your golf outing or event exceeds your expectations.

Even if you've been playing in the fairway but venture out to experience this diamond in the

rough. Silver Ridge is the diamond you've been searching for.

The course is located

at 3069 N. Hill Road, Oregon. For more information, go to <http://www.silverridgegolf.com>.

Spring Rates

Weekdays - \$24 for 18 Holes with Cart

Weekends - \$32 for 18 Holes with Cart

Summer Rates

Weekdays - \$32 for 18 Holes with Cart

Weekends - \$40 for 18 Holes with Cart



SILVER RIDGE GOLF

3069 N. Hill Road, Oregon, IL 61061

Phone: 815-734-4440 Website: www.silverridgegolf.com

GOLF GUIDE

Wolf Hollow Golf Course providing quality experience since 1928

LENA — Founded in 1928, the Wolf Hollow Golf Course has prided itself in offering a quality golf experience for everyone.

The Wolf Hollow 18-Hole Championship course provides just the variety of course layouts to suit every level of golfer. Set among the rolling hills of Northwest Illinois, just 3 1/2 miles North of Route 20, near the Village of Lena our course is easy to get to and ready for your enjoyment.

A demanding challenge awaits you at the 6,408 yard Wolf Hollow Championship course. It's just what the doctor

ordered if you like beautiful elevation, large bent grass greens, and multiple teeing areas. Wolf Hollow will test your shot making skills with a fantastic risk-reward design that will often entice you.

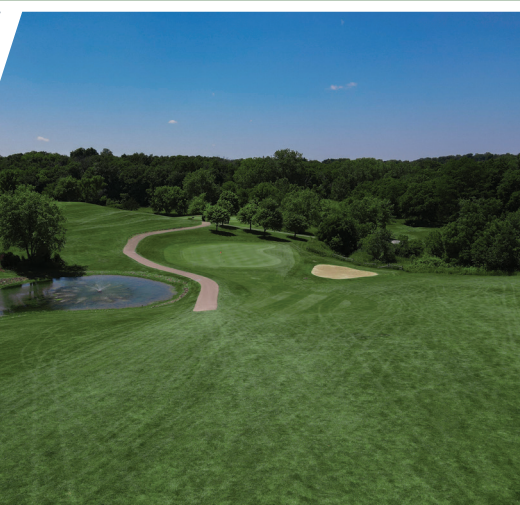
When your round is over you can relax in our comfortable lounge and take advantage of our short-order menu while watching television from virtually any seating location. Our banquet hall is available for wedding parties, reunions, lunch meetings, dances, and more.

Simply contact the Wolf Hollow Clubhouse at 815-369-5513 to book your event.



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Founded in 1928, the Wolf Hollow Golf Course has prided itself in offering a quality golf experience for everyone.



**Top 25
Value
Courses
in the US**

Join a
League

**Visit our website for
Rates and Membership**

Sign up for
Lessons



Foursome for \$100

**Monday - Friday
anytime**

Weekends after 1pm

**Good for one foursome
including carts.**

Expires end of 2025 season

Wolf Hollow Golf Course

**6546 N. Shippee Road | Lena, IL 61048
815-369-5513 | wolfhollowgolf.net**

GOLF GUIDE

Fairways, Skare Park gearing up for season

ROCHELLE — Fairways Golf Course is now open for the 2025 season.

Fairways is a unique par-66 course designed by Perry Maxwell of the AS-GCA. The 18-hole course has been open since 1929 and offers mature tree-lined fairways with country club course conditioning and an average round time of three-and-a-half hours.

To book a tee time, call 815-562-6666 or visit online at <http://www.fairwaysgolfcourse.com>.

Season pass rates include \$500 for adults, \$300 for college students, \$100 for high-schoolers and \$50 for middle-schoolers. Grade-schoolers golf for free when accompanied by an adult.

For more information,

contact Fairways Golf Course on Facebook, visit online, or call the pro shop.

Open daily 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., the Skare Park range fees include \$5 (one token) for a small bucket of balls and \$10 (three tokens) for a large bucket. Bulk tokens are available for purchase at The REC Center at the following rates: seven tokens for

\$20, 10 tokens for \$30 and 15 tokens for \$40. Don't forget All-Inclusive REC members receive 50 percent off driving range tokens.

There are plenty of opportunities to get involved with golf this year through the Rochelle Park District and Fairways Golf Course. Call 815-562-7813 for more information.



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Emerald Hill Golf Course offers an entertaining experience for golfers of all skill levels

Emerald Hill Golf Course ready for 2025 season

STERLING — Emerald Hill Golf Course offers an entertaining experience for golfers of all skill levels. Whether you're a seasoned pro or a beginner just starting out, you'll find our course both challenging and enjoyable, set against a relaxing, picturesque backdrop.

Our meticulously maintained fairways and greens will test your accuracy and precision. Strategically placed water hazards add an extra layer of challenge to your game, requiring thoughtful play. Navigate our sand traps to hone your skills and improve your strategic approach to the course.

Our Pro Shop is your first stop before and after your round of golf. Our friendly and knowledgeable staff are here to assist you with tee time reservations, golf club rentals, and memberships. We offer a selection of golf balls, hats, and accessories.

Enhance your skills at our top-notch practice facilities. Whether you're working on your short game or driving skills, we have you covered. Perfect your precision and control

on our practice greens or on our chipping and putting areas, or practice your swing and increase your distance with our self-service driving range.

After a long day on the course, unwind at the NEW Clubhouse Grill. Refresh with a cold alcoholic or non-alcoholic beverage. Satisfy your hunger with our delicious snack options or enjoy a full meal. If the Clubhouse Grill is closed, don't worry! The Pro Shop offers drinks and snacks to keep you energized as well.

Join us at Emerald Hill Golf Course for a day of fun, challenge, and relaxation at 16802 Prairieville Rd in Sterling. Visit us on Facebook or visit our website at www.emerald-hillgolf.com. There, you can book tee times, contact us, or purchase a gift card.

We look forward to welcoming you, helping you improve your game, and having some fun out on the course or in the clubhouse.

For more information, please contact: Emerald Hill Golf Course, 815.622.6204, 16802 Prairieville Road, Sterling, IL 61081, info@sterling-parks.org.

PrairieView, PrairieFire offer premier golf experiences

BYRON — A premier golf destination on a scenic stretch of land that overlooks the Rock River in Byron.

Owned and operated by the Byron Forest Preserve, PrairieView Golf Club is regarded as one of the best public golf facilities in the state and is also home to PrairieFire Golf & Grill, Toptracer Range® that offers year-round golf entertainment set on a driving range with scenic course views. Throughout the years many Chicago-area golfers have come to enjoy this gem of a course with many commenting PrairieView is "well worth the drive".

PrairieView Golf Club

Designed by renowned golf course architect James Spear, PrairieView is a scenic and well-conditioned par 72 bentgrass layout that treats golfer to a mix of tight tree-lined holes and open links-style holes. With four sets of tees, stretching to over 7,000 yards, the course design takes advantage of a natural, rolling terrain. PrairieView also features added touches including

electric GPS golf carts and large practice areas.

Well-known for excellent course conditioning, PrairieView features large, undulating greens and rolling fairways that are rigorously maintained to ensure ideal course conditions. "We take a lot of pride in maintaining our course at a high-level from both an aesthetics and playability standpoint" says Scott deOliveira, General Manager. "Given our rural setting, our exceptional course conditions and scenic views are what draws golfers from both Rockford and Chicago areas."

To complete the golf experience, PrairieView also features the PrairieGrass Pub for great post-round food and drink options and a scenic deck and patio overlooking the 18th green. The Pro Shop in the clubhouse is also fully stocked with equipment and apparel.

Come experience why so many golfers consider PrairieView a premier golf destination. Tee times can be booked up to 7 days in advance at prairieviewgolf.com.



(COURTESY PHOTO)

A premier golf destination on a scenic stretch of land that overlooks the Rock River in Byron.

PrairieFire Golf & Grill

Gone are the days of putting the clubs away for the winter at PrairieView. In 2020, PrairieFire Golf & Grill opened its doors on the driving range at PrairieView with great reviews from both golfers and non-golfers. PrairieFire is a year-round driving range with eight hitting bays featuring Toptracer® technology.

The Toptracer system includes a variety of fun, interactive game modes using high-tech cameras to track and trace the ball down range. From "Go Fish" and "Points Game" to 20 different virtual courses, the Toptracer system provides golf entertainment for any skill

level. Each hitting bay can accommodate up to eight players and is equipped with heaters, fire tables, and lounge furniture making it a year-round destination for golf entertainment. The LED lit range targets provide a warm glow on the range for golf well into the night.

PrairieFire has come to be known as a fun and inviting setting for both golfers and non-golfers alike. With great food and drink selections, PrairieFire hosts many birthday parties, family gatherings, date nights, and corporate events throughout the year. There are many sharable items on the menu and the bar has 10 beers on tap, many of which are locally sourced.

GOLF GUIDE

DeKalb Park District offers two courses in Buena Vista, River Heights

DEKALB — An affordable yet challenging golf is closer than you think.

The DeKalb Park District is proud to offer two excellent golf courses for golfers of all skill levels. River Heights Golf Course is an 18-hole (par-72), and Buena Vista is a nine-hole (par-32) course with a Driving Range and Pitch & Putt Junior Course.

Enjoy golf as it should be at River Heights Golf Course in DeKalb. River Heights offers 18 holes of scenic golf along the Kishwaukee River, located on the south side of DeKalb off Annie

Glidden Road—a mix of traditional and links-style holes challenge weekend golfers and the more serious player. The friendly, professional staff provides first-rate golf and excellent service for an enjoyable golfing experience.

Refreshments on the Clubhouse deck with scenic golf views are a must. River Heights is also home to such 2025 specialty golf outings/events as the Birdies & Beer Scramble, Golf Fore the Kids Scholarship Golf Outing, Club Championship, Glow Golf, and the Labor Day Weekend Better Ball Tournament.

Located off North First Street in DeKalb, Buena Vista is a nine-hole (par-32) golf course with areas like the Driving Range and practice greens. With all these amenities, Buena Vista is an excellent place for golfers of ages and skill levels to play.

The inaugural Pitch N' Putt Junior Scramble and Turkey Shootout is at Buena Vista. Golfers also participate in leagues, tournaments, and special events all season. For more information about the DeKalb Park District golf facilities and to book a tee time at one of the courses, visit <http://www.golfdekalb.com>.



(COURTESY PHOTO)

An affordable yet challenging golf is closer than you think. The DeKalb Park District is proud to offer two excellent golf courses for golfers of all skill levels.



RIVER HEIGHTS GOLF COURSE

1020 SHARON DR. | DEKALB | (815) 758-1550
18 SCENIC HOLES ALONG THE KISHWAUKEE RIVER!

BUENA VISTA GOLF COURSE

131 BUENA VISTA DR. | DEKALB | (815) 758-4812
9-HOLE (PAR 32) DRIVING RANGE/PRACTICE AREAS

TWO GREAT COURSES FOR GOLFERS OF ALL SKILL LEVELS!
View themed golf outings, programs, and book tee times at golfdekalb.com



GOLF QUIZ

How well do you know your sport?

Are you a die-hard golfer (or an enthusiastic fan of the pros)? Think you have nothing left to learn about your game of choice? Test your golf smarts with these tricky trivia questions.

TRUE OR FALSE?

1. Golf was featured three times at the Summer Olympics prior to the 2016 Games in Rio.
2. The inventor of the Stimp-meter was named Edward Stimp.
3. A standard golf hole has a diameter of 4.5 inches.
4. South Korean golfer Inbee Park took home the gold

at the 2016 Rio Olympics.

MULTIPLE CHOICE

5. How many wins did the late Sam Snead register on the PGA Tour?
A. 82
B. 83
C. 84
6. Which of the following players has won the most Masters Tournaments?
A. Jack Nicklaus
B. Tiger Woods
C. Arnold Palmer
7. In what year was the first PGA Championship held?
A. 1914
B. 1915
C. 1916

WHO AM I?

8. I'm the tennis player and golfer who won the very first men's golf tournament at the 1900 Paris Olympics.
9. Along with Robert T. Jones Jr., Ben Hogan and Jack Nicklaus, I'm one of only four players to have won the U.S. Open four times — and

the only to have won three years in a row.

10. In 1868, when I was 17 years old, I became the youngest player in history to win the British Open. I beat my own father, who was the tournament's reigning champion — and its oldest winner!

ANSWERS
1. False. Twice, in 1900 and 1904.
2. False. It was Edward Stimpson.
3. False. 4.25 inches.
4. True.
5. A.
6. A, 6 times (4 times for Woods and Palmer).
7. C.
8. Charles Edward Sands.
9. Willie Anderson (1901, 1903, 1904 and 1905).
10. Tom Morris Jr.

7 SURPRISING FACTS about golf

Are you a golfing enthusiast? Here are **SEVEN FASCINATING FACTS** about the sport that even the most diehard golfers may not be aware of.

3

You've made it onto the green, but another ball is in your way. Before 1952, you would have had to either go around it, or chip to reach the hole.

5

When you hear the word green, you probably think of the putting green. However, until 1812, "green" was used to refer to the entire course — hence the term "green fee."

6

Not sure which club to use? Just know that according to rule 8-1, you aren't allowed to ask anyone but your caddie, your partner, or your partner's caddie for advice.

4

Golf balls are cheap and easy to come by these days, but that hasn't always been the case. Balls produced up until the middle of the nineteenth century were expensive and fragile, consisting of a leather sphere stuffed with lots of feathers — enough feathers, in fact, to fill a top hat up to the brim. Back then, makers were able to produce a whopping four balls a day.

7

In golf, pace is important — which is why it's so surprising that until a designated starting area was established in 1875, players had to start near the previous hole, at less than one club's length distance.

1

It's a well-known fact that golf has its roots in Scotland. Interestingly enough, the sport was banned in its home country for nearly 45 years. Why? Because archers were needed to defend the land. From 1457 to 1501, the Scottish Parliament banned golf so that men would dedicate more of their time to archery training.

2

Missed your shot and took your anger out on your putting iron? You're out of luck: you'll have to finish your round without a putter. The official rules state that a club damaged by anything other than the regular course of the game can't be replaced.

GOLF GUIDE

Park Hills Golf Club: A Premier Destination in Northern Illinois

FREEPORT — Golf season has officially arrived in the Midwest. As the sun shines and temperatures rise above 50 degrees, golfers are searching for the perfect course to kick off their season. Look no further than Park Hills Golf Club in beautiful Freeport, Illinois—a hidden gem offering one of the premier golfing experiences in Northern Illinois.

A Course for Every Golfer Nestled on 300 acres of rolling countryside, Park Hills boasts two exceptional 18-hole courses, each providing a distinct challenge for players of all skill levels.

The East Course: A Strategic Challenge For

those who enjoy a balanced mix of challenges and playability, the East Course is an excellent choice. Measuring 6,503 yards from the tips, this par-72 course features tree-lined fairways, well-placed bunkers, and generally receptive greens that reward smart shot-making. With a course rating of 70.8 and a slope of 124, the East Course is approachable for all skill levels, offering a relaxing yet engaging round of golf.

The West Course: A True Shotmaker's Test For those seeking a greater challenge, the West Course delivers. At 6,627 yards from the back tees, this par-72 course presents dramatic elevation

changes, tree-lined fairways, and forced carries that require precision planning and strategic execution. With a slope rating of 128 and a course rating of 71.9, the West Course demands accuracy and skill, making it a favorite among competitive golfers looking to test their mettle.

Beyond the Greens: The Full Park Hills Experience At Park Hills, golf is about more than just numbers on a scorecard—it's about the entire experience. Start your day at the 300-yard grass-tee driving range or fine-tune your short game on one of the two putting greens. Need new gear? The fully stocked pro shop has you covered

with the latest equipment and apparel.

When it's time to refuel, the Legacy Pub in the newly renovated clubhouse is the perfect spot to enjoy a delicious meal and a cold beverage. Whether you're grabbing a quick bite between nines or unwinding after a round, the welcoming atmosphere ensures a great time. For those who appreciate a scenic finish, the clubhouse patio provides a stunning backdrop to relax and soak in the natural beauty of the course.

An Affordable, Private Club Feel Park Hills offers the quality and experience of a private club without the price tag and commitment.



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Park Hills Golf Club offers all who come to visit not one, but two exceptional rounds that feature the best of what Midwestern golf has to offer.

With well-maintained facilities, friendly hospitality, and two dynamic courses, it's easy to see why golfers return time and again.

Book Your Tee Time Today. Whether you're tackling the East Course, taking on the challenges of

the West, or simply enjoying a day on the links, Park Hills Golf Club promises a memorable golf experience. Don't miss your chance to play—reserve your tee time online at www.parkhillsgolfcourse.com or call 815-235-3611 today.

Come drive with us!



PARK HILLS
GOLF COURSE

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parkhillsgolfcourse.com

36 CHAMPIONSHIP HOLES

GREAT RATES FOR 2025!

FAIRWAYS



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Rochelle, Illinois

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815.562.6666

Come "Play" what you've been missing!

- Public Golf Course – Everyone Welcome
- Open Daily 7am to Dark
- Challenging 18 hole course
- Mature trees, lush fairways & manicured greens
- Practice bunkered chipping-putting green

FOR BEST
AVAILABLE
RATE, BOOK YOUR
TEE TIME AT
FAIRWAYSGOLFCOURSE.COM

Weekdays

18 Holes.....\$18

9 Holes.....\$14

With Cart

18 Holes.....\$30

9 Holes.....\$23

*After 4 pm - \$25 unlimited

Weekends

18 Holes.....\$20

9 Holes.....\$16

With Cart

18 Holes.....\$35

9 Holes.....\$26

*After 4 pm - \$27 unlimited

Monday

Special!

\$25 for 18

holes with cart

*Prepaid online only

SEASON PASS

\$500!



Schedule your tee time online at fairwaysgolfcourse.com
or by phone at 815-562-6666 in advance,
including passholders.

SKARE PARK DRIVING RANGE



**NOW
OPEN
FOR THE
SEASON**

**OPEN
DAILY
9AM TO
8PM**

TOKENS:

SMALL BUCKET

LARGE BUCKET

\$5

\$10

1 TOKEN, 25 BALLS

3 TOKENS, 75 BALLS

BULK TOKENS*:

10 TOKENS: \$30

15 TOKENS: \$40

*MUST BE PURCHASED AT THE REC



Flagg Rochelle
COMMUNITY PARK DISTRICT

9490 E Flagg Road | Rochelle, IL 61068