

## Skokie Country Club

500 Washington Ave

Glencoe, IL 60022

General Number: (847) 835-0600

Golf Pro Shop: (847) 835-5835



### Welcome to Skokie Country Club!

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## Directions & Map

### From Downtown

Take Edens Expressway north to Dundee Road. Exit east. Take Dundee east to Bluff Street. Turn right. Take Bluff south to Washington Ave. (note the jog at South Ave.) and turn left onto Washington. Continue east on Washington. SCC is to the right.

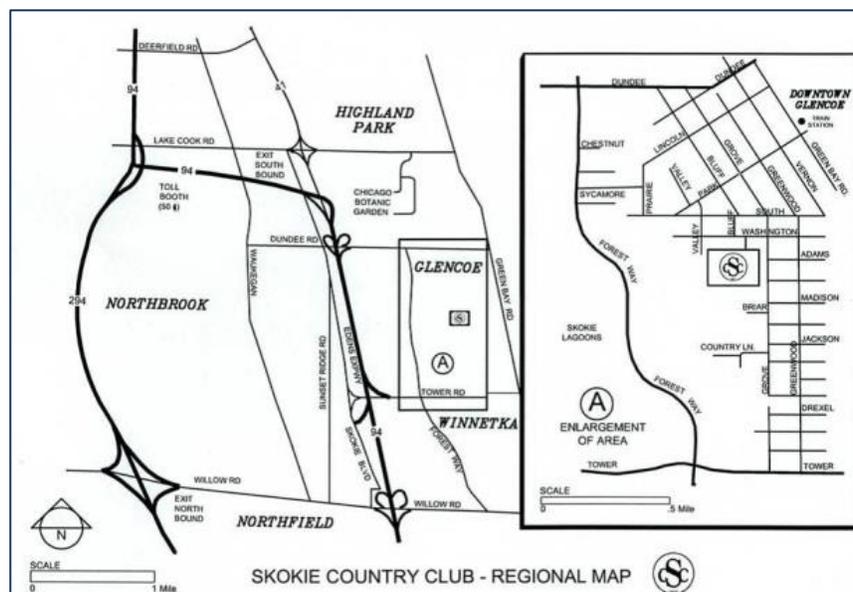
### From the South and West

Take 294 north to Willow Road. Exit east. Take Willow Road east to Sunset Ridge Road. Turn left. Take Sunset Ridge north to Skokie Boulevard. Turn left. Continue north on Skokie to Dundee (1st light). Turn right onto Dundee and continue east to Bluff Street. Turn right onto Bluff. Take Bluff south to Washington Ave. (note the jog at South Ave.) and turn left onto Washington. SCC is to the right.

### From the North (Via US41/I-94)

Exit Tower Road. Turn right at Frontage Rd. Turn right at first stop sign (Tower Rd. East). 1.5 miles to Greenwood. Turn left on Greenwood. Proceed north to Washington Avenue. Turn left. You will see the SCC sign at the corner of Washington and Grove. Continue on Washington to the first driveway on left.

Note, the parking lot at Skokie should only be entered from the Washington Street entrance and exited by the Grove Street exit.



## **Pertinent Club Information**

### ***Dress Code***

Proper golf attire is required for men and women at all times.

- Golf attire, including slacks, Bermuda-style shorts, women's golf skirts, and golf shirts and blouses with collars, are appropriate in the Clubhouse. Types of attire not permitted include cargo styled shorts or pants, denim clothing, jeans (including dress jeans), tank tops, halters, T-shirts, and other collarless shirts, short shorts, cut-offs, swimwear and warm-up and exercise attire. Bare feet are not permitted at any time in the Clubhouse.
- Gentlemen should not wear hats inside the Clubhouse.
- Shoes and clothing should be changed in the locker room, not the parking lot.

### ***Cell Phones***

Except in cases of medical emergencies, the "active" use of cellular telephones and pagers is strictly prohibited in all areas of the Club, other than the Club parking lots. This includes the golf pro shop and learning center, the golf course and the golf practice areas. The "passive" use of cellular telephones and pagers is permitted for the sole purpose of listening to or reading messages but only so long as the devices are in a "silent" or "vibrate" mode and no "beeps" or "rings" or other sounds are emitted. "Land-line" telephones are available for use in various locations in the Clubhouse.

### ***Employees***

Employees are an integral part of the Skokie Country Club family and experience. Some staff members have been with the Club for many years, and:

- Employees should be treated with the dignity and respect they deserve.
- Employees do not make the rules, but are required by the Board of Directors to see that these rules are respected by members and guests alike.
- Skokie Country Club has a **no tipping policy**.

### ***Reciprocal Billing***

Cash is not used anywhere at the club except at the pro-shop for merchandise. Skokie does allow for reciprocal billing between other north shore country clubs if desired. Please inquire at the pro shop.

### ***Miscellaneous***

- No smoking is allowed in the Clubhouse.
- Members should always notify the pro shot of all guests and are strongly encouraged to arrive at the course prior to their guest's arrival to be on hand to greet their guests. However, in the event this doesn't happen please read the "When you arrive" section for more information about preparing for a round of golf at Skokie.

## **Skokie Country Club Welcomes You**

We know that your round will be most enjoyable if you follow the following Skokie Golf traditions, customs and rules. We have a membership that loves and respects the game of golf. We are very proud of our heritage; the USGA Rules of Golf and principles of etiquette govern all play.

### ***When You Arrive***

You may drop your bag at the bag drop near the front entrance. A caddy supervisor will be there and will have your bag brought down to the pro shop area located behind the main club house.

After parking your car, please proceed to the Women's Locker Room (Upper Level) where a locker will be given to you for changing pre and post round. If your member has not yet arrived you are welcome to wait in the Ladies Lounge located just outside the locker room or head to the pro shop to introduce yourself to the professional staff. They will orient you and direct you to the practice areas if you would like to loosen up prior to your round.

### ***On the Range***

Please note that the range has rules regarding which balls to use for varying lengths. **White Stripe Balls** are limited flight golf balls and should be used for longer shots; generally shots over 190 yards while **Yellow Practice Balls** are not limited flight golf balls and can be used for shots under 190 yards.

### ***Pace of Play***

#### **- PLEASE PLAY WITHOUT DELAY -**

Robert T. Jones, Jr. had a philosophy that, when practiced, makes the game more enjoyable for everyone. "My method in golf was simple and rapid. I walked up to the ball and socked it. And on the green, I did not squat and line up my putts; I walked up to the ball and knocked it at the hole."

- It is the duty of every golfer to keep up with the game in front and not just ahead of the game behind.
- Four ball matches playing 18 holes should take 3 3/4 hours or less, and never more than 4 hours.
- Golfers who play slowly should stand aside and signal faster players to play through; golfers riding in carts should not place unreasonable pressure on walking players ahead.

### ***Caddies***

Skokie Golf is dedicated to maintaining a strong caddie program and is proud to support the Western Golf Association and Evans Scholars. The Club's longstanding support for caddies dates back to its earliest days, and over the years caddies have become an integral part of the Skokie Golf experience.

- Members and guests are requested to use caddies whenever available.
- Caddies should be treated with the same dignity and respect afforded to our members, guests, and Club employees.
- Members and guests should take the caddie evaluations seriously and provide constructive feedback to the caddies and to the caddie master.

### ***Care of the Course***

Every club member and his or her guests have the responsibility to care for our golf course. Please:

- Repair ball marks on the green.
- Replace divots.
- Rake bunkers when not accompanied by a caddy.
- Do not drive golf carts in the uncut rough, tall native grasses; within 50 feet of any green or within 25 feet of any tee; on the practice tee; or on any newly sodded or seeded areas.
- Always deposit litter in the containers located on every tee.

## Historical Golf Events at Skokie

In 1922 Gene Sarazen, a 21 year-old former caddy, won the Nation's Open at Skokie Country Club (later rebranded as the U.S. Open). He accomplished his win by hitting a driver as his second shot 230 yards from the middle of our 18th fairway onto the green enabling him to two-putt for a birdie and a one stroke win over legendary pro John Black and 20 year-old amateur, Bobby Jones. There's a stone monument to Mr. Sarazen's accomplishment next to the Men's 18th tee.

Sarazen's shot at Skokie was the first of three memorable shots struck by him in golfing lore. While many in golf widely recount Sarazen's famous double-eagle on the 15th hole at The Masters in 1935, or his hole-in-one on the "Postage Stamp" par-3 8th at Royal Troon during the 1973 British Open, it was actually his "Driver Off-the-Deck" to our 18th green that propelled him into golfing history. Interestingly, in 2012 Links Magazine listed Sarazen's shot at Skokie as one of the best shots ever hit with a Driver in a U.S. Open. Gene's remarkable shot, and our club, is mentioned in the same breath as Ben Hogan's 1-iron to the 18th green at Merion in 1950 and Tom Watson's Wedge on the 17th at Pebble Beach in 1982.



**Gene Sarazen Wins 1922  
Nation's Open at Skokie**

A visit to Skokie should include a stop at the Sarazen Grill located just off the Men's locker room & grill where many historical images and memorabilia are on display including Mr. Sarazen's Nation's Open trophy. While the U.S. Open trophy is permanently housed in the USGA Museum and Arnold Palmer Center for Golf History in Far Hills, N.J., each U.S. Open champion receives a replica of the trophy to keep permanently. Skokie is proud to display Mr. Sarazen's trophy thanks to his daughter Mary Ann.

Skokie Country Club is proud to have hosted the Western Amateur in 2010 and 2017. The Western Amateur has been a prestigious national tournament since its founding in 1899. Many of the great names in golf have won the Western Amateur. Many more have competed in the championship but were unable to conquer the grueling test that is the Western Amateur.

Other recent notable events include the 1998 US SR Men's Amateur Championship



**Norman Xiong**

**2017 Western Amateur Champion.**

## Skokie Course Design

Such is the timeless charm and appeal that Skokie possesses today that one would imagine that little ever happened to the course since its original inception. And yet, nothing could be further from the truth!

The first version of the course was built by the members in 1897 and was a nine hole course. Tom Bendelow expanded and modified the course to eighteen holes in 1905. Donald Ross's 1914 revision of Bendelow's course became the third version and was deemed good enough to host the 1922 U.S. Open, won by Gene Sarazen.

Fourteen years later as Europe plunged into World War II; the club gave up several Ross holes when it sold to a real estate venture the land around the present fifteenth and sixteenth holes. In the process, it picked up additional land south of its existing border. Rather than go back to Ross, Skokie hired the local architect firm of William Langford and Ted Moreau to design the holes on the newly acquired property. Thus, the present third, fourth, fifth, sixth, eleventh, twelfth, and thirteenth holes were created with Langford/Moreau tying the remaining Ross holes into these seven new ones. The introduction of the stream and lake at the south end of the property was a plus and the resulting third, eleventh, and twelfth holes add variety to the overall challenge and are undoubtedly among the finest on the course.

Unfortunately, from WWII until the mid-1990s, course tinkering occurred: cross bunkers were removed, other bunkers were softened and became maintenance nightmares thanks to their high sandy faces which were in vogue in the 1970s, mounds were added for 'framing', and the putting surfaces shrunk to where many greens were bland ovals. In addition, tree encroachment continued unabated, thus negating many of the playing angles within the holes. With the most interesting hole locations gone and the strategic requirements reduced, the course was a shadow of its former glorious state.

The Grounds Committee concisely outlined these concerns in 1999 to the membership and thus Ron Prichard was hired to restore the course. Working closely with Course Superintendent Don Cross and his crew, Prichard's work came in on time and on budget. The result is a phenomenal transformation that returned the course to a centerpiece of classic design as evidenced by Skokie's consistent top 100 ranking of classic courses in America by Golfweek.

While every phase of the project was a complete success, Prichard's fairway bunker work is especially noteworthy. He re-introduced cross bunkers, he rotated the axis of numerous fairway bunkers 90 degrees so that the bunkers once again protrude into play as opposed to just paralleling the fairway, and he gave hands on attention to ensuring the grass bunker walls had irregular shape and flow to them. Greens were expanded to their original glory with subtle contours that can baffle even the best putters.



Tom Bendelow



Donald Ross



Ron Prichard



## Skokie Playing Strategies & Hints

Skokie is a walker's paradise with greens and tees in close proximity to one another. If one is not careful, the walk can become so joyful that scoring can become an afterthought. But, for those interested in shot making there are several classic Ross principles to keep in mind:

- Cross bunkers protect the greens from long hitters. If you don't think you can reach, consider a strategic lay-up
- Tee shots and second shots on par 5's should be placed to allow better angles to the pin. Going for tucked pins from poor angles can often lead to extremely difficult, short sided, high-facing bunker shots.
- The greens slope from back to front with some holes much more severe than others. When judging distance, it is always better to be below the pin.
- There are only two back to back identical pars on the course (holes 14 & 15 are both par 4's though 15 is considered by professionals a drivable par 4). This means you have to be on your game every hole. You should end the day playing every club in your bag.
- Holes face north, south, east and west. Every par 3 faces a different direction and all but two of the par 5s head in different directions. This means a prevailing wind off the lake or from the west causes one to feel helping, hurting, left or right cross winds during their round. Member's joke that the Native American word "Skokie" translates to "wind always in face" as it seems to constantly change direction when in fact, it's the course layout that makes one feel like the wind is changing.
- The Par 3 greens are larger than they look from the tee box and are well protected by surrounding bunkers. Aiming to the green center is always a smart strategy.
  - After playing the 12<sup>th</sup> hole spend a moment, look back at the tee box and consider that for a very long time four Skokie members held the record for the lowest score on any one hole for a 4-some. On the difficult 12<sup>th</sup>, the group enjoyed two hole-in-ones, a birdie and a par. The record was eventually broken by a 4-some of women in Florida who scored 2 aces and 2 birdies!
- Holes 14, 15, 16 and 17 make up Skokie's version of Amen corner. It is on holes 15 and 16 that many match play competitions are settled. Scoring par on all four of these holes will often win the match.

