

# KSU GOLF COURSE

## MANAGEMENT AND RESEARCH FOUNDATION

### General Purpose

The Corporation's general purposes include, but are not limited to: the promotion and advancement of golf course management and research for charitable, educational, and scientific purposes; operating a golf course, Colbert Hills, to be used by the Kansas State University men's and women's collegiate athletics golf program and the solicitation of contributions for the endowment of scholarships for the Kansas State University golf programs.

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## COLBERT HILLS

**It's more than just a game...**

### **K-State Golf Course Management Degree Highlights...**

- The KSU Golf Course Management (GCM) undergraduate degree is still unique in the U.S., offering a balance of courses related to turfgrass science, hospitality management, business, and communications. It is recognized by many as the premier GCM undergraduate program in the country.
- Since, 1998, approximately 35 students have completed formal internships at Colbert Hills. In addition, an estimated 125 GCM students have worked as employees (not on internships), and another 140 students (not GCM) have also been employed. Estimated total K-State students that have been employed since 1998: 300
- **Since inception of the GCM program in 1998, we have had 230 graduates.**
- Graduates have pursued careers as Golf Course Superintendents, Clubhouse Managers, Golf Professionals, and sales positions in the golf industry.
- Faculty visit on a regular basis with Directors at the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America for feedback in determining how the GCM program can be improved.
- Dave Gourlay, Colbert Hills Director of Operations, is an adjunct faculty at K-State and frequently teaches classes in the GCM program. This close relationship between a championship course and an academic program is unique in the U.S.
- Research, which started before construction, has provided new, important information on the impact of a golf course on water and soil quality, and plant and animal ecology.
- Ongoing research in turfgrass science is done on the Par 3 course and on the championship course. A living laboratory at Colbert Hills.

### **K-State Golf Accomplishments since 2000...**

#### **Men's Team**

- Six team postseason appearances (*only one team appearance before 2000*)
- Two individual players have competed in the NCAA Men's Golf Championships
- 10 team championships
- 10 individual championships
- **Top 10 team stroke average records, including school record 289.38 in 2008-09**
- 60 team top-five finishes
- Set the lowest team round and 54-hole scores
- Nine of program's top 10 individual career stroke average records

- ALL top 10 individual season stroke average records
- 25 lowest individual 54-hole scores
- Four Big 12 upper-half finishes
- Two all-American and eight all-region selections
- Three All-Big 12 and six all-conference tournament honorees
- Host the Jim Colbert Intercollegiate @ Colbert Hills and won the event three times

### **Women's Team**

- Four team postseason appearances (*zero team appearances before 2000*)
- One individual player has competed in the NCAA Women's Golf Championships
- Five team championships
- 10 individual championships
- **39 team top-five finishes**
- Lowest team 54-hole, 36-hole and 18-hole scores
- Lowest individual 54-hole and 18-hole scores
- 24 individual top-three finishes
- One First Team All-Big 12 selection
- Three Big 12 upper-half finishes
- Host the Marilyn Smith/Sunflower Invitational @ Colbert Hills

### **Other Colbert Hills Collegiate Highlights...**

- Hosted the 2003 NCAA Men's Central Regional Golf Championships
- Hosted the 2002 Big 12 Women's Golf Championships
- Ranked Top 10 Best College Golf Courses by Golf Digest & Golfweek

### **The First Tee Highlights...**

- The First Tee Life Skills & Leadership Academy is currently hosting its 10<sup>th</sup> year at Colbert Hills and over 1,000 youth participants from around the world have attended the Academy since 2000.
- In October 1999, the organization created the Earl Woods Youth Academy to teach the fundamentals of golf and providing the participants a chance to learn the life skills that could potentially lead to career opportunities. The local program has worked with more than 2,500 youth participants to date.
- Developed The First Tee of Manhattan Golf Marathon in 2006 and raises money for the Earl Woods Youth Academy, Earl Woods K-State Baseball Endowed Scholarship, and The First Tee of Manhattan. The Golf Marathon has raised over \$70,000 to date.
- K-State used to give two "gap" scholarships annually covering tuition and fees as part of The First Tee Scholars program. We currently have three K-State students in the program and Angelika Hugueley was part of the first Scholars graduating class in 2007.

### **Other Colbert Hills Highlights...**

- Colbert Hills was designated an Audubon Silver Signature Sanctuary course in 2001 – one of only six golf courses in the world at the time meeting the strict environmental criteria required to earn the Silver Signature.
- Matt Gourlay, course superintendent, received a Ground Water Certification on behalf of Colbert Hills in 2009. This award recognizes the ongoing preservation of ground water by the golf course.
- Colbert Hills continues to attract countless destination golfers and special events to the community for economic development.
- Hosted over 850 golf events since the inception.
- Over 275,000 rounds have been played on the Championship Course & 55,000 rounds have been played on the Par 3 Course.
- Rated a Top 100 Practice Facility in the U.S. by Golf Range Magazine
- Ranked the #1 Daily fee course in Kansas since 2000!