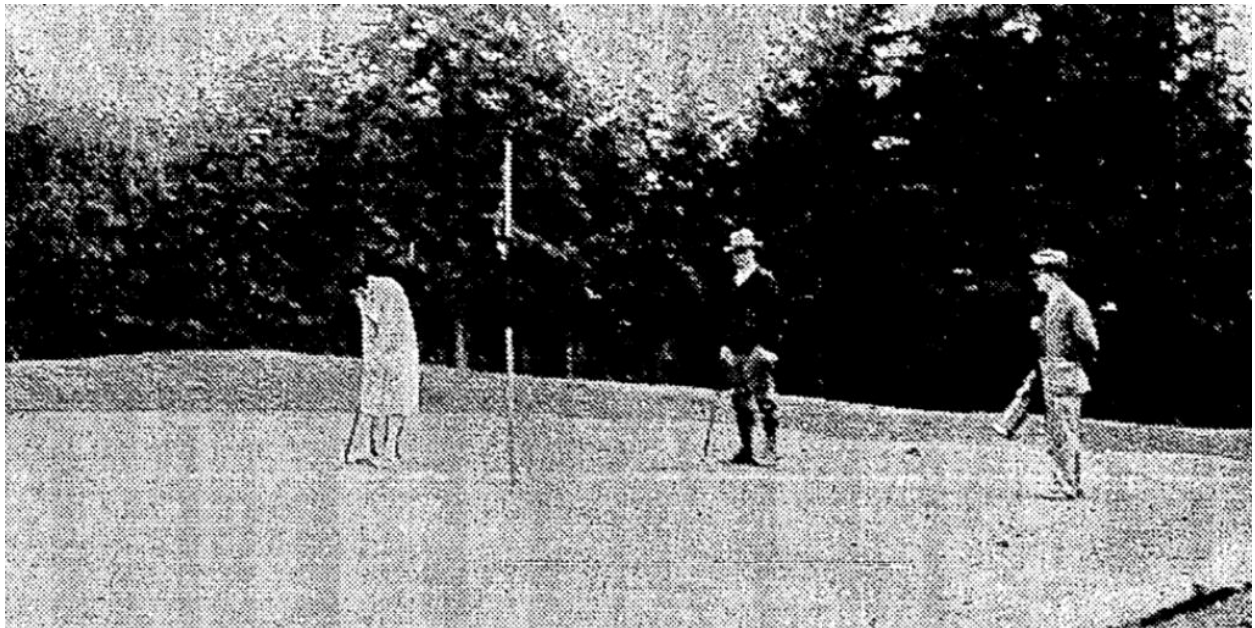


## Early History of Cedarcrest Golf Course, Marysville, WA

Established 1928, Course Opened 6-1-1929

Course Architect: 1929: Roy C. Sargent & Roy H. Dobell; 1997 Remodel: John Steidel

An unlikely pair of gentlemen from an unlikely place gave the citizens of Snohomish County, Washington its first public golf course in 1929. Roy C. Sargent, former mayor of Aberdeen, Washington, and Roy H. Dobell, former professor of architecture while at Oregon Agricultural College in Corvallis, Oregon, formed a partnership to build a golf course on farm lands near Marysville. Initially called the Hillcrest Golf and Country Club, it would later become the Cedarcrest Golf Course.



Mr. and Mrs. Roy C. Sargent with caddy at Hillcrest Golf Course, later to become Cedarcrest Golf Course – (Seattle Times 6-3-1931)

The land on which the Cedarcrest Golf Course sits was settled by an early Marysville pioneers Cordt Henry and Anna Quast. This land became to be known as the Quast Ranch. The 1920s was a period of tremendous growth in the popularity of golf all across America and the Pacific Northwest was no exception. Snohomish County had the Everett Golf and Country Club, established in 1910, but no public course for the general populous. Sargent, who had family connections in Everett, along with Dobell, saw an opportunity and leased the Quast Ranch property in October, 1928.

While neither man had a strong background in golf, Dobell had laid out the Bridgeway Golf Course (now the Golf Club of Oregon) in Albany, Oregon and the Beachway Public Golf Course (now defunct) in Aberdeen in 1927. Dobell would later go on to build Paradise Inn and its adjacent Paradise Golf Course (also defunct) on Mount Rainier in 1931.

Work on constructing an 18-hole golf course began immediately, and in a few short months, the Hillcrest Golf and Country Club opened for play using temporary greens. The official opening date was June 1, 1929 when the permanent greens were readied.

Sargent and Dobell were not alone in seeing the business opportunities that golf afforded. Close on their heels, indeed, almost simultaneously, two other courses opened for play near Everett and Marysville.

A private nine-hole course named the Edgewater Golf and Country Club, located on Smith Island just across the Snohomish River from where Legion Memorial Golf Course now sits, opened mere two weeks later on June 15, 1929. Yet another nine-hole course, called Quil Ceda Golf Course, just five miles north of Marysville, opened about the same time.

The Hillcrest course was rudimentary to be sure. "Short, but sporty" at 4700 yards, the course proved to be a popular among the Marysville and Everett populace. Green fees were set at 50 cents for all day weekdays, and \$1 on weekends.

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**GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB**

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Seattle, Over Paved  
Highway . . . . .*

Open now, for its third year, Hillcrest, one of the West's finest and sportiest courses, is ready for you to play. It is a public course . . . and you can drive out here, start playing without delay . . . and enjoy golf at its best.

We invite you to come out this week-end. We know you will be back again. . . .

**GREENS FEES**

Week Days—all day . . . . .	50c
18 Holes—Saturday, Sunday and Holidays . . . . .	50c
Saturday, Sunday and Holidays—all day . . . . .	\$1

Two miles from Marysville, via Everett Highway to Marysville, turning off on Arlington Road.

Seattle Times 5-13-1931

As described in a Seattle Times article, "The growing demand by Seattle golfers, beginners and all, for places to play, has drawn them beyond Seattle's city limits, particularly on weekends, for their golfing pleasure.

It is not unusual to see foursomes, picnic lunch and all, head to the north or south to some favorite course some thirty to forty miles distant, there to spend the day golfing, with a picnic lunch.

One of the very popular and likewise splendid courses to the north of Seattle, located only a few miles out of Marysville on the road to Arlington, is Hillcrest. Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Sargent, formerly of Aberdeen, built the course three years ago.

It is one of the largest courses in Snohomish county and a delightfully sporty course though not discouraging to beginners. The early week days will find any number of ladies and new players taking their baptism and getting in some mighty fine practice." (Seattle Times 5-13-1931)

If the 1920s were the boom years for golf, then the 1930s were the bust years. The timing could not have been worse for golf courses built in 1929. Mere five months after Hillcrest opened, the stock market crashed and the Great Depression began its relentless march. Many golf courses found it difficult to survive. Among the casualties were the newly formed Edgewater G&CC and the Quil Ceda Golf Course, both of which had disappeared by 1936.

Hillcrest was not exempt from its own financial difficulties. Whether it was this, or some other reason, by 1935, Sargent was done with running a golf course and returned to Aberdeen. Faced with the stark reality of returning the property to farm land, or to continue to operate the golf course, the Quast family chose the latter option.

Two sons of Cordt Quast, Paul and Tom, took over. Neither man had a background in golf: Paul was a truck driver, and Tom a chemist with the Weyerhaeuser Company. It was at this point, in 1935, that the golf course was renamed to Cedarcrest Golf Course. When Paul unexpectedly died the following year at the age of 36, Tom became the sole proprietor and manager.

Tom Quast saw the golf course strictly as a business venture. Though he had very limited background in golf course management, Quast, with his wife Joan, nevertheless navigated Cedarcrest through the difficult Depression years as well as World War II. Their greatest contribution to golf, however, was producing one of the finest golfers in the history of the Pacific Northwest.

Anne Quast (Sander), born in 1937, described her first set as three cut-down hickory-shafted clubs in a plaid bag she received from a family friend at the age of three.



Anne Quast Sander (left) with friend at Cedarcrest GC



Anne Quast Sander and grandfather at Cedarcrest GC

From these humble beginnings at Cedarcrest, Anne went on to become a three-time U. S. Women's Amateur champion, a British Women's Amateur Champion and a three-time U.S. Senior Women's Amateur champion. She was also an eight-time Curtis Cup player. A truly remarkable record.

The City of Marysville purchased the Cedarcrest Golf Course in 1971 and has operated it ever since. In 1997, the course underwent a major redesign under the direction of John Steidel, a noted golf architect.

Many of the holes have been rerouted and changed, but a few still remain as they were in the early years.

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