



GPGC // 2025 Yearly Digest

The strength of the buffalo is the herd.



Stampede!!!!

by **The Brain Trust** on November 20th

In the beginning, there were roll call matches and blade meetups and the refuge was basically the wild, wild west. In the spring of 2022, the first roost season sprang forth with 3 events, Strapped Iowa became The Butter Cow, and a Roost Regional was held in Omaha and Roost Nationals was held at Swope Park and Brough Creek.

It became clear there was a hunger for more events, and following the Roost Championships a fall wrap around season came forth. The 2022/23 season had 38 golfers and by the 23/24 season we had 50 competitors. Our 4th season, which just started in August with the Butter Cow, has already seen an astounding 63 buffs compete in an event, NOT counting players from other roosts who have visited, including Northstar, 2nd City, SuperCell, and Supper Club.

The roost has grown in many ways besides numbers at events.. We have a website www.greatplainsgolfclub.com and created a [discord channel](#) for easier communication on our phones. Of course we are still a community on the refuge. Our instagram page is a great spot to see upcoming events or previous winners. Right now we have 132 declared members on the refuge and many other competitors who are free agents or just haven't filled out the form. We have 124 members on the discord, about 40 or so unique members from the refuge who either don't have memberships or just don't like navigating the nest. We had a roost survey this year and a whopping 50 people filled it out, which was far more participation than expected. As we know, our biggest strength and our biggest hurdle is our massive geographical footprint.

The activity has been just as hectic off the course. We are entering our 2nd full season supporting Watson Links. If you are not familiar, Watson Links pairs young golfers with a mentor for nine hole rounds. As mentors, sometimes we keep score, sometimes we play side games, sometimes we just goof off. We talk about etiquette, life, and occasionally golf. We have had 3 active mentors from within the herd and just as importantly, raised \$1700 to go towards gear and tee times for the juniors in the coming year.

We also celebrated new hats, one with our classic buffalo logo on a red and white trucker and a wildly successful alt logo merch drop which roost members helped bring to life for us. The response has been off the charts, so definitely look for more in the coming year. It's been a few years since we have had sweatshirts, tee shirts, polos, and towels, and the herd has been calling for more. We hear you!

With a few years of play under our belts, we realized we had something else... history. We had low scores, high scores, eagles and aces (!), shanks, tops, and crushing disappointments and we had it loosely documented all over. It was time to create a "[Hall of Records](#)". We checked old golf genius accounts, refuge posts, and long forgotten excel and google documents to create a living history. Wins, losses, podiums, and things like team scores, quota highs and lows, have all been compiled for something fun to look at and shoot for.

Our biggest year yet wouldn't have been possible without our collaborators, most are local businesses or roost members who have so much to share. If you are able to show them some love, please do so, they help elevate us to the highest level. We have some very exciting prizes to look forward to in 2025!!! If you follow the GPGC instagram you've seen at least one!

PSchmitt9 with graphic design work

[Commonwild Flag Co](#) with cap's parting gift

[Robinsoncustomwoodworking](#) with several trophies and CNC work

[Squiddesign](#) with our annual matchplay trophy

[ZombieTaj](#) with the buffalo art for sim league

[BrandedBills](#) with the alt logo hats

Harry Higgs for the Skins Game trophy, yes the actual Harry Higgs

[FindYourBlue](#) for the van to the GPGC championship AND Roost Regionals

The boys (and girls) at [NLU](#) for the shirts, hats, stickers, and koozies

[Sky Capital Financial Advisors](#) for the victory whiskey - ask for Brandon Turner

Unfortunately, every great round comes to an end. After our first season, tnord handed the reins to Scagnetti and VinnyG which was followed by Scagnetti running solo with a newly assigned "brain trust". The 2024/25 season is proving no different with Howitzer and bpmcelhiney taking over from Scagnetti. Hopefully the herd is in good hands. Trust us when we tell you, 2025 is going to be the best year yet.



THIS YEAR'S
TOP STORIES

Member Spotlight

November 20th

Picking members to highlight is tough. This community is a special one and most of the surveys that came back reflect that. Granted, we all have our good days and bad days on the course, but if you hang out at all or chat at all with anyone from this group you meet some real characters. So many people in this community are doing special things and others may not have any idea. We don't always do the best of promoting ourselves or our businesses or our accomplishments. I wanted to highlight a couple stalwarts of the herd who are just so impressive to me and I think you would agree. The following spotlights are off the cuff, the participants don't know I'm doing this, were not interviewed in any way, and are hopefully not pissed off that we highlighted them here.

David Spiven or oakfaninkc or chefspiven is the executive chef at Chaz. Chef, as he is known in SimLeague, is from Richmond Virginia, or thereabouts. He was a baseball player who could throw well, but without much movement, so he converted to being a submariner. Chef studied an Oakland A's pitcher who had a very similar story and pitching style and became an A's fan, thus the name. Chef enjoys a lot of music, jazz, bluegrass, rock, and more. He loves dogs. You may have seen Chef at the Billy Strings concert, at Heart of America rocking his goose necks or Hogans, or on TV as he has been doing some amazing local news food tips. Chef is obviously our go to for cooking advice and manning the grill at sim league. Before working at Chaz he was the executive chef at Hallbrook Country Club. If you have a chance, Chaz is highly recommended and it's in large part (like all of it) to Chef.



Aaron Borgmann or aborgmann or rehab_all_star is a former NFL physical therapist and trainer. Aaron grew up in St. Louis, went to SLU and interned with the St. Louis Cardinals and Rams before going to NFL Europe. He spent 7 years with the Eagles before coming to Kansas City and the Chiefs. He luckily left the Chiefs just before the craziness associated with number 15, and currently runs Borgmann Rehab Solutions. Most excitingly, to us golfers anyways, Aaron is now TPI level 1 certified. You've probably met Aaron, even if you didn't know it as the Chiefs love to share some of he and Travis' sideline discussions over the years. The newest excitement when it comes to our in house PT is the Sports Meds Bros podcast. I think we are on episode 9 now. I started listening around episode 5 and I have to say, just as a sports fan, I think it is an excellent podcast. If you follow betting, injuries, the NFL, or just sports in general, it is an outstanding listen. If you see any holes in Spanky's garage ceiling, it definitely was NOT Aaron.



Want to see a buffalo featured here or on the gram or in the nest? Let us know.



2024 Event Recap

by [Howitzer](#) on November 16th

While putting this together I realized what an insane year we have had. We had an event or two every month between March and November. We had a whopping three 3 time winners this season AND a clean sweep in the 2 man events by dorourk3. Getting a podium picture at each event is now required and the trophy game continues to push onward.

In an effort to save time, hopefully we can do a quarterly write up instead of annual, but here goes nothing.

To put it bluntly, Howitzer cleaned up in the simleague, going undefeated in a 14 week regular season and 3-0 in the playoffs. Action took second and MrClinic and jdefran were the other semifinalists. Our first year of virtual golf league had 15 golfers and infinite

bonding. We grilled out, played music, some imbibed, and all had an amazing time. As a testament to our season, ALL participants from last year have committed to this season.

The Free-For-All at Fred Arbanas was played in blistering cold in late March after being in the 60s the year prior. Spanky birdied 17 to pass Howitzer and NightTrainLane to take the stableford victory.



The Appleseed, played 4/20/24, was a new event for the roost at the AMAZING Excelsior Springs Golf Club, designed in 1914 by Tom Bendelow. This is a two man event and will be our member-guest type event moving forward. Howitzer takes down his second of the first three events and his partner, dorouk3, logs his first team win of the season. They will be the only team running it back in 2025. If you want to be the champ you have to beat the champs.

The month of May saw a small break in individual events, but the return of a favorite format. The Standoff at Sand Creek Station saw 8 buffalos battle 8 twisters from our friends at Supercell in a Ryder Cup style event. The day ended in a draw, however, unknown.golf failed to apply several strokes so in reality the buffs won 9.5-6.5.

The first weekend of June was a big one as we assisted our brothers from Northstar in hosting the Cornstalk at the already legendary Landmand in Homer Nebraska. The largest roost event to date had well over 100 golfers battling in 36 holes of tilt over 2 days. Roost legend KCBadger tied with newcomer Evanglid as the high scorers from the herd contingency. We cannot wait to run this one back again in 2025.

Our initial Skins Game was held at Eagle's Landing in Belton MO. Our resident Eagles' staffer, kadkins, took down low gross and 2 skins, as the only player in the 70s on this day. He claimed more relief than pride in winning at his home course. Dorourk3 claimed 2 skins with pars but lost out on the Harry Higgs junior trophy based on score.

Match play wrapped up in late June/early July and a familiar face came out on top! Spanky won his second big event of the year. He held off Evanglid, who had another good run, to back up his play at Landmand. Matchplay legend NightTrainLane and CG91OD were the other semifinalists.

The final event before Roost Regionals is the GPGC championship played at the beautiful Mozingo Lake in Maryville MO. Located perfectly between Des Moines, Omaha, and Kansas City, this championship course should be the ideal spot for the annual championship. Howitzer was low gross and high score in stableford but ended up holding on for dear life as a par on 18 would have vaulted HalfPint to the top. Kadkins snagged yet another podium and rocked a really bright polo.



Roost Regionals were hosted by Confluence (St. Louis) this summer and the squad representatives were Howitzer, Spanky, bmcelhiney, and NightTrainLane. The buffs battled valiantly over 36 holes but ended up losing a bunch of close matches. The final score reflects a blow out, but the games were much closer than meets the eye. What's even more impressive is that this was Spanky and BMac's 3rd regional appearance in 3 years! Congratulations and well done fellas.

With Roost Regionals behind us, points started over for the 2024/25 season at a very special place. Unless you've been living under a rock, you probably know Oakwood Country Club in Kansas City has been on the rise in recent years. They have been undergoing renovations, including a new practice area and even more exciting (to most of us), is the new par 3 course, which was just named the 12th best par 3 course in the United States. We had 26 golfers counting SundayBag and Coach Mo and in the end our forever bridesmaid took his first W. BMac won with a 1 over par round, with MrClinic in second and Spanky and jwhowles tying for 3rd.



If it's fair season, it means it's Butter Cow Season. The Great Plains Major/NIT qualifier is a recreation of Strapped Iowa and consists of 54 holes over 2 days, though only the rounds at Veenker and Waveland count towards the final result. Coldwater is an ease into the weekend kind of round. SweetCupnCake was the defending champion, and finished 2nd in the prior years NIT, but he ended up handing the trophy over to Spanky at the end of the weekend. Howitzer continued his solid play with a shared second place finish with GentlemanJim.

Late August rolled around and with it came some winds of change. Most of the herd had been clamoring for something different and the answer turned out to be Pink Ball. We had 5 teams of 4 with a unique sleeve of balls. The pink ball rotates through the group and counts towards your team score each hole. The other best 2 balls counted and the worst non-pink ball score was dropped. TeamEjection, kadkins, jdefran, Bagumbo, and dmcpherran were the only team under par and the only team to have one of their original balls make it back to the clubhouse. Bagumbo was named unanimous team MVP.



In September the herd journeyed to Warrensburg MO, home of Mules National. Mules, is the home course to Central Missouri University and was remodeled 10 or so years ago. It is considered the best value within an hour of the KC metro area. We played a game of Mega-Tilt with HawksMax getting red hot on the back to hold off AgMo and GentlemanJim who ran away with low gross.



One of our favorite events has to be the KC Masterpiece. This event has historically been 18 holes at Swope Memorial (A. W. Tillinghast) followed by 18 holes at Hillcrest Country Club (Donald Ross). We play 9 holes of best ball, 9 holes alternate shot, 9 holes Scotch foursomes, and 9 holes of scramble. This year, with Hillcrest literally blown up and going private, we played 36 at Swope, 18 from the tips and 18 from the golds (2 ups). MrClinic and

dorourk3 came up clutch with Clinic hitting about a 30 foot birdie on 18 to win. There was a 3 way tie for second at one-under, one shot back!

We had heard from other geographically challenged roosts that a game of quota had been successful in drumming up some golf and some interaction, so we gave it a shot. We encouraged buffs to get out and play with one another no matter where they were located on the plains. We ended up with over 20 members participating, but a familiar face or three ended up on top. Spanky was the winner. His annoyingly consistent play over the summer meant dourk3 and Howitzer were just playing for podium positions and points in the end.

To close out the year and our season on grass we went to Dub's Dread Golf Club in Kansas City Kansas for an irons only event. We played a mix of tees at about 5600 yards, and over half the field played blades. kadjkins closed the year out with a bang, playing his grandpa's Kennth Smith irons from the early 1970s he shot a 76, net 75 to hold off SundayBag (low gross), and Punch who had a very solid 78. (Congrats Kev on the Bladey80.)



The GPGC Top 10 presented by Ameriprise

Top 4 qualify for Roost Regionals

Roost Regionals are hosted by us next year. Normally, this would be hosted at Swope Memorial, but since they are undergoing renovations we are trying to lock down a venue or venues. Catering, golf, and events are all on the table if you have ideas, please share. The top 4 players in points qualify to play.

Scott Lipp	Spanky_kc	410
Kevin Adkins	kadkinsgolf	320
Jim Dingeman	GentlemanJim	308
Josh Howitt	Howitzer	308
Brandon McElhiney	bmcelhiney	261
Delaney O'Rourke	Dorourk3	243
Dan McPherron	dmcpherron	201
Brett Shelton	mrclinic	199
Joe DeFrancisco	jdefran	185
Austin Morgan	ag_mo	183

What does the future hold?

Thank you for making it this far

Simleague 2025 is going to be over in a flash and we will be back on grass. We couldn't pack any more events into the calendar if we wanted to, so our 2025 calendar looks very similar to 2024. We have an incredible 15 members signed up for the Ope right now in July (not even our event!), so the GPGC Championship has been moved up a couple weeks. We had 3 members play SummerFest, a couple play the NIT, and by god we are due for a Roost Championship appearance. Hopefully home court advantage means a little something come the end of July. Here is the tentative schedule. Hopefully, having the dates early can help you carve out one or all the weekends. Next fall we may try to do some Sundays instead of all Saturdays to free up the college football crowd and honestly, most courses in KC are empty on Sundays, even when the Chiefs play in primetime.

Happy Hour/SimLeague Finals/Free FORE All - 3/28-30

Match Play - starts April 1st

Applesee - April 13th

Dunes - a trip to Western Kansas and Buffalo Dunes, tentatively April 27th

Iowa Super Weekend - possibly two events over a weekend in May

Standoff @ Sand Creek - May 17th (pending SuperCell having a roost)

Cornstalk @ Landmand with Northstar - early June

Skins Game? Something else - June 14th

GPGC Championship - June 28th

Roost Regionals - July 27th

Butter Cow - Iowa State Fair, starts August 8th

Thunder Chicken Invitational - a weekend in northwest Arkansas for the Epson tour and our own 18 - DO NOT MISS, weekend of September 19-21

Irons Only/Blade Meetup - pending, likely October, in place of KC Masterpiece next year

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Great Plains Golf Club

A No Laying Up Roost