

1964 Willingdon Cup Team

The first induction into the team category of the Saskatchewan Golf Hall of Fame is the 1964 Willingdon Cup Championship team.

The team consisted of Keith Rever from Wascana Country Club, Ernie Greenley from Regina Golf Club, Jim Scissons from Saskatoon Golf and Country Club and Ed Ross Jr. from Riverside Country Club in Saskatoon. Alex Bland, president of the Saskatchewan Golf Association was the non-playing captain of the team.



The competition was held August 17-18, 1964 at Riverside Country Club in Saskatoon as part of the first two qualifying days of the Canadian Amateur Men's Championship. When a disastrous storm hit the course and clubhouse on June 26th, the club had to scramble with repairs, but managed to get things ready in time to put on a successful championship. The par 70 course played at 6528 yards.

The opening day featured wind gusts that approached 50 miles per hour and affected many in the field. However, the Saskatchewan team thrived and recorded a 293 total, four ahead of Ontario and six ahead of Alberta. Keith Rever was low qualifier on the first day with a 68, a red-hot putter leading to a back-nine score of 33. Only Keith and defending champion Nick Weslock of Toronto were under par. Ed Ross' score of 71 contributed to the excellent total, with Jim Scissons and Ernie Greenley each posting 77. On the second day of competition Ross scored 70 to tie for low medallist honors at 141, Rever had 76 for a 144 total, Scissons had 74 for a 151, and Greenley a 77 for 154. The team total of 590 was eight strokes better than Alberta's 598, with Ontario finishing third at 600. All of the Saskatchewan team qualified for the next day's match play.

The Leader-Post headline trumpeted: **Willingdon Cup drought ends!** "Saskatchewan, a province plagued by long drought periods, Tuesday ended one that had lasted 37 years with its first Willingdon Cup interprovincial golf team victory." (Since this remarkable team victory a new drought of 52 years has gone by.)

Keith Rever, Jim Scissons and Ed Ross have been inducted previously into the Saskatchewan Golf Hall of Fame as players. Ernie Greenley has also had an illustrious amateur golf career in Saskatchewan over four decades. He won the Junior Men's championship in 1946 and 1948 and was on the provincial team both years; was the Saskatchewan Amateur Men's Champion in 1966; was on the Willingdon Cup team in 1961, 1964 and 1968; and was a member of the Saskatchewan Senior Men's team in 1986.

The Saskatchewan 1964 Willingdon Cup Champions are the only Saskatchewan team to win this prestigious event to date, and they are welcomed as the first team inducted into the Saskatchewan Golf Hall of Fame.