



Meadows Farms Golf Course ~ Home Improvement

Nick Ciattei

When new owners took over Meadows Farms Golf Course in Orange, VA, they knew what they had and they knew what they had to do. What they had was one of, if not the most, unique golf courses in the entire Commonwealth. “Farmer” Bill Meadows built the course back in 1993 with one main theme in mind. He wanted to put fun back into the game through a series of cleverly designed holes. Kenny Dotson and his family bought the golf course back in 2014. His son Josh, the General Manager at the golf course, says the family intends to carry on the founder’s legacy. All of the memorable holes that made Meadows Farms famous remain in all their noteworthy glory. The new team in place wants to keep it that way. If it has been awhile since you last visited Meadows Farms, you may want to add it to your golf schedule. GM Dotson reports that just some of the enhancements that they have completed since they took over include improving the overall turf surface, installing new bulk heads around the greens, and just making the course a lot more user friendly.



Longest Hole Nine Hole 3 Par 6

Three distinct nines and a “bonus” warm-up hole make Meadows Farms an unforgettable round of golf. You can find the signature landmark of the layout on the “Longest Hole” nine. The 841-yard par 6 third is the longest hole in the United States according to the Guinness Book of World Records. I have yet to par this hole, but I do have a birdie and several “others” to boast about. The hole doglegs right while going

downhill, and several large ponds must be cleared or circumvented. As you might expect, Longest Hole is the longest of the three nines at Meadows Farms, playing 3909 yards from the tips. The “Waterfall” and “Island Green” nines measure 2962 and 3096 yards from the back tees. Even though the Waterfall tract is the shortest, it certainly makes up for that in character on the par 3s alone. Sand completely surrounds number two’s green. The showstopping fourth green is perched above a towering wall of rock with water cascading down the side into a pond. You can’t miss seeing another added attraction here, the old Civil War hospital located right behind the hole. The eighth hole on this nine begs you to step up to the plate. The baseball diamond hole creates a golf field of dreams. No cornfield here, rather a ball park complete with a fence with advertising and a warning track bunker. The putting surface takes center field, so a single up the middle gets you dancing. Many golfers swing for the fences just to circle the bases! The second hole on the waterfall nine, a downhill dogleg right par 4, plays to a peninsula green



Waterfall Nine Hole 8 Par 3

surrounded by water. Speaking of the wet stuff, the Island Green nine has plenty of it as water comes into play on six holes, seven if you count the par 4 warm-up hole. Yes, there are 28 holes here with a bonus hole to get your juices flowing. The second hole carries this nine’s namesake, but because the green is a large target, concentrate on the task at hand. Plenty of other obstacles are scattered around Meadows Farms including railroad tie and rock walls, church pew bunkers, and split fairways.



Island Green Nine Hole 2 Par 3

A fabulous clubhouse overlooks the course and features the Red Bull Grill. Situated on beautiful gently rolling countryside, Meadows Farms Golf Course is located 75 minutes from Washington, DC, and Richmond, 45 minutes from Charlottesville, and only 15 minutes from Fredericksburg. The Dotsons have brought a renewed commitment to the golf facility to continually improve the product, and from all counts, they have done exactly that. Recent Golf Advisor rankings have placed them in the top five public courses in Virginia. This momentous achievement adds one more reason to head down to the “Farm.”

For more information visit meadowsfarmsgolfcourse.com

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