



Worthington Manor Golf Club~A Round All Around

Nick Ciattei

If you happen to be reading this on May 18th, you may like to know this exact day in 1998 Worthington Manor Golf Club opened their front nine. The back nine burst on to the scene July 4th weekend of that same year. This highly honored Urbana, Maryland, golf facility just outside of Frederick and the D.C. Metro area commemorates 20 years with plenty of fanfare.



Hole 3 Par 4

Worthington Manor flows very naturally across what was once farmland. Rolling valleys and scenic wetlands dominate this picturesque country setting. The first four holes are all par 4s with a gorge that must be carried on each of your first two drives. A bad drive on the third and you may have to play this hole like a par 5 to reach the green. On the first par five at Worthington, the fifth, big hitters can

get home in two because of its downhill nature off the tee. The signature par 3 sixth touts a beautiful shot over a pond trimmed with fieldstone to a green punctuated with inviting bunkers and bailouts. The worthy par five ninth's green is guarded in front by more environmental area.

Much like the front side, the back nine at Worthington Manor is dominated by par 4s in the beginning of the circuit. Ten and eleven offer good scoring opportunities. The very tough par 4 twelfth is feared most because of a testy approach over a ravine to an elevated green. The uphill contour of the par 5 thirteenth normally demands three shots to reach one of the course's deeper greens. The par 4 fourteenth plays alongside the clubhouse.



Hole 16 Par 4

While not a long hole, a lightning quick putting surface can lead to bogie. The long par 4 sixteenth measures out at 470-yards from the tips, and a well-placed patch of high grass protects the front and center of the green. Tucked into Worthington's only hardwoods, the par 3 seventeenth dandy presents trouble surrounding the green for any wayward shots from the elevated tee. A sloped section of rough divides the closing par 5 hole's fairway. This fun hole gives you a chance to close your round with a birdie or maybe even a three!

Now, if you weren't nervous enough on the eagle putt on the last hole, imagine having it aired live on television. In what I think will be pure fun, one of the three televisions located at the new bar in the clubhouse has a live video feed of the eighteenth green. Bar19 is the spot to enjoy a round after your round, watch your

golf buddies finish their rounds, and catch the latest sports action. Worthington Manor has always used the space in the 1858 farmhouse very wisely, and Bar19 seems like a cheerful addition.



You'll want to check out another new amenity, the state-of-the-art indoor golf simulator. You can use it to practice and also play famous courses. I can see guys lining up to try this during the off-season, maybe during a morning rain delay, or just continuing their on-course bet in the parlor. It features a high definition ball tracking system that uses Doppler radar to accurately analyze every aspect of your golf game including ball and club speed, launch angle, and spin rate.



Worthington Manor will be training rangers and staff to implement a new pace-of-play plan this year in a commitment to keep all rounds under 4 hours and 20 minutes even during the busiest times. I'm sure glad to see a golf course take affirmative action on one of the sport's most serious issues.

Most golf rankings of the courses in Maryland by major publications have Worthington Manor firmly placed in the top ten. I think most golfers who have put a tee into the ground here know just how good this golf course is. The proof is in the pudding when you see that the facility is a 9-time U.S. Open Qualifier site. It also is the only Free State golf club that has hosted each of the USGA Men's Qualifiers. The Board of the Maryland State Golf Association has selected Worthington Manor to host the 98th Maryland Open Championship in July 2019, and of note is only the third public golf club to host this historic championship. The club prides itself on accommodating these events, which is a testament to the challenge and conditioning of the course. The wonderful design has aged without a wrinkle or blemish and is as solid today as it was the day the first round commenced. 🏌️

For more information visit worthingtonmanor.com



Front: Hole 5 Par 5
Back: Hole 6 Par 3