



# Meadows Monthly

## Meadows Farms Golf Course

Home of the Longest Hole in the USA (841 yard Par 6)

# August 2017

Volume 1, Issue 4

## Junior Golf Camp

Meadows Farms Golf Course hosted the annual Junior Golf Camp from July 17th through the 21st. It couldn't have been a better week for the kids, it was a little hot, but the Meadows team and the kids made it through. Throughout the week the kids were able to enhance their golf

Our young golfers worked on everything from putting and chipping, to long range irons and woods. All the participants came for different reasons. Some wanted to just get a taste for the game. Others, were hoping to make their high school golf team and wanted to hone their skills.

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## Upcoming Events:

### August

4- St. Michael's School  
11- Westmoreland Church  
12- PGA Championship  
25- Jamie Meyers Tourney  
26- Callaway Cup

### September

1- Accakeek Hunt Club  
8- Orange Fire and Rescue  
9- Kappa Sigma JHW Tourney  
15- Sgt Mac Foundation  
15- Desert Storm Veterans  
17- Orange Free Clinic  
23- Club Championship  
24- Club Championship

# Summer JUNIOR GOLF CAMPS

Our staff did a great job working with all the kids. We had a student to teacher ratio of less than 5 to 1, so every student was able to get the attention they needed to succeed. We saw students who could not swing, begin to consistently drive the ball straight. We saw students who were already great golfers, increase their distance off the tee dramatically by honing their techniques.

We encourage all young golfers to come out to Meadows Farms. Monday through Friday, junior golfers play for free as long as they have a paying parent with them. Saturdays and Sunday before 2:00PM, junior golfers only pay \$15. So if you are an avid golfer, and would like to get your son or daughter involved in the game, Meadows Farms Golf Course is the best place to bring them.

Always remember, golf can be the best way to get a college scholarship, especially for golf. If you would like your junior golfer to be coached so they can compete competitively one day, please let us know.

Check out this website for more information for playing at the next level. The investment you make today in your junior golfer can reap major dividends in the future: [www.ncsasports.org/college-athletic-scholarships](http://www.ncsasports.org/college-athletic-scholarships)







facebook

5 Star  
Rating



# Online Ratings

Our online profile is one of the most important aspects of our business. Two years ago, our golfers rated us as one of the top 10 courses in the state of Virginia, and we would like to remain there. So many golfers go online and read ratings before choosing to spend their hard earned money on a round of golf. We are fortunate our golfers are spreading the word about how great the course is. Thank you to everyone who has taken the time to play the course this spring and give us your thoughts.

If you haven't rated us recently, please help us by going to Golf Advisor, Facebook, Yelp, or Google and letting us know what you think. If you had a great experience, let everyone know online. If you didn't, let the staff at Meadows know so we can make it right.

## **Here's what our current customers said about the course in July:**

### Golf Reviews:

"This place must be on your list. Great golf course, well-maintained and people that love the game of golf that work there. Great attitude. The pro shop is loaded with goodies. I like the place so much I booked my next day tee time. Not going anywhere else." – Al Oramas from Denver, CO Facebook ★★★★★

"My first time playing at Meadows Farms and I was very impressed. The course was in great condition and the holes were amazing. I played the island green, waterfall, and baseball holes. All very unique and fun to play. I definitely recommend this course and will be back when I head back up to Virginia next summer."  
– bennytexas from Orange County, FL Golf Advisor ★★★★★

"Overall, the course was an absolute blast to play. They have some big greens with some difficult putts, some features in the rough (moguls and washboard hills) on some holes to break the monotony of the average flat hole. I really don't have anything bad to say about it. The folks working there were very friendly and fun to chat with." – John O from Lusby, MD Yelp ★★★★★

# PLENTY OF EXCITEMENT IN 2017 AT MEADOWS FARMS!

Meadows Farms wants YOU to be excited about every visit to see us. We'd also love to have a program or event that gives you something to look forward to participating in. Here is just a sampling of some NEW and returning FUN in store for you this year!

NOW thru September 16 — Season Long Skins Championship—One of the most fun events you can imagine. The Skins Game on Monday Nights and in our tournaments are always well received. In this format, Skins players add \$2 to their entry in any event where Skins are offered. A season long Skins Point Leaders list is compiled and updated weekly. At season end, the Top 10 Leaders will go head to head in a 9 hole Shootout where ALL finalists win something. Of course, you know the last two will be going for the BIG prize! ALL TOURNAMENT SKINS WON EARN DOUBLE POINTS! More info on the next page!



**BECOME AN ADVANTAGE CARD MEMBER NOW! JUST \$49!**

**Save \$10 off Winter rates & \$5 off Summer rates. \$5.00 off VSGA handicap fee. 10% off range balls. Tournament Eligible. Valid for 12 months from purchase date! It pays you back every time you play at The Farm!**



# SEASON LONG SKINS COMPETITION AND CHAMPIONSHIP



The premise is simple. We want you to have fun and WIN A LOT OF MONEY in the process. Everybody loves hitting that special shot and winning “a skin” at the end of the day. If you don’t know what a skin is, it is THE LOWEST score on any individual hole in a competition out of the entire field of players. If two people tie for lowest, there is NO skin. Skins can be won by individuals or teams.

ANY league, event, or group you play in at Meadows Farms GC this season that offers skins as part of the competition is eligible for this additional competition. When you pay

for your skins just add in \$2 for “The Season Skins.” If you win a skin that day, you earn 1 point. Any eagle you make on YOUR OWN BALL on a Par 4, 5, or 6 earns 2 points. A hole in one earns 5 points! A skin won in any Meadows Farms monthly tournament will earn double points!

Each week we will publish the skins winners and their cumulative point totals for the season. The competition will close on September 10. The Top 10 Skins points leaders will automatically qualify for The Skins Championship on September 16 at 4:00 pm. EVERYONE WHO QUALIFIES WINS \$\$\$.

All ten people will tee off #1 together with the highest score being eliminated on each hole. Any ties for high score will be settled by a sudden death chip, pitch, putt, or bunker shot. On the 9th tee there will be just two players remaining for THE BIG PRIZE! Note: Any ties for #10<sup>th</sup> place at season end will go into a separate shootout at 3 pm on September 16<sup>th</sup> immediately preceding the Championship proper.

The competition began March 26. If you have questions or would like to make sure you are included please see Josh Dotson in the golf shop or call 540-854-9890. Good luck to everyone!

## 2017 Skins Shootout

Progressive Pot Amount of \$756 as of 7/25/2017


Rank	Name	Points
1st	Roy Clatterbuck	19
2nd	Adam Thurston	16
3rd	Nate Longfellow	16
4th	Craig Moranville	12
5th	Tim Arbisi	12
6th	Stan Sherman	12
7th	Ken Wallace	11
8th	Donnie Allen	10
9th	Darren Ritter	10
10th	David Carli	10
11th	Todd Nash	9
12th	Lloyd Knappenberger	8
13th	Adrian Updike	7
14th	Rand Southworth	7
15th	Landon Knappenberger	6
16th	Tim Bowers	4
17th	Gavin Ritter	4
18th	Alvin Carter	4
19th	Mike Smith	4
20th	Darwin Guyton	4



# Meadows Farms Member Spotlight



Meadows Farms would like to show some appreciation to our Member Darwin Guyton. When asked what he thought of us, Darwin said “Meadows Farms Golf course is a great place to be a member. They provide different activities for the members and the public to participate in. The course is in great shape and the entire staff is so friendly from the owners to the maintenance crew. This is very important to me since I am here almost every day of the week.”





# Scott's Corner

Summer 2017! July was a warm one, no hot and we seemed to have survived. A few greens are experiencing the typical summer stress associated with growing cool season turf in a hot climate with only three greens giving the grounds team a fit. We are not out of the woods but with the magic of August 15th in our sights stress relief is here. This date seems to be a magical point that night time temperatures drop and indicates the fall recovery season has arrived! For you folks looking to reseed your lawn the 15th is the time turf managers look toward seeding cool season grasses. Consider this: it takes 15 to 20 days for most cool season grasses to germinate, now it's the beginning of September (the State Fair is coming which almost guarantees 10 or more days of rain) just at the time of peak seedling growth! Don't run out and throw a bunch of seed out on the 15th because of what I just said – you must watch the weather!!! This allows all winter for root development which increases summer survivability! Please, always get a soil test before applying fertilizers and despite what the salesperson at the big box store says: seed and “weed and feed” never go together!

One last point I want to make and that is to the current green speed. The Turfgrass on the greens (*agrostis stolonifera* spp.) is bent grass. During very hot conditions the turf will naturally become “puffy” and slow ball speed. I hear it all the time, “these greens are slow, they must have raised the heights because of the heat.” We have not raised heights or changed our cultural practices - it is solely a phenomenon of C3 grasses grown within the transition zone. Come on cooler nights!

-Scott Caskie

Superintendent







## How to play ready golf:

“Ready golf” is a commonly used term which indicates that players should play when they are ready to do so, rather than adhering strictly to the “farthest from the hole plays first” stipulation in the Rules of Golf.

In stroke play formats, it is only the act of agreeing to play out of turn to give one of the players an advantage that is prohibited. On this basis, it is permissible for administrators to encourage “ready golf” in stroke play, and there is strong evidence to suggest that playing “ready golf” does improve the pace of play. For example, in a survey of Australian golf clubs conducted by Golf Australia, 94% of clubs that had promoted “ready golf” to their members enjoyed some degree of success in improving pace of play, with 25% stating that they had achieved 'satisfying success'.

When “ready golf” is being encouraged, players must act sensibly to ensure that playing out of turn does not endanger other players.

“Ready golf” should not be confused with being ready to play.

The term “ready golf” has been adopted by many as a catch-all phrase for a number of actions that separately and collectively can improve pace of play. There is no official definition of the term, but examples of “ready golf” in action are:

- Hitting a shot when safe to do so if a player farther away faces a challenging shot and is taking time to assess their options
- Shorter hitters playing first from the tee or fairway if longer hitters have to wait
- Hitting a tee shot if the person with the honor is delayed in being ready to play
- Hitting a shot before helping someone to look for a lost ball
- Putting out even if it means standing close to someone else’s line
- Hitting a shot if a person who has just played from a greenside bunker is still farthest from the hole but is delayed due to raking the bunker
- When a player’s ball has gone over the back of a green, any player closer to the hole but chipping from the front of the green should play while the other player is having to walk to their ball and assess their shot

Marking scores upon immediate arrival at the next tee, except that the first player to tee off marks their card immediately after teeing off

**Please help us make sure everyone plays golf in 4:15 or less!!!**



# FREE TIP OF THE MONTH



## How to hit from an awkward lie

- 1) Get a little closer
- 2) Widen your stance
- 3) Bend at the knees

No, these are not instructions on what to do when your “date night” starts winding down....

More than a few times during your round, you may experience some uneven lies thanks to our naturally rolling terrain out here at The Farm. These gentle slopes and hills may cause a player to be as much as six inches away from their ball than where it would be on a normal, even lie. This difference could easily cause a player to hit a shot fat/thin or push/pull it. So, the next time the ball is below your feet, remember these things:

- 1) Get a little closer to the ball. Only about two inches will do just fine.
- 2) Widen your stance. Getting your feet a couple more inches apart will bring you that much closer to the ball.
- 3) Flex your knees a little more than normal. Don't do any of these things to the point to where it feels unnatural.
- 4) Keep your eye on the ball and swing through the shot.

### *Note from Josh...*

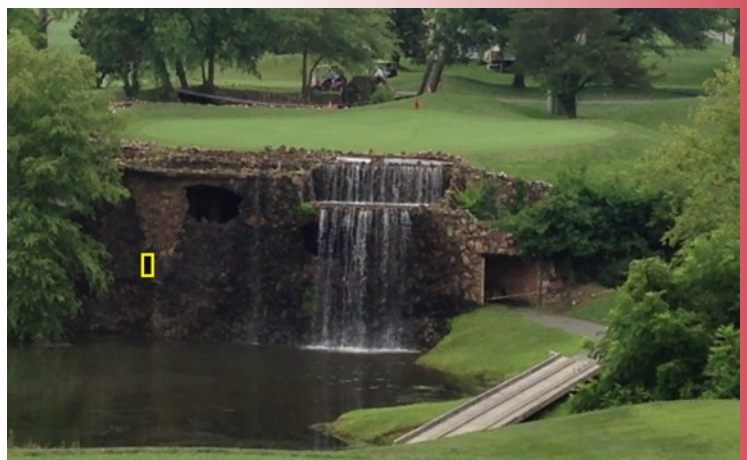
As we move through the summer, we are glad to be done with July. We had all three pumps in the waterfall fail on us, which caused a minor disruption. With the help of my awesome parents, and some great family friends, we were able to get the falls up and running relatively quickly. I wanted to take this opportunity to explain to our golfers, how the waterfall actually works so you can better understand our process.

Farmer Meadows decided to build the waterfall after one he saw on vacation in Hawaii. The face of the falls stands close to 40ft tall and is comprised of thousands of large rocks Farmer brought from his home town in West Virginia. To power the waterfall, Farmer installed three giant pumps inside the falls, which throw over 1,800 gallons per minute over the face of the falls. In an average day, over 1,200,000 gallons of water pour over the front of the waterfall to create the affect you have grown so accustom to.

During the original construction of the waterfall in 1994, there was a cave in which blocked off the entrance to the pump room. The Meadows team improvised, and decided to cut a hole into the face of the falls which is highlighted in yellow in the picture to the right. That hole was the only access point to the pump room. Employees would have to rock climb across the face of the falls, up 12 feet, into a hole approximately 3 ft tall by 2 ft wide. It was practically impossible for us to take the three existing 400 lb pumps out through the hole, and take the new pumps in through that hole.

The Dotson family improvised and cut a hole in the floor of the cart path inside the falls to access the pumps. After pulling out 6 pumps, the three that were installed and three older ones that laid in waste, we were able to install three brand new pumps for the falls. They are now up and running, and the waterfall looks better than it ever has.

So next time you are playing the waterfall hole, take a second to think about everything that goes in to making sure you enjoy the scenery every time you play that spectacular hole.





# Employee Appreciation



## The Wheeler Brothers

Meadows Farms Golf Course would like to recognize the Wheeler brothers. The Wheeler brothers have been a part of the Meadow's family for 20 plus years. Bucky started in 1992 during the construction of the course. The following year in 1993, Andy and Sambo came to work for Meadows Farms Golf course. The pride they have in their work and the course does not go unnoticed. When all three brothers were asked what their biggest contribution to the course was over the years all three answered their love for the place. Bucky said, "I hate to see people damage the course, it breaks my heart". The dedication that they have each day to make sure the course looks the best it can is evident.

Bucky, Andy, and Sambo all share a special connection to hole 12 on the course, the longest hole in the United States. When their mother passed away, the Farmer made it possible for the boys to have their mother buried on hole 12. Along with hole 12, Andy has a lot of love for hole number 13. He says "13 is just my favorite, always has been, always will be. I always make sure I am the first one there to cut it."

*continued onto the next page....*





The Wheeler brothers were asked what they enjoy most about working at The Farm. Sambo said, “the people”, Bucky chimed in and said “yeah, the people they are a pretty enjoyable crowd. You gotta take the good with the bad but this crew is hard to beat”. Andy laughs and says “the people are great, but I like being able to leave early in the afternoons I don’t like the heat. We get our day done early so we get to go home early.”

When asked if there was something that each of them could change at Meadows what could it be. Andy responded “the money- we wanna get rich!!!” then he laughs and says “just kidding, I wouldn’t change a thing everyone is great here. I just love it, love it, love it”. Following Andy’s response Bucky said, “Since the Dotson’s have taken over I think any changes that needed to be made have been made.”

While the interview of the Wheeler brothers was being wrapped up, Andy explained “back when we were hired our only option was to work for the saw mill and back then no one wanted to do that, this was our only opportunity and I am sure glad I took it because this place means a lot to me” says Andy. Meadows Farms is so grateful to have such a great group of employees. Having a group of employees that not only shows up to work every day and works hard, but cares for the course like their own speaks volumes. Thank you, Bucky, Andy, Sambo, and the rest of the staff at Meadows Farms Golf Course.



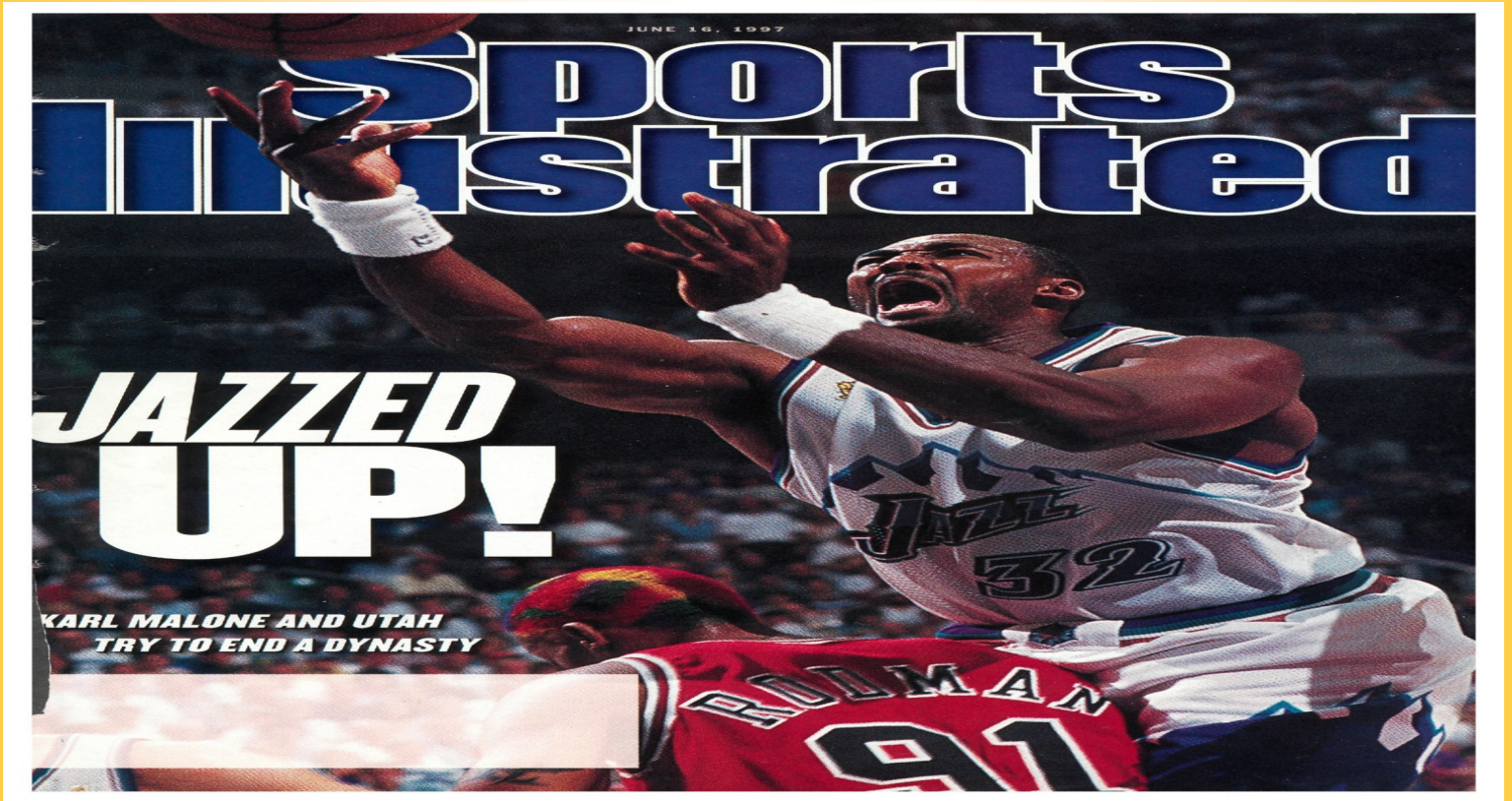


**Check out our maintenance team  
getting their group picture taken  
after a catered steak lunch from  
Texas Roadhouse!!!**



# FLASHBACK

Sports Illustrated June 16, 1997



It happens every June. A player, usually someone who missed the cut, complains that the USGA tricked up the U.S. Open course. You want tricked up? Head 65 miles south on I-95 and take a gander at the 28-hole--yes, 28-hole--Meadows Farms Golf Course in Locust Grove, Va. Those holes include:

- The mulligan hole, which is a par-4 warmup that precedes the 1st tee and doesn't count on the scorecard.
  - The par-6 841-yard 12th, the longest hole in the U.S., featuring two carries over ponds as well as a clover-shaped bunker the size of Dennis Rodman's ego. "It's 39 yards shy of a half mile," says course owner "Farmer" Bill Meadows. "I still regret I didn't make it that long."
  - The baseball hole, which is a 160-yard par-3 played over a lush green diamond. The tee is located behind home plate. The green, set against the backdrop of an outfield fence dotted with advertising, a warning track, a scoreboard and a flagpole, is in deep centerfield.
- (continued on pg 15)



The waterfall hole, another par-3. After you hit your tee shot, you drive your cart behind the falling water and under the green, where there's a concession stand. You park near a run-down house that was once a Civil War hospital and then cross a swinging wooden bridge to reach the green.

No, Meadows Farms is not your typical course. Excluding the mulligan hole, it is divided into three nine-hole segments. Golfers choose one of three 18-hole combinations, ranging from 6,058 to 7,005 yards. "I want gimmicky," says Meadows. "I want the golfer to go to the office on Monday and have something to talk about."

Meadows, age 62, took up golf five years ago but felt he was getting poor service at most public facilities. Eventually he decided to take 250 acres of idyllic countryside that he owned west of Fredericksburg, Va., and convert it into a course. Meadows bought \$2,000 worth of golf books and gave pictures of the holes that he found interesting to designer Bill Ward.

Despite the novel layout, Meadows runs a lean operation. One double trailer serves as the golf shop, a second trailer houses the snack bar. A weekday round at Meadows Farms, cart included, costs only \$24, which explains why the course books 60,000 rounds a year. "Guys wind up spending \$7 million on building a course," says Meadows, who spent \$2.5 million on Meadows Farms. "Then they have to get \$100 for greens fees to keep it going. Their clubhouses cost \$2 million. For that I'd rather have another 18 holes."



# AUGUST 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4 St. Michaels School	5 Chrissy & Shawn's Wedding
6	7	8	9	10	11 Westmoreland Church	12 PGA CHAMP
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 Jamie Meyers	26 CALLAWAY CUP
27	28	29	30	31		

# SEPTEMBER 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 Accakeek Hunt Club	2
3	4	5	6	7	8 Orange Fire & Rescue	9 JHW Kappa Sigma
10	11	12	13	14	15 DSVA SGT MACK	16
17 Larry Fogliani Tournament	18	19	20	21	22	23 CLUB CHAMP
24 CLUB CHAMP	25	26	27	28	29	30