



Meadows Monthly Winter Newsletter

Meadows Farms Golf Course

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

**Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays
from everyone here at the farm!**

**December 1st starts our winter rates.
We hope you come out to see us!**



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Winter Rates

Rates	Weekday	Weekend	Non Player (cart fee)
Public Morning 18 (8am-11am)	40	45	9 holes 10.00
Public Morning Senior 18	35	40	18 holes 20.00
Public 9	20	25	
Public Midday 18 (11am-2pm)	35	40	
Public Twilight (1pm-close)	25	30	Walking (all day)
Advantage Card Morning 18	30	35	9 holes 20.00
Advantage Card Morning Senior 18	25	30	18 holes 30.00
Advantage Card Twilight (12-Close)	20	25	
Ladies Day Special (Mon & Wed)	25	N/A	

Dean Sumner : A Backstory

As Many of you know we have been taken over by new management. Dean Sumner is now running Meadows Farms golf course and while we will all dearly miss the Dotsons, they left us in very good and capable hands.

Dean has worked on a golf course practically his whole life. He started as a caddie at age eleven and quickly moved into the proshop washing clubs. At 15 years old Dean began working on the grounds crew. Loving the golf business, Dean enrolled into the renowned Penn State Turfgrass Program. After graduation he managed 2 different golf courses as a Pro-Superintendent.

In 1988, Dean got his first chance to own a golf course by putting together a group and buying Village Green Golf Course in Callao, VA. It wasn't until then did Dean join the PGA becoming a Class A Member in 1992. In 1992, Dean also got his first chance to design and build Quinton Oaks Golf Course. Ironically that is the same year Farmer Meadows began construction of Meadows Farms Golf Course. Dean marveled at all the press and National attention Meadows Farms was getting. Knowing the history of Meadows Farms, Dean never stepped foot on the property until August to help out with the maintenance. In 2000 Dean got another chance to design and build Queenfield Plantation in King William County.

Dean Sumner : A Backstory

Other Accomplishments:

Received a grant from the PGA Foundation to teach senior golf. Dean taught over 800 seniors with this program and would like to introduce it here at Meadows Farms. (For everyone, not just seniors)

Coached many students that moved on to play golf in college including his son Ross who played Division I golf at Longwood and his daughter Kelly who played Division II golf at the University of North Carolina Pembroke (They were ranked in the top 10 in the nation all 4 years).

Finished runner-up in the Virginia Sr. State Open at the Country Club of Virginia Westhampton Course shooting 73-66.

Two-time winner of the MAPGA Sr.-Jr. 4-ball Championship. Partnered with Troy Thorne from Hobbs Hole. They best balled to a 6 under par at Bayville Golf Club and were 9 under par at Fawn Lake.

Unofficial Golf Lesson

by: Dean Sumner

Each newsletter I would like to have a section to give a golf tip, lesson or even a funny story from me to you. Since we are starting the winter months I would like to start with a funny story that happened to me personally.

In 1978 at 19 years old I caddied on the PGA tour, following the tour up the east coast. My good friend Steve Nicodemus was caddying fulltime for Howard Twitty. Steve helped me get my first job at Doral Country Club with a rabbit named Perry Arthur. A rabbit was a player who qualified for the tour but was not one of the top 60 exempt players, so they played 18-holes on Monday to fill out the rest of the field. Perry was a great player, but he lost his tour card and became a Club Professional in Texas. I followed Perry's career through the PGA magazine. He was one of the best players in the nation as a Club Professional finishing in the top 10 in our National Club Pro Championship just about every year. I got the chance to meet Perry again 35 years later at the 2012 Senior Club Pro Championships. It was great catching up with each other's careers.

A few weeks later at Harbor Town Country Club in Hilton Head I picked up a job with Tommie Aaron. Tommie had won the Masters at Augusta National 5 years earlier in 1973. I asked Steve how in the world was I able to get to caddie for Tommie Aaron. Steve replied that "Tommie was the cheapest guy on tour and the caddy's looking for a job would run from him." More on that later.

Unofficial Golf Lesson

by: Dean Sumner

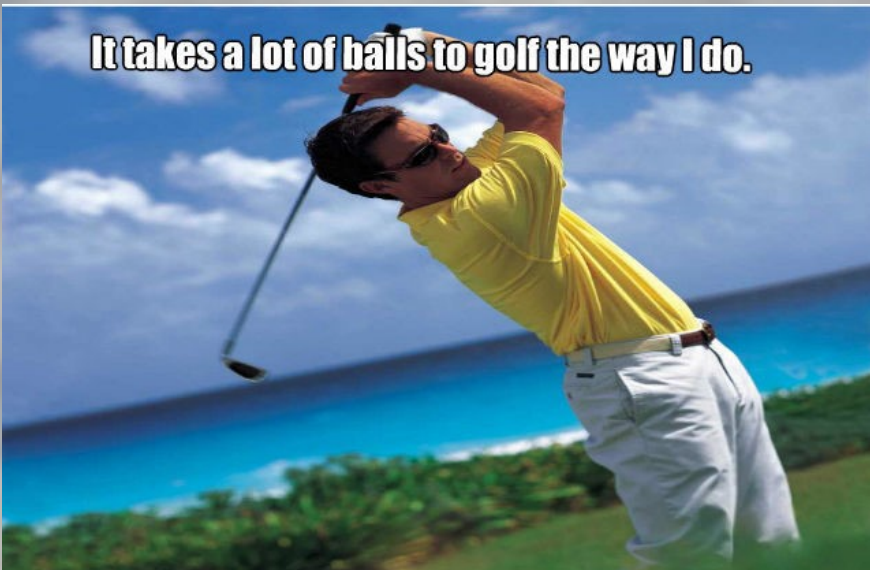
Tommie was 41 years old in 1978. Not many players played on tour in their 40's back then. Well on the range before the first round Tommie was having trouble getting his club back to parallel on his backswing. He asked me if I could see anything causing him to shorten his backswing. As I said earlier, I was only 19 and I had only met Tommie 2 days earlier so I immediately said, "I don't know." He asked me 2 more times, so I said "I think it is because your stance is too narrow. My thinking was with his narrow stance and being an older player that he couldn't rotate his shoulders enough to get his club to the top of his backswing. Tommie said "No, that's not it."

Tommie finished hitting range balls and we went to the first tee. We were paired with Sam Snead and John Mahafee. I was like a kid in a candy store. After the drives on the first hole, we were standing on the fairway waiting for the group ahead to get off the green. Tommie walks over to Sam Snead and takes a couple of practice swings and then asked if he could see any reason why he wasn't able to get his backswing to parallel. Sam instantly says, "your stance is too narrow." I almost fell over. Three holes later Tommie finally told me what Sam said. Well when it was time to get paid, I thought I would get paid better because of my golf tip. I was wrong. He paid me less than any time I caddied on the PGA tour, but he did bring me down 3 Michelob's in a bag of ice. That must have been my tip even though that beer was complimentary for the players in the locker room. If you need help with your game, contact a PGA Professional.

Dean Sumner, PGA

Meadows Farms Golf Course

Have a Laugh



A Message from Dean

I can't say how excited I am to be here at Meadows Farms. I feel like I know Meadows Farms and Farmer Meadows even though I never had the chance to play Meadows Farms before or to meet Mr. Meadows. I followed closely the beginnings of Meadows Farms through all of the National magazines I was able to read during the early ninety's. I also know I have a hard act to follow. Ken, Laura and Josh Dotson have revitalized Meadows Farms and I have witnessed the appreciation some of you have expressed to them. Their work has also made my job a little easier because I can continue building on top of their success and they will always be the backbone of Meadows Farms. It is comforting having their support and their desire to see continued success.

Since I first stepped onto this property in August, I have fallen in love with Meadows Farms. The property is beautiful with some of the most beautiful picturesque scenery imaginable. It is hard to photograph a golf course and take dramatic pictures. Not here. Meadows Farms is one post card view after another. I can't wait for the weather to break and have a relaxing beverage on the back patio overlooking the view.

I have spent my time so far just acclimating myself to Meadows Farms and learning a lot. I haven't had a chance to look too far into the future but I can tell you a few ideas I have. The first is I am in the process to upgrade the irrigation system. The Dotson's have upgraded the pumping station which is the lifeblood of the irrigation so now I am going to replace the satellite stations and add a central control system. What that means is we are going wireless. This will enable us to cool the greens down with a radio or even a smart phone and we can control the irrigation programs in the office instead of having to run around the golf course. This will also give us much more control of the water because overwatering can and is usually more harmful to the greens than under watering.

We are also going to introduce a new more affordable membership option and another program called the Prime Time Player Pass. We will be sending an email out Friday with the details. These will make great Christmas gifts.

I look forward to seeing you and we are wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Stay safe.