



Meadows Monthly

Meadows Farms Golf Course

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

Tricked and Treated

Close to 100 participants chose to brave this year's superintendent's revenge. Comments from last year's event included "way too easy" and "not enough props." Well, we doubled down and went all out for the golfers. All eighteen holes were memorable to say the least. Maybe it was the blind folded tee shot on the waterfall hole, or teeing off with a baseball bat on the baseball hole. Didn't like that? What about the giant blower on the longest hole in the USA that wouldn't let your ball even get close to the hole? Or those couple hundred annoying range balls scattered on the green of Longest 16.

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November 2017

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Upcoming Events:

November
11-Rhoadesville Baptist Church

12-Riverbend Wrestling

24-Black Friday Memberships

The challenge was intense to say the least. Not one captain's choice team finished under par, not even close. There were only 4 teams that broke 80, which resulted in HUGE paydays. 55% of the golfers shot in the 80s, with the rest of the field finishing in the 90s.

What was most memorable about the superintendent's revenge? Besides a hole in one, this tournament was jam packed with some incredible golf. It all began when the See/Jones group picked up a baseball bat on the baseball hole and stuck the 110-yard tee shot to 4 feet, like it was nothing. Most golfers couldn't make contact with the golf ball on the tee ball stand, but this duo stuck it close, and made huge skins money.

The best shot of the day had to go to Bet Fitzgerald for hitting a monster tee shot on Longest #16. The tees were moved up on this par 4, which brought the water into play for the ladies, but Bet easily sailed the water and stuck her drive to a mere 16 inches. The impressive part, was this green was peppered with hundreds of range balls and Bet managed to disarm all of the obstacles in one shot. She walked up, and easily tapped in for eagle, resulting in a nice payday for the skins. (Continued on the next page)



MELISSA EARLY TEES OFF USING A BASEBALL BAT



ALVIN CARTER TRIES TO HIT A PUTT ON LONGEST #16 WITH ALL THE RANGE BALLS IN HIS WAY

One of the hardest holes of the day was Longest #12, the longest hole in the USA. Everyone played from the forward tees to get an advantage before they got to the green, but once there, golfers were confronted with 30 mph winds from our turbine blower. The almost impossible pin placement, coupled with the blower, forced many teams to take 10's, 11's or even 12's on the hole. However, two teams managed to albatross the hole and record an incredible score of only 3 strokes. One of the teams hit a miraculous shot out of the green side bunker that landed right in front of the blower. As soon as the wind caught the ball, it pushed it right into the hole.



CARL HART, BOB BUTCHER, JERRY PRUDAM, AND STEVE COX PRAY FOR THE PUTTING TO STOP ON LONGEST #12

The superintendent decided a tough pin placement wasn't hard enough on the Waterfall hole so we blindfolded all the participants for their initial tee shot. This took great concentration from all the golfers to at least make contact. We had several participants put the ball on the green. Incredibly, Darrin Ritter and his son Gavin, stuck their tee shot to only 4 feet and managed to walk away from the green with the only birdie of the day. By looking at the picture to the right, you can tell, not all golfers were as fortunate to make as good a contact as the Ritters. (Continued on the next page)



We hope everyone had a great time that participated in this annual event. Harold Hicks and Craig Moranville were able to hold off stiff competition and win the event with an awesome score of 77. They were only 5 strokes over par. They narrowly beat Kyle Crouch and Spencer Carmichael who finished with an impressive 78. We had two teams tie for third with 79's. The first group was Tom Moyes and George Vukovich, who shot a 39 on the Waterfall course and a 40 on the Longest course. Matching them almost perfectly, with a 39 & 40 were Shawn Baker and Thom Hale, which meant we had to go to a tie breaker.

The hardest handicapped hole of the tournament was Longest #11 which averaged a 6. Both teams skillfully parred number 11. The second hardest hole in the competition was Longest #17. This was a front pin that you could not miss coming down the hill, or you would be way off the green on your next shot. Moyes/Vukovich struggled, but were able to card a bogey, while Baker/Hale slipped and recorded a double bogey on their card, this meant that the official third place went to Moyes/Vukovich. Congrats to Thom and Shawn for an incredible performance.

Meadows Farms always pays through the field in all of our events, so we were able to give big pay outs to 13th, 23rd, 33rd, and 43rd place. Congrats to all those golfers as well.

If you did not participate in this year's superintendent's revenge, make sure to put it on your calendar for next year. It will be held October 27, 2018. If you played this year, we would really love to know what you thought, good and bad. Please send all comments to JDOTSON@MeadowsFarmsGolfCourse.Com.
(Continued on next page)



HAROLD HICKS AND CRAIG MORANVILLE COLLECT \$400



KYLE CROUCH AND SPENCER CARMICHAEL PLACE 2ND

This is the crew that made the Superintendent's Revenge a reality. They work tirelessly year-round to make sure Meadows Farms Golf Course is in pristine shape. Meadows Farms Golf Course hopes you thoroughly enjoyed this year's round. The staff is already planning more intense challenges for next October's Revenge.



Pictured above from left to right: Scott Caskie, Superintendent. Cory Davis, Assistant Superintendent. Josh Dotson, General Manger. Brandon Chappell, Equipment Manager.

Final results are posted on the next page...



facebook

5 Star
Rating



**RATE US TODAY SO WE CAN BE THE BEST
COURSE IN VIRGINIA IN 2017 PLEASE!!!**

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 year and give us your thoughts.

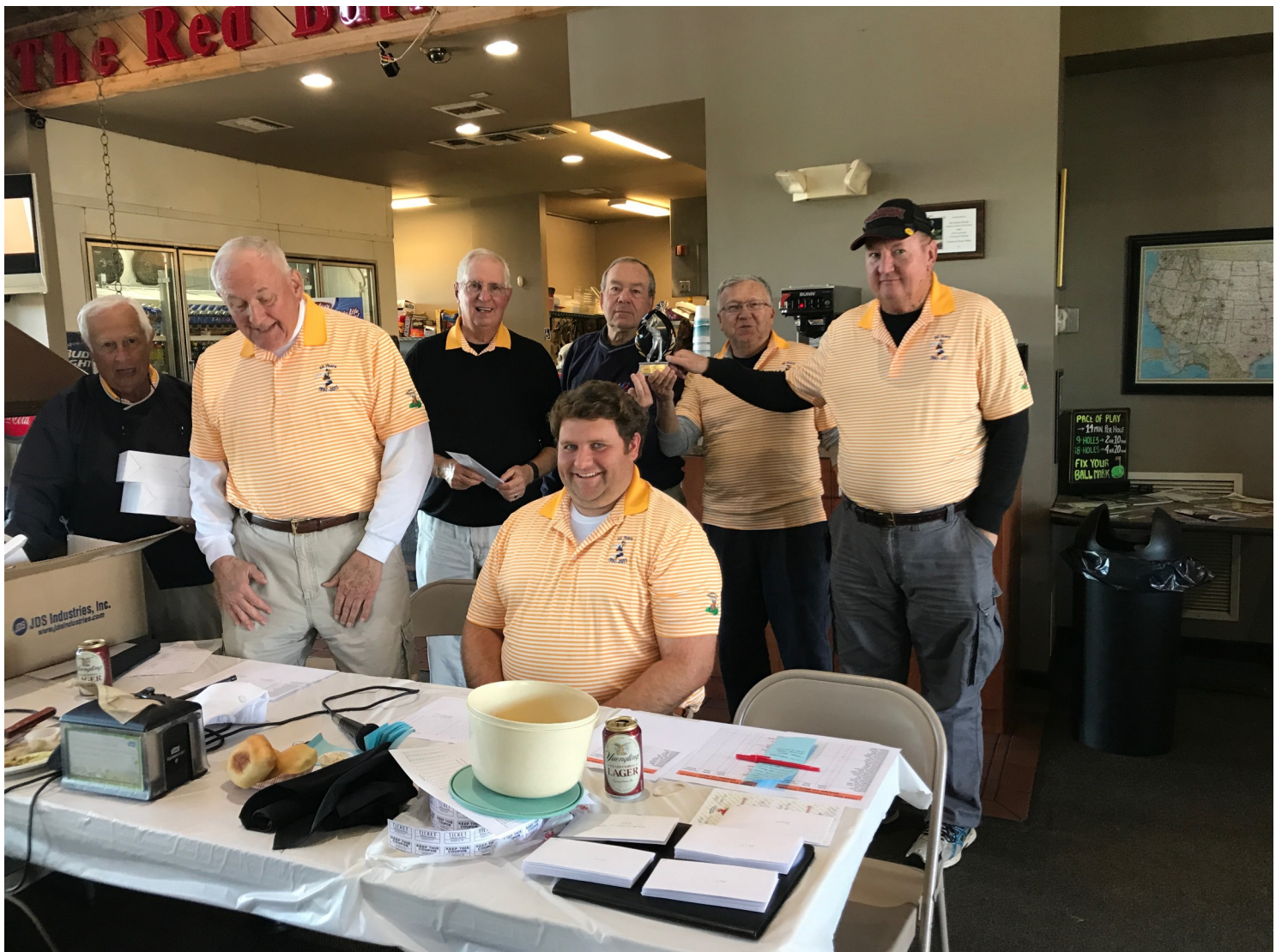
If you haven't rated us recently, please help us by going to Golf Advisor, Facebook, Yelp, or Google and letting us know what you think. If you had a great experience, let everyone know online. If you didn't, let the staff at Meadows know so we can make it right.

GOOFERS FINISH STRONG

The Goofers Golf Group, founded in 1997, celebrated 20 years of success at Meadows Farms Golf Course this year. The group, founded by Jim Danoy in 1997, now calls Meadows Farms Golf Course their permanent home. The organization, which is made up of over 70 golfers, comes to The Farm every Tuesday to play golf. A majority of the group goes out to play 18 holes, while a select few chose to play only 9 at a time.

At the end of the season, the entire group plays a captain's choice tournament. Afterwards, Texas Roadhouse caters in juicy ribeye's, mashed potatoes, salad, and those awesome rolls. The group eats and drinks as we celebrate a year full of accomplishments.

Taking first place this year was Chuck Rose, Bill Davis, Joe Sakole, and Pete Rainey, which are pictured below. Congrats to everyone that participated this year. If you are a senior golfer looking to get into the game or join a league, The Goofers is a great group to reach out to. They play every Tuesday for a very affordable rate, and the group has golfers of all skill levels and abilities.





Pictured Above: John Crigler, Randy Rihner, Boyd Bowers, and Gib Devey accept their trophy for 2nd place. Below: John Vetter, Ed Knapp, Angelo Laviano, and Wayne Cushing accept 3rd place.





Meadows Farms Member Spotlight

This month we highlight Chuck Boling and Jeff Foster. They are some of the best Advantage Card members we have. Meadows Farms is lucky to have them as loyal customers. Here is what Chuck and Jeff had to say about the course:

“What is most appreciable about Meadows Farms golf course and keeps us coming back are both the three nine-hole courses and the staff that runs Meadows Farms. The three courses are laid out in a manner that makes it fun for all. There are holes that challenge the best of players and the open lay out of all the holes makes it easy for those players with less than perfect swings to find their balls and keep on playing with hopes of a two digit score. The efforts that have been done around the course for over a couple of years have been fantastic. The repaved cart paths, the clearing of trees, brush, and low laying foliage, and the rebuilding of tee boxes and retaining walls make the course a sight to see and truly shows the Dotson’s care about the course and want the patrons to have an enjoyable and memorable time.



A stylized spotlight graphic with a grey base and a yellow beam of light shining upwards towards the title.

Meadows Farms Member Spotlight

The Dotson family and the staff display top-rate customer service and hospitality that makes you feel like a close neighbor coming to play golf. They always fit you in regardless the circumstance and spend a few minutes of their busy schedule to talk to you and see how things are going. A very nice touch! The superintendents keep the courses in great shape with nice fairways to smooth greens – even the rough is maintained to a manageable level for which we seem to play out of the most during our rounds. The signature holes like the waterfall hole, the baseball field hole, and of course the longest hole help set Meadows Farms apart from the rest of the courses.

As for areas of growth opportunities, we cannot think of any major ones that have not already been accomplished or are in the process of being accomplished. With that said, if the first three holes of the Longest course would be modified, it would put a smile on our faces and possibly help reduce our scores – ha! (joking) Those three holes seem to be tone setters for us and more often than not we are off tune – ha!

We come down almost every Saturday from the Woodbridge and Springfield, VA areas to play Meadows Farms. We have been doing this consistently for well over five years now. Friends of ours always ask why we travel to Meadows Farms all the time to play when there are closer courses to us. It's simply the enjoyable time we have at Meadows Farms from the open environment and well laid out holes, the speed of play, to the welcoming and friendly staff. It is routine for us now and we look forward to every Saturday driving down to Meadows Farms and pulling into the parking lot to be greeted first by the awesome Romeo who is getting the carts ready for the day; then by terrific Dave who is strategizing the day's many number of players and who goes where in order to keep the pace of play running like clockwork; and then in to the club house to see the great Josh and pay the very reasonable rate for our round. The course could be in half the condition it is in and we would still come down regularly based on the wonderful owners and staff alone. Keep up the fantastic work Dotson family and staff – we feel you have not only kept what the “Farmer” envisioned for a course and how it should run but have taken it steps beyond. See you next Saturday.



Scott's Corner

I want to thank everyone that participated in this year's **Superintendent Challenge**. Your greens team put a lot of effort towards making the tournament as diabolical, fun and challenging as possible, yet some proved us wrong! Two threes on 12 Longest and a Birdie on 4 Waterfall (the blindfold shot) were all thought to be impossible! The only thing I have to say, "I have a full year to think of ways to mess with you"! Thank you again for coming out to play this year and hope you are looking forward to next year as much as we are, down at the bottom of the hill!

Have a rewarding remainder of 2017 and wishing you many Birdies!

Scott Caskie, Superintendent



FREE TIP OF THE MONTH



Sand Traps

Approach the Bunker Shot with the Right Attitude

Outside of fear for the sand bunker shot, the biggest issue involved is the stance of the golfer. The majority of the players will position their stance too wide. The reason is because most individuals psych themselves out in sand. Golfers who attempt to forcefully drill the ball often lead to a fat shot in the bunker. Next time, try focusing on getting the ball back on the green.

Position Your Lower Body Correctly

Like with most activities, having the correct body position is essential for success. Instead of opening your stance and clubface too wide, take aim to the left of your target line and open your clubface only around 2-3 degrees. At this point, your feet should be in the sand for balance. Simultaneously place your stance shoulder width apart, while flexing your knees. You will probably feel a bit awkward, but practicing this stance will put your body in line and make the process more simple.

Utilize the Half Back Swing

Now that you have your body in a good place, its time to swing. You will want to find an area 2-4 inches behind the ball. Place your hands evenly and take a half back swing. In the process of this swing you will want to make sure you rotate your shoulders. If this feels familiar to a pitch shot, you're right. The only difference is the sand involved.

Tiger Woods announces return to competitive golf, will play Hero World Challenge

The wait is over.

Tiger Woods is playing the Hero World Challenge.

Woods tweeted at 5 p.m. ET Monday October 30th that he'll make his return to competitive golf at next month's Hero World Challenge, which will be his first start since February.

"I am excited to return to competitive golf at the Hero World Challenge," Woods said on his website.

"Albany is the perfect setting and it will be great to join this outstanding field. I want to thank Pawan Munjal and Hero MotoCorp for their continued support of this tournament and my foundation. I would also like to thank the fans for their unwavering support during my injury."



(Continued on the next page)

The Hero World Challenge is an unofficial PGA Tour event run by Woods's foundation at Albany, a resort in the Bahamas. It's a no-cut, 18-player event, and it's also where Woods made a highly anticipated return last year. Playing for the first time in just over 15 months after recovering from two back surgeries, Woods finished 15th out of 17 (four under) with rounds of 73, 65, 70 and 76. He led the field in birdies but made too many big numbers to stay in contention.

Now, the Hero will be the site of yet another Woods return, and even more eyeballs will focus on the 14-time major winner.

But much has changed since last year.

After the 2016 Hero, Woods missed the cut at the Farmers Insurance Open (76-72) and then flew across the world for the Dubai Desert Classic. He opened with a 77 on Feb. 2 and withdrew from the tournament before the second round started, citing back spasms. Woods had planned to play the Genesis Open and Honda Classic later in the month, but he withdrew from both, unable to find comfort in his back. He missed the Masters, and on April 20 he announced his fourth back surgery and faced yet another lengthy layoff.

But Woods's recovery took a frightening turn one month later. He was arrested at 2 a.m. on May 29 when officers found him unconscious behind the wheel of his vehicle and awkwardly parked on the side of the road. It was later found that he had five drugs in his system. (On Friday, he pleaded guilty and will enter a diversion program.)

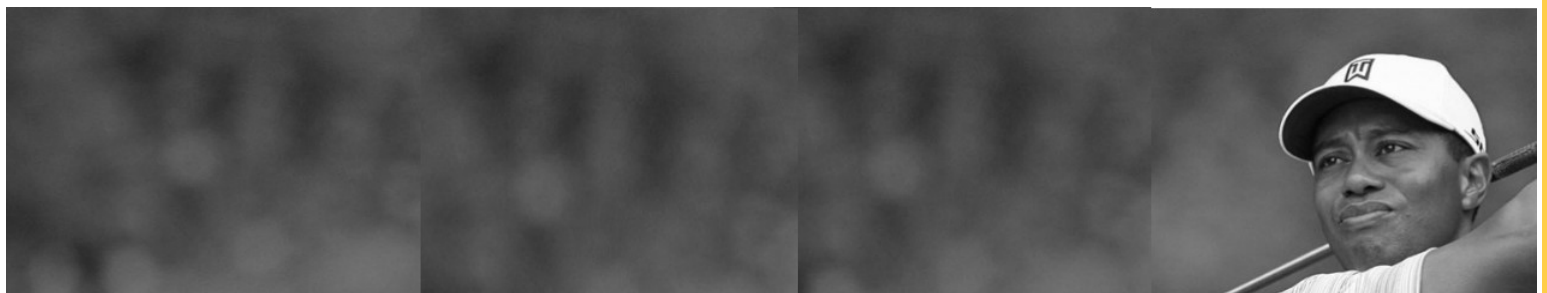
On June 19, Woods tweeted he was receiving professional help to manage his medications for back pain and a sleep disorder, and on July 3 he tweeted that he had recently completed an out-of-state private intensive program.

Meanwhile, Woods slowly progressed into golfing shape. On Aug. 31 he tweeted that the doctor had OK'd him to start pitching, and that was the first of what would become a video tweet-storm from Woods. He tweeted a video of himself hitting iron shots on Oct. 7, a driver on Oct. 15 and his patented stinger on Oct. 23.

But with each tweet rumors continued to circulate. His former swing coach, Hank Haney, was adamant that Woods would play the Hero. Turns out, Haney was right all along.

Last month, when Woods was an assistant captain for the U.S. Presidents Cup team, he admitted that he could "definitely" see a scenario in which he doesn't return to competitive golf. He was also asked if he still had the belief in himself, if 100 percent healthy, to become the best golfer in the world again.

"I don't know what 100 percent means after eight surgeries, but I'll try and get as close as I can to that number, yes," he said. "But as I said, we just take it one step at a time. It's a process, and I'm in no hurry." Written by Josh Berhow



Note from Josh...

Just when we thought the year might be winding down, we were wrong. October was a great month weather wise, and November looks like it is going to be warmer than average. Beginning November 1st, Meadows Farms will now begin Twilight play at 1:00PM for our public golfers and 12:00PM for our advantage card holders.

The most important thing at The Farm in November is memberships. Black Friday is our one-day sale on all VIP memberships. If you enjoyed our great conditions this year, this is the time to invest into being a full time member at The Farm. A full membership includes all your greens fees & cart fees for an entire year. You show up, and go right out on the course for an incredible round. If you need to practice, all your range balls are included. And if you're hungry, or need some golf supplies, everything is discounted 10% for you.

If you are thinking about potentially buying a full membership, please come in to see me, and we can discuss if a full membership would be beneficial for you.

Sincerely,

Josh Dotson, GM



Flashback: *Sun Sentinel* May, 1994 (Local Paper in Florida)

The 841-yard 12th

LOCUST GROVE, Va. — Standing on the blue tees of the longest hole in North America, you are most intimidated by what you can't see.

The red tees. Where are the red tees?

They are 349 yards away.

The green? Forget about that. That's two doglegs, two lakes and 841 yards - nearly a half-mile - away.

Welcome to the par-6 12th hole at Meadows Farms Golf Course, where it's inaccurate to say they ruined a perfectly good farm, or that the only thing missing is cattle. You see, they still have some bulls on the property.

"Did you see the bulls?" Randy Carpenter, the course superintendent, was saying after a visitor finished his round.

I never did see the bulls, but I remembered not to wander too far astray looking for lost balls.

This is not a place for traditionalists. Nestled amid farms in central Virginia's Orange County, about an hour south of Washington, D.C., Meadows Farms is the vision of a millionaire entrepreneur named Bill "Farmer" Meadows.

Seems that Farmer Meadows, who owns a landscaping and nursery business, likes things on the grandiose side. Take his house, for example: 13,000 square feet, with 21 televisions and a 100-foot game room.

The course, which opened nearly two years ago, was built for \$2 million. Thanks to the allure of having the country's longest hole - they have the Guinness Book of Records certificate hanging on the pro shop wall to prove it - the place is a hit.

According to Carpenter, Meadows Farms had 44,000 rounds of play last year. Not bad, considering the final part of the drive on Route 601 is on unpaved road.

Clubhouse? Forget about it. They've got a couple of trailers: one's the pro shop, the other the snack bar.

Members? Sorry, just regulars. Twenty-four bucks on weekdays and \$29 on weekends gets anybody on.

Even at 841 yards, No. 12 falls short of a world record. That belongs to Koolan Island Golf Course in Australia, which has a 948-yard par-7. (Continued on next page)



This could be the start of a long trend. Macho-man Greg Norman is building a private course near his Hobe Sound estate called the Medalist. It will feature a 700-yard par-5.

"I'd be surprised if anybody reached that in two," Norman said.

It would take a miracle to reach No. 12 at Meadows Farms in three. I managed to get to the left greenside fringe in five, before chipping and two-putting for my double-bogey 8. All it took was driver, 5-wood, 5-wood, 4-iron (duffed from rough) and 5-wood.

The hole goes downhill and doglegs right to the first small pond (which is blind from the tee), bends right some more and then goes uphill to the green, with the second lake cutting across the fairway 70-120 yards home. There also is a bunker shaped like a three-leaf clover to the left of the green. The message is simple: Good luck.

Most people come because of the long hole, but they end up leaving Meadows Farms with a sense of how darned nice everyone is who works there. That, too, is by design. Farmer Meadows founded the course partly because he was tired of the rude treatment he got at most other courses.

"Usually the attitude is the course comes first, people second," Meadows said. "I wanted to make golf more consumer-friendly. If you come here, you're going to be thanked a lot."

That's true, by everyone from the beverage cart girl and starter to head pro Don Kay and Carpenter. It's refreshing.

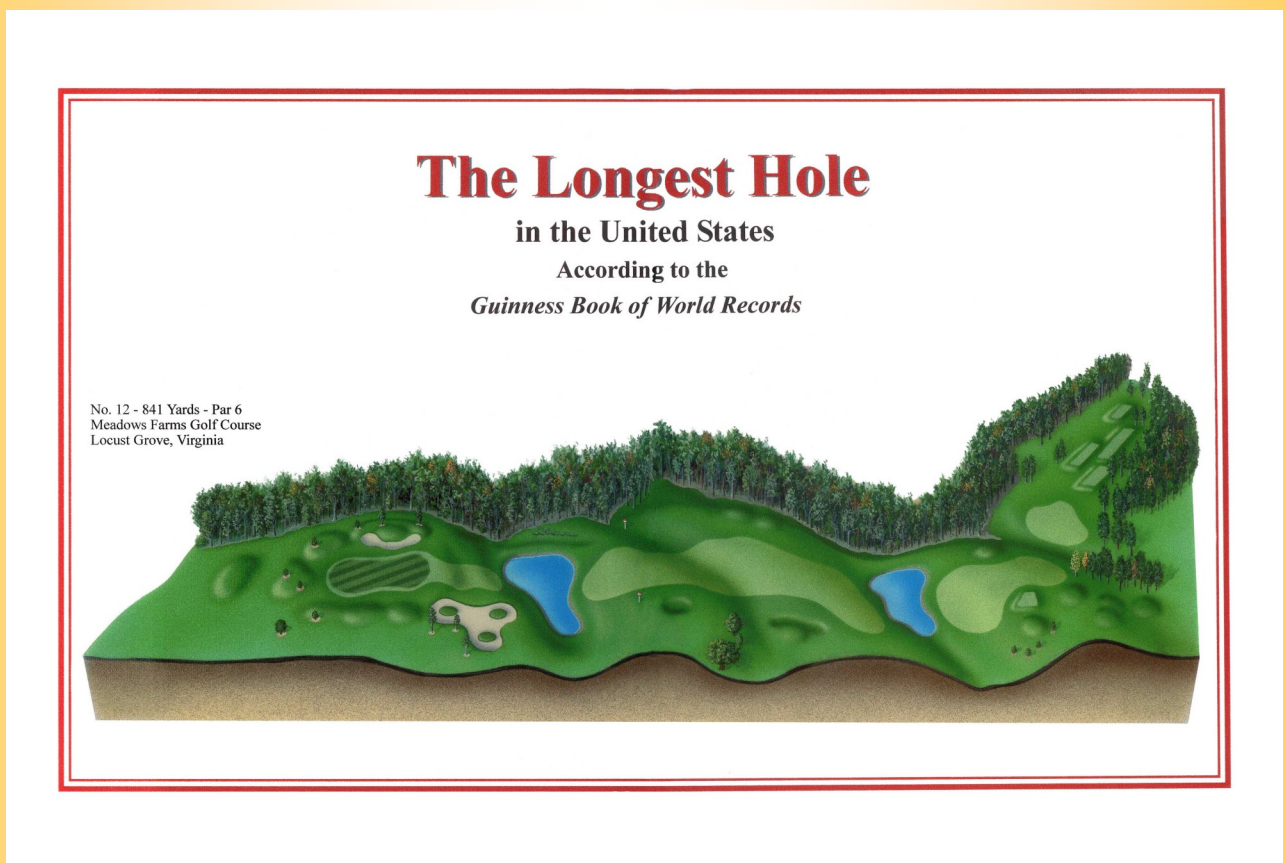
Although the long hole might not be to everyone's liking (I'm personally not too keen on Rambo golf), the course has enough other redeeming qualities to make it well worthwhile.

The frontside is surprisingly pretty and good. It features 10 holes: there is a 380-yard par-4 "warmup" hole where you don't record your score. The second hole is a par-3 island green (170 yards from the blues). The other front par-3 is a picturesque watery hole with elevated tees about 60 feet above the green.

Even with the long hole, the course is par 72 (35-37) and plays a shade over 7,000 yards from the blues, around 6,300 yards from the whites.

If you're ever in the area, it's certainly worth a pit stop.

But if you go, remember to eat your Wheaties.



NOVEMBER 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2 Regency	3	4 Montpellier Horse Races
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 Rhoadesville Baptist Church
12 Riverbend Wrestling	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 Thanksgiv- ing	24 Black Friday Membership Sale!!!!	25
26	27	28	29	30		

DECEMBER 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 CHRISTMAS	26	27	28	29	30