



Memorial Tournament

In July of 2020 Muirfield Village Golf Club started an extensive golf course renovation immediately following the last round of the Memorial Tournament. Founder Jack Nicklaus has described the course renovation as a desire to “make the golf course better, not necessarily harder”. Recent visits by the PGA TOUR’s Agronomy and Rules staff, confirm the changes are both dramatic to the eye, while substantially improving the playability of the golf course. The summary below highlights the renovation details:

- Construction started July 20, with the last green sodded October 1.
- All greens were reconstructed with new bentgrass, irrigation and Precision Air systems.
- Most holes had the green complexes 100% recontoured and rebuilt with significant bunker modifications. Only greens on holes 12, 13, 14 and 17 resemble the old greens.
- All tees were resurfaced. New professional tees were added on holes 2, 3, 5, 6, and 7, in addition to those already added on holes 8, 11, and 15 prior to the 2020 tournaments. In total approximately 100 yards in length has been added to the course since July.
- All fairway & greenside bunkers were rebuilt. On holes 1, 15, & 17 the fairway bunker complexes were strategically repositioned.
- All fairways were resurfaced, and additional drainage was installed on multiple fairways.
- All green surrounds were resurfaced.
- Hole #15 was rebuilt in entirety from tee to green with new fairway bunkers and extensive grade changes to the second and third shot landing zones. See photo below.



Muirfield Village Hole-by-Hole Renovation Notes:

Hole #1 – New fairway bunker complex and fairway narrowing. New green complex moving the green back and left adding 20 yards, with new short grass chipping areas. See photo below.



Hole #2 – New tee adding 10 yards. Minor green approach and bunkering modifications.

Hole #3 – New tee complex, located lower and closer to #2 green. The hole will play slightly shorter. New green complex against the lake, removing the greenside bunker located between the green and the lake. See photo below.



Hole #4 – New green complex moving back and to the left, adding 10-15 yards. New green is approx. 50 yards in depth, enabling a variety of set-ups on this par 3. See photo below.



Hole #5 – Slightly modified tee placement. Fairway landing areas recontoured, converting a portion of right fairway to rough. New, smaller green complex moved back and to the left against the water, adding 10 -15 yards. Expanded the lake fronting the green. See photo below.



Hole #6 – New tee adding 7-10 yards. Slight contour adjustments to green surface, leveling the back portion adding hole locations.

Hole #7 – New tee adding 7-10 yards. New green complex moving back and to the left adding 10-15 yards. Added extensive short grass chipping area behind the green.

Hole #8 – Slightly modified green surface, widening and improving the middle hole locations.

Hole #9 – New, larger green complex slightly closer to the lake, adding hole locations. See photo below.



Hole #10 – New green complex with a back tier. Added short grass chipping areas around the green.

Hole #11 – New green complex moving back and left adding 10 yards with an expanded short grass approach on the front right of the green and a larger greenside bunker.

Hole #12 – No change noted.

Hole #13 – Grass type adjustment reducing the fairway width in the tee-shot landing zone. Added new mature trees in the left fairway rough.

Hole #14 – No change noted.

Hole #15 – Small creek between the tee and fairway was removed. Extensive leveling of the fairway landing zone, lowering the fairway 10-15 feet, meaning the hole will play shorter. Introduced a new fairway bunker complex of four bunkers 285 – 320 yards from tee on the right. New green complex and water features bringing the creek closer to green. See photos.





Hole #16 – Green surface contour changes at the back of green to support tee shots.

Hole #17 – New tee adding less than 10 yards. New fairway bunkering and reduced fairway width past the bunkering.

Hole #18 – Minor green surface contour changes, leveling the back portion of the green.

Practice Areas - Both practice putting greens by 1 and 10 tees were rebuilt and are larger. Short game area at the driving range was redesigned and rebuilt. No change to the driving range tees.

Muirfield Village Golf Club will re-open for their member play in the two weeks prior to the 2021 Memorial Tournament next June. We must recognize the dedication of Mr. Nicklaus and his design team, club superintendent Chad Mark and his staff, the membership and staff of the club, and the staff of the Memorial Tournament, for the success of this massive project.

While the club membership will reap the benefits of the renovation for many years to come, the PGA TOUR will certainly feel the enhanced status of the Memorial Tournament through the superb conditioning, aesthetic beauty, and test of golf that Muirfield Village Golf Club has a tradition of providing.