

Meadow Lakes Golf Course Hole-by-Hole Strategy

FRONT 9

- 1. A generous opening hole. Longer hitters can cut the dogleg and make this a reachable par-5 by carrying the fairway bunker on the tee shot. OB runs down the left side of the hole, and turns to a red penalty area as you approach the green. If you choose to lay-up, be cautious of the well-placed bunker left of the fairway and the large pond on the right.
- 2. Although this short par-4 is drivable for the longer hitters, a well thought out lay-up off the tee is advisable considering the narrow approach to this well-guarded green. Penalizing trees and a fairway bunker on the left and a pond on the right makes accuracy far more important than distance on this tee shot. A fairway wood or long iron off the tee towards the 150-pole is ideal.
- 3. This slight dogleg left par-5 is reachable for longer hitters. If you can avoid the fairway bunker to the right off the tee, and to the left on your second shot, a birdie could be waiting. A large pond protects the right side of the green and wraps all the way around the back.
- 4. This is the first of four difficult par-3's at Meadow Lakes. Pay close attention to the color of the flag when selecting your club on the tee, as this green measures nearly 50 yards from front to back.
- 5. A straightforward par-4 that can cause headaches for players who tend to hit wild tee shots. There are ponds on both sides of the hole, and the fairway slopes towards both. The landing area is the widest at the 150-yard pole. Choose a club on the tee that will take you to that spot.
- 6. A short, but difficult par-4 with water on the right and a fairway bunker on the left. Select an accurate club off the tee and leave yourself with a short-iron to the green. Once you reach the putting surface, the real challenge begins as this 3-tiered green can produce some treacherous and mind-boggling pin locations.
- 7. A good, long par-4 that typically plays into a breeze. Be cautious of the penalty area running down the right side of the hole. The long second shot to the green is extremely important as approach shots that are a little too far right will almost always find their way into the pond. Missing left on the approach can save you a ball, but the up-and-down is very tricky.
- 8. Another difficult par-3 that can have some tricky pin placements on a severely sloped two-tiered green. If the pin is blue, make sure to use enough club to get up the steep slope.
- 9. The Crooked River makes this hole. Tee shots must be laid up short of the river, leaving a rather long approach shot. Avoid the large green-side bunkers on your approach if you plan on taking a par here.

BACK 9

- 10. Another good par-4 into the prevailing wind. The Crooked River runs the length of the hole on the right, and a large penalty area guards the left on the second half of the hole. The landing area widens past the fairway bunker on the left, but a big tee shot over the bunker could find the penalty area.
- 11. A short par-4 with an element of risk-reward. Like #10, the Crooked River runs the length of this hole down the right side. The left side of the hole is safe off of the tee, but you'll have to contend with a large tree on your approach shot. A big tee shot that challenges the right side of the tree can make for a fantastic birdie opportunity...but, a bogey or worse could be the penalty if you lose it too far right.
- 12. This short par-5 provides a great birdie opportunity. OB runs down the right side and a pond guards the left, but the fairway is generously wide. Longer hitters will have no problem reaching this hole in two. Those who choose to lay-up need to avoid the large fairway bunker on the right side of the hole.
- 13. Another difficult and long par-3 with three large bunkers protecting the green. This hole tends to play about one club shorter than the yardage would indicate, as balls landing in the rough short of the green often receive a fortuitous bounce.
- 14. This is a great three-shot par-5. The tee shot must be placed between the pond on the right and a grove of pine trees on the left. For the second shot, you must avoid the fairway bunker on the right and the second pond on the left. If you can keep it in the fairway and out of trouble on this hole, you will have earned your par (or better!)
- 15. This is one of the most difficult par-4's on the back nine. Tee shots favoring the left side of the fairway will provide the optimal angle of approach on the second shot; but, beware of the fairway bunker on the left. Approach shots must navigate a myriad of well-placed greenside bunkers to find one of the smallest greens on the golf course.
- 16. This is the ultimate risk-reward, 90 degree dogleg right par-4. If you're long enough (and brave enough), take dead aim at the green and let 'er fly. But beware, if you don't have the necessary length, your ball will find a second lake that is hidden off the tee. If you choose to take a more conservative line off the tee, make sure you don't hit straight through the fairway into the penalty area between the #10 and #16 fairways.
- 17. This is the shortest of the par-3's on the course, but that doesn't mean it's easy. A pond guards the front-right portion of the green, and wraps all the way around the back to catch any tee shots that may be hit too far. The greenside bunker on the left is a common landing area for those who are afraid to challenge the pond by taking dead aim at the flagstick.
- 18. The final hole...the good news is, there's no pond on this hole. The bad news is, you'll once again have to lay-up short of the Crooked River, and then hit it over the river for your second shot. Tee shots at or left of the 150-pole will provide the best angle for your approach. This is a very deep green, so pay close attention to the pin placement when selecting your club.