



JOHN FOUGHT DESIGN
GOLF COURSE ARCHITECTURE

John Fought-renovated North Carolina private course reopens

Carmel Country Club's North Course returns with 'more open, bigger feel'



CHARLOTTE, N.C. (Oct. 5, 2016) — Members returning to Carmel Country Club's North Course in the wake of a 10-month renovation carried out by award-winning golf course architect John Fought are finding a more open, larger, clean layout with new routing and improved sight lines. John Schultz, General Manager of Carmel Country Club, said the dramatically redesigned North Course which features Champion bermuda greens and 419 bermuda tees, fairways, and rough, now has a more traditional, classic feel to it in contrast to the South Course's more modern style.

"The early impression from members is that they love how open and clean the course is now," Schultz said. "All the holes are improved and John (Fought) and his team made some of the best holes even better. The new sight lines and vistas make the course more playable with a lot of rise and fall. It has the appearance of being a lot bigger."

The North Course, a George Cobb design, debuted in 1950 as Carmel's original 18-hole golf course. It was last redesigned by Tom Jackson in 1998. Following Fought's renovation, the par 71 North Course now plays anywhere from 4,118 to 6,807 yards and features seven tee boxes. "Our goal with the increased tee boxes was to reach all the different groups among our 1,400 members – whether juniors, women or seniors," Schultz said.

According to Dan Richardson, Club President at Carmel CC, the North Course renovation has met with "rave reviews" from the membership. "The new layout provides a tough but fair test," Richardson said. "The classic feel that John designed offers our membership a course that will be enjoyed for decades to come."

Fought believes he not only accomplished his goal of giving the course of a much more traditional look and feel, but provided great variety for the members with five par 3 holes and four par 5 holes. "I'm extremely happy with how everything came out; it's a really beautiful golf course that now has a very park-

land feel to it,” Fought said. “We were able to increase the landing zones in the fairways by 30 percent, which now gives the course a much more open, bigger feel.”

As many as five of the North Course’s holes were re-routed to compensate for Fought building out the club’s practice facility, which now includes a large new short-game area with three new greens: the Fought Green, Jones Green, and Niblick Green. Its features include elevation change, three bunkers that can be utilized for all types of shots, and can even be used as a three-hole par-3 course for special events.

The Carmel CC project returned Fought to the state of North Carolina, where in 2004 he completed the widely praised restoration of Pine Needles Golf Club, an original 1928 Donald Ross design. Three years after Fought’s restoration, Pine Needles played host to the U.S. Women’s Open.

For more information on John Fought Design, visit www.johnfoughtdesign.com. For more information on Carmel Country Club, visit www.carmelcountryclub.org.

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