

## **GOLDEN HORSESHOE GOLD COURSE TO RE-OPEN ON JULY 1**

Total Renovation of the 50-Plus-Year-Old Award Winner Nears Completion



**Williamsburg, VA (March 1, 2017)** - Colonial Williamsburg's premier golf course, the Golden Horseshoe Gold Course, will re-open July 1 following a complete renovation of all greens, fairways, roughs, and bunkers.

The Gold Course will feature Northbridge Bermuda turf grass on the fairways and surrounding roughs, and 007 Bent on the greens. The bunkers were rebuilt using the "Better Billy Bunker" construction technique to improve the drainage, look, and playability. Other upgrades include the addition of nine forward tees, re-leveling all remaining tees, reconstruction of four green complexes (2, 6, 12, and 18), and resurfacing of all remaining greens. A substantial expansion was made to the practice putting green and a new short game practice area created, with "target greens" added to the practice range.

These improvements exhibit Colonial Williamsburg's significant commitment to the game, ensuring the Golden Horseshoe remains one of the top golf resort destinations in the nation.

"Colonial Williamsburg's board of trustees has made a major investment toward the renovation of the Gold Course," said Mitchell B. Reiss, Colonial Williamsburg president and CEO. "It is vital that we care for this precious asset left in our stewardship so that we can offer our guests the premier resort experience today's travelers demand." The renovation of Robert Trent Jones Senior's original 1963 design is under the direction of his son, golf course architect Rees Jones, known as the "Open Doctor" for his expert renovations of many U.S. Open courses, and Greg Muirhead of Rees Jones Inc. Golf Course Design.

When Jones Sr. opened the Gold 54 years ago he called it his finest design and "a natural arboretum upon which a great golf course has been built." Over the years, the Gold Course has been recognized with numerous awards of excellence from players and golf media. It has hosted multiple USGA championships in addition to the 2007 NCAA Men's Golf Championship. It currently ranks number 62 on Golf Digest's list of America's 100 Greatest Public Courses.

The Golden Horseshoe Golf Club continues to offer guests three very different playing experiences: The Gold Course, The Green Course (designed by Rees Jones), and the 9-hole Spotswood short course.

Stay & Play Golf Packages are available in combination with more than 900 guest rooms at a wide range of price and distinction, from luxurious suites to colonial homes. Guests also can indulge themselves at the 33,000-square-foot, full-service spa, as well as enjoy culinary options ranging from historic taverns to casual or elegant dining, more than 500 restored or reconstructed original buildings from America's colonial days, distinguished museums, and boutique shopping at more than 40 shops.

For reservations or further information call 800/648-6653 or access www.colonialwilliamsburg.com/golf

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The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation preserves, restores and operates Virginia's 18th-century capital of Williamsburg. Innovative and interactive experiences highlight the relevance of the American Revolution to contemporary life and the importance of an informed, active citizenry. The Colonial Williamsburg experience includes more than 500 restored or reconstructed original buildings, renowned museums of decorative arts and folk art, extensive educational outreach programs for students and teachers, lodging, culinary options from historic taverns to casual or elegant dining, the Golden Horseshoe Golf Club featuring 45 holes designed by Robert Trent Jones and his son Rees Jones, a full-service spa and fitness center, pools, retail stores and gardens. Philanthropic support and revenue from admissions, products and hospitality operations sustain Colonial Williamsburg's educational programs and preservation initiatives.

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