

Mono Hills Country Club

Hole by hole playing guide

Hole 1/10

A downhill dogleg left par four guarded by a pond in the front. Key to this hole is to find a flat lie for your second shot, otherwise you're faced with a half wedge downhill-sidehill over water. Two options are presented: a shot that plays 180 – 200 yards to the right of the 100 yard marker, which will leave a full wedge approach on a flat lie; a 220 yard shot left just short of the pond which leaves a short pitch to the green; however the pond is brought into play. Green severely slopes back left to front right.

Hole 2/11

Par 4 (hole #2): Uphill dog leg left, this hole cants from left to right but the fairway runs right to left. Play to the left side of the fairway and expect to bounce right. Two tier green with a severe slope on the lower tier – stay below the hole at all costs on a front right pin. Long is trouble if the pin is on the back tier.

Par 5 (hole #11): Drive is uphill, so let it rip, but left is death, right is out of bounds.

Hole 3/12

The hole calls for a shot toward the large tree on the right side of the green either straight or with a slight draw. Prevailing wind is right to left but you can't feel it off the tee. Played as hole #3, the green is more or less level with the tee; as hole # 12 it plays uphill. Left pin placement is a sucker pin.

Hole 4/13

A par 5/par 4.5 when played as #13. Dogleg left, but you need to keep your drive on the right side of the fairway to avoid getting blocked out by the trees on the corner. 3 shot hole for most players as a par 5 (hole #4). Actually, a 3 shot hole for most players as a par 4 (hole #13). Start your drive toward the 3 pine trees in the distance. Approach shot is uphill into the prevailing wind, green slopes severely back to front. For your tee shots, local rule treats left and right out of bounds as lateral hazards. One stroke penalty for balls to the left of the white stakes on the left, or over the road on the right. Do not reload, as we try to keep the artillery barrages away from the houses on the left and right.

Hole 5/14

Hole plays 2-3 clubs shorter than the yardage owing to the slope depending on the wind. Prevailing wind is at your back. This is the only flat green on the course. Bail out is short right, although there is a member's bounce available if you miss the green a little bit left.

Hole 6/15

Recommended tee shot for the par four (hole #6) is to start ball left-centre side with a slight fade. Once you get over the pond a creek runs all of the way up the left side. Approach shot should be brought in right to left, taking advantage of the slope, and is actually somewhat downhill. Recommended tee shot for the par 5 (#15) is either a 180 yard shot short of the pond, or try to bomb it over the pond if you have a tailwind. Carrying the pond plays to 260 to 265 yards. Green slopes back right to front left, stay below the hole if you can.

Hole 7/16

Recommended drive is to land your ball just to the left of the 150 yard marker. Trouble left, right, short and long. Have a look at the monster rainbow trout in the pond, feed them if your cart is carrying fish food. Second shot may be against the wind but is never downwind owing to the way the wind swirls at the green. Green severely sloped front right.

Hole 8/17

Anything more than a 200 yard shot requires you to move the ball left to right. Shot can vary from a hybrid to a driver over the corner but the corner is a much longer carry than it looks. Smart shot is to start your drive at the 100 yard marker with a fade or cut. Fairway slopes right to left, hole is left to right. Two tiered green, slopes right to left. OB is just behind the green so don't be too aggressive.

Hole 9/18

A difficult upside-down bowl shaped green with closely mown areas all around. Bailout is to the left side of the green. Winds swirl over the pond so read the ripples on the water rather than the flag.