



116th U.S. OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP – SECOND ROUND COURSE SET-UP NOTES

Hole	Par	Yards	Set-Up Notes from Mike Davis and Jeff Hall
1	4	491	Today's hole location (26-12R) is back center. Generally, players will have to land their ball on the very front of this green or in the approach in order to be able to keep the ball on the putting green. With the softer conditions and the northeast wind, this front-to-back sloping putting green will be a bit more manageable. Approximately 5 yards beyond this hole location is a pronounced falloff that will feed balls into the greenside rough. This feature could be in play today.
2	4	337	Most players will play irons from this tee into one of Oakmont's narrowest fairways, which is well protected by bunkers right and one of the famous Oakmont ditches left. Today's hole location (15-4R) is on a small shelf in the middle-right portion of this green. The softer conditions will require the players to control the trajectory and spin to keep the ball on this shelf for a good birdie chance. A miss over or right of this green will leave a very challenging recovery.
3	4	432	A short but very precise par 4. The tee shot must be played into another narrow fairway that has a good deal of right-to-left slope and is flanked by a series of bunkers right and the famous "Church Pews" to the left. The second shot is semi-blind (left side of fairway) or completely blind (right side of fairway) to an uphill green featuring a false front and a large closely mown area over the putting green. Today's hole location (25-12R) could bring the closely mown area over the green into play.
4	5	619	The only par 5 on the front nine will play with today's east/northeast wind. One of only two dogleg holes at Oakmont, committing to an angle of play off the tee and executing is critical. Deep bunkers right of the drive zone must be avoided, but the Church Pews loom to the left of the drive zone to capture an errant tee shot. The second shot is a blind shot whether laying up or attempting to reach the putting green in two shots. Players will want to favor the right portion of the fairway in order to have the best angle to today's hole location (30-3L), which sits in the extreme back corner of this putting green. A miss over this green will require deft touch to recover.
5	4	384	One of five par 4s at Oakmont that measures less than 400 yards. The lay-up tee shot is to a fairly narrow fairway that cannot be seen from the tee. Players likely will utilize the television tower behind the putting green as a reference point in aligning their tee shots. Today's hole location (20-6R) is in the middle portion of the green and will be influenced by the pronounced right-to-left slope in this portion of the green. The softer conditions should allow players to have some good birdie chances here.

6	3	185	Today's hole location (8-3R) is positioned in the narrowest portion of this putting green. Players will be able to use the right-to-left slope of this green to feed the ball to this hole location. A ball that finishes directly behind this hole location could feature a unique double-breaking putt due to the influence of the shoulder off the left-hand bunker and the right-to-left slope of the putting green.
7	4	483	This hole will play with today's northeast breeze. Tee shots are from an elevated tee, but the drive zone slopes back toward the tee. Couple this with the soft conditions, and this hole is likely to play a bit longer today. The hole location (30-5L) sits atop a shelf along the back portion of this green and is a bit more accessible than yesterday's.
8	3	281	We are using the back tee here today with an accessible front-right hole location (10-6R). Players must be careful not to short-side themselves by missing the green right.
9	4	468	A blind tee shot to an elevated fairway where the drive zone is flanked by a series of bunkers to the right and one of the Oakmont dry ditches (lateral water hazards) to the left. The fairway slopes slightly from left to right. The second shot is played to one of the more unique putting green complexes at Oakmont. Today we are using a front-right hole location (9-11R) that is tight to the front-right bunker and a trough left of the hole location will be in play.
TOTAL	35	3,680	
10	4	466	We are using the back tee today, which means we will use the forward tee on hole 12. Today's middle-right hole location (21-5R) is difficult to get close to with the second shot because the green slopes from front right to back left, but it is the easiest of the four hole locations from a putting standpoint. Most players will lay up off the tee into a fairway that slopes downhill, from right to left and feeds into a bit of a trough.
11	4	379	Today's hole location (17-11L) is very near the center of the putting green and will appear pretty accessible from the fairway. There is a great deal of slope all around the hole location, despite its innocent appearance. Players will be laying up off this tee to position the ball in the fairway, which slopes back toward the tee and from left to right.
12	5	617	The penultimate tee is being utilized today with a front-right (5-4R) hole location. By using the 632-yard tee, the drive zone shifts significantly. The initial bunkers on the right side of the drive zone can be carried by nearly all the players in the field, but bunkers left and further down the hole on the right come into play. Additionally, the left-to-right sloping nature of the fairway adds to the difficulty of this tee shot. The second shot is very strategic as the players must contend with a cross bunker that is located approximately 170 yards from the middle of the putting green. This is one of Oakmont's most challenging putting greens. It is fairly narrow and runs from front left to back right. In 2007, it played to almost a half-stroke over par average.
13	3	164	The shortest par 3 today, especially given the extreme front-center hole location. The hole plays slightly uphill and today's hole location (4-5L) is well guarded by the front-left bunker. Players can use the contour of this green to help get the ball closer to the hole, but missing this green to the right will present a difficult recovery.
14	4	355	Another of Oakmont's shorter par 4s. The players may lay up off the tee, but the fairway has a fair amount of slope from right to left, requiring focus on this shot. The players also might challenge driving the green as tee markers are moved up to the center of the teeing ground. Today's far-right hole location

			(19-3R) is tucked behind the front-right bunker and is semi-blind on the second shot.
15	4	503	The middle-right hole location (31-6R) is one of the more accessible hole locations on this green, but a subtle trough short of the hole location will be in play. The 15th will again play as the longest par 4 on the course. The blind drive zone slopes from left to right and is flanked by a bunker left and bunkers and a dry ditch (lateral water hazard) right. The putting green sits on a slight diagonal and gets a bit narrower in the back portion of the green. A miss into the right bunker will offer a challenging recovery.
16	3	225	A demanding par 3 featuring a middle-left (18-6L) hole location that is just a few paces beyond the false front. The slope of this green will work the ball away from this hole location. The front portion of the putting green slopes significantly toward the tee. With the softer conditions, players will have to carry the ball a bit deeper into this green. A miss left of this green will result in a very difficult recovery.
17	4	318	One of Oakmont's signature holes. A very strategic, risk/reward par 4. The hole measures 312 yards from today's tee location to the hole location using a laser (adjusted to 329 yards for the uphill slope). The hole location (26-6L) is in the extreme back portion of this putting green. Missing this green into any of the five greenside bunkers will result in a very difficult recovery.
18	4	472	One of the most demanding finishing holes of the U.S. Open. The hole will play with today's northeast breeze. The drive zone slopes from left to right and is flanked by bunkers on both sides and a ditch on the left. The putting green is one of the most interesting at Oakmont. Today's front-right hole location (14-4R) is down in a bowl-like feature. A precisely played iron shot can utilize the slope surrounding this hole for a better chance at birdie.
TOTAL	35	3,499	
TOTAL	70	7,179	

Course Set-Up	The golf course remains soft as a result of the 3 inches of rain that has fallen here at Oakmont since Wednesday night. We were able to perform putting green maintenance between the completion of Round 1 and the beginning of Round 2.
Green Speeds	Even with the significant rainfall, the putting green maintenance we were able to perform between Rounds 1 and 2 resulted in speeds ranging from the upper 13s to 14 feet on the USGA Stimpmeter. The greens have picked up approximately a foot to 18 inches from this morning.
Weather Forecast from Jake Swick of Thor Guard	<p>This morning's cloud cover is taking its sweet time to exit, but look for skies to become mostly sunny very quickly as we head through lunchtime and early this afternoon. Temps will respond nicely as we see more sunshine this afternoon warming through the 70s and trying to top out in the middle 80s by dinnertime. Dewpoints hanging in the low 60s will drop into the 50s this afternoon with east/northeast winds 8-16 mph gradually letting up this evening.</p> <p>Tonight will be mainly clear with light winds and after starting off near 60 Saturday morning, temps will top out in the mid 80s Saturday afternoon with just a slight east/northeast wind around 5 mph at times. High pressure dominates our weather this weekend and as we slip onto the back side of the ridge, our winds will become more south to southwesterly on Sunday. Dewpoints should stay in the 50s this weekend as well with the next front approaching late Monday into Tuesday.</p>