

U.S. Senior Open Championship Fourth Round Course Set-up Notes from Jeff Hall

Hole	Par	Yardage	Set Up Notes
1	5	544	The opening hole offers a great chance to get off to a good start. Some players will be able to reach this green in two shots. The fairway in the drive zone slopes right to left toward a creek (lateral water hazard). The second shot is played over this creek. The prevailing breeze, will be from left to right and helping. Today's hole location (23-5R) is in the middle-right portion of the putting green. Players will have to negotiate the front bunker while misses long run the risk of collecting in the back-right bunker.
2	3	168	Today's hole location (13-5R) is in the front right of the putting green just below the ridge that runs through the middle of the green. Any ball that comes to rest on the upper portion of the putting green will result in a very fast putt back to the hole, however, this ridge can be used as a backstop. The prevailing wind will be against and from right to left.
3	4	489	This hole will play as the longest par 4 in the fourth round. The tee is nine paces forward of the tee sign, but today's back-right hole location (25-7R) will net out the overall yardage at 489 yards. This green sits up just a bit and is surrounded by closely mown turf. This could result in a variety of recovery shots being played from around this putting green.
4	5	578	This par-5 will be slightly wind-aided from the left. The fairway bunkers right of the drive zone must be avoided. A lone bunker on the left side of the hole at the 130-yard mark requires the player to make a choice of whether to fit their ball between the bunker and the right rough, carry the ball past the bunker into a fairway that tapers down to 23 yards wide or lay back behind the bunker. Today's hole location (8-4L) is in the front-left portion of the green, behind the front greenside bunker.
5	3	227	One of Del Paso's solid par-3 holes. The prevailing wind will be helping and from left to right. The green is well-bunkered, and the shoulders of the two front bunkers have an impact on the movement of the front two thirds of the putting green. Today's back-right-hole location (27-6R) is the most accessible on the green because the contour funnels balls back to that location.
6	4	391	Although back into the wind, a reasonable birdie chance awaits the players here. Look for fairway metals to be the club of choice from this tee. Today's middle-left hole location (16-4L) is in the narrow portion of this green.
7	4	449	This par 4 will play back into a hurting, southwest wind. Today's back-left hole location (24-7L) will be difficult to access. It is in behind the front-left bunker and a pronounced shoulder from that bunker feeds into the front-left portion of the putting green and will repel balls to the right.
8	4	448	Today's hole location (16-10L) is in the middle-left portion of the green behind the front-left greenside bunker. It will be difficult to stop the ball close to it. The prevailing southwest wind will be from the right and against the players today, which could bring the fairway bunker complex into play. A tee shot into the right side of the fairway will offer the best angle to this hole location.
9	4	282	We have moved the tee markers forward 42 paces from the 318 tee sign to entice players to try to drive this green. The laser measurement from tee to flagstick is 275. The laser measurement from tee to the front of the green is 251 yards. Today's hole location (24-4R) is on the upper shelf against the greenside bunkers. The flagstick is very visible from the tee location.
TOTAL	36	3,576	
10	4	322	A short par 4 which will feature a left-to-right cross breeze. The drive zone is blind. The green is well-bunkered and today's hole location (22-10R) is in the back portion of the green and is very accessible.

11	4	399	Another of the shorter holes on the course. The left-hand fairway bunker is well positioned, especially with the prevailing wind coming from right to left and slightly against the player. Today's back-right hole location (22-7R) is on the upper-back shelf of the green and fairly accessible.
12	3	147	The shortest par-3 on the score card at Del Paso features a pond left of the green. The bank has been mowed to fairway height, but it is steep enough that a ball with any momentum that gets on this bank will funnel into the water hazard (optional Drop Zone available). Today's front-right hole location (6-6R) will have this hole playing its shortest for the week. The hole is located in the narrowest portion of the green. A ball in the front-right greenside bunker will result in a very difficult up and down.
13	4	486	This par 4, which the club plays as a par 5, will play 486 yards today. Today's middle-left hole location will have this hole playing nearly its full length today. The prevailing wind will be from left to right and helping. The putting green complex is bunkerless, but features a pronounced mound to the left of the putting surface and is completely encircled by closely mown turf.
14	3	201	Another of Del Paso's stout par-3 holes. Today's middle-left hole location (18-6L) will be difficult to get to as it is well protected by the front greenside bunker. Given this hole location, tee markers have been moved forward 14 paces from the tee sign.
15	5	550	Tee markers are located on the 550 tee, resulting in the hole playing 70+ yards shorter than it did in round 3. This tee location results in a straightaway hole with a blind drive zone. This tee location combined with today's middle-left hole location (18-6L) should lead to a potential 2-shot par 5 for a number of players. The drive zone today will be slightly downhill, which should give the players additional roll out on their tee shots. The prevailing breeze will be at the players' backs. This green sits up, so a miss short or left will result in the ball rolling down a significant, closely mown slope.
16	4	467	Tee markers are located on the 471 tee today, five paces forward of the tee sign. Today's middle-left hole location (15-8L) is reasonably accessible. This hole has played as the most difficult relative to par for the first three rounds.
17	3	234	We have placed tee markers on the right side of the back-left tee today. Today's back center hole location (28-10CTR) is accessible. This tee and hole location combination will have this hole playing at its longest for the week.
18	4	457	Tee markers are placed at the 460 tee sign. The hole location is in the front-right (9-9R).
TOTAL	34	3,263	
TOTAL	70	6,839	

Course Set Up	The primary rough at the three-inch height of cut surrounding fairways and greens was mowed in its entirety last evening.		
	The intermediate rough at the 1.5-inch height of cut was mowed entirely last night.		
	Greens were hand watered to achieve the desired moisture and firmness last night. This morning, greens were again hand-watered to achieve a target moisture level which has been established based on firmness and with close attention to turf health. Greens will be lightly hand watered during the midday break to maintain turf health throughout the day.		
	Fairways and roughs received appropriate water to maintain turf health, with an eye on continued firming of the fairways, and the drive zones specifically.		

Green Speeds	Today's green speeds averaged 12' 6" on the USGA Stimpmeter this morning, which is right in our desired range. We achieved this speed through a double cut and roll. We anticipate losing 4"-8" of speed throughout the day.
Weather Forecast:	The aforementioned shortwave is now traversing through the central valley providing for a few light sprinkles about 75 miles to our south. These thick clouds contain a fair amount of moisture, so they could make the 75-mile journey northward with a few sprinkles left over for the area. If this piece of energy does last, we should see its effects in the morning (nothing to impede play). Winds today will be out of the south slowly picking up from 3-6 mph this morning into the 5-10 mph range by the middle afternoon. Due to the seasonal atmospheric river of moisture, dewpoints will stay in the upper 50s this morning through the afternoon. Skies are expected to clear our late this afternoon once this residual instability passes the area with spots of clouds expected to enter the area again this evening (some may contain enough moisture for a sprinkle or two). Highs today will depend on the cloud cover. Right now we have the potential to reach 93 degrees but given the circumstances we will probably only make it to the upper 80s and possibly 90, if clouds clear out by 1 p.m. Tonight winds will die down out of the south at 3-6 mph becoming calm by tomorrow morning.