

Golden Hills Country Club unveils renovated, 'more playable' golf course

By [Rachel Ham](#) on August 28, 2015

Golfers are back on a Lexington course after it underwent extensive renovations designed to improve the experience for both amateurs and professionals.



Golfers enjoy the scenic views at Golden Hills. (photo by Rachel Ham)

Golden Hills Golf and Country Club unveiled its new greens in early August after 11 weeks of construction. Every one of the 18 holes received at least a small improvement, while some were more significant, and the result is a “more playable” course, according to head golf professional Steve Larick.

“It’s the most extensive renovation since 1988, when we opened,” executive assistant Adam DeLoach said.

Golden Hills Golf and Country Club, which was founded by John Faye Berry, sits on the former Golden Glow Dairy Farm. Buildings that once housed cows now hold golf carts.

During the past two and a half months, bunkers were rebuilt, drainage was added, areas of the cart path were repaved, greens were rebuilt and Hole No. 14 was redesigned. Larick said golfers likely will most notice that several trees were removed and that their limbs no longer hang into the fairway on multiple holes.

The putting surfaces also received an upgrade with Bermuda grass.

Larick said the grass had become splotchy in areas because of winter maintenance. He felt a difference the first time he stepped on the greens after the renovations.

“I couldn’t believe how soft and true (they) are,” he said. “It’s more pleasurable to play now.”



Dian and Chad Berry cut the ribbon to welcome people to the newly renovated golf course. (photo by Rachel Ham)

Golden Hills also will soon have a nursery, or “sod farm,” to grow replacement grass for when an area of the course needs a quick fix. Larick said the practice is common among high-end golf courses.

Non-golfers can enjoy the benefits of the renovation, too. New flooring and seating were installed in Golden Hills’ clubhouse, which can be rented out for events.

“We made this investment to continue being a part of this community,” general manager Dian Berry said.

Superintendent Chad Berry said about 130 people played the course on the first day it reopened.

“We’ve had record numbers some days,” DeLoach added. “There’s excitement in the air.”

The course hosts about 30 tournaments a year, many of them fundraisers for local nonprofits. Learn more about upcoming events and membership at GoldenHillsGolf.com.

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