

WHAT'S NEW

Pine Forest Country Club

By Bob Bryan in South Carolina Amateur Golf Magazine

Nestled among the Carolina Pines of Summerville, Pine Forest Country Club awaits the golfer searching for a championship course reminiscent of Pinehurst. With tree-lined fairways and elevated greens, Pine Forest is one of the most challenging courses in the Lowcountry. It is no surprise that Pine Forest attracts the top amateurs in the state to play in the Lowcountry Amateur Championship held every August.

While all 18 holes pose a unique challenge, the holes that stand out the most are 3, 4, 8, 12, 14, 17 and 18. Recent modifications around the third green will make it play a little easier. The ground in front of and to the right of the green have been built up closer to the level of the green. Shots that landed in these areas before, left a very difficult up and down to save par or make birdie. The changes now give the player a little margin of error. For the long hitter, a good drive in the fairway now gives them a green light to go for the green in two on this 456 yard hole. The 4th hole, nicknamed "The Monster", is a 412 yard par 4 that requires a solid tee shot followed by a middle to long iron approach shot to an elevated two-tiered green. The 8th hole is a scenic 165 yard par 3 over water in which the only bailout area is to the left into the large mounds that protect the left side of the green. The 12th hole, fittingly nicknamed "Little Augusta" is a 324 yard par 4, where the view of the green from the fairway was designed to be reminiscent of the 12th hole at Augusta National. The hole also features one of the narrowest greens in the world with it being only seven yards wide in the center and twelve yards wide on the sides. A bulkhead was put in front of the green last year. Shots that come up a yard or two short of the green, now leave a fairly simple chip onto this very shallow green. The 14th hole is another short par 4 that measures only 340 yards but is still a memorable hole. With large fairway bunkers to the right and out-of-bounds to the left, the hole requires a long iron or fairway wood off the tee. The 14th green can be treacherous, especially if the pin is tucked to the right side of the green. Be sure to take one more club because many players have come up just short and watch in horror as their ball rolls down the slope and into the water. The 17th hole is a short par 3, nicknamed "The Terraces", because of its' three-tiered green that is guarded by water in front of the green and mounds to the left and right of the green. The 18th hole is truly a great finishing hole. The hole is nicknamed "A Long Way Home" and measures 410 yards and most of the time is played into the wind. With such a finishing hole, Pine Forest seems designed to host tournaments played at the highest level.

Head Superintendent Graham Lang and his staff consistently keep Pine Forest in excellent condition from tee to green. Lang was honored by Golfweek Magazine as a one of only ten finalists nationally in the Superintendent of the Year Award for 2000. Excellent maintenance and course design make Pine Forest Charleston's premier inland course.

Course Quality Chart

Five Point Rating System

Overall Experience	5
Greens	5
Fairways	5
Tees	5
Clubhouse	5
Facilities	5
Course Fairness	4
Par 3's	5
Par 4's	5
Par 5's	5
Esthetics	5
Shot Creativity	4
Total Score:	58

(Highest Score Available=60)

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Website: www.pineforestcountryclub.com

Architect: Bob Spence

GM/Head Pro: Randy Rover

Superintendent: Graham Lang

Marketing Director: Rich O'Brien

Directions: Take 126 West to Exit 199A (Summerville). Proceed to town, turn right at the light after the railroad tracks onto West Richardson, turn left onto Cedar St. at the next light. Cedar St. becomes Central Avenue and continue for approximately 3 miles. Turn right at the fork in the road at Butternut. Pine Forest is 1/2 mile up on the right

