

# WAKONDA CLUB'S GOLF COURSE RESTORATION

In 2023, Wakonda Club will embark on extensive and exciting changes to the Golf Course. In planning the golf course improvements, the goal has been to restore the original architectural intent first designed and built by William Langford and Theodore Moreau, while improving the infrastructure through irrigation, drainage and turfgrass.

The project itself remains largely unchanged from architect Tyler Rae's original plan. However, the scope has been slightly modified to better serve the membership and reduce the timeline for the project. Below you will find details to the key areas that will be impacted throughout the project.

## Scope of the Golf Course Restoration Work

### Greens

- Rebuilding the greens on holes 2, 5, 9, 15, and 17
- The turf on these five greens will be repurposed to create expansions on the remaining thirteen greens.
- The expanded areas will be cored out and a topdressing mix will be installed to match the existing topdressing layer that has accumulated through the years.
- While #1 and #14 greens will remain the same, we'll be removing the turf in specific locations to soften the slopes to create more pin positions throughout the two greens.
- The five greens that are being rebuilt will consist of the same mix that will be installed on the green expansions.
- Once completed, the greens throughout the course will offer more consistency both in playability and agronomic practices.

### Tees

- Most tee locations currently on the course will remain in the same position.
- For aesthetic consistency, all tees will be leveled and modified to a rounded shape.
- The forward tees represented in the Master Plan will offer a new variety of yardages for players of all handicaps.
- All tees will be re-seeded to a new variety Bentgrass called Dominant Extreme – 7.

### Fairways

- The fairways will be expanded from twenty-four acres to thirty-four acres.
- There will also be minimal shaping on holes 4, 6, and 12 to soften the swales in the collection areas allowing for tee shots to hold in position as opposed to funneling to a centralized location.
- The fairways will also be re-seeded with the same variety of Bentgrass as the tees.
- This turf will require less inputs of water, fertilizer, and chemicals.

### Bunkers

- The bunkers in the Master Plan will remain in their current locations.
- The original square footage of the bunkers was planned at 210,000 ft<sup>2</sup> and will now be 180,000 ft<sup>2</sup>.
- We will install new Pro-Angle sand with mesh liners, the same as we've had since 2012.

If you have any further questions regarding the restoration and golf course project, you may reach out to Superintendent Dane Wilson at [danew@wakondaclub.com](mailto:danew@wakondaclub.com).



3-D rendering by Tyler Rae looking over the golf course to the east.

## Timeline of the Golf Course Restoration

### Irrigation Installation

- The mainlines of the new irrigation system will be installed in the spring, prior to the PCC.
- The pumphouse will arrive at the end of June and will be installed immediately.
- The lateral lines will be installed after the PCC and throughout the golf course restoration.

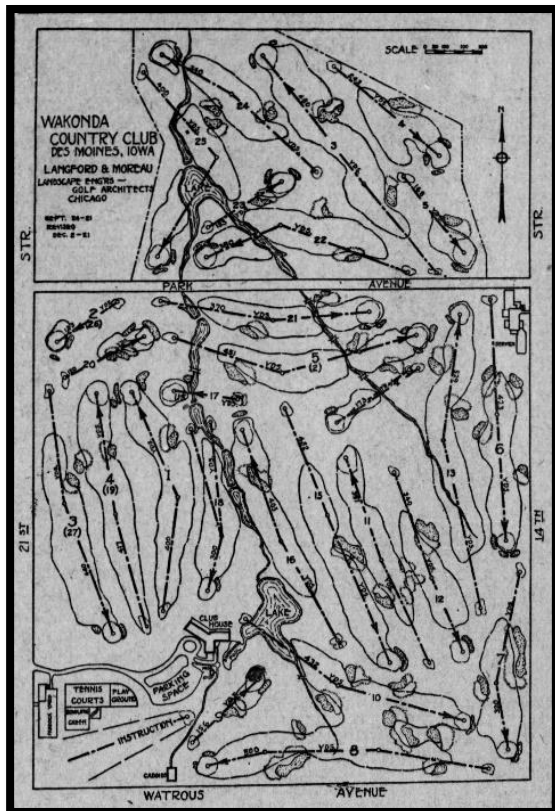
### Golf Course Availability

- The Golf Course will open in the spring as soon as the weather permits.
- All 18 holes will remain open through Father's Day, June 18, 2023.
- On June 20, 2023, 9-holes will close for restoration work.
  - Holes closing will be: 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 13
- 9-holes will remain open for member play from June 20<sup>th</sup> through July 9, 2023.
  - Hole remaining open for play will be: 1, 5, 14, 12, 11, 15, 16, 17, 18
- The remaining 9-holes will completely close on July 10 for the rest of the season for the restoration work.
- The course will reopen in the spring of 2024 for member play and we will host the 2024 Principal Charity Classic.

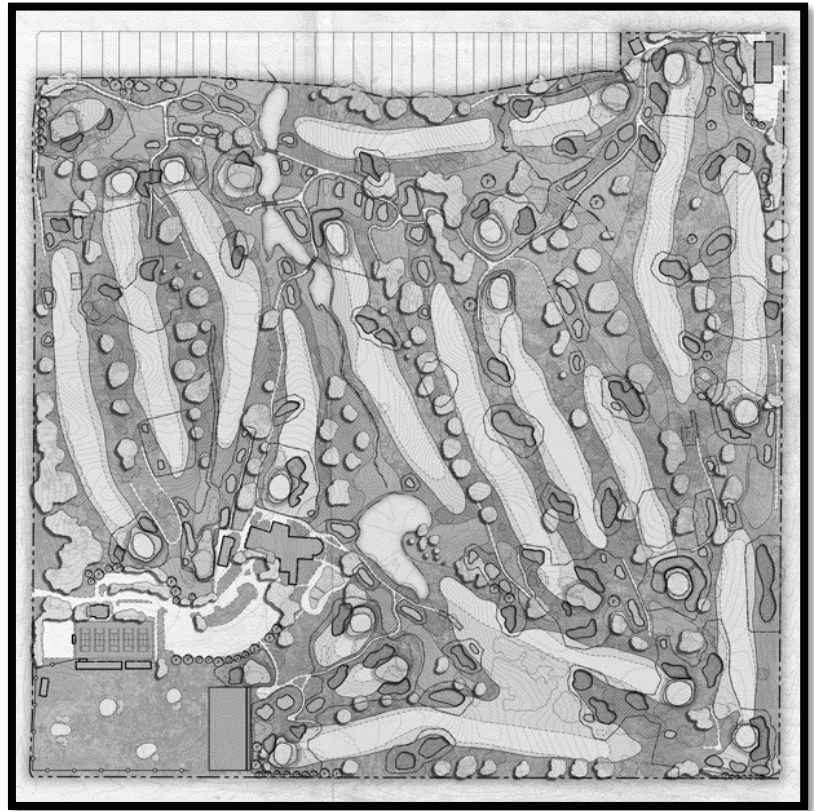
### Profile of Golf Course Architect, Tyler Rae

Tyler Rae, a University of Kentucky graduate of Landscape Architecture, has been immersed in the game of golf and its playing fields since a very young age. Prior to operating his own firm, Tyler worked with noted Golf Architect and Golden Age restoration expert Ron Prichard for eight years, in the design office with Golf Architect Keith Foster for three years, as well as out in the field with Coore & Crenshaw.

Since his first job in the golf industry in 1998, Tyler has carefully crafted his career and built a design company which now has a workload that employs several staff members: Lead Design Associate and Golf Course Shaper, Jim Ryan, Jr.; Design Associate, Tim Lewis; Design Assistant, Sean Rariden; and Forestry Consultant, Barry Emens, all of whom will assist in Wakonda's restoration. Tyler's emphasis continues to focus on Golden Age Architects' restoration and renovation work.



Langford's Original Design for Wakonda Club as printed in the Des Moines Register, December 1921.



Wakonda's Master Plan Design by Tyler Rae  
January 2023