



# Women's Amateur ASIA PACIFIC

SEE THE  
NEXT RISING  
STARS IN  
WOMEN'S  
GOLF

Yuka Saso  
2021 US WOMEN'S OPEN  
CHAMPION

Patty Tavatanakit  
2021 ANA INSPIRATION  
CHAMPION

Atthaya Thitikul  
FIRST IN THE 2021 RACE TO COSTA  
DEL SOL (LET ORDER OF MERIT)

# SHAPING THE FUTURE

3-6 November 2022 | Siam Country Club, Waterside THAILAND

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**Women's  
Amateur**  
ASIA PACIFIC

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## THE R&A

**Martin Slumbers**

*Chief Executive*

On behalf of The R&A, I am pleased to welcome all players, officials, media and spectators to the Women's Amateur Asia-Pacific championship being played here in Thailand at the Siam Country Club.

This will be the fourth staging of the championship and already we have seen some outstanding competitors emerge. Thailand's own Atthaya Thitikul won the inaugural WAAP in 2018 and has gone on to win twice on the LPGA this year. Her compatriot Patty Tavatanakit also played in the inaugural championship and is now a major champion and so too is Japan's Yuka Saso, who competed in the 2018 and 2019 WAAP.

The WAAP has quickly become the region's premier amateur championship. It provides the perfect learning opportunity and springboard for the most talented Asia-Pacific golfers to progress their careers. This week the champion will earn the opportunity to compete in two major championships – the

AIG Women's Open and the Amundi Evian Championship.

The Waterside Course at the Siam Country Club is a magnificent venue and I look forward to watching some outstanding golf from these talented young athletes. I wish them all the very best of luck as they compete but also as they make friendships that will last a lifetime.

I would very much like to thank our sponsors for their support and commitment to helping us deliver the championship - Nippon Kabaya Ohayo Holdings, Samsung, Trust Golf, Hana Financial Group and Rolex.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the referees, officials and volunteers from the Thai Golf Association and Siam Country Club and wish everyone all the best for a successful week.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the support of our partners at the Asia-Pacific Golf Confederation who are committed as we are to making this a fantastic championship.



## ASIA-PACIFIC GOLF CONFEDERATION

**Taimur Hassan Amin**

*Chairman*

Sawadee Khru! A very warm welcome to Thailand for the fourth championship edition of the Women's Amateur Asia-Pacific (WAAP) at the splendid Siam Country Club.

Not only is this fabulous championship the pre-eminent event for female amateurs in the region but it's also one of the highlights on the Asia-Pacific Golf Confederation's annual calendar.

Since Mizuki Hashimoto's success at last year's WAAP in Abu Dhabi, women golfers from the Asia-Pacific region have distinguished themselves around the globe.

Special kudos goes to Mizuki and her Japanese compatriot Saki Baba on their brilliant performances over the past 12 months.

Following her triumph in last year's WAAP, Mizuki led her country to a notable win at the Amateur Ladies Asia-Pacific Invitational Golf Team Championship for the Queen Sirikit Cup in Singapore. She was also the leading individual there.

Meanwhile, Saki became only the second player from Japan to claim a USGA title when she won the US Women's Amateur in fine style in August.

With elite tournaments such as the WAAP, women in the APGC region are getting opportunities that have propelled them onto the

world stage, evidenced by the fact that at the start of October no fewer than seven players from Asia-Pacific featured in the top-20 in the World Amateur Golf Ranking and 19 in the top-50.

Over the coming week, we look forward to seeing how all 86 players from 21 countries fare as they attempt to follow in the footsteps of the likes of Atthaya Thitikul, Patty Tavatanakit and Yuka Saso, all former WAAP participants who have gone on to achieve stunning success in the professional game.

A championship of this stature requires the backing and input of countless individuals and organisations.

Our appreciation goes to the management and all the staff at Siam Country Club for welcoming us to their venue and for presenting the Waterside Course in such outstanding condition.

We are grateful also for the support of our corporate partners Rolex, Nippon Kabaya Ohayo Holdings, Trust Golf, Hana Financial Group and Samsung.

Finally, I would like to offer best wishes to all the players, officials, volunteers and spectators. Enjoy your week and return home with a treasure-trove of wonderful memories and new friendships.



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## THAILAND GOLF ASSOCIATION

**Rungsrid Luxsitanonda**

*President*



It is with great pleasure that I welcome everybody to the Women's Amateur Asia-Pacific championship, to be held at Siam Country Club Waterside. The Thailand Golf Association would like to thank The

R&A and APGC for staging this prestigious championship in Thailand and broadcasting the coverage to many countries around the world.

The championship features the top women amateurs from the Asia-Pacific region and I would like to congratulate all competitors for being selected to represent their countries, which is a great honour for any individual to achieve.

The WAAP has provided past winners, such as Athaya Thitikul with exceptional opportunities to display their talent on the international stage through exemptions to play among the greats at major championships. I strongly believe that many future champions will emerge from the championship and go on to achieve great success.

My sincere gratitude to The R&A, which has supported the Thailand Golf Association through numerous initiatives such as supporting the Queen Sirikit Cup for many years, hosting rules seminars in Thailand as well as supporting the Disadvantaged Kids Golf Programme.

The Thailand Golf Association would also like to take this opportunity to thank and acknowledge Ms Rae-Vadee T. Suwan who has played a significant role in the development and growth of women's golf not only in Thailand but also throughout the Asia-Pacific. It is fitting that the WAAP winners medal is named in her honour.

Finally, my congratulations to each participant for being selected to represent their respective countries. I wish all of the competitors the best of luck and may you all play to the best of your potential and most importantly, have fun while competing.

## THAILAND LADIES GOLF ASSOCIATION

**Jittakarn Lamsam**

*President*



It is my pleasure to welcome the top amateur golfers in the region to compete in the Women's Amateur Asia-Pacific championship at

Siam Country Club in Pattaya City, during 3-6 November 2022.

Although the championship is only in its fourth year, it has proven to be the main stage to display top talents and future stars of ladies golf from Asia-Pacific countries. The championship has quickly become a stepping stone for many successful players to enter their professional career.

I greatly appreciate the vision of The R&A and the Asia-Pacific Golf Confederation to have launched this Championship and helped pave the way for talented players to move on from being national team players to the professional ranks. We must express our profound thanks to all past and present supporters of the WAAP, including the Siam Country Club, for providing the facilities of the tournament venue to all players to showcase their talents this year.

I look forward to see an exciting week of great golfing skills where new stars will be born and I wish all players the best of luck and a memorable stay in Thailand.



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## SIAM COUNTRY CLUB

**Dr. Phornthep Phornprapha**  
*Chairman*

It is a great honour for all of us at Siam Country Club Waterside, Pattaya to be selected as the host venue of the fourth Women's Amateur Asia-Pacific, a stepping stone for top female amateurs onto the world stage. Waterside is one of our sister courses along with the Old Course, Plantation, Rolling Hills, and the newly opened fifth course, Bangkok.

The Siam Country Club is no stranger to hosting world class events – as 'home of the LPGA Thailand', we have hosted the Honda LPGA Thailand at Siam Country Club, Pattaya consecutively for more than 14 years as well as the Asian Tour's Trust Golf Asian Mixed Series 2022, and we look forward extending our hospitality once again.

We would like to extend our warmest welcome to The R&A, Asia-Pacific Golf Confederation (APGC), sponsors, officials, and the invited amateur players from all over the Asia-Pacific region.

We could not be prouder to join the list of prestigious golf courses and hosts of previous editions of the WAAP in Singapore, Japan and Abu Dhabi. It is important to recognise and credit the efforts of The R&A and APGC to

develop and provide a pathway for Asia's elite women amateurs to step onto the international stage.

Thailand is continuing to produce many talented golfers, and it is our joy to host our national Thai players, in the hopes one may follow in the footsteps of current world number two, winner of the inaugural WAAP 2018, and two-time champion on both the LPGA Tour and Ladies European Tour, Atthaya Thitikul. We are delighted to give this opportunity to Asia's best young female players in the APAC region, and are hugely supportive of The R&A's Women in Golf Charter, promoting diversity and inclusivity in golf.

We are looking forward to welcoming Thai fans who are eager to see the up and coming players in action, and enjoy the immaculate condition of the golf course and the scenic beauty of Waterside. As its name suggests, Waterside plays along water features with creeks, ponds, and lakes up and down the valley.

From all of us at Siam Country Club Waterside, Pattaya we would like to extend our best wishes to all the players.

# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

<b>Monday 31st October</b>	3.00 - 7.00pm	Player arrival and registration
<b>Tuesday 1st November</b>	7.15am	Practice round - Siam Country Club, Waterside
<b>Wednesday 2nd November</b>	7.15am	Practice round - Siam Country Club, Waterside
<b>Thursday 3rd November</b>	7.15am	Round one (1st and 10th tee start) - Siam Country Club, Waterside
	12.00pm	WAAP press conference, Media Centre
<b>Friday 4th November</b>	7.15am	Round two (1st and 10th tee start) - Siam Country Club, Waterside
<b>Saturday 5th November</b>	7.15am	Round three (1st and 10th tee start) - Siam Country Club, Waterside
<b>Sunday 6th November</b>	7.15am	Final round (1st and 10th tee start) - Siam Country Club, Waterside
	5.30pm	Closing Ceremony – The Lawn Movenpick Pattaya (invitation only) Trophy presentation with the champion will take place at the Closing Ceremony

*(Please note that all starting times are approximate. The confirmed times and groups will be displayed on the WAAP website at [www.randa.org/WAAP](http://www.randa.org/WAAP) or on the daily draw sheets available at the course.)*

# WAAP'S PERFECT PLATFORM FOR RISING THAI STARS

**Spencer Robinson**, the Asia-Pacific Golf Confederation's Communications Manager, reflects on how the Women's Amateur Asia-Pacific championship is acting as a springboard to global success on the biggest stages in women's golf for rising stars of the game from Thailand and around the region.



It's not by accident that Thailand has become a force to be reckoned with in the elite echelons of the women's game, at professional and amateur level.

Ranging from easy access for juniors and the Kingdom's huge golf course inventory, to a thriving local professional

circuit and strong corporate support from companies like Singha, there are a host of contributory factors.

You can also add into the mix the aspirational pull of the LPGA Tour successes of the Jutanugarn sisters – Ariya and Moriya – and Women's Amateur Asia-Pacific (WAAP)

alumni Patty Tavatanakit and Athaya Thitikul.

When they arrived at Singapore's Sentosa Golf Club in February, 2018 to take part in the inaugural WAAP, Athaya and Tavatanakit were starry-eyed students with dreams of making it to the big time.



Although they could not have known it then, it was to prove a life-changing week for the Thai teenagers, Athaya turning 15 the day before the championship tee-off and Tavatanakit aged 18 at the time.

The history books tell us that Tavatanakit ended in a share of 15th place at Sentosa while Athaya was crowned the first-ever WAAP champion, emerging triumphant in a four-way play-off that also included the then 16-year-old Japanese-Filipina prodigy Yuka Saso.

Less than five years on and Tavatanakit (ANA Inspiration, 2021) and Saso (US Women's Open, 2021) are both major champions who feature in the top-35 in the Rolex Women's World Rankings.

In the case of Athaya, a major title is just about the only thing missing from her latest curriculum vitae. In the eyes of most respected judges, it's just a matter of when ... not if.

The stunning success she's achieved to date has not come as a surprise to those that have followed her career from an early age.

Athaya was already a child star at home when she created history – and a global stir – with her victory in the Ladies European Tour's Thailand Championship in 2017. At the time, Athaya was aged just 14 years, four months and 19 days, making her the youngest golfer

(male or female) to win a professional golf event.

A few months later she once more defied her tender years, displaying skill and composure in equal measures to triumph at the WAAP.

That Singapore success earned Athaya invitations to two major championships in 2018, the ANA Inspiration at Mission Hills Country Club in California and the Women's British Open at Royal Lytham & St Annes in England where she won the Smyth Salver as the leading amateur, a feat she replicated in 2019.

Athaya turned professional in 2020, playing mainly on the Thai LPGA Tour that year due to Covid-19 travel restrictions, winning

five times. Progressing to the Ladies European Tour in 2021, she won twice en route to topping the season-long Race to Costa Del Sol (Order of Merit).

There's no sign of her upwardly mobile career stalling. In her first season on the LPGA Tour this year, the teenager made 19 cuts in 20 events (as of the end of September), posted nine top-10s, including a solo fourth at the KPMG Women's PGA Championship, and claimed two victories.

Her maiden LPGA Tour win came in March following a play-off with Denmark's Nanna Koerstz Madsen at the JTBC Classic. Another extra-time triumph arrived in



Natthakritta Vongtaveelap

#### PAST CHAMPIONS

Year	Venue	Champion
2018	Sentosa Golf Club, Singapore	Athaya Thitikul (THA)
2019	The Royal Golf Club, Japan	Yuka Yasuda (JPN)
2020	Championship cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic	
2021	Abu Dhabi Golf Club, UAE	Mizuki Hashimoto (JPN)

the last week of September when American Danielle Kang was repelled at the second additional hole at the Walmart NW Arkansas Championship.

Heading into October, Athaya had soared to second in the Rolex Women's World Rankings, behind only number one Jin Young Ko of Korea and second-placed American Nelly Korda.

The first LPGA Tour player in five years to win twice in her rookie season, Athaya, who will turn 20 in February 2023, along with Tavatanakit, are increasingly being cast as ideal role models for the next generation of female Thai golfers.

Among those seeking to follow in their footsteps is big-hitting Natthakritta Vongtaveelap, who came agonisingly close to winning last year's WAAP in Abu Dhabi. There, she led for the first three rounds but finally settled for a share of second place, pipped at the post by Japan's Mizuki Hashimoto.

The 19-year-old Natthakritta has continued to make waves this year, winning numerous titles, including both the individual and team gold medals at the 31st Southeast Asian Games in Hanoi.

Nicknamed 'Sim 300' for her 300-yard drives, Natthakritta has indicated her intent to join Athaya and Tavatanakit in the professional ranks towards the end of this year.

Before that, though, she'll be hoping to conclude some unfinished business when she spearheads the challenge of an eight-strong Thai contingent over the Waterside Course at Pattaya's Siam Country Club in the fourth edition of the WAAP.

She said: "Women's golf in Thailand is very strong right now. We are not short of inspiration. Starting from Ariya and Moriya (Jutanugarn) to Patty and Athaya, we have had superstars who are amazing role models for all of us.

"The WAAP is the biggest championship we play in Asia-Pacific and is an amazing opportunity for us so early in our careers."

## 10 PLAYERS TO WATCH

**Jiyoo Lim**  
Republic of Korea

**Mizuki Hashimoto**  
Japan

**Yuna Araki**  
Japan

**Hsin-Yu Lu**  
Chinese Taipei

**Kirsten Rudgeley**  
Australia

**Miku Ueta**  
Japan

**Saki Baba**  
Japan

**Natthakritta Vongtaveelap**  
Thailand

**Ayaka Tezuka**  
Japan

**Jeong Hyun Lee**  
Republic of Korea



*Athaya Thitikul*

It was not always that way. Some 13 years prior to the launch of the WAAP, Virada Nirapathpongporn and Russy Gulyanamitta were the only Thais to feature on the LPGA Tour.

Today, there are no fewer than a dozen players from the Land of Smiles plying their trade on the world's foremost women's Tour. That's the third most of any country, behind only the United States and Korea.

Since 2016, Thai players have amassed 19 LPGA wins – a title count that includes three major championships, courtesy of former world number one and 12-time LPGA winner Ariya Jutanugarn (2016



Yuka Saso

Women's British Open and 2018 US Women's Open), and Tavatanakit at last year's ANA Inspiration.

Long before the conception of the WAAP, Virada was one of the sparks that ignited the flame of golf

### OPPORTUNITIES AND EXEMPTIONS

The Women's Amateur Asia-Pacific champion receives exemptions into the following events in 2023:

- AIG Women's Open, Walton Heath
- The Amundi Evian Championship, Evian Golf Resort
- Hana Financial Group Championship, Korea
- Augusta National Women's Amateur, Augusta National Golf Club



Patty Tavatanakit



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among women in her home nation.

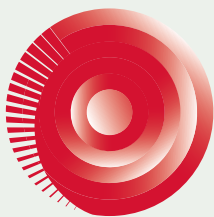
Ranked as the world's top female amateur when she played for Duke University on the US collegiate circuit, Virada won the US Women's Amateur championship in 2003, still the only Thai to achieve that accolade.

"I'm so proud of the current generation of Thai golfers and that we are now considered a major force in women's golf. If I had even a little bit to do with that, it is extremely gratifying for me," said Virada, who splits her time these days between coaching and TV commentary work.

Should a Thai player be crowned champion at Siam Country Club on November 6, you can be sure that Virada, Tavatanakit and Atthaya would be among the first to offer heartfelt congratulations, along with encouragement and advice on the exciting path ahead.







# Women's Amateur

## ASIA PACIFIC

### Course Yardage

HOLE	①	②	③	④	⑤	⑥	⑦	⑧	⑨	OUT
PAR	4	3	4	4	4	5	3	5	4	36
YARDS	349	138	384	325	396	517	108	530	369	3116
METRES	319	126	351	297	362	473	99	485	337	2849

HOLE	⑩	⑪	⑫	⑬	⑭	⑮	⑯	⑰	⑱	IN	TOTAL
PAR	5	4	3	4	4	4	3	4	5	36	72
YARDS	526	358	161	374	372	354	164	360	524	3193	6309
METRES	481	327	147	342	340	324	150	329	479	2919	5768



### Weather Warning

In the event that inclement weather approaches the golf course, rules officials will sound the air horns to suspend play.

Please seek shelter immediately and avoid the following:  
open areas, hill tops, high places, isolated trees, golf carts, wire fences and tv towers.



### ข้อปฏิบัติสำหรับผู้ชมเมื่อสภาพอากาศแปรปรวน

การแจ้งเตือนเกี่ยวกับสภาพอากาศ ในกรณีที่สภาพอากาศแปรปรวนเข้าใกล้บริเวณสนามกอล์ฟ เจ้าหน้าที่จะส่งสัญญาณด้วยแตรเพื่อระงับการเล่นชั่วคราว โปรดหาที่หลบภัยทันทีและหลีกเลี่ยงสิ่งเหล่านี้: พื้นที่เปิด เนินเขา ที่สูง ต้นไม้ รถกอล์ฟ รั้วลวดหนาม และหอส่งสัญญาณโทรทัศน์

### Map Legend

#### สัญลักษณ์

- CLUBHOUSE  
คลับเฮ้าส์
- PUTTING GREEN  
กรีนซ้อมพัตต์
- DRIVING RANGE  
ไดรฟ์วิ่ง เรนจ์
- RAIN SHELTER  
พื้นที่หลบฝน
- TOILETS  
ห้องน้ำ
- LEADERBOARD  
สไลด์เดอร์บอร์ด
- CHIPPING GREEN  
กรีนซ้อมชิพ
- SNACK SHOP  
ร้านค้า
- PUBLIC CATERING  
พื้นที่จำหน่ายอาหารและเครื่องดื่ม





## SIAM COUNTRY CLUB, WATERSIDE COURSE

HOLE  
1PAR-4  
369 YARDS

The opening hole requires a drive that favours the left side or middle of the fairway. Due to the dogleg, the best angle of attack into the green is from the left side of the fairway as there is a penalty area on the right side of the green. The green has two tiers and is sloped from back to front.

HOLE  
2PAR-3  
168 YARDS

This picturesque par-3 requires a short iron to the middle of the green from which the player will have a relatively good chance for birdie, regardless of the pin position as the green is fairly small and surrounded by two well-placed bunkers.

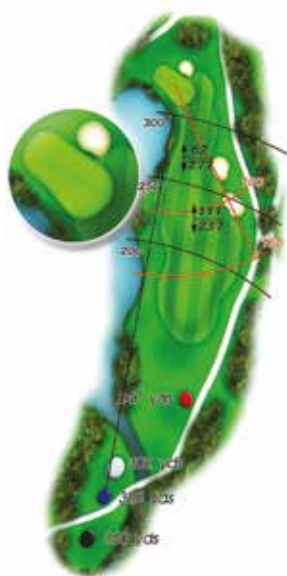
HOLE  
3PAR-4  
427 YARDS

A good drive allows the player to have an easier approach shot to the green which slopes from right to left towards the bunker. The player will likely have a long iron for their second shot to a generous sized green. The right side of the green is the preferred angle to set up a good par on this tricky hole.



**HOLE  
4****PAR-4  
325 YARDS**

A well-placed tee shot allows the player to take advantage of this short par-4 which requires an accurate second shot to set up the opportunity for a birdie. This hole plays uphill to a green which requires a player to manage the spin on their second shot.

**HOLE  
5****PAR-4  
396 YARDS**

This hole has a generous fairway with two well-located bunkers which will significantly increase the chance of a bogey or double bogey. The bail out area on the right side of the green allows the player to scramble for a par.

**HOLE  
6****PAR-5  
517 YARDS**

A generous fairway provides the opportunity for a good drive. The key to playing this hole well is the execution of a strategic well-placed second shot. This hole requires a player to calculate the distance from which they feel most comfortable to attack the hole location with their third shot.



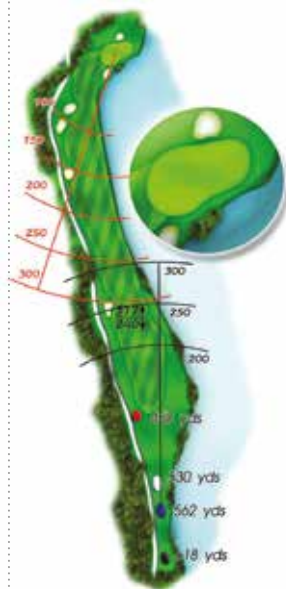


**HOLE  
7****PAR-3  
173 YARDS**

This can be an intimidating par-3 with a large body of water to carry but provides a large putting green to aim for. The green is very large and will require a player to manage the speed of their putt as the whole green runs from back to front.

**HOLE  
8****PAR-5  
562 YARDS**

This is another strategic hole which requires very good placement of the second shot. The third shot will be to a green that requires a player to manage their spin as the green feeds from the back to the front. Any approach shot that travels slightly long will allow the player a good chance to scramble to save par rather than an approach that is slightly short.

**HOLE  
9****PAR-4  
374 YARDS**

The short par-4 requires a well-placed drive that would leave approximately 160 yards to the hole location. The green is large and requires an accurate second shot for a good chance of a birdie. Distance management is key to playing this hole well.



## HOLE 10

**PAR-5**  
**526 YARDS**

A long hole with a very generous fairway, which allows the player to hit the fairway and concentrate on playing to their strengths by determining the distance they feel most comfortable to attack the hole location on a large green.



## HOLE 11

**PAR-4**  
**358 YARDS**

A straight-forward hole that plays uphill to a medium-sized green. Distance calculation of the second shot is key to setting up a chance of making a birdie. The greenside bunkers will capture any shots which miss the green slightly.



## HOLE 12

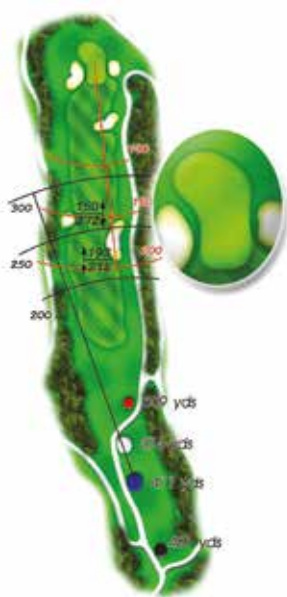
**PAR-3**  
**161 YARDS**

The direction of the wind will play a big factor in club selection as this hole will most likely play downwind to a green that has a number of subtle breaks.



**HOLE  
13****PAR-4  
411 YARDS**

A drive favouring the left side of the fairway allows for a good angle of attack into the green. The green is relatively large, allowing a hole location to be tucked away closer to the edge of the green.

**HOLE  
14****PAR-4  
372 YARDS**

A short par-4 which plays uphill to a green that runs from the back to the front, requiring a player to manage the spin on their approach shot to the hole location.

**HOLE  
15****PAR-4  
322 YARDS**

A short, downhill par-4 which encourages a player to hit their drive close to the green bringing various bunkers into play. The green requires a carefully coordinated second shot as the green runs from the back to front with the left side of the green also feeding towards the centre.



**HOLE  
16****PAR-3  
164 YARDS**

The wind direction will play a key part in determining the aggressiveness in trying to attack the hole location.

It is most likely that the wind would funnel from right to left, encouraging players to aim for the right half of the green which is guarded by two well-placed bunkers.

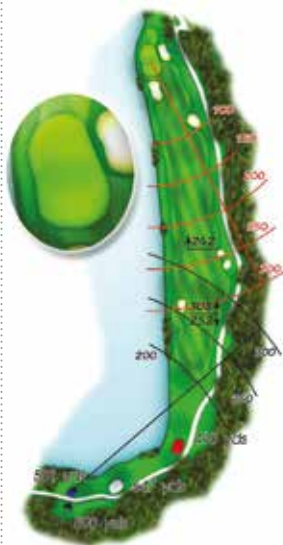
**HOLE  
17****PAR-4  
402 YARDS**

A good tee shot will likely carry the bunker on the right, leaving a player with a short iron to attack a large green. There is most likely to be a subtle wind blowing from the right to the left side which makes players wary of the water on the left.

**HOLE  
18****PAR-5  
581 YARDS**

A long and tricky par-5, which requires a strategic approach by ensuring that the second shot finishes near the bottleneck 100 metres from the green.

A short and controlled iron will set up a birdie opportunity but any wayward shot will find the water, bunkers or run off the back of the green.





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