

# Recommendations For:



**NORTHERN GOLF DESIGN**  
**GOLF COURSE ARCHITECTS**

24 STONECREST, HUDSON, QUEBEC CANADA J0P 1H0 [WWW.NORTHERNGOLFDESIGN.COM](http://WWW.NORTHERNGOLFDESIGN.COM)

Montreal, 9th August, 2021

## **Recommendations for the Mississippi Golf Club**

### **Introduction**

The Mississippi Golf Club engaged my services to make recommendations to assist in the planning and building of permanent Red tee boxes for the course. I visited the course July 22, 2021 with Bill Hudson, Greens Superintendent, Kyle Hudson, Assistant Greens Superintendent and Don McLeay, Greens Director. The following are my recommendations regarding location of tee boxes, size of tee boxes, construction of the boxes and approximate costs per box.

An important objective in considering the locations for the Red tee boxes was to ensure that there was not a too much separation between them and the Gold tees. Also, I wanted ensure that all new tees had sprinkler coverage and that if tees were in the fairways they could be mowed by a fairway mower, thus reducing maintenance costs.

I was asked to look at additional items on the course during my visit and have included my recommendations and opinions on these items in this report. I have also included general comments on the condition and look of the course.

### **Recommended Red Tee Locations**

The proposed locations for the permanent Red tee boxes are detailed in Table 1. Table 2, developed by Don McLeay, presents the resulting new distances for the permanent Red tee boxes.

### **Cost of Construction and Timing**

The cost to build a fairway tee box of an approximate height of 12 inches is estimated to be in the range of \$1,500 for top dressing mix and sod, if the course can provide subsoil fill. The cost increases by approximately \$1,500 if the course needs to purchase subsoil fill. The estimated time frame to construct the permanent Red tee boxes would be in the range of 2.5 years.

### **Recommendations for Consideration by the MGC**

I find the back-nine yardage of 2,786 yards from the Gold tees to be rather long for forward tees. In my course designs I attempt to have the yardage off forward tees (equivalent to the Gold tees) at around 5,000 yards. To help alleviate this situation, the MGC may wish to consider making the 10<sup>th</sup> hole off the Gold tee a par 5 by moving the Gold tee from its current location to the existing White tee box and moving the White box to the existing Gold tee box.

I also looked at the 8<sup>th</sup> tee, which has become a problem with people trying to drive the green. This results in tee shots hitting the green while players are still putting or errant tee shots approaching the 9<sup>th</sup> White and Gold tee boxes. I would recommend moving the end of the Blue

tee box back 5 yards toward the fence, widening the back of the Blue tee box by 15 yards towards the driving range and then gradually widening the right side of the Blue tee box. This would offer more options for placement of the White tees.

I would recommend removing the two evergreen trees next to the two deciduous trees at the corner of the dog leg on the 4<sup>th</sup> hole. This will allow the two deciduous trees to fully develop without being impacted by the evergreens.

### **Overall Impressions of the Mississippi**

It had been many years since I had visited the Mississippi. I was suitably impressed by the overall condition of the course. The Mississippi has the river and the marsh area and it has done a really good job of enhancing these two natural features. I really liked the work done along the river on the back nine and along the marsh on the 4<sup>th</sup> and the 6<sup>th</sup> fairways. The Club may want to consider cutting back the brush right of the 4<sup>th</sup> green to provide a view over the marsh and to the 6<sup>th</sup> fairway and green.

The work done on the right side of the first green gives the hole a clean look. The enlargement of the 5<sup>th</sup> tee box and the overall appearance of the hole is visually appealing. The reconstruction of the first and eighteenth greens by Bill and Kyle have been excellently done and look great.

The bunkers on the golf course are not numerous but they are well located and in good condition. Kyle has done a fine job reworking bunkers. The bunker restoration of the first hole looks great and the reconstructed bunker and grassed area at the dog leg of the 4<sup>th</sup> hole has added appeal to the hole.

It is too bad we can not just continue the placement of our golf ball in the bunkers. This would reduce maintenance costs, give players a consistent lie and it would allow the clutter of rakes to be removed.

I would like to mention how impressed I was at the club's desire to make the course more entertaining and fairer for the members and guests. Golf is a tough game especially for those who do not strike the ball great distances. Adding new tees, expanding tees and providing a more flexible golf course for the many golfing groups will bring many rewards. Alice Dye had always pushed for shorter courses even as good golfers were seeing yardage gains from the new ball and advanced equipment.

The Mississippi Golf Club appeared to me on my tour as the perfect golf club to enjoy this fine sport. It has come a long way from when I first saw the nine-hole course. Wonderful condition, attractive vistas and a challenge that can be managed by all golfers regardless of their handicap.

The changes in this report are not extensive but they will all add to the diversity and attractiveness of the course and property. I enjoyed seeing the course again (next visit I plan on bringing my golf clubs).

Best wishes on continued success.

Report by Graham Cooke

August 1, 2021

**Table 1: Recommended Locations for Permanent Red Tee Boxes**

Hole 1	Location: Start tee box 15 yds back from existing red marker. Size: 7 yds wide by 12 yds long
Hole 2	Location: Start tee box 12 yds forward of the Gold tee box Size: 7 yds wide by 11 yds long
Hole 3	Location: Start tee box 20 yds forward of the Gold tee box in line with the White tee box Size: 7 yds wide by 12 yds long
Hole 4	Location: Move back and start tee box 10 yds from the Gold tee wall Size: 7 yds wide by 12 yds long
Hole 5	Location: Move the tee back to be with the Gold tee.
Hole 6	Location: Make a framed tee box on the raised area in front of the Gold tee. Even with the L/H sprinkler head in front of the Gold tee. Size: 8 yds wide by 15 yds long and moved toward the left cart path.
Hole 7	Location: Start at the end of existing fairway. Make sure the tee is not built on the drainage from the adjacent field. Size: 5 yds wide by 15 yds long
Hole 8	Location: Extend existing Gold tee by 10 yds. Red tee to be back 5 yards from end of extension.
Hole 9	Location: Start tee box 15 yds in front of the Gold tee and angle right of the tree. Size: 7 yds wide by 15 yds long
Hole 10	Location: Start tee box at the beginning of the downslope in front of the Gold tee and 3 yds from the cart path. Size: 8 yds wide by 14 yds long

Hole 11	Location: Start tee box at the existing marker. Size: 8 yds wide by 10 yds long Other: Extend existing Gold tee box by 10 yds plus
Hole 12	Location: Start tee box 19 yds in front of the Gold tee box at the sprinkler head. Size: 7 yds wide by 15 yds long
Hole 13	Location: Start tee 20 yds in front the Gold tee (at the sprinkler head) move left by 9 yds and increase height of tee. Make fairway longer. Size: 9 yds wide by 14 yds long
Hole 14	Location: Build tee at existing Red location. Center of tee box at existing red marker. Size: 8 yds wide by 12 yds long
Hole 15	Location: Move back 10 yds from existing Red location and then to the start of fairway. Size: 7 yds wide by 10 yds long
Hole 16	Location: Extend existing tee box by 15 yds. Red tee to be back 5 yards from end of extension.
Hole 17	Location: Start tee box 5 yds forward of existing location. Size: 8 yds wide by 12 yds long
Hole 18	Location: Move 8 yds right from current marker location. Make it 18 inches high with gentle banks and extend cart path long side tee. Center of tee box at existing red distance. Size: 7 yds wide by 10 yds long

**NORTHERN GOLF DESIGN**  
**GOLF COURSE ARCHITECTS**

**Table 2: Existing and New Distances for Permanent Red Tee Boxes**

	Existing Yardage	New Yardage
Hole 1	222	243
Hole 2	126	97
Hole 3	249	269
Hole 4	336	363
Hole 5	57	100
Hole 6	238	261
Hole 7	369	381
Hole 8	263	252
Hole 9	246	303
OUT	2106	2269
Hole 10	265	344
Hole 11	232	227
Hole 12	369	404
Hole 13	95	115
Hole 14	234	228
Hole 15	359	357 (*)
Hole 16	153	129 (*)
Hole 17	239	228
Hole 18	259	259
IN	2205	2291
TOTAL	4311	4560

The new yardages were determined using tee distances from the current MGC score card except as indicated. **Note (\*):** Yardage was determined by GPS and matches existing tee marker.

Yours truly,



Graham Cooke, B.Sc.L.A. & Corey Black B.Sc.L.A.  
Golf Course & Landscape Architects

*Northern Golf Design*  
GRAHAM COOKE & ASSOC. INC.