

Westchester Country Club (West Course)

ARCHITECT: Walter Travis (1922)

LOCATION: Rye, New York, USA

PGA 2000 version: April - June 2007 by Dale Somerfelt

SCORECARD:

Tee	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Out	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	In	Total
Par	3	4	4	4	5	3	4	4	5	36	4	4	4	4	3	4	3	4	5	35	71
Black	192	392	416	419	569	140	323	443	505	3399	320	456	491	412	153	460	215	376	538	3421	6820
Blue	183	384	405	413	548	129	311	413	464	3250	311	449	473	376	144	445	198	355	530	3281	6531
White	173	373	393	400	536	122	291	397	440	3125	288	433	453	359	137	425	189	348	520	3152	6277
Red	165	364	376	395	522	95	269	376	422	2984	275	417	419	350	134	408	175	333	515	3026	6010

The Course

Designed during America's golden age of golf course design, Westchester is one of the oldest courses on the PGA Tour. John Bowman's plan for his Westchester Biltmore Hotel was for Travis to design thirty-six holes over the sprawling 500-acres on a hilltop in Rye, New York. The plot was also to include a 400-room hotel, tennis courts, and polo fields. Travis managed to fit in two-eighteens and a nine-hole par-three course. The West course, on which the pros play, winds up and down rugged, rocky hills. It is not long, but demands accuracy off the tees.

For the tournament, the nines are reversed. Play begins on a par three and the back starts with a "easy four" of only 320 yards. Following that, the course has the two most difficult holes, numbers eleven and twelve. Eleven plays downhill to a creek that comes into play and twelve, another par four, is usually a par-five for members. The approach is played to an elevated green. An enormous oak guards the corner at number fifteen. The final hole invites birdies, though the bunkers short of the green collect more shots than most would think.

The first Westchester Classic was held in 1967 and won by Jack Nicklaus. In the middle of the 18th fairway is a plaque that commemorates the shot played by Bob Gilder in the third round of the 1982 event. Leading at the time, Gilder hit a three-wood second shot 251 yards into the hole for a double eagle and went on to win the tournament.

Architect's Notes

This was one more of a challenge than the recent courses I've done, because of the lack of information I started with. I used the first and third editions of "Golf Courses of the PGA Tour" (as usual) and purchased a shot book from the 2005 Buick Classic. Those coupled along with photos of the back nine from the Internet helped with the "visuals". I started with aerials from "Google Earth" and a topo map for all the general elevations. I think it's pretty close, but I'll be watching the next Classic to see where I missed .

Thanks and giving credit where credit is due:

I'd like to thank all those who made all the great libraries that I used. They really made the whole job a lot easier.

If you have any biting comments or suggestions, please feel free to e-mail me, Dale Somerfelt at desomerfelt@earthlink.net

Last but not least, this PGA 2000 version of Westchester is originally copyrighted ©2007 by myself. I ask that no portion be modified without our knowledge and that it is not used for personal monetary gain by anyone, living or not.

*Dale Somerfelt
June 2007*

Other courses from Dale, done in JN5 & GBC (*where noted):

Pinery Narrows - *Chinook North - Mentor Marsh #1 – TPC at Mt. St. Helens – *TPC at Waterloo –
*TPC at Heron Bay - *English Turn - *TPC at Southwind - *Sagebrush - *TPC at Las Colinas
And with Lee Gordon: the *TPC at River Highlands & *Cathedral Rock

For PGA 2000 – PUUOO, Colonial (R), Mentor Marsh, Hazeltine (R), Sagebrush, English Turn (R), Pinery Narrows, Oak Hill (R), Cathedral Rock, PGA West (Stadium Course) (R), Royal St. George (R), The TPC at Mt. St. Helens, TPC at Las Colinas (R), Firestone South Course (R), Chinook North (Championship & Member's Courses), Torrey Pines-South (R), Bay Hill (R), Murfield Village (R), Baltusrol-Lower (R), Forest Oaks (R), Riviera (R), Innisbrook – Copperhead Course (R), Oakmont CC (R), and helping David Salter with Royal Liverpool (R)

(R) = Real course

Currently in the works for PGA2000 by Dale: ????

Besides using the stock PGA2000 libraries, Westchester uses the following custom libraries:

Baltusrol, DSTour, Cougar, Devere, Downs, Metropolitan, Parkland, Pebble Beach, SG, WF1, Whisperwind

A custom library: **Westchester** was created for this course.