

## Connaught Golf Club: Hole-by-Hole Pro Tips for playing the course.

**Hole #1** Par 4 - A fun and challenging opening hole, this par 4 is well guarded on both sides by numerous trees making an accurate tee shot a priority here. Ideal positioning here will favor the right side of the fairway to open up the green on this dogleg left. The green is guarded by a large trap left and large trees on the right making an accurate approach shot important. Pay close attention to the prevailing wind, which will likely be in your face, and be prepared to take an extra club for the approach, as many players are fooled by the strength of the wind and fall short. Try to land your approach in the middle of the green to avoid all the trouble in front.

**Hole #2** Par 5 - This straightaway par 5 affords an excellent opportunity for par or birdie for many players. A relatively short hole, providing a comfortable landing area off the tee, this hole yields numerous sub-par scores. The challenge increases as the player approaches the small, well guarded green. A huge trap guards almost the entire front of the small, challenging green, and errant shots right or left will leave a difficult short shot to the pin. When the pin is on the left side of the green, be sure to stay below the hole! Once again the prevailing wind can prove to be a challenge here. Watch your club selection.

**Hole #3** Par 3 - This is the shortest hole on the course but by no means the easiest. The small back to front sloping green is virtually surrounded by sand traps, making an accurate tee shot critical. Generally, there is a helping wind here, crossing from left to right, so careful club selection is important, as balls long of the green will find the large bunker, or trees, making recovery shots to a green running away from the player very difficult.

**Hole #4** Par 4 - The true definition of a risk, reward hole. A very well designed dogleg right, this hole challenges the player either from the tee, or for the approach. Water is in play from the end of the intermediate landing area, and along the left side of the fairway from there to the green. A comfortable, wide landing area for a lay up shot invites the player to land short of the water straight away, but from there a long, dangerous shot remains to a green guarded on the left by water, and behind and to the right by out of bounds. If the player wishes to have a shorter, easier approach, then he must hit a long shot over the narrow corner, flirting with water, sand and out of bounds. A delicious dilemma faces every player on each visit to this tee.

**Hole #5** Par 5 - Every golfer breathes a little easier once this great hole is behind them. A very long, challenging uphill test of skill, this hole requires accuracy and length off the tee and then an accurate utility club or middle iron layup for the third shot over the water to the green. Only the longest hitters will be able to reach this hole in two shots, which may reward them with a birdie or better, or the alternative of a large number after an encounter with the coulee left or the water guarding the green. Many a promising round has been demolished after an encounter with holes #4 and #5, so proceed with caution!

**Hole #6** Par 4 - This generally down wind hole doglegs sharply to the right at the 150-yard marker. Heavily treed on the right side, the sensible tee shot must be placed on the left side of the fairway to allow for a view of the green. Large sand traps frame this green on both sides, so an accurate approach is advisable. Club selection will once again be affected by the following wind, so choose with care, as putts below the hole on this surface are an advantage.

**Hole #7** Par 4 - One of the shortest par 4 holes on the course, a good drive can set up the player for a chance at a birdie. Once again accuracy is important, because shots lost to the right will encounter a large grove of spruce trees, making access to the green very doubtful. While there is ample room to the left, drives ending too far off line will force the player to shoot over the very deep sand trap guarding the left side of the green. It is once again imperative to land your approach short of the pin on the green. One of the most sloping greens on the course, any ball above the pin, and not to mention over the back of the green, will virtually guarantee a three putt or worse. Be careful with club selection.

**Hole #8** Par 3 - A short hole with an elevated tee to a downhill green. Sounds like an easy target. But wait! This is the smallest green on the course, very narrow, with large bunkers in close proximity to the putting surface. Club selection is very important as well as an accurate shot to negotiate the narrow opening at the front of the green. Shots missing left or long also make for a difficult up and down for par because of the tricky undulations on the green.

**Hole #9** Par 4 - A challenging dogleg right hole, heavily treed to the right off the tees and also close to the green. The ideal tee shot will be well left to avoid the overhanging branches and to offer an unobstructed view of the green. Balls landing far left will be open to the green, but may be subject to uneven lies, so do your best to negotiate the fairly narrow alley way between the lines of trees bordering the fairway on both sides. The green provides a large and level surface. Watch your club selection, as it is deep from front to back.

**Hole #10** Par 4 - Tee shot placement is critical to success on this hole. The optimum location will find you close to the 150-yard mark for an unobstructed view of the green. Be careful of the water hazard left and heavy trees at the corner. Big hitters can ensure themselves a short shot to the green by hitting driver over the corner of the dogleg, but beware of the water and the out of bounds to the right. Approaches to the very sloping green should always end below the hole, as this is the most severe green on the course and shots finishing beyond the pin or over the green will result in potential disaster for the player.

**Hole #11** Par 4 - There is fairly little trouble here other than the length of the hole. A long tee shot to the right side of the fairway helps one avoid hitting over the trap to the left of the green. Another heavy sloping green with a sharp drop off behind makes overly long approach shots a mistake.

**Hole #12** Par 3 - This is a fine Par 3 hole of moderate distance with a dangerous water hole on the left side. The sensible shot here is to the right hand side of the green, not only to avoid the water, but because everything slopes left here and the balls landing right will bounce and roll left to the middle of the green.

**Hole #13** Par 4/5 - A well designed and challenging Par 4/5 with numerous tee sites to suit all levels of golfers. A sharp dog-leg left at the 250-yard marker creates a decision for players this distance out of whether to lay up to the water fronting the putting surface, or to gamble and attempt to fly the water to the green. Longer hitters will attempt to cut the corner, leaving them a middle to short iron to the green, however, with heavily treed rough on both sides of the fairway, this can result in bogeys or worse by missing the short grass. Once over the water, the golfer is faced with possibly the most challenging and difficult green to read on the course. Again very sloping back to front, with steep slopes surrounding, this green breaks much more than it looks, and is very fast. Often a player will find his ball right off the green when putting from above the hole. Keep it below the hole here for success.

**Hole #14** Par 4 - Trouble abounds down the right side and all around the green on this uphill hole. An out of bounds runs from the tee to the green, and around the back and the right of the green. With a water hazard on the left and a very fast green and you have the makings of a very challenging hole.

**Hole #15** Par 5 - For all but a handful of players this is a true three shot Par 5. The green is small and so well guarded by traps that the second shot really must be placed properly to afford any opportunity of getting the third shot close. When approaching this green, every effort should be made to stay below the hole, as there are some very hard to manage undulations.

**Hole #16** Par 4 - This hole is the epitome of one requiring precise shot placement. A very sharp dog-leg left, with heavy trees lining both sides of the fairway, the tee shot must be dropped into the fairway at the corner thus affording the only clear shot to the green. The green on this hole is a fairly small target to hit and for shots hit too long a water hazard may come into play.

**Hole #17** Par 3 - This is a fairly open target but not one of the largest green on the course. A deep pot bunker guards the front right of the green, and another shallow trap stretches across the back. The wind will determine whether you require a short iron or wood to reach the green.

**Hole #18** Par 5 - The long hitter can easily reach this green in two, based on the yardage and the prevailing following wind. The risk is the large lake in the landing area to the left and the huge bunkers and the out of bounds running all the way from the tee to green on the right. There are again numerous tee areas for all ability levels and this hole has the largest putting surface on the golf course. Careful negotiation of the many hazards here should result in many birdies and pars to complete the round and even the occasional eagle!

**For more information on our course, view our website at [www.connaughtgolf.com](http://www.connaughtgolf.com)  
For Tee-Times please call our Pro Shop at 403-526-0737 ext. 1.**