On a map, Old Memorial Golf Club may only be minutes from the hustle and bustle of Tampa. On the course, however, a golfer feels a million miles away. That’s just the way Steve Smyers intended it. The critically acclaimed architect has created 18 holes of golfing sanctuary — a sub-tropic departure from the every day — that pays tribute to classics like St. Andrews and the Sandbelt courses of Australia.

The course is a golfing purist’s dream and in true traditional style, a caddy is mandatory. It’s a good thing, too, as each shot requires a strategic, careful approach. Take the 8th hole, for example. Designed with two greens and an abundance of beautifully sculpted bunkers, it can present a completely different challenge from day to day.

Then again, all 7,389 yards of Old Memorial can be challenging for Certified Golf Course Superintendent Trent Inman. Golfers love the sandy subsurface that allows for firm play, but it also diminishes the longevity of herbicides, causing significant sedge breakthrough. So two years ago, Inman switched to Echelon® herbicide on a fertilizer carrier for his preemergence application. “Prior to using Echelon, we would need to have at least one person spot spraying sedges daily,” Inman recalls. “We’ve now reduced that spraying by at least 50%.”

Trent’s crew has also had great postemergence success with Solitare® herbicide, a recent product introduction from FMC. Inman discovered that Solitare not only achieved impressive results against torpedograss, it was ideal for controlling multiple weeds on sensitive turf. “Solitare was one of our only options to kill nutsedge, Poa annua and volunteer ryegrass in Seashore Paspalum,” says Inman. “It performed very well with almost no discoloration.” This is great news for Inman, because while Old Memorial’s intricate bunkers can cause nightmares for golfers, there’s no room for weeds on this dream course.
HOLE STATS
Distance: 352 yards, Par 4

THE TURF
Green: TifEagle Bermudagrass
Fairway: 419 Bermudagrass

To learn more about Echelon® and Solitare® herbicides visit www.fmcprosolutions.com.