

Hole of the



▶ Hole # 8 | Carolina Country Club | Raleigh, NC

Month

Hole Stats

Distance: 185 yards

Par 3

The Turf

Green: A1/A4 Bentgrass

Fairway: Bermudagrass

Boasting 1,200 members with 200 consistently on the club's waiting list, Raleigh's Carolina Country Club is an exclusive golf course that totals 30,000 rounds annually.

Since its opening in 1910, the course's original hole routing has survived several renovations, including the addition of new green complexes in 1990, and a regrassing of greens and tee boxes in 2005 by architect John LaFoy.

The course's featured hole, No. 8, is a 185-yard par 3 with an elevated green that challenges players to land their first shots on the green. Shots falling short force players to overcome a winding creek and large bunker that fronts the green.



Golf course superintendent Bob Young manages the course by working closely with a staff of two assistant superintendents, and 12 full-time and 10 part-time employees. Many part-time employees are students studying turfgrass management at nearby North Carolina State University.

Course challenges include managing cutworms, armyworms, pythium root dysfunction, sedges, green kyllinga and Virginia buttonweed. "Our theory is that an ounce of preventative is worth a pound of curative," says Young. "We take a preventive approach with weeds and disease."

Young first noticed pythium root dysfunction when the greens were reseeded in 2005. When he used a soil probe to remove a core from the diseased purple patches, the root system was noticeably damaged and it eventually led to turf thinning. Young initially used several fungicides with little success at controlling the disease. Once he introduced Insignia® fungicide to his rotation, he was able to keep the disease in check. Young integrates Insignia applications at a rate of .9 ounces in April, May and September.

"Insignia pretty much eradicated the disease," says Young. "It has definitely helped having it in my arsenal."

To see past Holes of the Month, download a desktop image and more, visit www.betterturf.com.

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