

# Hole of the

▶ Hole No. 7 | Valhalla Golf Club | Louisville, Kentucky



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# Month

## Hole Stats

Distance: 601 yards

Par 5

## The Turf

Green: A1 and A4 Bentgrass

Fairway: Pencross/Pennway Bentgrass

Certified superintendent Mark Wilson is familiar with the pressure of preparing his course to meet the PGA's high standards. After all, the PGA owns it. At the Valhalla Golf Club in Louisville, Ky., Wilson and his crew maintain 530 rolling acres to strict, top-tier playing conditions.

In September, Wilson will be in the spotlight as host of the 2008 Ryder Cup and its 45,000 enthusiastic spectators. As any superintendent who's hosted a major tournament

knows, these multi-million-dollar events challenge every aspect of the course, from creating hospitality tent cities on the grounds to making holes more challenging.

Last year, Valhalla transformed its par-five seventh hole from a dry quarry into a flowing pond, which further challenged golfers when trying to reach the green.

"We have three, 1,600-gallon-per-minute pumps that circulate water up to the green and back," Wilson said.

The hole's dual fairways confront players with a risk-reward decision. Gamblers can hit to the left, but this shorter route may leave them scrambling for par because of its ball-catching rough. Cautious players will take the longer right fairway, but need more time to reach the elevated green.

The seventh hole makeover has not been Wilson's only challenge.

"For us, dollar spot is the most irritating disease," Wilson said. "It's a constant threat during growing season."

To combat dollar spot, Wilson applies Curalan® fungicide.

"I've been a super for 28 years and it just works," Wilson said. "Sometimes I'll even use it in the roughs. It's a good spray for the money."

Wilson balances his own risk-reward when it comes to using fungicides, incorporating frequent applications at low rates, following the product labeling.

To see past Holes of the Month, download a desktop image and more, visit [www.betterturf.com](http://www.betterturf.com).

**Curalan fungicide offers economical control of a wide range of key turf diseases. For more information, contact your distributor or BASF at [www.betterturf.com](http://www.betterturf.com).**



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