

A hole-by-hole Guide to Southwell Golf Course

Hole 1

Not a gentle Par 3 to start the round as at 209 yards from the white tees, an excellent tee shot is required to find the green. The practise ground on the right is out of bounds and a pond to the left and rear of the green awaits for anything pulled left or tee shots which run through the green.

Hole 2

A challenging Par 4 where a straight tee shot is required to avoid the out of bounds on the right and the pond which runs 230 yards down the left side of the hole. More water awaits with 2 small ponds guarding the entrance to the green.

Hole 3

A relatively short Par 4 although the hole is not without challenges as a good tee shot is required to clear the tall Poplar trees some 150 yards from the white tees. Again, out of bounds lies in wait on the right hand side whilst the green is well protected by two greenside bunkers.

Hole 4

The first of two consecutive Par 5s and a good birdie opportunity for the longer hitters. Any tee shot pulled slightly left risks finding a ditch at around 240 yards from the white tees but a long straight drive will give you the opportunity to get on or close to the green in two shots although beware, the pond to the left and rear of the green means accuracy is required.

Hole 5

Again, the second of the Par 5s represents a good birdie opportunity for the big hitters although a fairway bunker is strategically placed at around 250 yards so accuracy from the tee is important. Another small bunker awaits to the left of the green and as it is two-tiered, it is important to find the right level to try and avoid a challenging uphill or downhill putt.

Hole 6

A challenging Par 4 for the Men and Par 5 for the Ladies. Any tee shot pushed to the right risks finding out of bounds whilst a fairway bunker awaits for any drives pulled slightly to the left. The large green is shared with the 8th hole and your approach shot should be to the left of the green to avoid the bunker which guards the right side of the green.

Hole 7

Southwell's signature hole and our very own Sawgrass!! An island green, totally surrounded by water can strike fear into many golfers and means that total commitment is required on the tee shot. Avoid the water though and you may have a decent look at birdie.

Hole 8

A similar length hole to the 7th and although it is less daunting, it is not without challenges. Out of bounds lurks on the left whilst two greenside bunkers offer good protection. As the green is shared with the 6th hole, you may find the putting surface but still have one of the longest putts of the round.

Hole 9

Again, this hole can represent a good birdie opportunity providing your drive over water is accurate and doesn't find any of the two fairway bunkers to the right and left of the fairway. Some of the longer hitters will fancy their chances of driving the green but beware the out of bounds to the right and rear of the green.

Hole 10

A classic risk or reward hole. At 309 yards from the white tees, the hole is a short Par 4 but a long, straight and high drive is necessary if you want to clear the trees and the River Greet and leave yourself a short shot to the green. Most people will play for position with a medium iron although trees to the left and right place a premium on accuracy.

Hole 11

A visually attractive dogleg left par 4. The longer hitters have the option of carrying the trees on the left with their drive which will leave a short iron into a raised green. Alternatively, you can drive towards the second of two fairway bunkers to leave a longer second shot to the green. Any approach shot which runs through the green risks finding the out of bounds which is only a small distance from the back of the green.

Hole 12

At only 131 yards from the white tees, this may seem a relatively straightforward Par 3 but beware, the two-tiered green only has a narrow entrance and is best approached from the left over a small bunker just short of the green. Over-clubbing will mean you risk finding out of bounds to the rear of the green.

Hole 13

A dogleg left which although not particularly long can be tricky owing to a ditch which runs across the fairway at around 230 yards. Therefore, your options are to carry the ditch, ideally with a drawn tee shot leaving you a short iron for your second shot. Alternatively, play a medium iron for position to leave a longer second shot. The green is narrow and upturned and anything close to the edge will risk rolling off which means par will then be a challenge.

Hole 14

A Par 4 for the Men and Par 5 for the Ladies, the 14th hole is essentially a longer mirror image of the 13th hole, a dogleg right with a ditch at around 220 yards from the white tees. The fairway is tree lined on both sides so accuracy is essential. The green runs away at the back so it is better to be short than long.

Hole 15

Don't be fooled into thinking that this Par 4 at under 300 yards is easy. Whilst the longer hitters can put themselves in a good position with a long and accurate drive, the fairway is the narrowest on the course and trees to the left and right lie in wait for any errant tee shots. The green has lots of subtle borrows which can fool you, meaning even short putts are unlikely to be conceded.

Hole 16

The only Par 5 for the Men on the back 9. A good birdie opportunity if you are brave enough to drive over the ditch which would leave a long or mid iron for your second shot to a two-tiered green. Most golfers will play the hole more conservatively, playing for position from the tee, followed by a short iron to clear the trees and another short iron to the green.

Hole 17

A hole which has been known to wreck some good medal scores for members. Finding the fairway from the tee is necessary to then give you a clear shot to the green. However, the green sits at the top of a steep bank and has the River Greet immediately behind it so only the most accurate second shot is likely to stay on the putting surface and leave you with birdie putt.

Hole 18

A relatively straightforward Par 3 to finish your round. Simply avoid the pond to the left and the trees to the right and you should find the putting surface. The green slopes from back to front so it's better to be below the hole to avoid a tricky downhill putt.