

# HOLE 1

TPC DEERE RUN

## HOLE 1: GRAND DETOUR

395 YARDS, PAR 4

2012 STROKE AVERAGE: 3.862

RANKING: 14TH

D.A. Weibring  
Course Consultant/Designer

The town of Grand Detour, located 70 miles upstream from the TPC Deere Run, was named by French explorers for the oxbow bend taken there by the Rock River. Blacksmith John Deere settled in Grand Detour after moving to Illinois from Vermont, and he soon learned that farmers were encountering problems with the cast iron plows they had brought from the east. Those plows were designed for light, sandy, New England soil, but bogged down in the rich, midwestern prairie-forcing farmers to stop every few feet to scrape the thick soil from their plow.

**“The course begins with a short par 4, with an uphill tee shot to a generous fairway surrounded by bunkers. The green is also guarded by bunkers, and sits among a stand of oaks. This is about as easy as it gets for awhile.”**

Deere became convinced that the sticky soil would fall, or scour, off a highly polished and properly shaped plow.



He fashioned such a plow in 1837, using the steel from a broken saw blade, and provided the solution farmers needed to efficiently farm the “new west.”

This first hole, with its dogleg bend to the left, honors John Deere and the business he began at the oxbow bend of the Rock River in Grand Detour, Illinois.

# HOLE 2

TPC DEERE RUN

## HOLE 2: COLONEL DAVENPORT

561 YARDS, PAR 5

2012 STROKE AVERAGE: 4.395

RANKING: 18TH

D.A. Weibring  
Course Consultant/Designer

The Quad Cities is made up of communities on both the Iowa and Illinois sides of the Mississippi River. One of them, Davenport, Iowa, is named after George Davenport, the area’s first permanent settler and co-founder of the city.

Colonel Davenport was attacked and murdered in his home on July 4, 1845, by a gang of outlaws known as

**“A downhill tee shot to a fairway some 50 feet below makes this hole play shorter than its listed length. A good drive, and it should be reachable in two. The entrance to the green is tight, and is guarded by wetland bunkers and a stand of trees. The smallish green was designed to make pinpoint accuracy a must.”**

“the banditti of the prairie.” Rumor has it that the bandits fled from Rock Island and took shelter in the barn whose



foundation is still visible behind the second green at TPC Deere Run. From here they made their escape using the Rock River ferrycrossing.

A \$1,500 reward-and the help of detective Edward Bonney-finally “did in” the bandits. They were all captured and brought to trial by the end of October that same year.

# HOLE 3

TPC DEERE RUN

## HOLE 3: STONE HOUSE

186 YARDS, PAR 3

2012 STROKE AVERAGE: 3.104

RANKING: 3RD

D.A. Weibring  
Course Consultant/Designer

Erskine Wilson settled on this property in 1838, a year after John Deere started building plows in Grand Detour, Ill. He started by purchasing a section of land from the U.S. Government for one dollar per acre, and eventually acquired nearly 1,800 acres before he died. He farmed on both sides of the river here, and therefore operated the ferry that the Colonel Davenport killers used for their escape.

“This uphill Par 3 will play much longer than it reads on the scorecard. A set of bunkers guard the right side, while a bent grass collection area is ready to grab the shots that go long and left. The green runs from front to back, making club selection crucial to hitting the green in regulation.”

While living in a nearby log cabin, Wilson built the Stone House that sits between the second and third holes. The stone for the ten-room house was ferried from



a quarry a half-mile upriver. The walls of the house are two feet thick in the basement, and one and one-half feet thick above ground.

Sadly, Wilson never got to live in the house. He died shortly before it was completed. Today, the Stone House serves as headquarters for the tournament staff of the John Deere Classic.

# HOLE 4

TPC DEERE RUN

## HOLE 4: FRIENDSHIP FARM

454 YARDS, PAR 4

2012 STROKE AVERAGE: 3.909

RANKING: 11TH

D.A. Weibring  
Course Consultant/Designer

The William A. and Patricia Hewitt family owned this property for more than 40 years as Friendship Farm, one of the top Arabian horse-breeding operations in the country. Patricia Hewitt was the great-great granddaughter of John Deere, and William Hewitt served as Deere and Company's chairman and CEO from 1955 to 1982, a period that saw the company become the world's leading producer of agricultural equipment, as well as a major producer of construction, forestry, and lawn care equipment.

“A unique hole with a large oak tree in the middle of the landing area that creates a double fairway. Bunkers guard the left side while trees guard the right side of the fairway. The green sits at one of the highest points on the course, and if you miss the green left right, or long, you are in for a tough chip to a small green.”



The Hewitt family always respected this land, and felt strongly that its next use should be one that allowed the greatest number of people to enjoy it. A public-access golf course fulfilled the family's wishes.

The lone oak in the middle of the fourth fairway is now known as the “Hewitt Tree.” In recognition of the family's good stewardship, it reminds all who pass it of the responsible land use that has always been a part of this property's history.

# HOLE 5

TPC DEERE RUN

## HOLE 5: LINCOLN'S CROSSING

433 YARDS, PAR 4

2012 STROKE AVERAGE: 3.946

RANKING: 10TH

D.A. Weibring  
Course Consultant/Designer

The first bridge constructed across the Mississippi River joined Davenport and the Rock Island Arsenal by rail in 1856. Just two weeks after its opening, hostility between the river and rail interests peaked.

**"A long, straight drive down the left side of the fairway is a must on this hole. Trees guard the right side on your second shot, and the green sits behind a ravine that is loaded with bunkers and is guarded on all sides by trees."**

The steamboat "Effie Afton" hit a bridge pier, setting both the bridge and the boat on fire. The steamboat company charged that the bridge was an obstruction; the rail interests blamed the incident on carelessness. The case was eventually resolved in favor of the railroad company by the U.S. Supreme Court, thanks to the efforts of a young attorney.

The bridge between No. 5 green and No. 6 tee honors that first crossing of the Mississippi River-and that attorney, Abraham Lincoln.



# HOLE 6

TPC DEERE RUN

## HOLE 6: WILLIAM BUTTERWORTH

367 YARDS, PAR 4

2012 STROKE AVERAGE: 3.952

RANKING: 9TH

D.A. Weibring  
Course Consultant/Designer

The William Butterworth family owned this property in the early 1900s. Katherine Butterworth, John Deere's granddaughter, purchased about 300 acres of the grounds from the Wilson family between 1911 and 1928.

**"The second-shortest par 4 on the course is also the tightest. This hole was carved out of the forest, and while short on length, it is long on danger. A straight drive will leave a short iron to a green that has a large swale and bunkers in the front, and a bent grass collection area in the back. Miss this green, and you have a tough chip to an undulating green."**

William Butterworth served as Deere & Company's third president. During his tenure, six noncompeting farm equipment manufacturers were brought into the corporation, establishing John Deere as a full-line manufacturer



of farm equipment. During his career, Butterworth also served as president of the United States Chamber of Commerce, as well as advisor to President Herbert Hoover. Butterworth ended his career serving as Deere & Company's chairman.

The sixth hole here at TPC Deere Run recognizes teamwork that William Butterworth put in place to position Deere & Company for its future growth.

# HOLE 7

TPC DEERE RUN

## HOLE 7: TIMBER RIDGE

226 YARDS, PAR 3

2012 STROKE AVERAGE: 3.080

RANKING: 5TH

D.A. Weibring  
Course Consultant/Designer

Moline is named for the French word moulin, meaning “city of mills.” Until the early 1900s, lumber mills rivaled implement manufacturing as the Quad Cities’ primary industry. The transportation advantages of the Mississippi River attracted German lumberman like Frederick Weyerhaeuser and his brother-in-law, F. Denkman. They launched their great lumber firm in 1860.

“This is the longest of the 3 pars on the course, and the most picturesque. Into the normal prevailing wind, this hole will test the accuracy of even the best players. Carry it to the green or carry the bunker on the right and let the ball feed down to the green. You choose your plan of attack.”

Huge logs from Minnesota and Wisconsin floated downstream with the help of steamboats. Once in the Quad Cities, the logs were milled into building materials and household items, then shipped by rail to markets throughout the country.



As the midwest’s great pine forests were slowly converted to farmland, Weyerhaeuser moved his company west for better access to the great timber areas of Washington and Oregon. Weyerhaeuser’s last mill closed here in 1905.

The seventh hole, cut through a corridor of hardwoods, honors the Quad Cities’ rich timber heritage.

# HOLE 8

TPC DEERE RUN

## HOLE 8: SANCTUARY

428 YARDS, PAR 4

2012 STROKE AVERAGE: 4.004

RANKING: 7TH

D.A. Weibring  
Course Consultant/Designer

The PGA TOUR supports the Audubon International Cooperative Sanctuary System through its TPC golf courses. All TPC courses are either currently certified, or working toward that status. As such, a certified golf course is recognized for its efforts to ensure a high degree of environmental quality for both people and wildlife.

“The tee shot through a chute of trees to a tight and narrow fairway. The small green is surrounded by bunkers, and calls for an exacting second shot. The small tongue on the front of the green creates a spot for one of the hardest pin positions on the course.”

In order to become certified, a golf course must implement projects in six environmental quality areas. The six areas are environmental planning, wildlife and habitat management, integrated pest management, water conservation, water quality management and outreach and education.



The 8th hole recognizes all Audubon International certified golf courses, and the wildlife they provide for on their properties.

# HOLE 9

TPC DEERE RUN

## HOLE 9: HOWITZER

503 YARDS, PAR 4

2012 STROKE AVERAGE: 4.214

RANKING: 1ST

D.A. Weibring  
Course Consultant/Designer

Players may feel they need a cannon to get on this par 4 in two. What better choice than the Howitzer, manufactured since the Spanish-American War at the Rock Island Arsenal.

**“The longest par 4 and one of the most testing holes on the course. A level landing area for your drive will leave you with a shot through the trees to a long green that has bunkers on both sides.”**

The Rock Island Arsenal was established by an act of Congress on July 11, 1862. Harper’s Ferry Armory had fallen to Confederate forces in Virginia, and Congress looked westward for a more secure location for arms storage and manufacturing. Construction took place from 1866 to 1893 under the direction of General Thomas Jackson Rodman, the famous gun designer. Gradually, the Arsenal mission shifted to equipment repairs and light manufacturing.



A principal item manufactured at the Arsenal is the Howitzer. A cannon combining mobility and range, the Howitzer remains the most effective field artillery piece developed and used during the 20th century.

# HOLE 10

TPC DEERE RUN

## HOLE 10: COR-TEN

596 YARDS, PAR 5

2012 STROKE AVERAGE: 4.702

RANKING: 15TH

D.A. Weibring  
Course Consultant/Designer

During the early 1960s, Deere & Company commissioned Finnish-born architect Eero Saarinen, who also designed the Gateway Arch in St. Louis, to create its world headquarters building. The result was the Deere & Company Administrative Center, the world’s first building made of Cor-Ten steel. The steel forms its own protective coating as it weathers and takes on a rich dark color, much like newly-plowed midwestern soil.

**“Not real tight on your first and second shots, but they better be long. The green is very small for a par 5 and there is no room for error on your third shot. Bunkers protect the left side while a pond protects the right.”**

Like Erskine Wilson and the Stone House, Saarinen never got to see his masterpiece completed. He died before the project was completed in 1964. In the 1970s, Deere hired Saarinen’s partner, Kevin Roche, to design the adjacent West Office Building. It opened in 1978, featuring a three-story, tree-filled atrium.



The Deere & Company Administrative Center is located less than two miles from the TPC Deere Run.

The tenth hole is dedicated to Eero Saarinen and his revolutionary Administrative Center.

# HOLE 11

TPC DEERE RUN

HOLE 11: JUMP START

432 YARDS, PAR 4

2012 STROKE AVERAGE: 4.060

RANKING: 6TH

D.A. Weibring  
Course Consultant/Designer

During its 28-year run, the PGA TOUR event formerly known as the Quad City Classic jump-started many careers. Former PGA TOUR commissioner Deane Beman outdueled a young Tom Watson in 1972 to win his second consecutive Quad Cities Open.

“A hole that from the tee looks benign. A drive to a tree-lined fairway that requires length and accuracy. The second shot to a demanding green that sits on the edge of one of the two ravines that run through the property. Short of the green slopes toward the ravine, but a courtesy bunker is placed on the right side of the green to save most balls from finding a watery grave.”

The 11th hole is dedicated to the PGA TOUR professionals who notched their first career victory in the Quad Cities from 1971 through 1998. Included are Roger Maltbie,



Scott Hoch, Payne Stewart, Dan Forsman, Blaine McCallister, and D.A. Weibring.

Weibring went on to win three times in the Quad Cities before the tournament became the John Deere Classic in 1999. Weibring, a native of Quincy, also went on to design, and serve as consultant on golf course construction projects around the world - including the TPC Deere Run.

# HOLE 12

TPC DEERE RUN

HOLE 12: MASTER STROKE

215 YARDS, PAR 3

2012 STROKE AVERAGE: 2.985

RANKING: 8TH

D.A. Weibring  
Course Consultant/Designer

John Deere's golf course maintenance roots run deep. An advertisement on the 1935 Yearbook for the Second Annual Invitational Tournament in Augusta, GA, featured John Deere tractors with turf-friendly, 12-inch tires.

The 12th hole honors two interests that were new in 1935: the tractor and The Masters.

“A long par 3 through a tree-lined fairway to a well-bunkered green. This is one of the bigger greens on the course... but don't miss it, there is trouble all around it.”

Ironically, Gene Sarazen won the 1935 Invitational with the help of his famous double eagle on the par 5 15th hole. Fifty-two years later, Sarazen's photo appeared in a John Deere golf and turf ad. Sarazen wrote the company, “I spent thirty five years on two farms... I used many John Deere tractors. They were great.”



# HOLE 13

TPC DEERE RUN

HOLE 13: POPPIN' JOHNNIE

424 YARDS, PAR 4

2012 STROKE AVERAGE: 3.892

RANKING: 13TH

D.A. Weibring  
Course Consultant/Designer

It takes two good pops to get in this Par 4, just like it took two good pops to fire up John Deere's famous two-cylinder engines that powered its tractors from 1918 to 1960. These engines were renowned for their simplicity and dependability-and for their distinctive sound. Their "pop-pop" noise soon earned them the affectionate name of "Poppin' Johnnies" or "Johnny Poppers."

Probably one of the friendliest holes on the course. A fairway that has bunkers on both sides to a green that sits in front of a stand of trees, and is guarded by a large bunker on the right and a large berm on the left."

The earliest of these engines were simply designed to replace animal power with mechanical power. During the 40 years these 2-cylinder engines were manufactured, they underwent a gradual metamorphosis, changing to highly-refined power units.



Today, the tractors that carry these engines represent "yesterday" to thousands of men and women who have their roots in rural America. Each year, these tractors are collected, painstakingly restored, and proudly shown at events throughout North America.

# HOLE 14

TPC DEERE RUN

HOLE 14: DEERE RUN

361 YARDS, PAR 4

2012 STROKE AVERAGE: 3.667

RANKING: 16TH

D.A. Weibring  
Course Consultant/Designer

During the early 1970s, the search was on by Deere & Company for a tagline tailored to its new line of snowmobiles. The company's advertising department enlisted the help of the Gardner Agency out of St. Louis, Missouri.

"This is the ultimate risk/reward hole. It is drivable but the perils are many. Go for it and miss left and you are in the "valley of sin." A tightly-mowed area that will leave you with a blind shot to a small, well-protected green. Go long and you will be lost down a 60-foot bluff."

Gardner's copywriter, Bob Wright, came up with over one hundred taglines, wrote them on pieces of paper, and arranged them on a conference room table during the agency's presentation. No one saw anything they liked. Finally, Wright announced that he had an idea that he had rejected the night before, but had retrieved out of the wastebasket before he left. He then placed a crumpled piece of paper on the table with



the phrase that won immediate approval: "Nothing Runs Like a Deere."

The downhill 14th is driveable with an accurate tee shot that runs true. The hole is dedicated to Bob Wright and one of the most famous taglines in the history of American business: "Nothing Runs Like A Deere®."

# HOLE 15

TPC DEERE RUN

## HOLE 15: COALTOWN

484 YARDS, PAR 4

2012 STROKE AVERAGE: 4.102

RANKING: 4TH

D.A. Weibring  
Course Consultant/Designer

A three-to-six-foot vein of coal underlaid much of the Quad Cities in the 1800s, providing an affordable source of power for manufacturing companies like John Deere. The coal industry brought Welsh, English, Irish, and other immigrants to the area who were willing to take on this difficult work for a chance to start a new life in America.

By 1876, 46 mines were operating in Rock Island County alone. One was the Silvis Coal Mines, operated by R.S. Silvis along with his father and brothers.

“Probably the toughest hole on the back nine. It is long and tight, and goes to a long, narrow green that is heavily guarded by sand and trees. **Miss this green, and you will be sorry.**”

From 1900 to 1904, Silvis worked a large mine on this property, known then as the Christenson Farm. The Davenport, Rock Island, and Northwestern Railroad-the



DRI line-loaded up at the mines and carried coal off the property along the right-of-way that runs next to the river.

The 15th hole parallels that old coal road and is dedicated to those hard-working immigrants. The TPC Deere Run lies within the city limits of Silvis, named in 1905 for R.S. Silvis.

# HOLE 16

TPC DEERE RUN

## HOLE 16: MOTHER EARTH

158 YARDS, PAR 3

2012 STROKE AVERAGE: 2.896

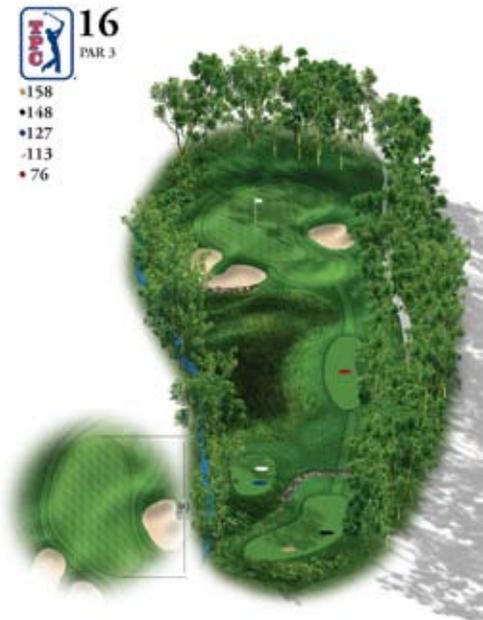
RANKING: 12TH

D.A. Weibring  
Course Consultant/Designer

This view has the kinds of features that have drawn people to this property for centuries. Archaeological evidence proves that Native Americans settled and lived on this property as far back as 5,000 years ago.

“Most likely, the “Signature Hole.” This picturesque, short par 3 sits on a bluff 40 feet above the Rock River. It is guarded in front by a deep ravine and to the right by a large bunker. To the left is the Rock River and all the perils it commands. It may be short, but it is dangerous.”

To Native Americans, the land is a living being, Mother Earth-who cares for all her children, providing them with food, shelter, beauty, and a place for contest and play. These early inhabitants enjoyed many sporting activities. Games ranged from lacrosse, which was played in the summer on the large, grassy expanses on the property,



to snow snake races in the winter, where a crooked stick called the “snake” was thrown down a steep hill, each player attempting to send his snake the farthest.

The 16th hole is dedicated to these earliest inhabitants, and the spirit of respect and competition they first brought here.

# HOLE 17

TPC DEERE RUN

HOLE 17: STADIUM

569 YARDS, PAR 5

2012 STROKE AVERAGE: 4.605

RANKING: 17TH

D.A. Weibring  
Course Consultant/Designer

When Deere & Company chairman Hans Becherer and PGA TOUR commissioner Tim Finchem announced plans for the TPC at Deere Run in April 1997, it represented the 17th course in the Tournament Players Club Network.

“Probably reachable in two for the longest hitters, but they will have to have a perfectly-placed tee shot to do it. The fairway is tight and tree-lined, and the green is guarded in front by bunkers. The green is elevated slightly with bent grass collection areas all around. Miss the green, and you will have a tough chip to the hole.”

In October 1980, the PGA TOUR ushered in the Stadium Golf concept with the opening of the first TPC, the TPC Sawgrass. The goal was to create a more enjoyable experience for the golf spectator. It was achieved by providing amphitheatres and strategic



mounding around tees and greens. From these vantage points, fans can be part of the action and excitement.

The mounding around the 17th hole, and terraced hillside that parallels No. 18, are classic examples of this design.

# HOLE 18

TPC DEERE RUN

HOLE 18: CONQUISTADOR

476 YARDS, PAR 4

2012 STROKE AVERAGE: 4.173

RANKING: 2ND

D.A. Weibring  
Course Consultant/Designer

The Spanish word conquistador means “one who conquers.” This has special meaning here on the 18th hole. The foaling barn for Friendship Farm used to sit on the ridge that overlooks the right side of this fairway. There, the farm’s internationally-recognized Arabian horses

“A great finishing hole that will put a premium on driving accuracy. Hit it long and straight to avoid the fairway bunker on the left, but you must keep it on the left side of the fairway. From there, it is a long shot to a deep and narrow green that is guarded on the right by two large bunkers and on the left by a long and narrow pond.”

were born and took their first steps. One of the farm’s prized breeding horses was named Llano Grande Conquistador. He sired countless prize-winning offspring throughout the years.



Tournament participants of the PGA TOUR’s John Deere Classic, contested every year at the TPC Deere Run, must walk over the same ground as Llano Grande Conquistador to lay claim to the same title: CHAMPION.