

*Christy O Connor Jnr Ltd*  
*Golf Enterprises*

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Dear Colm, Captains' and Committee members

Further to my very enjoyable tour of Hollywood Lakes with you Colm and a subsequent follow up visit on my own, I was pleasantly surprised to see how good your layout and routing was, this is a fantastic base from which to build on.

As you know in almost every club around the country many members see their own design on different holes and have a great desire to change the golf course by basing the design on the shape of their own golf shots. For this reason I am suggesting that together we do a five year design plan which can be carried out as slowly or as quickly as desired.

As you will see from my report I have only suggested the re-design of two new greens due to the expense involved. Most of my plan will incorporate the re-shaping of the bunkers together with the closure of some and the addition of some new bunkers.

I have found that on many occasions the bunkers are located on the wrong side of the fairway, the bunkers generally need to be reshaped with some curves and deepened to a depth of between a half a metre to one metre in the center.

I also found that the course is a little short on yardage from the back tees and hence have suggested additional length where I thought possible.

Regarding the lakes, I have discovered on some occasions that the water margin comes very close to the top and gives the impression of flooding and I also found them to be quiet small in size. So I am suggesting either removing or replacing the lakes.

I hope that in my report you will see how these changes will benefit the golf course greatly and bring it in line with the new builds around Dublin. I have no doubt that over a period of time the golf course will be one of the finest in the country.

Yours sincerely

Christy O' Connor Jnr.

## GOLF COURSE REPORT

### Hole One:

I believe this is a very decent opening golf hole, but the planting along the left hand side from the tee is too thick and does not give the opportunity of both finding your golf ball and making it possible to hit back onto the fairway or the odd shot to the green. I think that the lake which runs right across the front of the green is very severe for the first hole particularly for the lady golfers and higher handicaps. (Drawing of this to follow)

### Hole Two:

Hole number two has the making of a fine par 4, there is room to build a new back tee, 20 metres behind the existing tee. I believe the lake on the right hand side does not look good and should be replaced with a well designed bunker and one on the left at 240 metres from the back tee. The bunker to the left of the green should be reshaped by deepening and curving the bunker surrounds.

### Hole Three:

Again this is a fine par 4, a new tee to be built 30 metres behind existing tee, taking out some of the hedge but not all of it; this would not cause any danger to the new practice range as it would be over 300 yards to this tee. The fairway should be moved to the right by 25 metres by taking out a few trees; the ground was very dry when I walked it which was a wet time of the year. A bunker complex to be shaped into the left side of the fairway 240 metres from the back tee; this would also make the teeing ground of hole 4 much safer.

**Hole Four:**

This has the makings of a wonderful par 3 here we can extend the tee back right by 40 metres close to the existing drain there, which would make it one of the finest par 3's on the course. The green which is one of the two I have suggested re-designing has only a couple of pin positions and is extremely severe for putting on. I am suggesting lowering the back of the green by ½ a metre and easing the contours throughout the green, the bunker on the front right should be enlarged and reshaped. I think this would be a huge improvement to this great golf hole.

**Hole Five:**

Plays very fine and you have done an excellent job creating the water hazard around the green and left.

**Hole Six:**

A very good par 3, the green is on the severe side but still puttable. I suggest the closure of the bunker short right and the second bunker hard right closest to the out of bounds. I also suggest closing the bunker back left and creating a small hollow and to re-shape and enlarge greenside bunker left and right.

**Hole Seven:**

This hole has the makings of a very fine par 4 but I believe the second lake closest to the tree in the center of the fairway is in the wrong position; this should be moved 20 metres to the left and overflow into the first lake. This would make a much nicer design and give an adequate fairway to hit to. I recommend closing the bunker short left of the green and extend and reshape the bunker on the right of the green.

**Hole Eight:**

A beautiful par 4 and with small adjustment to bunkers on the right hand side of the fairway and by raising the back with mounding would provide better vision from the tee. The rest of this golf hole is very playable and should be left as is.

**Hole Nine:**

Second of your par 5's and is in my mind this hole is very bland and quiet short, but by creating a new tee 20 metres to the right of the 8<sup>th</sup> green and removing some trees you could give this golf hole a totally different outlook. In addition a bunker complex should be created on the right hand side 240 metres from the back tee.

The ravine that crosses the fairway should be given a reface by excavating some rock and leaving some rock face exposed and by carrying out some heather planting throughout the edges of this would make for a beautiful hazard. A new green situated 30 metres back and right of existing green and raised and bunkered front and left would make a wonderful three shot par five.

**Hole Ten:**

The 10<sup>th</sup> hole is a very good par 4 and needs very little work done, some planting should be put in place in the open space dividing ten from thirteen, the bunker short left should be closed and the greenside bunker on left enlarged and reshaped.

**Hole Eleven:**

Excavate swale in front of the green five metres wide and one metre deep, this will sit the green up and give a better view to the putting surface. Expose the bunker on the left by reshaping and close blind bunker on the right hand side of the green.

**Hole Twelve:**

Extend new tee 20 metres further back from existing tee and close bunker on right hand side at drive area and create new bunker complex into the existing mound on the left. No need for any further work on this golf hole.

**Hole Thirteen:**

Build more mounding between two existing mounds on right hand side of fairway and build new bunker into same at 240 metres from back tee. Close bunker further on, on right hand side as this serves no purpose. As this is not a very long par four there should be a bunker built left extending to front of the green, this would make the approach shot much better

**Hole Fourteen:**

Part of my design is to extend the length of the golf course, but this is one hole which is too long and uninteresting, I also believe that the back tee is too dangerous both for the car park and the eighteen green, the next tee forward should be your back tee.

Two bunker complexes to be created left and right, 230 metres on the right and 240 metres on the left, the rest of this golf hole can be very exciting by bringing into play the riverbed on the left and crossing the fairway at 400 metres from the back tee to a lake situated on the brow of the hill on the right hand side which would in turn overflow to a stream hugging on the right side of the approach to the green and into the existing lake.

A new bunker situated across the fairway from the new lake on left hand side would encourage a well aimed second shot. The water for this lake would be pumped back into the lakes at 18 and returned again. This in my mind could be one of the best par five's in the country.

**Hole Fifteen:**

This has the makings of a good par 5, a new tee situated 35 metres back and left of existing tee would give a beautiful right to left feel. A new bunker complex on left hand side 240 metres from the back tee and some drainage is required on the right hand side of the fairway and the rough. This should be drained into the existing river on the right by piping and sand slitting. The bunker short of the left of the green should be closed and the greenside bunker on the right should be redesigned and moved closer to the edge of the green.

**Hole Sixteen:**

This hole has the chance to become a very good par 4 by extending the tee 20 metres behind existing tee. A new bunker complex to be created from 230 to 250 metres on the right hand side and creating a new bunker 240 metres on the left hand side. Close the bunker short left of the green as this has no purpose. Enlarge and reshape bunker on the right of the green and reshape bunker on the left to extend 20 metres back from the green towards the tee.

**Hole Seventeen:**

This is a very good par 3 and in my mind requires no upgrading.

**Hole Eighteen:**

As you are aware the back tee on 18 is blind from play, we generally do not encourage blind golf holes but there is an exception here. If the budget allows, a huge amount of soil could be brought here to make the whole tee complex bigger and higher and you would get a view of the players in front. I have seen this carried out particularly in the US; the tee would then be approached by steps from the back.

I would like to see the first of the three lakes closed as it is both unfair and blind and also the water level is too high. With this lake removed and some mounding put in place to the left of same and planted. These changes would make for a much better hole and also break up from fourteen.

**ENDS**