

# TOP SHORT COURSES IN AMERICA 2009

We present the 2009 list of GOLF RANGE MAGAZINE'S TOP SHORT COURSES IN AMERICA. This annual list includes Par Three and Executive golf courses.

## TOP EXECUTIVE GOLF COURSES

### Charles Yates Golf Course

Atlanta, Georgia

Date Built: 1998

Rounds Played: 40,000

Course notes: Par 58, 3,357 yards with back nine views of the Atlanta skyline. A home to the East Lake First Tee program.

Architect/Designer/Builder: Rees Jones

Superintendent: Thomas Russell

### Desert Willow Golf Club

Henderson, Nevada

Date Built: 1996

Avg. Rounds Played: 15,000-30,000

Course notes: The course is lined with thousands of mature pines and thousands of bales of pine needles provide out-of-play ground cover.

Architect/Designer/Builder: Billy Casper & Greg Nash

Superintendent: Al Kueker

### Hank Haney Golf Ranch at Vista Ridge

Lewisville, Texas

Date Built: 2003

Rounds Played: 15,000

Course Notes: The Hank Haney Golf Ranch at Vista Ridge is a 9-hole design with a combination of par 3's and par 4's that winds its way around the Trinity River. Located on the north end of Dallas, Vista Ridge was designed and built by Haney with input from Tom Fazio. Like his other locations, Haney has incorporated the "Best of Class" in practice areas at all of his facilities: Natural turf tee areas with views; short game areas with pitching greens, sand bunkers, putting greens and indoor digital video hitting bays

Architect/Designer/Builder: Hank Haney and Tom Fazio

Superintendent: Spencer Ebler

### Incline Village Mountain Course

Incline Village, Nevada

Date Built: 1969

Rounds Played: 26,000

The Mountain Course is an 18-hole, par 58 course with commanding views of Lake Tahoe. In 2004, Audubon International designated the course a "Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary."

Architect/Designer/Builder: Robert Trent Jones, Jr.

Superintendent: Shaun Riley

### Lomas Santa Fe Executive Golf Course

Solana Beach, California

Date Built: 1973

Avg. Rounds Played: 40,000

Course Notes: Host to 2007, 2008 and 2009 Junior Worlds for 9 and 10 year old girls. Managed by American Golf. Nice views of the ocean.

Architect/Designer/Builder: William Bell

Superintendent: Javier Holguin

### Meadow Links & Golf Academy

Cincinnati, Ohio

Date Built: 1993

Rounds Played: 40,000

Course notes: Multi-amenity golf center includes 9-hole executive layout. In-Reach Program is aimed at inner city youth.

Architect/Designer/Builder: Dr. Michael Hurdzan

Superintendent: Scott Deland

### Minerals Golf Club

Vernon, New Jersey

Date Built: 1987

Avg. Rounds Played: 35,000

Course notes: Part of the Crystal Springs Resort. This 9-holer is 2,305 yards. Head golf professional is David Glenz, the 1998 National Teacher of the Year and 9-time New Jersey Teacher of the Year. "The course's signature hole is #7. This 407-yard par 4 plays like a regulation par 5. From an elevated tee down to a "valley" fairway, it requires a lengthy carry across a deep ravine. Once safely in the fairway, the play continues uphill to a rear-sloping, well-guarded green".

Architect/Designer/Builder: Robert Trent Jones Jr. & Robert Rulewich

Superintendent: Brad Williamson

### Reidy Creek Golf Course

Escondido, California

Date Built: 2002

Avg. Rounds Played: 15,000-20,000

Course notes: Challenging and fun to play. The course meanders through the rolling terrain of a natural valley.

Architect/Designer/Builder: Cal Olsen

Superintendent: Bob Hlavac

### Schenley Park Golf Course

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Date Built: 1890

Rounds Played: 50,000 plus

Course Notes: Home to The First Tee of

Pittsburg. This old, city classic is the only golf course in Pittsburgh proper. The 4,620 yard track features woods and six highway hazards. The course was renamed in 2006 the Bob O'Connor Golf Course at Schenley Park in honor of the late Pittsburgh mayor who loved the course.

Architect/Designer/Builder: Mark Ormison

Superintendent: Jeff Duxbury

### The Homestead Golf Course

Lakewood, Colorado

Date Built: 2001

Course Notes: Owned by the city of Lakewood. Measures over 5,000 yards, a par 65 with an elevation change of over 200 feet on the course. The links-style course features eight par 3's, nine par 4's and one par 5. Designed to resemble a working cattle ranch, from the windmill to the cart barn, rustic tee markers, pump house, and log fencing. The Homestead Grill restaurant and a fully stocked pro shop offer first-class customer service. There is a complete practice facility with a driving range, target greens, putting greens and a practice sand trap.

Architect/Designer/Builder: Denis Griffiths

Superintendent: Mark Krick, CGCS

### The Hooch

Duluth, Georgia

Date Built: 1998

Avg. Rounds Played: 20,000-30,000

Course Notes: Par 61 that plays along the Chattahoochee River. Built by Medalist Golf.

Architect/Designer/Builder: David Johnson

Superintendent: Kyle McFarland

### The Spotswood Course at Golden Horseshoe Golf Club

Williamsburg, Virginia

Date Built: 1963

Rounds Played: 25,000

Course Notes: Called the "best short nine-hole course in the country" by Golf Magazine, the Spotswood Course, named for Colonial Governor Alexander Spotswood, is the 1963 update of the Williamsburg Inn's original 1947 nine-hole layout. Dual tees allow for the nine-holer to play to 3,745 yards

Architect/Designer/Builder: Robert Trent Jones, Sr.

Superintendent: Rick Viancour



## TOP PAR THREE GOLF COURSES

### Blue Rock Golf Course

South Yarmouth, Massachusetts

Date Built: 1962

Rounds Played: 26,000

Course notes: Recognized as one of the finest par 3 courses in the U.S. by several leading golf magazines...including this one.

Architect/Designer/Builder: Geoffrey Cornish

Superintendent: Jerald Buchard

### Cloud Nine at Angel Park Golf Course

Las Vegas, Nevada

Date Built: 1989

Rounds Played: 35,000

Course Notes: The Cloud Nine Short Course features 12 holes inspired by some of the most famous golf holes in the world. The layout is highlighted by holes with similar shot values to some of the most famous (or infamous) holes in the world such as the "Island Green", "Valley of Sin", "Postage Stamp" and even the "Riviera" (complete with the bunker in the middle green). To make matters even more exciting and unique, nine of the 12 holes are lighted for evening play, making the Cloud Nine short course a special nighttime treat for golfers in Las Vegas.

Architect/Designer/Builder: Bob Cupp

Superintendent: Bill Rohert

### Holly Ridge Golf Club

Sandwich, Massachusetts

Date Built: 1967

Course Notes: The golf course made Golf Digest's "Best Places to Play". The practice facility and learning center made our own "Top 100 in America". Over 3,000 yards, par 54 "nestled among the hollies and pines of Sandwich". "In addition to our golf course and practice facility, we offer award-winning golf instruction, custom club fitting, women's, men's, mixed and junior leagues, a well-stocked pro shop, and a full-service restaurant and bar. Holly Ridge is a wonderful setting for parties, golf outings, charity events and more".

Architect/Designer/Builder: Geoffrey Cornish

Superintendent: Al Comeau

### Legends Scoring Nine at Jim McLean Golf Center

Fort Worth, Texas

Date Built: Redesign in 2006

Rounds Played: 5,000-10,000

Course Notes: Jim McLean acquired this facility about one year ago and immediately began to upgrade all aspects of the facility. He brought in Tom Fazio to rebuild greens and tee boxes. The course is open

to the public for \$14 and is also used as the practice course for the McLean Golf School. The holes range from the shortest at 66 yards to the longest at 215 yards. There is also a 'community fairway' that allows student to play a long par 4.

Architect/Designer/Builder: Tom Fazio

Superintendent: n/a

### Midway Par 3

Myrtle Beach, South Carolina

Date Built: 1974; Upgrade 2003

Rounds Played: 50,000 plus

Course notes: Home to three 9-hole par three layouts. Two new nine-hole layouts incorporate "situation" golf where pine straw, fairway bunker and side-hill lies come into play off the tee.

Architect/Designer/Builder: Randy Allen; Kip Miller on new layouts

Superintendent: Mary Martin

### Orange County National's "Tooth"

Winter Garden, Florida

Date Built: 1998

Rounds Played: 22,000

Course notes: Par 29 beauty that has been the "Home of the 2001-2007 Orlando Jaycee's Pee-Wee Championships." Orange County National features a 360-degree golf range, the largest in the U.S.

Architect/Designer/Builder: Phil Ritson, Dave Harman, Isao Aoki

Superintendent: Carl Benedict

### Sah-Hah-Lee Golf Course

Clackamas, Oregon

Date Built: 1990

Rounds Played: 50,000

Course Notes: A family owned and operated golf course that also includes a golf range. The Lisac family designed and built the course. Steve Lisac is the GM / co-owner; his brother, Bud Lisac is the superintendent and co-owner and Nick Lisac is one of the golf instructors.

Architect/Designer/Builder: The Lisac Family

Superintendent: Bud Lisac

### Sandstone Hollow at Turning Stone Resort

Verona, New York

Date Built: 1999

Ave. Rounds Played: 10,000

Course Notes: Turning Stone Resort features four 18-hole layouts (Rick Smith designed the short course as well as one of the 18-hole layouts.) The course winds through woods and wetlands. Turning Stone Casino is an enterprise of the Oneida Indian Nation.

Architect/Designer/Builder: Rick Smith

Superintendent: Matt Saldo

### The Wee Course at Williams Creek

Knoxville, Tennessee

Date Built: 2003

Rounds Played: 10,000

Course Notes: Home to The First Tee of Williams Creek. This 18-hole par 3 course has received awards: "Best New Course in East Tennessee" by East Tennessee Golf News and "The Four Star Award for New Facility" by Tennessee Recreation and Parks Association. The course is sited on 98 acres. The clubhouse is a restored schoolhouse.

Architect/Designer/Builder: Original routing by Tom Fazio and final design by local architect Bill Oliphant.

Superintendent: Chuck Drake

### Town of Palm Beach Golf Course

Palm Beach, Florida

Date Built: 1961

Rounds Played: 40,000

Course notes: A complete renovation is underway. With the Atlantic Ocean on one side and the Intercoastal Waterway on the other, this oceanfront gem saw Louise Suggs beat Sam Snead and a field of 24 in a 1961 tournament.

Architect/Designer/Builder: Dick Wilson

Superintendent: Tim Campbell

### Threetops at Treetops Resort

Gaylord, Michigan

Date Built: 1992

Rounds Played: 15,000

Course notes: Home to the annual Par-3 Shootout...has received kudos from major magazines on overall design and quality.

Architect/Designer/Builder: Rick Smith

Superintendent: Mark Wildeman

### Weddington Golf & Tennis (formerly Studio City Golf & Tennis)

Studio City, California

Date Built: 1955

Rounds Played: 50,000

Course Notes: With more than 600 trees older than 40 years, this green sanctuary has been a place of refuge for the Hollywood star and layman alike. Owned by the Weddington Family, the facility was known until this summer as Studio City Golf. Many a celeb got their golf start here.

Architect/Designer/Builder: Original design by actor Joe Kirkwood, Jr, son of noted golf trick shot performer Joe Kirkwood Sr.

Superintendent & GM: George McCallister