

Shuttle Meadow Country Club offers great golf and fine dining

By CHARLES PAULLIN
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BERLIN — Tucked away on the borders of Berlin and New Britain is a hidden golf course gem of Central Connecticut.

Shuttle Meadow Country Club, at 51 Randecker Lane, has been around for more than 100 years with a 300 plus acres and 18-holes of sprawling greens offering the full country club experience.

“Members here not only get the opportunity to play a real classic gem, we have one of the top-rated classic courses in the country,” said Mark Bertolami, one of two vice presidents of the club. “We have a junior and Olympic-sized pools, and we have Har-Tru tennis courts, we have paddle tennis courts and we have miles of walking trails up through routes that people can take advantage of.”

Designed by Willie Park Jr., a pioneer of golf course construction, the course has had a prestigious record of 35 players who have competed in or won U.S. Opens, British Opens and other major events, including Bobby Jones. Maintenance of the course is always a priority, Bertolami said.

But as Bertolami noted,



A view from the clubhouse overlooking the golf course.

Shuttle Meadow is also a welcoming environment for families. Junior golf programs for kids from age 4 up to age 17, an active swim program of 60 to 70 kids and a junior tennis program are just some of the draws for club members and families.

“Golf is one of those games, the earlier you start that’s the best way to build skill and ability,” said Bertolami.

The club adds to the full experience with different fine and casual dining areas, and an outdoor patio with a fire pit that faces the course. WiFi throughout pretty much the entire facility, meeting space rooms that look out over the course

with TV and projection options, and a ballroom with seating for 150 for members and referred guests are also available.

Different membership levels for the club are available Bertolami said, from those who may have just graduated college, are empty nesters, who just want to dine or strictly play golf, play tennis and swim, or may even be snowbirds.

An open house golf tournament will be held on May 21 in which members will be paired up with groups of interested players who may not be members yet for a round of golf, lunch and drinks and h’ordeuvres.

Going forward, the club is looking to update the pool deck, add a children’s play-scape area, and start clubhouse renovations to include more casual dining, more weddings and events and outdoor dining options. Locker rooms will also be renovated.

“I think we’ve managed to hold our own and do very well and I think a lot of that stems from the fact that...We’re not solely catering to golfers, we’re catering to families that have a variety of different interests,” said Bertolami.



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