

Course Review: Reames Golf & Country Club

Golf Week 2014 — staged in Klamath Falls and beyond — was unique in a lot of ways, not the least of which was the quality of the golf courses we played. We did not play many “good” courses; they tended to be either “very good” or “mediocre” (to use a kind word). Our consensus was that Reames Golf & Country Club was right at the top of the list, along with the Running Y, as the best of the week.

Reames is a private course, and we thank them for generously letting us play after a call from Chehalem Glenn pro Branden Thompson alerting them to our Quest. And we want to be quick to note the friendly atmosphere that greeted us. At no time were we made to feel as though we didn’t belong there. Instead, all of the staff we encountered were friendly, helpful and curious to hear about our venture.

Reames is a beautifully maintained, lush layout that plays 6,340 yards from the white tees. The course sits on about 200 acres just outside of K-Falls proper. Established in 1925, the course includes lots of mature trees and just has that “established” feel to it. There is a great variety of holes on the course to make for a challenging, interesting round of golf, but at no point in time do you feel overwhelmed. Don and Pete played well, shooting in the mid-80s, while playing partners Dave Cadd and Mitch Nosack scored a little higher, but we all had a great time.

There is some water here and there at Reames,



Ready for action at the very unpretentious Reames Golf & Country Club in Klamath Falls.



Everything was lush and well manicured at Reames Golf & Country Club, no small feat in arid Klamath Falls.

sand traps throughout the course, but the biggest hazard we saw was a huge coyote on No. 8. Granted, he may not be a permanent feature, at least on that hole, but he was certainly well fed. We also saw a lot of wild rabbits on the course, and we’re guessing their presence is why Mr. Coyote didn’t look as though he’d missed many meals.

We were a little concerned about mosquitoes, as we saw several of them out and about when we teed off around 10 a.m. Fortunately their appearance was short-lived, unlike bad experiences at other courses. The other thing you noticed right away was the rumble of military jets taking off periodically from the nearby air base — that was enough noise to make you back off from a shot now and again.

There is (an appropriate) stark contrast at Reames from being on or off the fairway. Klamath Falls is right in the middle of a desert, of course, so while the fairways and greens were lush and kept up immaculately, hit it too far right or left and you were in dirt and sagebrush territory. Again, that’s perfectly appropriate and rewards a good shot — but the contrast was noticeable.

If you have a chance to play Reames, do so without hesitation. Ironically, the day after we played Reames we played at Round Lake. “Night and day” doesn’t even begin to describe that juxtaposition — read our Round Lake review if you’re curious.