

<b>Round 1 – June 15, 2017 – U.S. Open Championship Course Setup Notes from Mike Davis and Jeff Hall</b>			
		<b>Weather</b>	<p><i>Here is the 5 a.m. forecast from Thor Guard Chief Meteorologist Jake Swick:</i></p> <p><i>The showers and storms overnight were scattered enough that we did not receive any more rain since midnight. Currently there are some storms about 30 miles to our southeast just on the other side of the airport and downtown. Fortunately that activity is moving away and the models have us staying dry for all of the daytime hours today! Look for some clouds early this morning to give way to lots of sunshine midday. Temps starting out in the 60s will be above normal again today reaching near 86 degrees. Dewpoints in the 60s early this morning will drop back into the 50s this afternoon as winds pick up out of the west and northwest at times midday with a high gust in the 15-20 mph range.</i></p> <p><i>Our break from showers and storms does not last very long as we turn our attention back to the west by tonight. Look for clouds and some activity to be entering the western half of the state by sunset as the first in a new series of disturbances quickly flies in and out of the area. Therefore we'll have a 40% chance of a shower or storm tonight. Then the second wave approaches Friday afternoon and Friday night with another 40% threat. Finally the third and likely strongest piece of energy swings through the Midwest on Saturday and Saturday night with a 40% and 60% chance respectively. The wind will be breezy pretty much each and every day, especially during the middle part of the day through Saturday and the strongest winds are still expected on Sunday with some cooler temps also anticipated.</i></p>
		<b>Setup Specifics</b>	We were fortunate last night to only receive less than a 1/10 of an inch of rain. This enabled us to perform all evening maintenance. The entire golf course was mown last night and regular putting green maintenance was performed. This morning, greens were double cut and rolled and, on average, achieved Stimpmeter readings in the upper 12's. We anticipate speeds settling out in the mid-12s by the afternoon.
<b>Hole</b>	<b>Par</b>	<b>Yardage</b>	
<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>613</b>	Play will be from the 608 tee. The tee shot will be into today's predominantly west wind, whereas the second and third shots will feature a right-to-left cross wind. Today's back-left hole location (22-3L) can offer a relatively quick putt from the middle portion of the green as it will be a downwind putt.
<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>330</b>	The second hole will play right back into today's predominantly west wind. We will play from the 338 (penultimate) tee today. For players trying to drive it up around the putting green, it is approximately a 260-yard carry over the fairway bunker complex. Today's front-left hole location (7-4L) can be difficult to access, but the softer conditions and west wind should make the task a bit easier.
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>497</b>	This very solid par 4 will play back into the breeze today. We are using the forward portion of the back tee. Tee shots played out to the right side of the fairway will likely funnel a good ways to the lower left portion of the fairway. Today's front-right hole location (5-13R) is in a relatively flat portion of the putting green and there is a slope behind the hole location that can be used as a backstop. Putts from the upper shelf down to the hole location will be with the predominantly west breeze.
<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>451</b>	This relatively short par 4 features one of the tighter drive zones at Erin Hills. The westerly breeze will make the hole play a bit longer; however, the tee shot is significantly downhill. Today's back-right hole location (21-6R) is on a plateau but the putting green runs away behind this hole location and a ball that reaches the closely mown area over this green is likely to run down the hill and finish in the mown rough, presenting a difficult recovery.
<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>514</b>	The par-4 fifth hole will be stretched to its maximum yardage today as a result of the back-left hole location (26-9L), however, the hole will play downwind with the westerly breeze. Tee shots must finish in the left half of the fairway in order to have the best view of the flagstick. Balls in the right portion of the fairway will potentially leave players with a blind second shot. Today's hole location is visually behind the

			front bunker but there is ample room between the bunker and the hole location to land the ball. Most putts here today will be uphill. Any ball that finishes over this green will result in a very challenging recovery.
<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>252</b>	The sixth hole will play its longest for the week today, but will play with a helping breeze. The hole location today (38-5R) will be difficult to access as the back-right portion of the green is well protected by the front-right bunker and the "shoulder" of that bunker that will move balls left, away from today's hole location. The relatively softer conditions will work in the players' favor given the length of the hole. The deepest green on the golf course is surrounded by an expansive closely mown area which should offer players choices in the recovery shots should they miss the green.
<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>604</b>	This hole will play back into the westerly breeze today, likely making it a three-shot hole for most in the field. The fairway at the seventh is one of the narrower on the course from drive zone all the way through to the putting green. It is also one of the more strategically bunkered holes on the course. After two well-played shots, players should have a "scoring" club in their hands to take on today's middle-left (19-8L) hole location that features a pronounced ridge right and beyond it.
<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>490</b>	The only dogleg on the golf course, the tee shot at hole 8 will play down-breeze with the westerly wind. The second shot will be a left-to-right crosswind to the uphill putting green. Today's hole location (11-9R) is in a fairly flat portion of the putting green. Par will be a good score at the eighth.
<b>9</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>150</b>	We will be using the middle of the three right-hand tees today. Today's hole location (20-5L) is positioned on the narrow shelf in the center-left portion of the green. If a ball works into the bowl right of this hole location, it will likely feed off the green into the closely mown surround. The hole will play with a right-to-left crosswind today.
<b>10</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>514</b>	The 10th hole will play from the penultimate tee with a left-to-right crosswind, but this is the widest fairway at Erin Hills. The hole location (19-8L) is in the back-left portion of the green and is likely the most accessible hole location on the hole. There is also a pronounced knob over the back-center of this green that will funnel balls toward this hole location.
<b>11</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>451</b>	The blind tee shot at the 11th hole will be played with a right-to-left crosswind. Today's front-right hole location (8-5R) should result in many downhill putts as that is the lower section of this putting green. A tee shot in the fairway should yield a good birdie opportunity.
<b>12</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>448</b>	With today's wind forecast, we have placed the tee markers on the shorter 434 tee to insure players can reach the upper plateau in the fairway. Today's hole location (24-4L) is on the back portion of this narrow green. This is one hole where we could see greenside recovery shots from the mown rough and maybe even the fescue.
<b>13</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>227</b>	The westerly breeze is helping and slightly left to right on this very challenging par 3. The hole is located on a shelf in the back left, just behind a low portion of the green that will funnel balls left of the green. Look for some players to be playing second shots from the large closely mown area right of the green.
<b>14</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>599</b>	The tees are located on the 594 tee, which is the tee farthest on the golfer's right. The breeze will be predominantly into the players on this hole, but will also have a bit of right-to-left bias. It is unlikely that many players will try to reach this green in two shots. As a result, the players will be faced with one of the more challenging layup shots on any of the par 5s here at Erin Hills. The layup area offers one of the more narrow fairways and precision with distance is critical in order to have a better view of the flagstick on the third shot. Today's hole location (21-4R) is center right in the lower right-hand portion of this putting green.
<b>15</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>368</b>	Tee markers are placed on the back upper teeing ground. This short par 4 will be made more difficult today with the westerly breeze. The tee shot must avoid several bunkers in the fairway and the second shot must be very precise to an uphill, relatively small putting green. Today's hole location (14-4R) is perilously close to the steep closely mown area and putts from right of this location can be quite fast.
<b>16</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>179</b>	The front-right hole location (5-6R) is well protected by the pronounced bowl located

			in the closely mown area that fronts this green. With this hole playing downwind, distance control will be at a premium to have a good birdie chance. A pronounced ridge located some 10 paces behind this hole location should keep balls from getting to the upper tier of this green.
<b>17</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>526</b>	The 17th will be the longest par 4 on the scorecard today; however, it will play straight downwind with the westerly breeze. In order to have the best view of today's hole location (25-6L), players will prefer to be in the right side of this fairway. The hole location is placed in the subtly difficult back portion of the green.
<b>18</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>632</b>	The closing hole will play straight downwind with the westerly breeze and may allow some players to get up around the putting green complex in two shots. Tee markers are placed on the 632 teeing ground. Today's hole location (11-10R) is front right and is well guarded by the false front of the green.

Front 9 – 3,901

Back 9 – 3,944

Total – 7,845