

# WELCOME TO SASSAMON TRACE

Sassamon Trace is a nine hole executive length golf course designed in the classic tradition with the beginning golfer in mind. Located partially on the Natick landfill and on an apple orchard in Sherborn the golf course has a unique character. Following the classic style, the natural terrain was studied and the golf holes routed accordingly. The steep side slope of the landfill is utilized as a strategic element, defining the right edge of each of the Natick holes. While the wind will truly effect golf shots on the landfill, the summer prevailing wind will help play. Take for example, the third hole with the prevailing wind coming from right to left, the opposite direction as the shot should be played, holding up the shot. Each hole has plenty of tee space and angle variation for a different look each time the course is played. The large greens will boost the confidence of golfers by allowing them to find 'the dance floor' more often than not., but don't think that every hole is a birdie. With gentle rolls and changes in slope, the premium was placed on putting at Sassamon Trace

Let's play a round at Sassamon Trace!

**Hole #1** Fred's Vision 158 yards

The opening hole is played on top of the landfill and should provide a fair and relatively easy beginning to the round. While the green can accept a traditional approach, the firm fairway and elevated left side will receive a bump 'n run as well. Be leery of a back right pin placement, with bunker front, steep slope behind and the terrace separating the front portion of the green.

**Hole #2** Flare 326 yards

Playing against the wind, use the fairway bunker as your aiming point, since the landing area is blind. Some may chose to use a driver and carry as much of the angle as they dare, while others may chose a long iron to play it safe, bringing the fairway bunker into play. The green is most accepting of a run up approach, since trouble lurks on all sides. Bunkers left and right will save you from a much worse predicament.

**Hole #3** Abyss! 180 yards

Standing on the tee, this hole is very daunting and will play with your nerves. Miss your tee shot to the right and par is virtually impossible. An approach to the left side does allow more freedom and is sloped to turn an approach shot towards the green. If the player finds the green surface, they will be rewarded with a relatively consistent putt and possibly a birdie.

**Hole #4** Amphipod 529 yards

Although the longest hole, many players may attempt to reach the green on this par-5 with two bold shots. Use the target bunker as your aiming point on the drive. A subtle chick slope in the landing area will turn balls to the right as the fairway area tightens. The second shot will make or break your score. Chose to lay up and go for par, or go for broke and use the right to left slope of the approach to run the ball up for an eagle putt. The green is undulating and will not yield to long putts easily. Watch for the back left pin placement, and plan for a par accordingly.

**Hole #5** Orchard 162 yards

Playing downhill with the apple orchard behind this hole will be beautiful in the spring. Play a right to left approach and use the slope to bring the ball onto the green. A central spine runs through the green and will make you think twice on your putt. A rear right pin placement may yield many birdies.

**Hole #6****Cut****341 yards**

Standing on the tee, players may feel indecisive as to how to play this short par-4. The most advantageous tee shot is to play a draw over the right fairway bunker and use the kick slope to leave a wedge into the green. The further you are to the left the easier the approach is into the green. The front right bunker will catch many short approach shots, as will the sloping chipping area on the left.

**Hole #7****Aqueduct****177 yards**

If you can't hit a draw, good luck from the left side tee marker. This may be the toughest shot on the course, with bunker left and catch bunker and water on the right. The right side tees give the beginning golfer the best angle, utilizing the slope of the green and the opening in front to run the ball up. The green is set low with high surrounds so it is forgiving to off line approaches, bringing the ball back into play.

**Hole #8****Turtle****143 yards**

The shortest of the 3-pars that plays with the wind is the calm before the storm. The hole plays across a subtle valley to a green, which slopes gently to the right. Stay clear of the right greenside bunker. A testing ridge runs into the green from the left, separating a rear left pin placement from the majority of the green. While the green is big target, watch for the subtle slopes to make putting a little tougher than it looks from the tee.

**Hole #9****Methane****367 yards**

From the back tee get ready to 'light it up'. The right fairway bunker should be all carry for the good players looking to approach the green from the appropriate angle. An alternate approach is to play left, using the kick slope to lessen the distance to the green. From the middle and forward tees both bunkers guard the left and right sides of the fairway. With a strong rear wind the left fairway bunker is more in play than you may think. The green itself is open to approaches from the left side of the fairway, but watch for the terrace. Either a rear left or right pin placement will be a rewarding par.