

Solheim Cup (LPGA)

Bernardus Golf • Cromvoirt, Noord-Brabant, The Netherlands • Sept. 11-13, 2026

Golf Course Superintendent

Niall Richardson

Years at Bernardus: 10

Years as a Superintendent: 21

Previous Courses: The Dutch, Moyvalley Golf Club, Carton

House Golf Resort, The Grange Golf Club

Hometown: Dublin, Ireland

Education: The National Botanical Gardens Dublin & Sportsturf Management, Teagasc, Dublin

Professional Tournaments Hosted: 2016, 2017 & 2018 DP World Tour event (the KLM Open), 2021, 2022 & 2023 Dutch Open DP World Tour event

Other Key Agronomy Personnel

Paul Willemse, assistant superintendent; Roberto Nardari, assistant superintendent; Demian de Vroom, equipment manager; Roel Verdonschot, PGA professional

Agronomy Employees: 21 / Tournament Volunteers: 70

Course Architect

Kyle Phillips (2018)

Notable

- The course was constructed as a heathland golf course in an area of Brabant that was previously agricultural land. The landscape has been developed around sand, heath grasses, dunes and water.
- The course covers approximately 85 hectares and was designed as an 18-hole championship course by Kyle Phillips.
- One of the most distinctive characteristics of Bernardus is the emphasis on natural playing surfaces and fine fescue.
- They have invested significant efforts in improving irrigation and water-management capability, including an upgrade to the irrigation control system. This gives them greater control over water application and helps manage the course more precisely.
- A note on the greens: As the fescue dries and the surface becomes firmer through the day, the greens can become quicker as the tournament progresses. That creates a very different dynamic from a heavily irrigated, high-input green.
- Tournament preparation has focused on spectator movement. Approximately 60 semi-mature trees were transplanted to new locations rather than cutting them down.

- The Solheim Cup will make Bernardus the first venue to host the PING Junior Solheim Cup and Solheim Cup in the same year.

Tournament Setup

Par: 36-36--72

Yardage: Approximately 6,598 yards

Turfgrass

Greens: Fine fescue-dominant, sand-based greens (5 mm)

Collars: Fine fescue / fescue-dominant turf (9 mm)

Approaches: Fine/hard fescue-dominant turf (9 mm)

Tees: Fescue-dominant turf (9 mm)

Fairways: Fescue-dominant (9 mm)

Rough: Natural heathland grasses, including fescue and associated native/naturalized species

Course Statistics

Average Green Size: 600 square meters

Total Property Acres: Approximately 210 acres / 85 hectares

Acres of Fairway: 16 hectares

Acres of Rough: 37 hectares of natural area (no rough)

Number of Sand Bunkers: 69

Acres of Sand Bunkers: 9,000 square meters

Number of Water Hazards: 10

Number of Holes Water is in Play: 7

Soil conditions: Predominantly sandy, free-draining heathland-type soils. The sand-based construction and excellent natural infiltration are important components of the course's ability to produce firm championship conditions.

Water Sources: Multiple sources. All drainage runs back into central lakes. Irrigation water is currently sourced from a well and stored in a reservoir. A major project is ongoing to increase the capacity of storage by harnessing rainfall during the winter.

Drainage: Generally very good natural drainage and infiltration.

Average Fairway Widths: 30-35 meters

Links

GCSAA Tournament Fact Sheet Home:

<https://www.gcsaa.org/media/tournament-fact-sheets>

GCSAA Website: <https://www.gcsaa.org/>

GCM (GCSAA Magazine): <https://gcmonline.com/>

Course X: @BernardusGolf

Tournament X: @TheSolheimCup

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