

Sports

# Portland's Broadmoor Golf Course and its 89-year run coming to an end with sale of property

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Broadmoor Golf Course and its 120-acre property will close for business Oct. 25 following an 89-year run. (File)

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By [Nick Daschel](#) | [The Oregonian/OregonLive](#)

There's a celebrity wanting to play the golf course, Scott Krieger is told one morning while he's running the pro shop at Broadmoor Golf Course.

Krieger, the course's general manager and president, is skeptical. Promise, he's big, Krieger is told. He arranges to have a couple golf carts go to a secure location, out of sight of those around the clubhouse, to pick up the celebrity.

Actor Sylvester Stallone gets out of the car. He and his entourage are ferried to the first tee, where they begin play without fanfare.

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"But there's no way you can keep that quiet," Krieger said. "By the time he got to the seventh tee, everyone is going by and yelling 'Yo, Adrian.' That was a pretty cool day."

It's one of the memories Krieger can take away from Broadmoor, as the Northeast Portland course will close Oct. 25 as the property's 120 acres have been sold. Broadmoor has been in Krieger's family since 1931, when his great grandmother and five aunts converted a dairy into an 18-hole public golf course.



Photo from The Oregonian on Aug. 31, 1931 when Broadmoor opened its course.

The course property, currently co-owned by 11 family members, was sold to Prologis, a San Francisco-based real estate trust that bought the former Portland Meadows property in 2019. Krieger said some of Broadmoor's property will be used for industrial development, and the rest for wetlands.

Krieger, who has run Broadmoor since 1992, said it was time to sell. Not all of the property owners, some who are in their 80s, have the financial means to revitalize the par-72, 6,526-yard golf course. And even if they did, it might not have been the best move.

Krieger says the Portland area was overbuilt with golf courses during the 1990s. They were able to survive during the early days of a boom when Tiger Woods' professional career began. But by 2008, Krieger said Broadmoor was struggling to make a profit, and the past five years were rough.

"It gets to a point where you know it's time to try to find a way out," Krieger said.

That way out is Prologis, which is about to close the property sale. Broadmoor will soon start selling course assets such as golf carts. They must clear out by Nov. 1, so Sunday, Oct. 25 is the final day for play.

The sale of Broadmoor has been in the works for nearly 18 months, so it wasn't unexpected when finalized to Krieger. Still, he calls knowing the end is near a "punch in the gut ... it's sad. But I'm relieved for the owners. You know it's the right thing to do."

Broadmoor, described in an Oregonian story in 1931 as "the finest public golf course that money can create," has had players of all abilities walk its fairways lined with evergreens, oak and willow trees. During its height, Broadmoor did about 50,000 rounds in business per year. Over nine decades, Broadmoor played host to more than 3 million rounds.

Broadmoor has had hundreds of employees, some who worked for decades at the course. Joe Goodling was the course superintendent for most of the time he worked at Broadmoor from 1950-97; Krieger said it was the only job he ever had. There was "Uncle Bub," as Krieger called him, a brother of original sisters who built the course. He started working at Broadmoor in 1936, and Krieger says he was still driving a tractor 20 to 30 hours a week when he took over managing the course in 1992.

Corey Castner, who used to compete in regional and national long drive competitions, once set Broadmoor's course record of 9-under 63 during the early 1990s.

Some of the memories aren't so good. One was a fire that destroyed Broadmoor's clubhouse in 1999. With it went a lot of the course's memorabilia.

Krieger got a Christmas Eve surprise in 2005. Sitting at home opening presents with the children, Krieger received a phone call saying that a small airplane landed on Broadmoor's seventh tee. Portland International Airport is adjacent to Broadmoor's property.

"I guess he took off and couldn't get up and came right down on the side of our property," Krieger said. "No one in imminent danger or hurt. Didn't do a whole lot of damage. The real damage was when the fire trucks came and got stuck on the 16th fairway."



Plane that landed on the seventh tee at Broadmoor Golf Course in 2005. (File)

Krieger, 62, says he hasn't figured out what's next in his career. Prior to Broadmoor, Krieger was the Oregon Ducks golf coach from 1984-92, and a professional at Emerald Valley.

During normal times, the final weekend at Broadmoor would include a shotgun tournament, a 19th hole party lasting well into the night, and endless hugs. But the pandemic makes it anticlimactic. People will play the course during its final days, quietly get in their car and drive away.

"That's the part that really stinks," Krieger said. "You know you won't get to have that one last goodbye."

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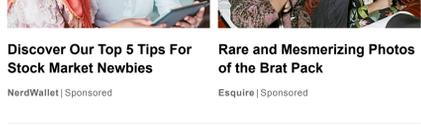
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