

The Jekyll Island Authority (JIA) has hired [Vincent Design, LLC](#), a golf course architecture firm, to produce a Golf Course Master Plan (GCMP) for Jekyll Island, with the basic goal of improving golf on Jekyll Island.

As part of its work, Vincent Design is soliciting public input on the future of golf on Jekyll Island. Specific topics to be addressed by the public were not given by either the JIA or Vincent Design, so feel free to comment on any issues or concerns you might have regarding how best to maintain, manage, improve or otherwise alter the golf course complex. To submit your comments, [click here](#).



For some of the options that Vincent Design submitted to the JIA when trying to win the GCMP contract, [see pages 12-27 of their proposal](#) to the JIA. Please note that the options listed there are NOT proposals but rather indicators of Vincent Design's thinking about directions the GCMP might head.

Background Information

Jekyll's golf courses have been operating at an unsustainable loss of more than \$600,000 annually in recent years, according to JIA figures.

In the absence of adequate revenue from golf course operations, funding for course maintenance has been insufficient, leading to a decline in conditions on the courses.

Improved maintenance and more aggressive advertising of Jekyll's golf course complex could increase course play and revenue but probably not enough to allow the courses to be profitable.

Golf course economic viability could be enhanced by reducing the size of the golf course complex and using some or all of that acreage for a revenue-generating purpose, including, but not limited to, commercial and residential development.

In 2017, the JIA commissioned the [National Golf Foundation \(NGF\) to produce a report](#) about the status and future of golf on Jekyll Island. Below are 3 options envisioned by the NGF for improving golf on Jekyll Island along with the projected financial impact of each of the options.

1. Continue "As-Is" - with no major changes but only repairs and minor improvements.
2. Retain 63 Holes - completion of a full course and clubhouse renovation over several years resulting in 63 holes of golf and a renovated (or new) clubhouse.
3. Reduce to 45 Holes – completion of a full course and clubhouse renovation over five years resulting in 45 holes of golf:

- Oleander 18 holes
- Indian Mound – Pine Lakes Combo 18 holes
- Great Dunes 9 holes.

Financial Impact of NGF Projections:

- “As-Is” projection shows continued and increasing annual losses on operations - possibly as large as (\$850k) within five years - unacceptable for JIA.
- 63-hole option shows improvement through increased play and the ability to sell “premium” golf. However, the expense required to maintain “premium” conditions on 63 holes will off-set new revenue, leading to continued economic loss.
- The 45-hole option shows the best economic performance, but there is still a loss on operations. Income will improve through increased play and premium golf, but total maintenance expense is more manageable.

