U.S. Golf Association may move museum

DALLAS — The buzz here was that the Executive Committee of The U.S. Golf Association has decided to begin exploratory talks that could result in moving its golf museum from its current site in Far Hills, N.J.

The committee voted at its annual meeting to explore several locations, including Colorado Springs, Colo.; Monterey, Calif.; and Newport, R.I.

Approximately 20,000 people visit the museum annually, leading the Committee to say its historic collection of golf artifacts deserves a wider audience than it has had in Far Hills. The committee stressed, however, that the USGA headquarters will continue to be located in Far Hills.

The panel is not entertaining invitations from additional sites.

Alice O. Dye ‘broke mold’ in male-dominated field of design

BY MARK LESLIE

DALLAS — Hailed as an icon of golf, Alice O’Neal Dye was presented the Golf Course Builders Association of America’s Donald A. Rossi Humanitarian Award during the GCBAA’s annual banquet here.

Attesting to Dye’s influence in pressuring course designers to add forward tees, Dick Nugent of the American Society of Golf Course Architects (ASGCA) said many layouts were not suitable for women golfers “in what I call the pre-Alice Dye Era.”

But her tireless work in espousing forward tees has led the entire industry in that direction, he said, adding: “On behalf of the ASGCA, I salute you for honoring Alice Dye. You have chosen a winner and a champion.”

“My mom’s an icon of golf,” said son Perry Dye, a worldwide course builder and architect. “In a male-oriented game, we’ve had to learn to pay attention to those women who were paying for it.... Her major desire for golf course architects is to design courses for all levels of play.”

Her mother, Perry said, “broke the mold” of the all-male world of course architecture.

And, as a mother, “she was always pushing in the right direction and with the right intentions,” he added.

The PGA also cited Dye’s work at the awards presentation, telling her: “Generations of golf to come will treasure your lifelong contributions to golf.”

Dye, who has worked with her husband Pete in designing golf courses for three decades and whose younger son P.B. is also an architect, said, “I’m especially delighted to be honored by the Builders Association because it was the construction end that gave us our first start in golf course building.

The first woman member of the ASGCA, Dye is also an accomplished golfer. The captain of the 1992 U.S. Women’s World Team, she played on the victorious 1970 Curtis Cup team and was named Florida Senior Women’s Golf of the Year five years in a row.

She holds 10 Indiana Junior Championships, 12 state amateur titles, two U.S. Golf Associations Women’s Senior Championships, two Canadian Women’s Senior Championships, five Women’s Western Senior Championships, the North-South Amateur, Doherty and Eastern Championships and numerous other titles.

Over the years she has taught golf to thousands of youths.