Massachusetts attorney general sides with women in private club discrimination case

BOSTON — Massachusetts Attorney General Scott Harshbarger has moved to intervene on behalf of a group of women who have filed a class-action suit claiming they were discriminated against by the Haverhill (Mass.) Golf and Country Club because of their gender.

Harshbarger filed a motion with the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination agreeing with the plaintiffs and charged that women members at the private Haverhill club have allegedly been discriminated against on a routine basis because of their gender in gaining full memberships in the country club.

The Haverhill Golf and Country Club has two types of memberships: primary and limited. Under the club bylaws, limited memberships provide extremely restricted access to the golf course. The women members’ complaint is that they have been unfairly prevented from getting primary memberships solely because they are women.

Until 1992, primary memberships at the club were restricted to men only. In 1992, following the filing of a previous discrimination complaint by women members, the club officially opened primary memberships to women.

But the pending complaint alleges that the club has not, in reality, followed through on opening primary memberships to women and in fact, continues to deny them. Currently, fewer than 10 of the club’s 300 primary members are women, and seven of those 10 became primary members as a result of a partial settlement of the 1992 complaint.

Harshbarger said in a prepared statement, “This intervention by my office should send a strong reminder to all country clubs about issues of exclusivity and discrimination. It is simply no longer acceptable for any country club to play by the antiquated membership rules of the 1940s.”

Harshbarger’s office has intervened in country club issues before. In 1994, a case was settled with the Longmeadow (Mass.) Country Club over discriminatory issues with women and membership privileges.

Meadowbrook Golf announces private placement of stock

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. — Meadowbrook Golf Inc. (formerly Exacta Inc.) has completed a $1 million private placement of its common stock that will help the firm proceed with its golf course acquisition and development plans.

As a result of the just-completed placement, the 1995 acquisition of Meadowbrook Golf Group and a 1995 infusion of capital, Meadowbrook has approximately 17.7 million shares of common stock outstanding.

The company has received approval for its common stock to resume trading on the OTC Bulletin Board market. The new ticker symbol is “MEBG.”

The proceeds of the offering will be used for working capital and general corporate purposes as the company concentrates on the management, development and acquisition of golf courses and practice centers.

In May 1995, the company acquired all of the common stock in Meadowbrook Golf Group and the business opportunities and relationships that Meadowbrook Golf Group has established in the golf management and development industry.

Currently, Meadowbrook is negotiating agreements for the development of several courses in California, and the potential acquisition of a golf course management company. The company isn’t certain these negotiations will bear fruit.

The officers and directors of the company are:

• Arnold Rosenstein, chairman of the board, director and secretary. Rosenstein is an investor, real-estate owner, developer and money manager. He is former president of Realtech Development & Construction and Sports-Tech Inc.

• Roger Behrstock, director, president and chief executive officer. He is president and majority stockholder of Entertainment Capital Corp., a financial consulting, real-estate finance and property development company.

• Glenn Golenberg, director and vice chairman. Golenberg has his own merchant banking firm, Golenberg & Co., and is formerly a partner in Golenberg & Geller, another merchant banking firm.