Hurdzan to renovate NY layout

ENDICOTT, N.Y. — Architect Mike Hurdzan’s $1.3 million in renovations to En-Joie Golf Club are expected to modernize the municipal course that hosts the B.C. Open every September.

The project—scheduled to start in September—will involve rebuilding and reshaping all 18 greens. Hurdzan plants to create faster, truer putting surfaces with subtle undulations that will require less fertilizers, pesticides and water. All greens will be reshaped and enlarged. The dominant annual bluegrass, poa annua, will be replaced with creeping bentgrass. Hurdzan will also be looking at bunker placement, tees and possibly additional spectator mounds. Greens will be reworked one nine at a time with the first set expected to be ready for May 1997 and the other nine the following May.

Hurdzan described En-Joie as a typical 1960s course and his intent is to make the course more strategic for Tour players and everyday golfers alike.

NY muni plans to dust off its Twain classic

ELMIRA, N.Y. — The Mark Twain Golf Course is an 18-hole Donald Ross design that has always been a secret gem tucked away in this small down-state New York city.

Now city officials are looking to spruce it up with a $1.2 million master renovation plan, most of which is focused on buildings and facilities.

The long-term improvements designed by hunt Engineers & Architects of Corning, N.Y., seek to elevate the stature of the course; which Ross designed in 1937, and surrounding buildings and grounds. The project would be broken down into three phases to be completed over six years.

The first phase would cost $192,000 and would include a new golf cart storage building, resurfacing the parking lot, moving the course entrance, landscaping and improving locker and shower facilities.

Phase II would cost $93,000 and include refurbishing the original clubhouse to make it the main entrance and reworking locker rooms and administrative offices.

The third and most expensive phase would cost $913,000. The existing concession/lounge and pro shop would be demolished to provide an open view to the ninth, 18th and practice greens.

A new two-story clubhouse with a bar/lounge, restaurant, banquet/meeting room, pro shop, locker rooms and kitchen would be built.

Meanwhile, a separate $370,000 improvement project is included in the city’s 1996 budget proposal.

That money would go to repairing the course’s 30-year-old irrigation system at a cost of $320,000 and reconstructing the 11th green for $50,000. The putting surface on the 11th hole had partially collapsed and is almost unplayable.

The city hopes to issue bonds, which would be paid off through a 25 percent increase in membership fees, to pay for the improvements.

City and course officials have endorsed the financing plan although members have expressed displeasure with the proposal.

AMERICAN GOLF RENAMES ARIZONA FACILITY

GILBERT, Ariz. — American Golf Corp.-managed Golf Club at El Dorado Lakes has been renamed Kokopelli Golf Resort, in honor of the acclaimed hump-backed Native American flute player in the Southwest. The Bill Phillips-designed layout is located minutes from Arizona State University.