NEW YORK CITY — The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey and MetroGolf Inc., a Denver-based company, have agreed to enter into a 20-year lease under which MetroGolf expects to build and operate a golf center on top of the Port Authority Bus Terminal, located in the heart of midtown Manhattan at 42nd St. and 8th Ave.

Approved by the Port Authority Board of Commissioners on July 31, the golf center is believed to be the first of its kind in the world and is expected to open in mid-1998. The anticipated cost of the project is $60 million.

MetroGolf New York will consist of an approximately three-acre rooftop facility overlooking Times Square and will feature a three-level, 54-tee station driving range encased by a netting system. Covered and heated, the range will extend over 200 yards. Golfers will be hitting balls into the panoramic backdrop of Manhattan and the Hudson River. The clubhouse will be built on the sixth and seventh floors. The space, now used for parking, is underused, compared to lower levels.

“We are delighted to establish a new golfing alternative in the heart of New York City,” said Charles D. Tourtellotte, MetroGolf Inc.’s president.

Tourtellotte said: “This project represents a major milestone in the company’s aggressive growth plans. We look forward to a long and fruitful relationship with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.”

Port Authority Chairman Lewis M. Eisenberg said: “By bringing golf to the Port Authority Bus Terminal, we are not only improving the services provided to our customers, but also adding even more world-class quality to an area known around the world for excitement. The golf range, like the bus terminal’s Bowling Center, will be a boon for everyone.”

Golf on the rooftop comes to NYC

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The Olde Scotland Links do not play “nine out and nine back,” and the Atlantic shoreline sits some 30 miles to the east. Yet there are water views: 64 acres on the 200-acre site here were designated as wetlands.

Despite this high concentration of protected areas, the final course design requires only four compulsory carries — two of them directly in front of tees and thus easily avoided. "Stroke play lives at Olde Scotland Links," said Silva. "Donald Ross said golf should be a pleasure and not a penance. I couldn’t agree more."

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