

Venerable Hannastown adding nine

GREENSBURG, Pa. — After 75 years of existing as a nine-hole course, the membership at Hannastown Golf Club has approved plans to expand its facility in this Pittsburgh suburb.

Rumored to be the course where a young Arnold Palmer learned to caddy, the club owns approximately 120 acres, 50 of which are occupied by its Emil Loeffler design.

The proposed nine holes, designed by Ault, Clark & Associates of Kensington, Md., will play

through mature woodlands, and are routed to take advantage of a meandering stream, located in the lower portions of the site.

Overall, the earthwork is being kept to a minimum to accentuate the natural character of the land, and help the new nine blend in with the existing holes. When completed, and with minor adjustments to the existing holes, the course will play to a par 71 over approximately 6,800 yards.

A new maintenance facility will also be built.

Stryker, Hearn team in N.J.

LITTLE EGG HARBOR TOWNSHIP, N.J. — New Jersey developer Fred Stryker is building Sea Oaks Country Club here, expecting to open it in the spring of 1999.

"Sea Oaks is located on one of the few locations in southern New Jersey with elevation," said course architect Ray Hearn of

Plymouth, Mich. "As such, the golf course will afford fantastic views of both the Atlantic Ocean and the skyline of Atlantic City. Plus, our site is all sand, with vegetation much like what you'd find inland at places like Pine Valley."

Hearn said he will use much of the windswept scrub pine and jack pine he's found in abundance at Sea Oaks, along with the more traditional oak growth.

Hearn's design strives for balance. Three short par-4s on the front nine will be countered on the back by a pair of long par-3s and the par-5 16th, which may ultimately prove to be the course's signature hole. With water surrounding the green on three sides, players will be faced with a daunting wood or long-iron approach if they chose to go for the green in two, or a testy short-iron shot if they favor a more traditional three-shot approach.

Sea Oaks will range in length from 5,140 to 6,950 yards.

An eight-acre practice range will offer five target greens. A putting course and two practice putting greens will be located near the clubhouse.

Along with approximately 250 single-family home-sites, the semi-private club will also offer tennis and swim amenities.

Four Points track going 'Cayman'

SAN DIEGO — The 3 Par at Four Points executive golf course has opened at the Sheraton Four Points Hotel here. Designed and built by Agoura Hills-based Golf Projects International, the nine-hole course features a challenging experience for players ranging from the serious golfer to the most novice player, according to Nabih Geha, general manager of the Sheraton Four Points Hotel.

The eight-acre course has nine holes ranging from 60 to 130 yards long and includes sand and grass bunkers, and two-tiered greens built to U.S. Golf Association specifications. 3 Par at Four Points will be affiliated with the Southern California Golf Association.

Geha said the course has applied for membership in the Cayman Golf Association, an organization of golfers and member courses committed to playing golf with the Cayman short-distance golf ball. The Cayman ball is played on specially designed short courses, par-3 and executive courses, and practice ranges throughout the world.

"The introduction of the Cayman ball will be a nice option," Geha said.



TO: Robert Sackman, GCS

FROM: The Greens Committee, Tall Oaks Country Club

RE: CONGRATULATIONS!

Dear Bob,

We want to thank you for the exceptional job you and your staff did with the course this past year. Despite some rather harsh weather conditions, you were able to keep play at its all time best. In fact, guests from surrounding clubs frequently commented on what great shape our course was in and wondered what your secret is. We know it's a lot more than magic, but whatever you do — aside from your hard work — it has made the membership very proud.

We look forward to another season with you at the helm!



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