Changes planned at Cape Cod layout

By PETER BLAIS

MASHPEE, Mass.—New York businessman Carl Icahn has purchased New Seabury Country Club out of bankruptcy court and plans to begin major renovations to the 36-hole golf resort this fall.

The bankruptcy court transferred ownership of the seaside property to New Seabury Partners LLC, a subsidiary of American Real Estate Partners L.P., led by Icahn and Martin Hirsch, newly appointed president of New Seabury Partners LLC.

New Seabury resort encompasses 2,000 acres of residential homes, resort villas, two championship courses, 16 tennis courts, conference facilities, restaurants, two pools, beach and cabana clubs and two miles of beach front.

New Seabury’s two widely respected layouts, the Blue and Green championship courses, were both designed in the early 1960s. The late Francis Ouimet once labeled New Seabury as the “Pebble Beach of the East.”

Golf Magazine recognized New Seabury as one of the top 100 accessible courses in America.

Golf plan Ok’d in Connecticut

MIDDLETOWN, Conn.—Inland wetlands agency members recently approved plans for the Pin Oaks golf course. An earlier golf course proposal was rejected in 1996.

Developer Mark Quattro has put together 180 acres of city-owned land, 30 acres to be purchased from the estate of Josephine Czaja and 36 acres from Robert Fusari. Quattro agreed to grant conservation easements totaling 82.5 acres with stewardship to be provided by the Middlesex Land Trust, the Middletown Conservation Commission and the Mattabesett Audubon Society.

Quattro must still obtain approvals from the city’s planning and zoning commission, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the state Department of Environmental Protection. He hopes to start construction next spring and open the course by summer 2000.

Mike Zikorus is the course architect. Quattro expects to select from a list of a half-dozen potential builders sometime this winter.

The oceanfront Blue course has hosted many state amateur championships, three Massachusetts Opens, and the 1985 Ladies NCAA championship. Next September, the Blue Course will host the Junior Match in which the top 12 juniors from the United States compete against the top 12 European juniors. The event will begin in October with completion slated for late November.

According to Thomas Colombo, superintendent of golf operations, the renovations to the Blue course this fall will include:
- rebuilding of the 13th green to improve playability and increase cupping positions;
- regrading of the 13th fairway;
- framing the landing areas on the 13th and 15th fairways — two potentially dramatic holes that run parallel to one another — to help improve shot retention and visual perception;
- cart path renovations on both courses.

International Golf Construction of Arlington, Mass., will work with Colombo and his staff beginning in October with completion slated for late November.

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