

Lopez, Strange co-design Canadian course

KING CITY, Ontario, Canada — LPGA and PGA Tour players Nancy Lopez and Curtis Strange will co-design the second 18-hole course at ClubLink's Grandview Inn property in the Muskoka region just north of Toronto.

Lopez and Strange will bring 45 years of combined experience and prominence in the golf world to their design collaboration at the 850-acre Grandview property in the town of Huntsville, Ontario. Earlier this year, ClubLink announced that 1998 Masters and British Open champion Mark O'Meara will make his debut as a course designer with the first course at the Grandview site.

Construction is planned to begin on the Lopez-Strange course in fall 2001 with planned commencement of play in early summer 2003. Construction of the O'Meara course began this fall and play will start in early summer 2001.

"I decided to pursue my first design in North America with ClubLink because it is a North American leader in professional golf course ownership and management, and because of its record in developing quality golf properties," said Lopez, a member of the LPGA Hall of Fame and a winner of 48 Tour events in her 23-year professional career. "I am thrilled to be working with Curtis Strange who has been a good friend since we won the JCPenney Classic together in 1980."

"I co-designed ClubLink's flagship private course — King Valley Golf Club in King City, Ontario — with Doug Carrick, and I'm proud to say it is the 9th ranked course in Canada," said Strange, whose 21 worldwide tournament victories include back-to-back U.S. Opens (1988 and 1989) and two Bell Canadian Opens (1985 and 1987). "I am excited to work with Nancy Lopez and ClubLink, which is one of the fastest-growing and most respected golf course owners, operators and developers in North America."

Bruce Simmonds, president and chief executive officer of ClubLink, said: "It is a pleasure to work with two of golf's greatest competitors, whose friendship and international playing experience will create a world-class course that challenges and accommodates all players. ClubLink has taken a pioneering role in recognizing that golf is becoming a more inclusive game for male and female golfers."

"A winner of three major championships, Nancy Lopez has been the most popular woman professional golfer since 1978 when she

won nine events, including a record five in a row, and helped the LPGA Tour become one of the world's most successful women's sports organizations.

"The selection of Curtis Strange as 2001 U.S. Ryder Cup Captain late last month recognizes his place in golf history, which includes becoming the

first player since Ben Hogan in 1951 to successfully defend his U.S. Open crown. He is highly respected as the TV golf analyst for ABC Sports, and King Valley Golf Club, his 1990 collaboration with Canadian architect Doug Carrick, is renowned for its beauty and challenge."

The Lopez-Strange course will

be ClubLink's fourth golf development project in Muskoka, which underscores the region's emergence as an international golf destination.

ClubLink's first golf development initiative was The Lake Joseph Club, designed by Thomas McBroom, which was named Best New Canadian Course by Golf Digest and SCORE Golf magazines in 1997 and 1998 respectively. Another

ClubLink Muskoka course—Rocky Crest Golf Club, also designed by Thomas McBroom—will open in Spring 2000.

The Grandview courses will constitute a 36-hole Premium ClubLink Private Club, which will provide access to guests at ClubLink Resorts in Muskoka, only a two-hour drive from Toronto. ClubLink owns Grandview and three other resorts in Muskoka.

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