

IGM adds West Bay Club to its maintenance lineup

ESTERO, Fla.—The West Bay Golf Club here has contracted with International Golf Maintenance (IGM) to help the course achieve Signature certification with the Audubon International Cooperative Sanctuary Program.

IGM is a leading golf course maintenance company, with every one of its 40 courses enrolled in the certification program.

“We strongly believes in working in concert with the environment,” said Scott Zakany, execu-



The fourth hole at West Bay Club, designed by Pete and P.B. Dye

tive vice president of IGM. “We realize that sound agronomic programs have far-reaching benefits for the golf course owners and the community.”

The West Bay course is the first in Florida designed by the architectural firm Pete and P.B. Dye. With varied elevations as high as 30 feet, natural vistas of mangroves and water on 12 of the holes, the 6,800-yard, par-72 private course offers a country estate setting that requires confidence and aggressive play.

As the leading provider of golf course maintenance and agronomic services, IGM offers personnel, materials, supplies, and equipment through an annual maintenance program designed for each individual course.

“We wanted a maintenance company with expertise in maintaining fine facilities,” said Frank Weed, president of West Bay. “In addition, we feel that IGM has a good understanding of the needs of the course.” The West Bay course will host the 2000 College Golf Foundation’s national match play championship this month.

IGM is a subsidiary of the Meadowbrook Golf Group, Inc. based in Lakeland, Fla. Resources and equipment are shared with all facilities served by Meadowbrook, which owns and operates courses throughout the country.



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Glen Mills golf

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six months or so there was a drought. Following that, we had downpours of rain – about twice the normal amount. It made things challenging, but we had some students helping out. They put down erosion-control matting, did seed-bed preparation and helped repair washout areas during rainy periods.”

Despite those tough conditions, there’s nothing secondary about the golf course here. Weed said the course is in the great parkland tradition, wandering over rolling terrain and through mature hardwoods. Layered-sod bunkers, like those on the Old Course at St. Andrews, can be found throughout the course. Several streams and plenty of elevation changes add to the character of the layout.

Weed is well aware of the uniqueness of the training program. “So far as we know, it is the only facility of its kind – for golf, this is really an industry first. I started my career in golf as a superintendent, went on to be the chief architect for the PGA Tour and then opened my own firm. I think that shows these young men that there are opportunities for them in golf.”

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