Famed Rolling Road Golf Club Will Host November 13 Meeting

Rolling Road Golf Club in Catonsville, designed by the legendary Scots architect, Willie Park, Jr., and built in 1920, will be the host club for the Mid-Atlantic’s November 13 meeting. As with many older courses, it is short, playing to 5,935 yards and par 70, and covers only 98 acres in an area of rolling hills. Its small greens are considered “tricky” and difficult to putt.

Willie Park, Jr., was part of the second generation of a family highly regarded in Scottish golf’s history. Born in Musselburgh, he had a number of careers, including professional, greenskeeper, clubmaker, and writer. As a player, he won the British Opens of 1887 and 1889 and was runnerup in 1898. During two long periods in the United States, 1895–98 and 1916–24, he designed some 70 golf courses, including Baltimore Country Club, Atlantic City Country Club (a natural links), and the Pittsburgh Field Club. Among his better known courses in Britain were Sunningdale and Huntercombe. The entire Park family were noted golfers, greenskeepers, and architects, including his father Willie Sr., his uncle Mungo Park, and his brother, Mungo Park II.

Few changes have been made at Rolling Road, although No. 8 has just been reconstructed based on an Eddie Ault design that conforms to the overall aspect of the course. Michael Doetzter is the golf course superintendent, and he mows the bent/poa annua greens six times a week to 3/16” and the bluegrass/rye fairways (in their third year of rye overseeding) three times a week to 13/16”.

Dave Kroll’s 76 Wins 1984 MAAGCS Championship

Dave Kroll of Wilmington Country Club fired a 76 at hilly Maryland Golf and Country Club on October 9 to win the 1984 MAAGCS Golf Championship and possession of the Bill Glover trophy. John Hoover of Hillendale was second with 79 and Harry Allen of Prince Georges third with 81.

In the net division, Ed Porterfield of Hunt Valley took the Ruben Hines trophy with his 70, two shots ahead of Bob Orazi, also Hunt Valley. Grant Pensinger of Green Spring Valley Hunt Club was third with 74, followed by Tom Regan of Bethesda, Jeff Yingling of Yingling Golf Center, and Steve Nash of International, all with 76. Dave Fairers, and architects, including his father Willie Sr., his uncle Mungo Park, and his brother, Mungo Park II.

RULES, MARKING SEMINAR

Don’t forget the Rules and course marking seminar to be held at Columbia Country Club at 9 a.m. on Monday, October 29. Tom Meeks of the United States Golf Association will be on hand to talk to us and to give practical, on-course advice on course marking. This is an area in which we can be a big help to our pros, green chairmen, and local association executives who are involved in preparing our courses for tournaments. Call Ken Ingram at 951-5060 if you plan to attend.

“Our” Conference Tops Las Vegas ‘83 Record for Space

Almost four months remain before the ribbon is cut marking the opening of GCSAA’s 56th International Golf Course Conference & Show in Washington, D.C., and total exhibit space has already surpassed the record set in Las Vegas a year ago.

“We are faced with the pleasant problem of having to find enough booth space to satisfy the demands of our exhibiting companies,” declared Mark W. Herlyn, GCSAA’s manager of marketing and program development. Presently, 201 exhibitors have contracted for over 76,600 square feet of exhibit space on the floor of the Washington, D.C. Convention Center.