

NEW DEVELOPMENTS

ANOTHER PUBLIC 9 HOLE GOLF COURSE IN SUSSEX

Leatherhead based company, Golflines International Limited have taken over the defunct 9 hole Public Golf Course at Berni Inn's Gatwick Manor Motel/Restaurant/Bar complex. The complex near Gatwick Airport in Sussex, which is part of the Grand Metropolitan Group is to be revamped by PGA Professional Patrick Tallack for Golflines International Limited and is due to open for play on 1st May 1990.

NEW DESERT GOLF COURSE FOR TUNISIA

The development of golf facilities in Tunisia has taken a jump forward with the news that agreement has been reached for the construction of an international, 18 hole course at Tozeur, in the south west corner of the country.

Agreement was reached last month with the Tunisian authorities for a French/Tunisian company, Compagnie des Golf Internationaux de Tunisie, to start construction of the new desert course in January 1990 to open within two years. Plans were also approved for the construction of an adjacent four star de luxe hotel to be constructed and opened concurrently.

The new course, overlooking the Sahara desert and the oasis of Tozeur, will be situated less than three miles from the international airport of Tozeur/Nefta and is served by domestic scheduled services operated by Tunis Air from Tunis & Djerba. The Director of the Tunisian National Tourist office in London, Kader Chelbi said: "This is an exciting addition to our already announced plans to construct new courses at Hammamet, Djerba, Taberka and North Tunis. Already the new course at Monastir is open and Hammamet will be ready for play by next spring.

"The opening of our first "desert" golf course will be a major construction to our objective to greatly expand our desert tourism which will, in turn, increase our winter business. Winter temperatures in Tozeur average 70 degrees, an ideal climate for golf," he said.

Meanwhile Tunisia's two current courses

at Port el Kantaoui and Monastir have announced their rates for the Winter season. Individual rates at Port el Kantaoui, where the Tunisian Open was staged in the PGA Tour for several years, will be £14 per round in December, January and February, rising to £15.50 in November and March. Groups of 15 or more get a reduction per round of £1.50. At the newly opened 18 hole course at Monastir, the individual price per day will be a standard £18 from November to April or £100 for unlimited play over six days. Both courses, the 27 holes at Port el Kantaoui and the 18 at Monastir, were designed by the Californian architect Ronald Fream.

GOLF CLUB CONGLOMERATE BRANCHES OUT INTO COURSES

Amer Group's subsidiary Amer Golf Properties Inc. has signed a letter of intent to acquire an interest in the large Central European golf property corporation IGA (International Golf Associates SA).

Amer Golf Properties Inc. was established last summer after Amer Group had acquired Wilson Sporting Goods Co. Amer also holds the majority of the shares in McGregor Golf Company, USA.

Amer Golf Properties Inc. is a development corporation primarily involved in golf-related real estate development. The company is based in Chicago, USA.

IGA is a developer of golfing, leisure and

hotel centres, mainly in Central and Southern Europe where it is presently participating in seven projects at different stages of development. The first will be completed in Italy in 1992.

Mr Kari Sipila, Executive Vice President of Amer Golf Properties, will be appointed Executive Vice President of IGA from the date of signing the deal. The President of Amer Golf Properties Inc. is Mr Kai Luotenen, Amer Group's Group Vice President, Business Development.

WAVENDON GOLF CENTRE OPENS

The new Wavendon Golf Centre at Lower End Road, Wavendon near Milton Keynes opened to the public on November 18.

After months of preparation the 35-acre golfing complex will comprise a 26-bay floodlit driving range and a 7,100 sq ft clubhouse, a well stocked golf shop, changing facilities, bar, lounge and restaurant. An exacting par three golf course is due to open at the site next summer. The Centre, including the clubhouse, will be open to the general public without restriction.

The development is the brainchild of three local businessmen, golf professional Nick Elmer, surveyor John Drake and farmer Philip Menday.

"It's a unique facility locally," explained Nick Elmer. "A lot of research went into the planning of the project and we are confident that it will be a popular venue with golfers and non-golfers alike."



An artists impression of the Wavendon Golf Centre. It features a multi-purpose clubhouse and driving range and will be followed next summer by an exacting 9-hole par 3 course