

1990 U.S. Open, 1988 Senior Open to be Held at Medinah Country Club

Far Hills, N.J. — The United States Golf Association has accepted invitations from the Medinah Country Club in Medinah, Ill., to be the host club for the 1988 Senior Open and 1990 U.S. Open.

"We are delighted to be going back to Medinah," said USGA President James R. Hand. "Medinah is a great club, and they have some course changes planned that will make a great course even better."

Club president Ray Eckersall announced the acceptance of Medinah's invitations.

"We are pleased that the USGA has accepted our invitations for these two great championship events," Eckersall said.

Design changes being made by the club will increase the yardage on Medinah's Number 3 Course by approximately 300 yards and "will certainly be a challenge and exciting to play."

"The course changes will create new 17th and 18th holes to accommodate more spectators and give us a stronger finishing hole," Eckersall says. "The present par-3 17th hole, known the world over, will become the 13th hole. The changes will add to the beauty of this great course."

The two new holes are being designed by Packard, Inc. of Chicago. The course changes, with construction to begin in 1985 and be completed by 1986, will lengthen the backnine to 3,711 yards and increase its par one stroke to 36. This will give the course a new par of 36-36 — 72 and a total yardage of 7,358 yards which could be record yardage for a U.S. Open course; but it is highly unlikely that the course would be played at that length. The 1965 Open was played at the 7,191-yard Bellerive Country Club in St. Louis.

The new back nine will include the present 10th and 11th holes, then move to the current 16th and 17th holes, add distance to the current par-4 15th hole to make it the par-5 14th, move to the current 12th and 13th holes then continue to the two holes to be constructed. The new 17th hole will measure 165 yards, while the new 18th hole will measure 440 yards.

The 90th U.S. Open will be played June 14-17, 1990. The ninth U.S. Senior Open will be played August 4-7, 1988.

The 1990 U.S. Open will be the third Open to be played on Medinah's Number 3 Course. In 1949, Dr. Cary Middlecoff won the first of his two Open championships with a score of 286, defeating Sam Snead and Clayton Heafner by one stroke. In 1975, Lou Graham defeated John Mahaffey in an 18-hole playoff after the two players had tied with 72-hole scores of 287. Graham shot 71 in the playoff to Mahaffey's 73.

Designed by Tom Bendelow and opened for play in the early 1930's, Medinah's Number 3 Course has since been revamped a number of times.

The 1985 U.S. Open will be played at Oakland Hills Country Club in Birmingham, Mich.; the 1986 Open at Shinnecock Hills Golf Club in Southampton, N.Y.; the 1987 Open at The Olympic Club in San Francisco; and the 1988 Open at The Country Club in Brookline, Mass. No site has been selected as yet for the 1989 U. S. Open.

The 1985 Senior Open will be played at the Edgewood Tahoe Golf Club in Stateline, Nev.; and the 1986 Senior Open will be played at the Scioto Country Club in Columbus, Ohio. No site has been selected for the 1987 Senior Open.

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