

NEW COURSES

Crumpin-Fox my favorite, says Rulewich

BY MARK LESLIE
David Berelson's dream became Roger Rulewich's dream, and today it is real — Crumpin-Fox Club in Bernardston, Mass. "This is my personal favorite of all the courses I've worked on," said Rulewich, for many years the senior architect for Robert Trent Jones Sr. "It's my favorite partially because of the story behind it" and partially because of its "pristine, rugged site." Crumpin-Fox's story is a bitter-sweet one that goes back to 1969 when Berelson, a British author who became a close friend of Rulewich, fell in love with the Bernardston area while on a visit and decided to build a golf course there.

Though the first nine holes were finished in the early 1970s when Berelson was part-owner, it has taken another 16 years and a new owner, William Sandri, to complete the second nine.

The sweet part of the tale is the course

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itself, which is being touted as one of the best new public layouts in the country.

The sad part is that Berelson died of cancer shortly before the new nine could be finished. He never got to fill out the foursome that officially opened the course.

"David's dream started the whole thing. He assembled the whole property, which was 20 different parcels," Rulewich said.

Berelson pulled the 20 parcels together into one 600-acre property in two years. Construction began in 1971. Crews cleared the property in 1972 for 18 holes.

In the meantime, Berelson built a French restaurant overlooking the property, importing a maitre de and famous chef.

Then hard times hit. Halfway through the first nine holes Berelson's funding dried up, said Rulewich who by this time had become a fast friend of the enthusiastic Englishman.

Berelson searched for financing and found Andy St. Hilaire, owner of a local plastics company. The first nine opened in 1978 and Berelson ran the golf course and restaurant until 1980 when "he was forced out" of the job and found employment with golf course architects in Florida and then Texas, Rulewich said.

In 1987 Sandri, a major Sunoco distributor for New England, bought the course and called Rulewich about finishing it.

"There was absolutely no topsoil on the property. It was very rocky and full of shale," Rulewich recalled.

Rulewich had encountered the same problem with the first nine and imported

Courses newly approved in U.S.

Golf Course News is publishing this list monthly. It includes courses that have been approved around the country in the past month. In addition, the chart at bottom contains the sites and contacts for new courses and renovations in the planning stages. When those courses are ready to begin construction they will be listed again in this "Courses newly approved in the U.S." chart.

We would appreciate your help in updating this section. To contact us call 207-846-0600 or write *Golf Course News*, P.O. Box 997, 38 Lafayette St., Yarmouth, Maine 04096.

Under "Type" — D= Daily Fee; P= Private; and M= Municipal.

Location	Course Name	Type	Holes	Address	Architect/Contact
Arizona					
Scottsdale	Estancia	P	18	9801 E. Dynamite Blvd.	Weiskopf-Moorish
California					
Vallejo	N/A	M	18	Blue Rock Springs Park	Robert Muir Graves
Florida					
Captiva Island	South Seas Plantation	D	18	N/A	Gene Bates, Jerry Heard
Largo	The Bayou Club	P	18	8000 Bardmoor Blvd.	Tom Fazio
Georgia					
Cummings	Countryland Golf Course	D	18	N/A	Mike Young
Dougherty Cnty.	Hidden Lakes CC	D	18	N/A	Grant Wencil of Stone Mtn
Illinois					
Mattoon	Buck Grove Indian Trails	D	18	N/A	William Spear
Mississippi					
Jackson	CC of Jackson	P	9	Summit Township	Arthur Hill
New Jersey					
West Hampton	Deerwood CC	P	18	N/A	Jim Blaukovitch
Tennessee					
Memphis	Cordova Club	N/A	18	N/A	Marvin Orgill
Olive Branch	The Plantation	D	18	N/A	Nick Price

Courses newly planned in the United States

Following is a chart containing the sites and contacts for new courses and renovations in the preliminary planning stages. When these courses are ready to begin construction they will be listed again in the "Courses newly approved in the U.S." chart.

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Location	Contact
California	
Irwindale	Dept. of Public Works
Petaluma	Golden Empire Golf Inc.
Vallejo	Arnold Palmer
Florida	
Naples	The Classics CC
Georgia	
Marietta	Cobb County Commissioners
Illinois	
Elgin	Planning Dir. Roger Dahlstrom
Godfrey	Rolling Hills GC
Madison Cnty.	Jim Wesselman
Springfield	Park District
Indiana	
Culver	Craig Pedersen
Iowa	
Dubuque	THK Assoc., Englewood, Colo.

Massachusetts	
Sutton	Cornish & Silva
Nebraska	
Lincoln	Gary Cooper, Parks Dept.
Nevada	
Reno	Demody Properties
New Jersey	
Newark	Hackensack Water Co.
New York	
Cheektowaga	Town Board
Croton-on-Hudson	Robert T. Jones, Inc.
Ohio	
Milan	Joseph Bibb
Oregon	
Woodburn	John Fought
Pennsylvania	
Tinicum	Del. Valley Concrete, Rockledge
Utah	
Blanding	William H. Neff
Virginia	
Stafford	Ferris M. Belmen
Wisconsin	
Lisbon	Harold Hoffman
W. Milwaukee	G&R Contractors, Glenbeulah

60,000 to 90,000 cubic yards of "pure lovely sand" from a neighboring town.

This time, Sandri found a sand and gravel company scraping sand away on one site. It was the same kind of sand used on the first nine. A deal was made.

So it was 1988, nearly 20 years after Berelson set his sights on the property, that Robert Trent Jones construction crews started shaping and grading.

Rulewich believes Berelson would be satisfied with the course.

"It is a pristine setting, a rugged site," he said. Originally it was 600 acres but, nevertheless, it was an incredible fit to get the 18 holes into it. Beautiful white pine and hemlock make the course look more mature than it is.

"It's up, it's down," he said of the land. "We used the contour and terrain ... trees, rocks, steep slopes ... to create bunkering. Bunkers were used very strategically, very sparingly."

Two large ponds and two small ones spice up the aesthetics of the 7,007-yard, par 72 course.

Rulewich also said they killed off the bluegrass from the first nine and seeded bentgrass on both nines.

There is no sense of neighbors, it is so rural; yet it is right off Route 91.

"Now that it's 18 it will attract more attention," Rulewich said.



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