

Robinson, Carrick meet special challenges of Great North

Golf course architects Robinson & Carrick Associates Ltd. of Willowdale, Ontario, will have two of their designs open in June or July, including one exclusive 380-member course outside Toronto and one in a stunning national park setting in Newfoundland.

Doug Carrick said Twin Rivers Golf Course in Terra Nova National Park in Glovertown on Newfoundland's east coast will open in June or July, while Greystone Golf Club on the Niagara Escarpment in Milton is expected to open July 1.

Developer Burkhard Nowak, who turned his horse farm into Greystone, said the 380

membership units may be leased, sold or willed. The number of members is so low, he said, because of long waiting lines at Toronto area courses.

Carrick said the last fairway was seeded in September. The course contains bentgrass greens, tees and fairways and a bluegrass-ryegrass-fescue mix in the roughs.

The first floor of the two-story clubhouse will be complete by July 1, he said.

Stringent environmental laws had to be met at Twin Rivers, where a second nine was built.

Changes were also made to the front nine, which was designed by Robbie Robinson in 1983 but was built in-house by the park district. Parks officials struck an agreement in which St. Christopher's Resort built the second nine with a 49-year lease, and added an 80-room hotel on adjacent provincial land.

Robinson & Carrick dealt with a number of site-specific rulings in the construction. On the 8th hole alone, unique measures had to be taken, Carrick said.

When a large bog next to the 8th green was drained, it could not be pumped into a nearby river because of the bog's low pH level. A silt fence was installed along the green before construction to protect Salmon Brook.

Because of the slope from the tee to the



The 6th hole shows just some of the fall beauty at Greystone Golf Club in Toronto.

level of the green 80 feet below, builders could not grub stumps; so they cut trees level to the ground and let native groundcovers take over. A bridge was built to span the

brook 40 feet above it.

And at that hole and throughout the course, developers had to maintain existing trails and re-route others for fishermen.

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Nicklaus designed The Legend 'to be fun,' he says

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. — The Legend, the first of three golf courses at Ibis Golf and Country Club, had its grand opening and dedication Feb. 18.

The Legend, designed by Jack Nicklaus "to be fun," will feature five tees on each hole.

Nicklaus, who has been criticized for difficult layouts, said: "Golf is meant to be fun. I don't design a course to suit myself as far as difficulty goes. I design them to match the golfers who are going to play the course."

"You could play the U.S. Open here," said

Larry Weber, course construction supervisor. "It's a very challenging golf course but has the flexibility with the tees. It's designed for the biggest of the pros, or the average player."

Faced with a flat parcel of land, Nicklaus had 1 million yards of earth moved into sculpt the rolling hills and bunkers that comprise the par-72, 7,045-yard course. Another million square feet of sod was laid. The earth was taken from what is now the lakes that wind around the course.

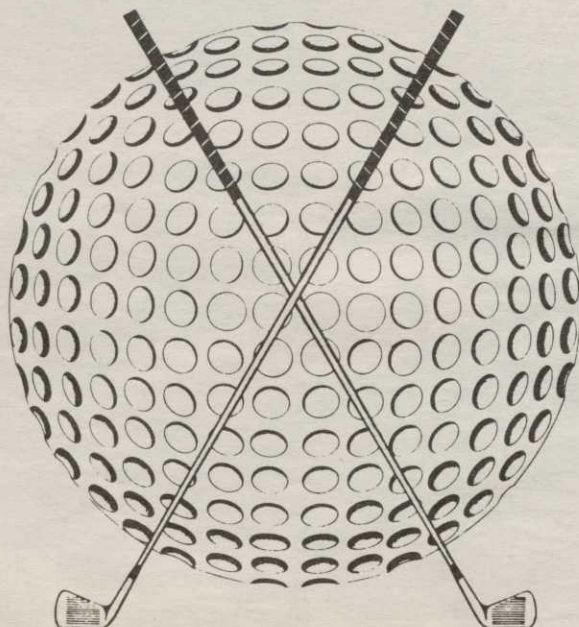
The Legend is a part of a master-planned community by developer Llwyd Ecclestone

Jr. Ecclestone has completed Lost Tree Village and Old Port Cove in North Palm Beach, Fla., and PGA National in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.

Ibis Golf and Country Club's other courses will be the Heritage, designed by Jack Nicklaus II, which will feature a par-72, 7,048-yard layout while the third course; and the Tradition, a 7,081-yard links-type course designed by Tom Pearson, senior design associate for Jack Nicklaus Golf Services

The Heritage is scheduled to follow early this year, the Tradition a short time after.

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