

## Thai PGA hosts American teacher

BANGKOK, Thailand — Jim McLean, golf director at Sleepy Hollow Country Club in Scarborough, N.Y., U.S.A., recently completed a teaching seminar here for the Thai PGA.

The purpose of McLean's latest seminar was to establish the country's first golf teaching foundation and teaching curriculum for Thai PGA members so that they might compete for vacant golf director and golf professional positions throughout Thailand.

McLean didn't expect the same success that attended a teaching stay in late December 1989. Then, Manoch Saengsui won the 72-hole National Panasonic golf tournament by seven shots and credited his first win in five years as a pro to a change in swing influenced by McLean.

"I followed a seminar organized by Royal Gems Golf and Sports Complex and run by McLean. That helped improve my game," said Saengsui.

McLean was 1987 PGATeacher of the Year. His trip and teaching seminar program to Thailand was sponsored by Jim McLoughlin, president of The McLoughlin Group in Pleasantville, N.Y., USA.

McLoughlin's golf consulting firm provides service to Thai and other Asian, European and domestic clients.

Initial results of the teaching seminar were encouraging. Thai PGA members were exposed to the game's leading teaching philosophies. Presentations were video-taped for re-use.

McLean arranged for the better golf teaching books and video programs to become available to the Thai PGA and, upon return to the United States, negotiated sponsor agreements for leading Thai professionals playing the Asian Tour.

## Pacific Rim/Japan conference set

Leading resort and golf industry experts from Asia and America will speak at the Pacific Rim/Japan/American Resort and Golf Executive Conference in Waikiki Beach, Hawaii, USA, on May 27-29.

Noted golf course architects Desmond Muirhead and Ronald Fream will be among the speakers.

They will address such topics as design and construction, financial backing and property marketing and sales. Delegates will also have the chance to network with international figures and visit 75 industry exhibits.

Sponsored by Executive Conferences and Seminars Inc. of San Rafael, Calif., USA, the conference will be held at the Hilton Hawaiian Village in Honolulu. For more information, contact Michelle Goodman or Charles Duff at 415-453-1184.

## Tokyo, New York businessmen build Chinese country club

SHANGHAI, China — The Shanghai International Golf and Country Club, designed by Robert Trent Jones Jr., opened May 21, 1991, at Dian Shan Lake, 50 kilometers west of Shanghai.

Prescott Bush of New York and Tokyo's Aoki Corp. developed the facility jointly. The championship 18-hole course has three practice holes and a water driving range. Other planned amenities include a swimming pool, villas and 12 tennis courts.

A golf-like game called suigan was played in China by the nobility during the Ming Era (1368-1644), so there was historic interest when British and Japanese enthusiasts brought golf to Japan in the last century. There were several courses in the Shanghai area before golf was banned in China in 1949. (One golf course was turned into a zoo.)

There are now eight courses in China, including the first course designed by a Chinese group, which opened recently.

## Second Asian conference planned in Kuala Lumpur

*International speakers lined up for conclave*

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia— A second Asian golf conference, Asian Golf Course '92, will tee off at the Putra World Trade Centre here, June 24-27.

The Malaysian event is scheduled to feature a regional conference and seminar, with internationally prominent speakers, in addition to the trade show.

Golf was first introduced to Malaya by the British, and has a sizable following in the tropical country.

There are 80 fully opened golf courses in Malaysia, 80 percent more than Singapore and almost 20 percent more than Thailand, according to the conference's organizer. Thirty more courses should appear in the next five years, with Malaysia poised to become Asia's golfing center.

Zainal Abidin Shah, show organizer, also organized the first international golf show in Singapore.



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