

NGF hosts second practice range seminar

JUPITER, Fla. — The National Golf Foundation will host its second seminar on the development and operation of golf ranges and other alternative golf facilities, such as executive and par-3 courses.

It will be held Nov. 15-17, at the Newport Beach Marriott Hotel & Tennis Club in Newport Beach, Calif. More than 200 attended NGF's first such seminar, in June of this year in Falls Church, Va.

The November program will present case studies focusing on topics of interest to operators, developers, investors, architects, suppliers and municipal officials.

Among the topics to be covered: Components that are key to the financial success of a range operation, i.e. design characteristics, adequate lighting systems and proper equipment.

• Ways to increase profitability, i.e. effective marketing, golf schools and other amenities.

• Keys to the successful development and operation of executive and par 3 facilities, i.e. feasibility studies, market analyses and promotional strategies.

• Taking advantage of innovations to meet the need for affordable and more user-friendly golf courses.

For more information, call Roger Yaffe at 407-744-6006.

Zoning decision stops Fla. course

CORKSCREW, Fla. — Lee County Commissioners — hoping to avoid a lawsuit — have rescinded a controversial decision to rezone 391 acres in south Lee County for 36 holes of golf.

The action came after an assistant county attorney told commissioners there is a good chance a local public interest group would sue the county for violation of its own land-use plan if the rezoning stood.

Commissioners in June approved a request by developer

Harvey Youngquist to rezone the land for golf course use, despite repeated warnings from an assistant county attorney who claimed the move violated the county's land-use plan and would be indefensible in court.

Youngquist had asked the county to rezone his land from agricultural uses to a community facilities use, even though past boards had refused to allow privately owned golf courses in that destination.

Club members opt not to sell

PHILADELPHIA — Members of a private golf club in West Philadelphia have voted decisively not to sell their golf course for conversion into a \$75 million shopping center. Shareholders in the course turned down \$65,000 each by virtue of the clear-majority vote.

It would have required a two-thirds vote of the shareholding members to sell the venerable Bala Golf Club. But the proponents of the sale could not muster even a majority. The final vote saw 84 members voting against the sale and 75 in favor.

The prospect of a shopping center in the middle of their neighborhood had greatly alarmed nearby residents, who had expressed further alarm that Bala Club President Sam LePera had not met with golf course abutters.

"I don't think I have any obligation at all" to meet with neighbors, LePera told the *Philadelphia Inquirer*. He added that he was responsible only to the club's stockholders, who he said had every right to consider the sale of their property — "the same right as the neighbor who lives across the fence."

Asian show will be major draw

SINGAPORE — The first Pacific Rim Golf Course Conference and Show here will attract greenkeepers, grounds professionals, club managers, course owners, golf professionals, architects, builders, golf association representatives, and golf course industry distributors and dealers.

The international merchandise mart, sponsored by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (Singapore) Pte. Ltd., will be held March 15-21, the trade show March 19-21.

Golf representatives from more than 20 countries are expected to attend. The gathering is designed to meet both the training and technology needs of golf course management professionals, and expand distributor networks.

The conference agenda includes nine two-day training seminars and eight training sessions.

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