

Two Canadian cases set precedent for women's club rights

TORONTO, Ontario, Canada — Two Canadian women have challenged the traditional tee time and membership policies at their respective golf clubs and won.

Most recently, a lawyer and avid golfer, Tamra Jean Tobin-Teno, fought Beach Grove Country Club in Windsor, charging equal playing time was not rendered for equal fees. The Ontario Human Rights Commission agreed — compelling the club to give Tobin-Teno full playing rights, pay \$10,000 in damages and amend its policies.

In a precedent-setting case decided three years ago, Yolande Quon — a 21-year spousal member

of the Richelieu Valley Golf Club near Montreal — argued that, having joined as a spousal member, she deserved a standard fee reduction per year of membership. Junior members at Richelieu, for example, receive a fee reduction when they gain full member status.

Quon also argued she should be granted membership in the club if she lost her spousal status. The Quebec Human Rights Commission did not grant Quon the reduction in membership because of a junior status policy at the club.

However, the commission has since ruled that Quon should be extended full membership at Richelieu.

Kan. AG backs equal tee-time rights

OLATHE, Kan. — Equal rights for women means equal time on the tee, even at Shadow Glen Golf Club here in Olathe, according to Kansas attorney general Bob Stephan. According to Stephan, the practice of reserving prime playing times for men discriminates against women.

"My hope is that the clubs will find they need to change their policies around the state, and that will be the end of it," Stephan, told *The Kansas City Star* (Mo.).

In late April, Stephan sent a

letter to Charles T. Sunderland, president of Shadow Glen Golf Club, encouraging the club to adopt new policies after receiving a complaint about the club's tee-time policy.

Sunderland said the club's board had already discussed changes after S. Diane Graham, a businesswoman, successfully challenged similar policies at nearby Hallbrook Golf Club in Leawood.

"It's an inevitable change that's coming to all country clubs," Sunderland said.

San Diego's mega-range may open by October

SAN DIEGO, Calif. — The \$1.35 million Harborside Golf Center in downtown San Diego may open by October.

The owner, Golf Centers of America, was given a conditional-use permit by the Centre City Development Corp. and has begun construction. The center will feature a double-deck, 80-tee golf driving range, 7,950-square-foot clubhouse, pro shop, locker rooms, putting and chipping greens, 50 parking spaces and a 75-space landscaped parking lot.

A tee operations center will also include a rental and retail shop, an outdoor patio and an adjacent 71 parking spaces.

Golf Centers of America also owns a range in Fremont and is developing others in Ontario, Calif., and Las Vegas.

Rare wildflower delays project

BIG TUJUNGA, Wash. — Cosmo World owner Minoru Isutani hoped to build a golf course here that would rival the Riviera Country Club.

However, the endangered slender-horned spine flower which grows here may stunt the growth of the \$50 million golf course resort.

Isutani, a Japanese businessman, owns numerous golf properties in Japan and previously owned one in Pebble Beach.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service ruled his new project could threaten the wildflower, decreasing Isutani's chances of obtaining a building permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

W.VA. RESORT GOES TO 27

HEDGESVILLE, W.Va. — The Woods Golf Course has opened its third nine-hole course, becoming the first 27-hole golf course in eastern West Virginia.

The course is part of Woods Resort and will join the existing front nine to become the 18-hole Mountain View Course. The remaining nine-hole course has been named Stony Lick Course.

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